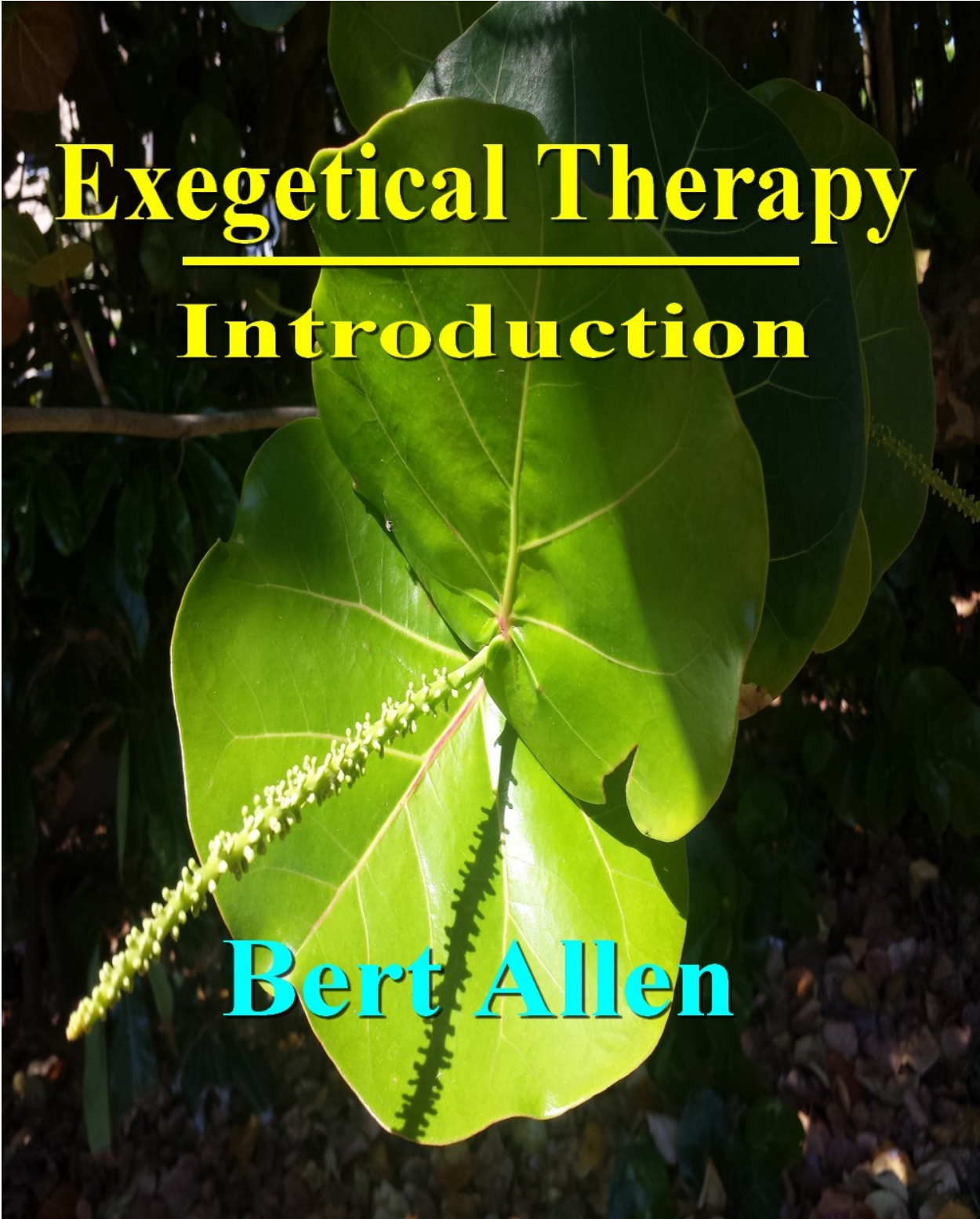




Exegetical Therapy

Introduction

Bert Allen

Exegetical Therapy: An Introduction

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Acknowledgment

My wife, Beverly Allen, has devoted herself to ChristAssembly.org and other publications. Most days her body gives her trouble, but she spends time helping ChristAssembly.org and other publications. She brings her doctoral training in biochemistry and molecular biology to her work and greatly improves the quality of publications. She has spent many hours creating graphics, reviewing articles and books, and providing careful proof reading, even when she does not feel her best. Other friends from Korea have helped in proof reading books for ChristAssembly.org, with our thanks in Christ Jesus for their friendship and faithful labors.

Beverly and I have been married more than forty-five years and Jesus used her life to make my life so much better in so many ways. Her constant love and support changes my life daily. She also provides honest feedback and careful analysis. I love my wife and want everyone to know that she spends her time serving Jesus behind the scenes at ChristAssembly.org.



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Introduction

Jesus will always be the Counselor. He counsels with divine authority, wisdom, omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence, and immutability and with all the attributes of God. He also counsels with love.

Exegetical Therapy focuses upon the means of Jesus' Counseling. He employs His power in our lives joined with His promises. Every promise of God includes the power of God to enjoy the promise of God. The therapies of Jesus bring that power of God into our lives in specific ways. Specific promises underlie the specific therapies. The Scriptures (66 Books of the Bible) showcase His therapies from cover to cover. Each therapy of Jesus provides specific powers of God so that we may glorify God, have more faith in Him, and love Him more. Our faith, hope and love abound, but the greatest of these things is love, always.

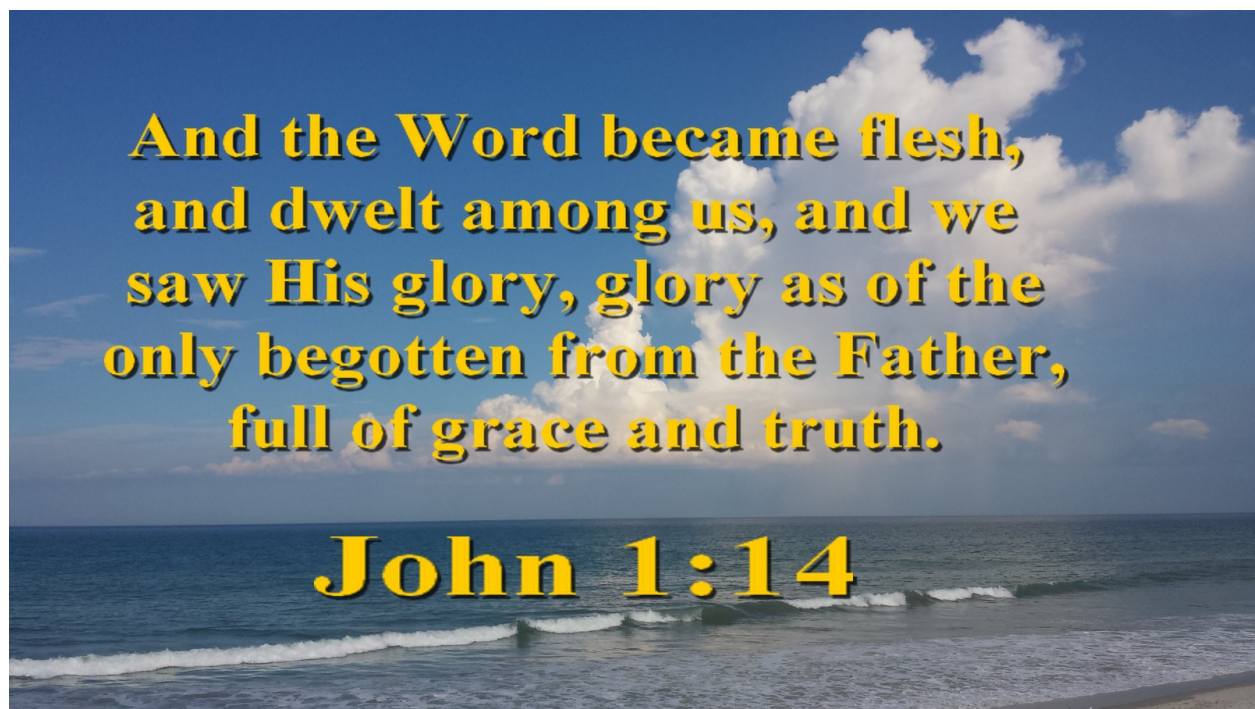
Exegetical Therapy means that we learn from God how Jesus counsels people with the promises and powers of God. We must trust God to lead the promises and powers of God out of the Scriptures and into our hearts and minds. Jesus lives today and He will use His powers and promises through many different therapies, each suited perfectly to needs of the moment. They often include saying the right words for edification at just the right time. Jesus has the tongue of the disciples so that He may sustain the weary with a word. God awakened the ear of Jesus to hear the word of God and then use those words to sustain the weary.

This book provides the slightest introduction to the wonders of the therapies of Jesus. They fill the Scriptures and can be viewed and applied in many different ways. Jesus will always be the Counselor, so we must study His word to understand His ways of counseling. He loves His children and promises to give them great joy, even in the midst of suffering. We must trust Jesus to counsel us, and to bring His many powers to bear in our lives so that we may walk worthy of our calling in Him so that we glorify God in every way and every day.

HALLELUJAH !

1

The Glory of Exegetical Therapy



Jesus healed many people in many different ways. I will refer to the people Jesus healed as the Beloved, because He loved them and so should we. He not only healed their physical bodies, but far more importantly, He healed their souls and spirits. Exegetical Therapy describes the spiritual powers Jesus used to heal people and change their lives spiritually. Jesus displayed His glory through Exegetical Therapy. The glory of God, the word of God, the love of God, and God Himself are all inextricably linked together in Exegetical Therapy.

In order to understand those spiritual powers at work in Exegetical Therapy, we must remember that Jesus exercised those powers to do the will

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of His Father. In other words, Exegetical Therapy matches God's will with God's powers. [The Spiritual Gift of Works of Powers](#) relates directly to Exegetical Therapy. The Exegetical Counselor will always be God Who changes the life of the Beloved using His spiritual powers.

Many people professing to be Christians today turn to secular therapies and therapists for help, but they cannot provide spiritual help which they have never received by faith in Jesus Christ as Savior. They cannot understand spiritual things which are spiritually appraised. They live under the control of the prince of the power of the air and are by both nature and practice children of the devil. They spread lies while promising freedom from pain. They are clouds without water and wandering in spiritual darkness.

Until Christians understand that only God can help them overcome spiritual problems, they will continue in their spiritual idolatry when it comes to mental health. Many so-called Christian counselors have never been born again and try to slap band-aids on spiritual problems as wide as the Grand Canyon. They live in spiritual darkness and have become blind guides of the blind, where both will fall into a pit. Until Christian counselors employ only Exegetical Therapy, they will be using human efforts to heal spiritual beings in Christ Jesus who are sealed with the Holy Spirit and covered by the hand of the Father.

Therefore, we may summarize Exegetical Therapy as the power of God to help His children grow up in Christ and do the will of God. Those children will be making learners of Christ and using their spiritual gifts daily to the glory of God. They will live in love for God and their neighbors. When people tend to focus upon their own spiritual problems, then they quickly forsake following Jesus, by never taking up their cross and denying themselves. They long for help, but never recognize that only God can help them and He will use His personal presence and powers to change them into useful slaves of righteousness.

Until the Beloved can understand and apply the Scriptures, and see that Jesus was God in the flesh, dwelling among humans, shining with glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, they will never benefit from Exegetical Counseling. Only through the Scriptures will God reveal His powers and sanctify the Beloved. God's word remains true and contains all the power we need for life and Godliness. God never commands us to do anything beyond the spiritual powers He brings into our lives through the abiding presence and power of God the Father, God the Son, and God the

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Holy Spirit. All three of those divine Persons play important roles in Exegetical Counseling.

Opening

Pray the Beloved will appreciate Jesus taking flesh and displaying His glory and power.

Read

John 1:1-18 with the Beloved.

Discussion

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Text

1. **Word**. The Logos took flesh and lived among us. Jesus the Counselor does Exegetical Counseling using Exegetical Therapy which rests upon Exegetical Psychology.

2. **Flesh**. Jesus took flesh to live among men and heal them for all eternity. As the Logos, Jesus was the Physician sent to heal the spiritually blind, spiritually lame, spiritually poor, and spiritually lost. Jesus healed them with Exegetical Therapy.

3. **Dwelt**. Jesus dwelt with God from eternity past, but then took flesh and brought Exegetical Therapy with Him as He lived on earth in the flesh. Jesus had been healing people with Exegetical Therapy since Adam in the Garden of Eden. Jesus provides spiritual power to forgive sins and then live in righteous fellowship with God.

4. **Glory**. Jesus brought the glory of Exegetical Therapy with Him to earth. By laying down His soul, He brought spiritual healing and unlimited spiritual power into our lives by grace through faith. With the coming of the Holy Spirit, people received spiritual gifts and the power to live in righteous fellowship with God as members of the Body of Christ. Jesus brings glory to the Beloved through His presence in our lives.

5. **Father**. Jesus glorified His Father by keeping every person the Father gave to Him and then revealed the Father to them. Jesus used Exegetical Therapy to change in a myriad of ways the lives of the Beloved for all eternity.

6. **Grace**. God infused grace and truth into Exegetical Therapy to bring the power of God into our lives.

7. **Truth**. Jesus is the truth and the only Way to the Father. Jesus will always be the life, because He has life in Himself and He gives life to the Beloved. We rejoice because Jesus brought grace and truth without measure into our lives.

Summary for The Glory of Exegetical Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Jesus brings the power of God into our lives through Exegetical Therapy.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Jesus uses the power of God to conform our lives to His image using Exegetical Therapy.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Jesus took flesh and dwelt among men so that He would provide to us the power of God based on His atonement for sins and His resurrection for our justification.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family and everyone by remembering that Jesus uses Exegetical Therapy to bring the power of God into our daily lives. Today are you listening to Jesus as He brings His power for healing to you every day?

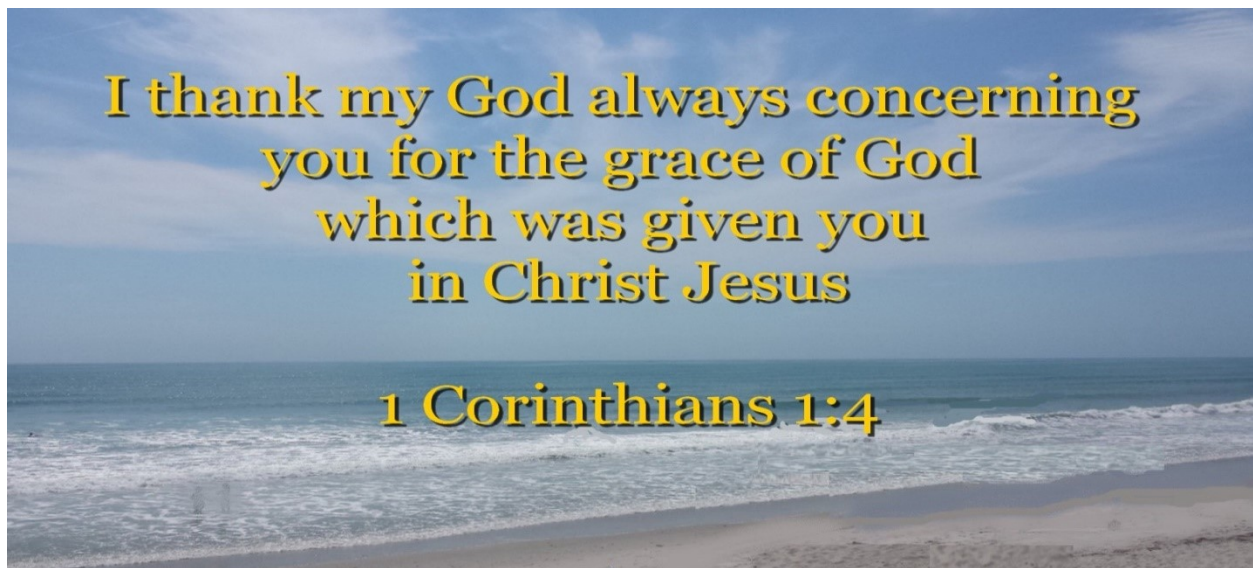
Closing

Pray that the Beloved would take see the power of Jesus at work in their lives today.

HALLELUJAH !

2

Prayer Therapy



Opening the Session

Pray that the Beloved will know that we thank God for the grace of God at work in them.

Read

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Under the inspiration of God, Paul wrote to the Corinthians. The church at Corinth was wracked with many problems. Before Paul preached Jesus Christ to the Corinthians, they were divided, idolaters, drunkards, homosexuals, thieves, revilers, and swindlers. Then, through the preaching of Paul, who knew only Jesus Christ and Him crucified, they were washed and they were sanctified and they were justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. They were utterly transformed so that they were no longer who they once were.

Jesus Christ brought His power to bear upon the Corinthians. Paul prayed and thanked God for His grace given to the Corinthians. Exegetical Therapy describes the grace of God in action in the lives of the Beloved. The Corinthians were enriched in Christ, in all speech and all knowledge. They were not lacking any gift as they eagerly awaited the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul used prayers in Exegetical Therapy. Paul not only prayed for the Corinthians, but he also shared the prayers he prayed for them with them. Exegetical Therapy involves spiritual communication. What we say to other believers makes a great deal of difference. Jesus moved Paul to share his prayers with the Corinthians for whom he prayed. Therefore, we can examine his prayers to understand more about Exegetical Counseling.

Paul started his prayer with thanksgiving for the Corinthians. Exegetical Therapy means that the work of Jesus Christ in the lives of sinners will not be completed until they are sinless. While all of their sins were atoned for at the moment of salvation through the work of Jesus Christ on the cross and His resurrection, on another level they will not be completely free of sin in their everyday lives until they leave this earth. Exegetical Therapy rests upon the understanding that we are saved by the blood of Jesus Christ at the moment of salvation by grace through faith. Yet, we continue to live, needing the cleansing of the blood of Jesus Christ for the rest of our lives here on earth. Paul thanked God for the grace of God given in Christ Jesus.

Exegetical Therapy means that we tell the Beloved that we thank God for them, even though they remain sinful, just like us. As John wrote, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Paul reminded us how important it is to let people know we thank God for them,

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even when they remain sinful. Sin in Corinth ran rampant in the congregation, and Paul was still thankful for their salvation.

Exegetical Therapy starts with an understanding that the Beloved remains sinful after salvation, but needs to hear from us that we thank God for the grace of God given to them in Christ Jesus. Specifically, they need to hear from us that we pray that prayer of thanksgiving for them. Reaffirming the grace of God in the presence of serious sin encourages repentance, confession, and cleansing.

Paul frequently shared his prayers in his letters to the various churches. He often shared more than one prayer in his letters. Very frequently he shared his prayers of thanksgiving at the beginning of his letters. Many people understand that Paul prayed and so they seek to model their prayers after Paul, all of which is a good thing. But that prayer is only half the story. The other half of the story is that Paul shared those prayers with the Beloved for whom he prayed. Exegetical Therapy involves sharing the prayers of thanksgiving with the Beloved.

Paul prayed continually for people. By sharing his prayers early in the epistle to the Corinthians, the Corinthians learned that Paul thought highly of them before God and thanked God for them. Everything else that Paul said after that prayer of thanksgiving rested upon that initial outpouring of loving prayer for them. Exegetical Therapy should always start with prayer and should always contain thanksgiving for the Beloved.

Exegetical Therapy always focuses upon the grace of God given to the beloved in Christ Jesus and sharing prayers of thanksgiving with the Beloved. The grace of God means that we get what we do not deserve and can never earn. Grace clarifies that we are not people of faith because of anything we have done, but we believe because God gave the free gift of eternal life to us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Exegetical Therapy will not focus upon human works, but upon the active grace of God with His infinite power flooding into every area of our life.

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Text

1. **I**. What was Paul thinking about the Corinthians? Paul was thinking about the grace of God active in their lives.
2. **Thank**. Paul let the Corinthians know that he was praying for them and what he was thinking about them.
3. **Always**. Paul prayed always for the Corinthians, frequently focusing upon the grace of God in their lives.
4. **You**. Paul practiced Exegetical Therapy both by praying continuously for the Corinthians and also communicating to them his thanksgiving for the grace of God active in their lives.
5. **Grace**. Before Paul delved into the problems at Corinth, he first shared with them this prayer thanking God for the grace of God active in their lives.
6. **Given**. Exegetical Therapy means spiritual communication affects both Paul and the Beloved, because the power of God and the grace of God work together simultaneously in the family of God.
7. **Christ**. We practice Exegetical Therapy by communicating our prayers for the Beloved so that they understand the grace of God and the power of God at work in our lives.

Summary for Prayer Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means praying continuously for the Beloved and understanding how prayer affects everyone in the family of God.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means communicating your prayers of thanksgiving to the Beloved, so that we will understand the grace of God and power of God at work in our lives.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that we highlight and appreciate the work of Jesus Christ in the Beloved and share our prayers of thanksgiving which reflect the reality of God's work in all of our lives; everyone should know how we feel about the grace of God at work in all Christians.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by communicating our prayers which reflect the power of God at work through the grace of God in all of our lives. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by communicating your prayers of thankfulness for the power of God working through the grace of God in the all of our lives?

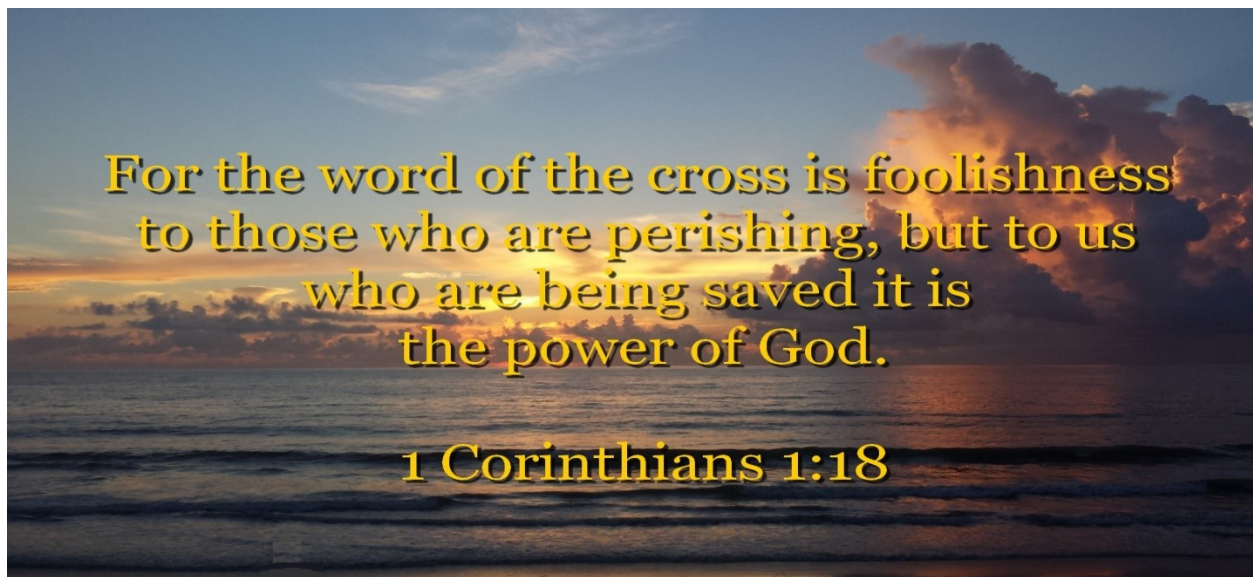
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Pray thanking God for the grace of God at work in the Beloved and all of us.

HALLELUJAH !

3

Cross Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand that the word of the cross is the power of God to those people who are being saved.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Discussion

Writing under the verbal inspiration of God, Paul contrasted the wisdom of God with the wisdom of the world. He began that discussion with the statement that the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing. In contrast, the word of the cross is the power of God for those people who are being saved. Notice the ongoing work of the power of God, because we continue in our salvation “being saved.”

Exegetical Therapy rests upon the power of God. Therefore, the word of the cross provides the means of bringing that power to bear in the life of the Beloved. Without the word of the cross, the Beloved has no power no hope of eternal life. The word of the cross has many different aspects to it.

Exegetical Therapy never rests upon the wisdom of the wise or the cleverness of the clever. God has made foolish the wisdom of the world. Therefore, the Beloved should steer clear of all secular counseling and therapies not founded and practiced in the word of God. Only the power of working through the word of God can bring life and godliness to the Beloved on a daily basis.

Exegetical Therapy may appear as foolishness to those who are not saved, but Exegetical Therapy actually rests Jesus Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and the Gentiles foolishness. To those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Exegetical Therapy involves the Beloved believing each day that Jesus Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. Therefore, Jesus Christ will change the life of the Beloved by faith in Him as the power of God and the wisdom of God. Only Jesus Christ brings the power of God and the wisdom of God into our lives. Likewise, the Holy Spirit produces His fruit in our lives as we are filled with the Holy Spirit and walk and march together in the Holy Spirit, without grieving Him or quenching Him.

Text

1. **Word**. Paul proclaimed the word of the cross to the people at Corinth.
2. **Cross**. The cross of Jesus Christ stands as the dividing point in history, the singular event where Jesus atoned for the sins of the world.
3. **Foolishness**. Many people look up on the cross as foolishness. Yet, God will destroy the wisdom of the wise and the cleverness of the clever He will set aside.
4. **Perishing**. Those people who are perishing look up on the cross and see foolishness, but their destination without saving faith in Jesus means they will perish eternally.
5. **Saved**. In contrast, the children of God are being saved by the power of God. Salvation has many different aspects to it, including daily salvation because we live in the power of God.
6. **Power**. The infinite power of God flows through the word of God to the family of God, demonstrating the love of God and the wisdom of God.
8. **God**. God intended that the power of the cross continues its effective work in our lives every day.

Summary for Wisdom Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those of us who are being saved, it is the power of God**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the power of the word of the cross of Jesus Christ continues to have daily effects in our lives.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means only the power of God working through the word of the cross of Jesus Christ will heal your spiritual problems.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by trusting the word of the cross to activate God's spiritual power in your life today to solve your spiritual problems today. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today that the word of the cross is the power of God for life and Godliness today?

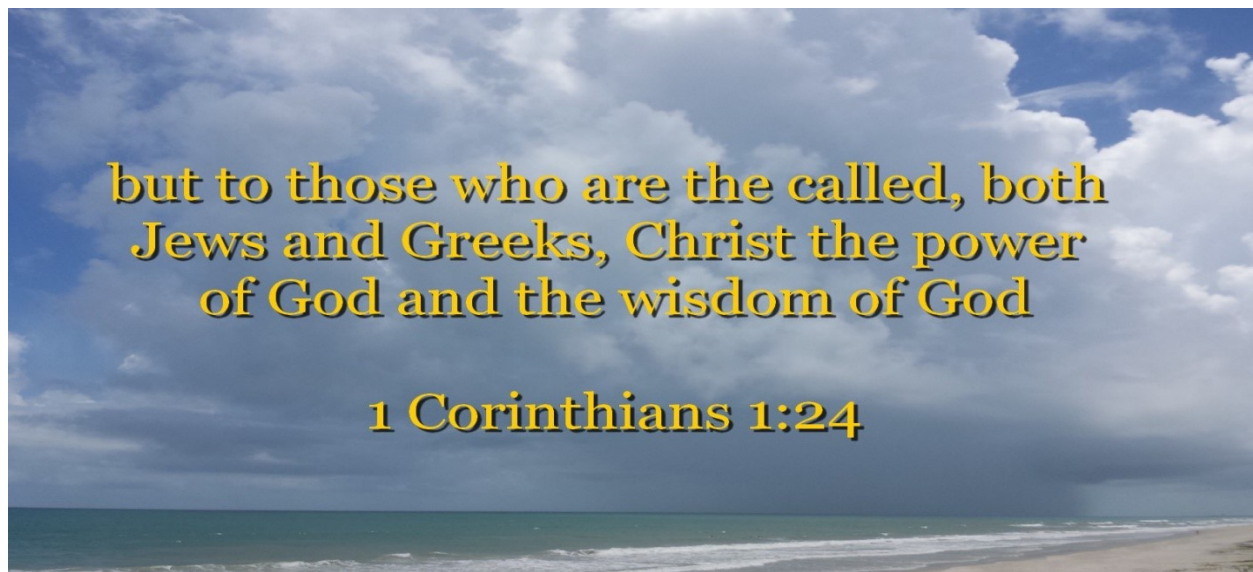
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Pray that the Beloved will trust the word of the cross today to see the power of God displayed in their lives, dismantling all spiritual problems?

HALLELUJAH !

4

Wisdom Therapy



Opening

Pray that the beloved would believe that Christ is the power of God and wisdom of God.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul came to Corinth proclaiming Christ and Him crucified. He spoke to both Jews and Greeks. As a habit, Paul frequently went to the synagogues first and proclaimed Christ to them. Typically, the Jews in the synagogues refused to accept Christ as Savior. Then, Paul turned to the Gentiles. Paul proclaimed the gospel to the Jews at Corinth. When they resisted and blasphemed, he shook out his garments and said that their blood would be upon them.

Paul proclaimed that the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God. Paul explained further that by the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God. Therefore, the wisdom of this world will never be a help for the Beloved to know God better. By that wisdom of the world, they never knew God. Paul preached Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to the Gentiles foolishness. In contrast, those who were called of God, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Exegetical Therapy means that Christ provides the power of God and the wisdom of God not only to change the life of the Beloved, but also to lead the Beloved in the path of righteousness. Therefore, the Beloved must understand that Jesus Christ provides both the power of God and the wisdom of God in their lives by faith. The Beloved must learn to trust Jesus to use that power and wisdom, both from God, to change their lives every day so that they are conformed to their calling by God.

Exegetical Therapy means that the Beloved must understand that the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. In other words, God is infinitely stronger and wiser than men at their best. The more the Beloved will believe what God says, the more God will use Exegetical Therapy to glorify God in the life of the Beloved. So, regardless of the particular issue confronting the Beloved at the moment, the Beloved must turn in faith to God so that the power of God and the wisdom of God will create in the Beloved a life pleasing to God.

Text

1. **Called**. God called some people to faith for salvation in Jesus Christ.
2. **Jews**. God called some Jews to salvation in Jesus Christ.
3. **Greeks**. God called some Greeks to salvation in Jesus Christ.
4. **Christ**. For those people called by God to salvation, Jesus became very real to them.
5. **Power**. Jesus became the power of God to them.
6. **Wisdom**. Jesus also became the wisdom of God to them.
7. **God**. At all times, Jesus embodied the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Summary for Wisdom Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that God calls some people to Jesus Christ for salvation.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God calls both Jews and Greeks to salvation in Jesus Christ, for there is salvation in no one else.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the Beloved must turn to Jesus Christ so that He becomes to them the power of God and the wisdom of God in their lives.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by trusting Jesus Christ to be the power of God and the wisdom of God in your life. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by realizing that Jesus Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God in your life?

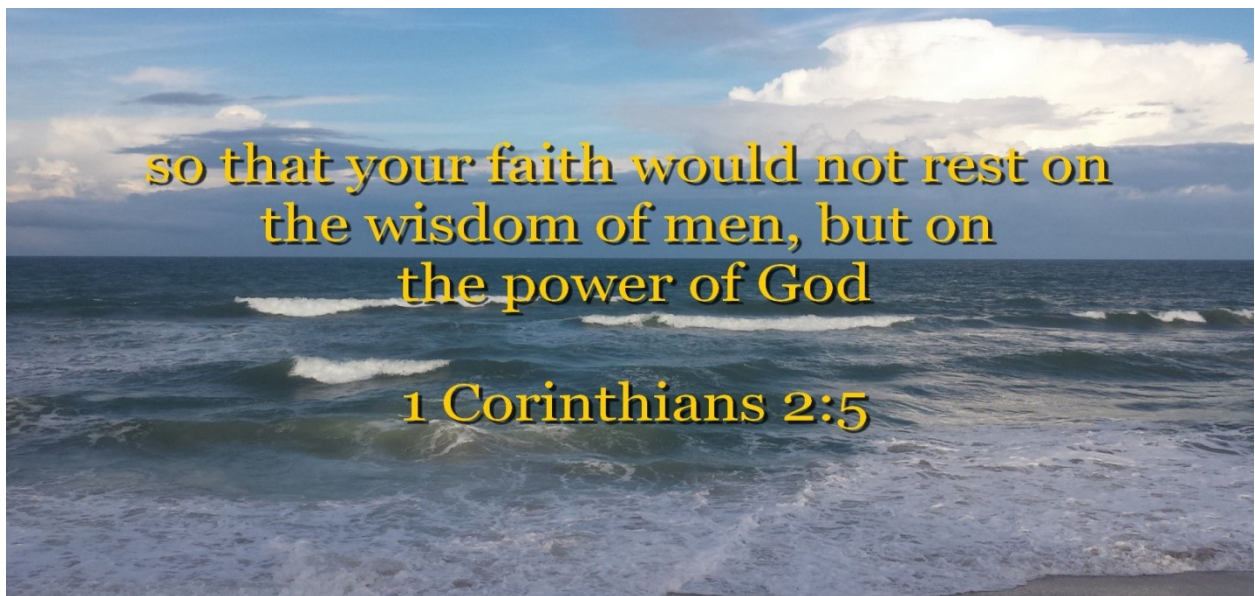
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Pray that the Beloved will trust Jesus Christ as the power of God and the wisdom of God.

HALLELUJAH !

5

Power Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand that our faith rests upon the power of God.

Read

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul came to the people of Corinth, Greece after being chased by the Jews from Thessalonica. As Paul spent time in Corinth by himself, he began making tents to support himself. During that time, he met Priscilla and Aquila, who also made tents and shared a common faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

When Paul wrote the Corinthians his first letter after he had left Corinth, he reminded them of how he came to them. He did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom. Unlike the Greeks with their philosophers proclaiming wisdom with very flattering words, Paul came proclaiming Jesus.

Paul was determined to know nothing among them, except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. Paul was with the Corinthians in fear and weakness and in much trembling. He did not talk like the philosophers and he did not proclaim the teaching of the philosophers. He did not promote the worship of idols, but focused entirely upon the Lord Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Paul did not use persuasive words of wisdom. Instead, he came in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. Paul relied upon the power of the Holy Spirit to give him the words to speak about Jesus. Paul was not going to be sidetracked into spending time talking about the gods of Greece.

Paul intended to bring salvation to the people of Corinth, so that in turn, they may proclaim the Gospel to all the world. Some people today think you can do enough with your deeds to draw people to Christ for salvation. While that may be true in some ways, you still need to speak the words of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to people and explain to them what it means.

Paul said that his message and preaching demonstrated the Spirit and the power, so that the Corinthians' faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God. Paul focused upon the power of God coming into the lives of the Corinthians. Paul proclaimed the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and not the wisdom of men. Paul intended for their faith to rest on the power of God and nothing else.

When we focus our lives and our message upon the Lord Jesus Christ, and Him crucified, then we understand the basis of Exegetical Therapy. In

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short, Exegetical Therapy rests upon the power of God. We trust God to use His power in the life of the Beloved to the glory of God.

Text

1. **So**. What foundation did Paul provide for the faith of the Corinthians? Paul proclaimed Jesus Christ and Him crucified, so that the faith of the Corinthians would rest on the power of God.
2. **Your**. Paul mentioned the faith of the Corinthians, calling it your faith.
3. **Faith**. Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
4. **Rest**. Paul did not want the Corinthians' faith to rest upon the wisdom of men who filled Corinth with their teachings before Paul arrived.
5. **Wisdom**. The wisdom of men is earthly, natural and demonic.
6. **Power**. In contrast, the power of God makes people into new creations, born from above, so that all things become new.
7. **God**. The power of God is infinite in every way, having no limits as to time and space. Our faith rests on the power of God; it does not depend upon the messenger who brought it or the people around us.

Summary for Power Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means God displays His power through the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means our faith rests upon the power of God, and not the wisdom of men.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the power of God changes people's lives so that they glorify God using their spiritual gifts every day.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by reminding people that our faith rests on the power of God and not the wisdom of men. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by proclaiming your faith as resting upon the power of God?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved would believe that our faith rests on the power of God and not the wisdom of men.

HALLELUJAH !

6

Revelation Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would comprehend that the Holy Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God, and the Holy Spirit has revealed things to us.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-13 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul spoke wisdom to the Corinthians, but only those who were mature in Christ. The rulers of this age did not know the wisdom of God. Paul spoke about the mystery of God in a mystery, which refers to something hidden in the Old Testament, but now manifested through the apostles and prophets of the New Testament. God predestined that mystery before the ages to the glory of the church. If the rulers of this world had understood the mystery and wisdom of God, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Eye has not seen and ear has not heard all the things God has prepared for those who love Him. Those things have not entered the heart of man.

God revealed those things through the Holy Spirit to the church. The Holy Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. The spirit of the man which is in him knows the thoughts of a man. No one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Saints have received the Spirit Who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God. Paul spoke about those things given by God and taught by the Holy Spirit, combining spiritual with spiritual.

Exegetical Therapy relies exclusively upon the revelation from God contained in the Scriptures. The Lord Jesus Christ, God the Father and God the Holy Spirit apply the holy Scriptures to our lives. Using their power filled with their love, our God reveals Himself to us so that we thrive upon His power at work in our lives. By the wisdom of God, we have come to know Him and love Him, because He first loved us. Only when the Beloved understands the revelation from God contained in the Scriptures can we begin to see the wisdom and power of God at work in our lives. God the Father revealed Jesus Christ to us and then Jesus Christ revealed the Father to us. The Holy Spirit draws us to God and fills our lives with His goodness.

The beloved must understand the revelation of God contained in the Scriptures and have faith in God according to the Scriptures. Exegetical Therapy means that we rely upon the revelations of God in the Scriptures to see Him change our lives as we live in obedience to God and abide in His love.

Text

1. **For**. For God revealed to us all the things that He has prepared for us, but He did not reveal those things to other people who do not know Him.

2. **Us**. God revealed those things to us who have received Jesus Christ as Savior by grace through faith.

3. **God**. God revealed them to us, so that we would know God and His ways and love Him forever.

4. **Revealed**. God revealed those things to us because we would not have known them otherwise.

5. **Spirit**. The Holy Spirit knows the depths of God and searches out all things.

6. **Searches**. The Holy Spirit searches out the depths of God so that we might know the things that God has prepared for those who love Him, and such we are.

7. **Depths**. Only the Holy Spirit can reveal to us the depths of God and all the things He has prepared for us so that we may glorify Him in all things.

Summary for Revelation Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means we trust the Holy Spirit to reveal the deep things of God to the Beloved.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that the Beloved grows to maturity through understanding and believing the revelation of God contained in the Scriptures.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God wants us to know the things freely given to us by God and so speak them to others in words taught by the Holy Spirit.**

Application Guidelines

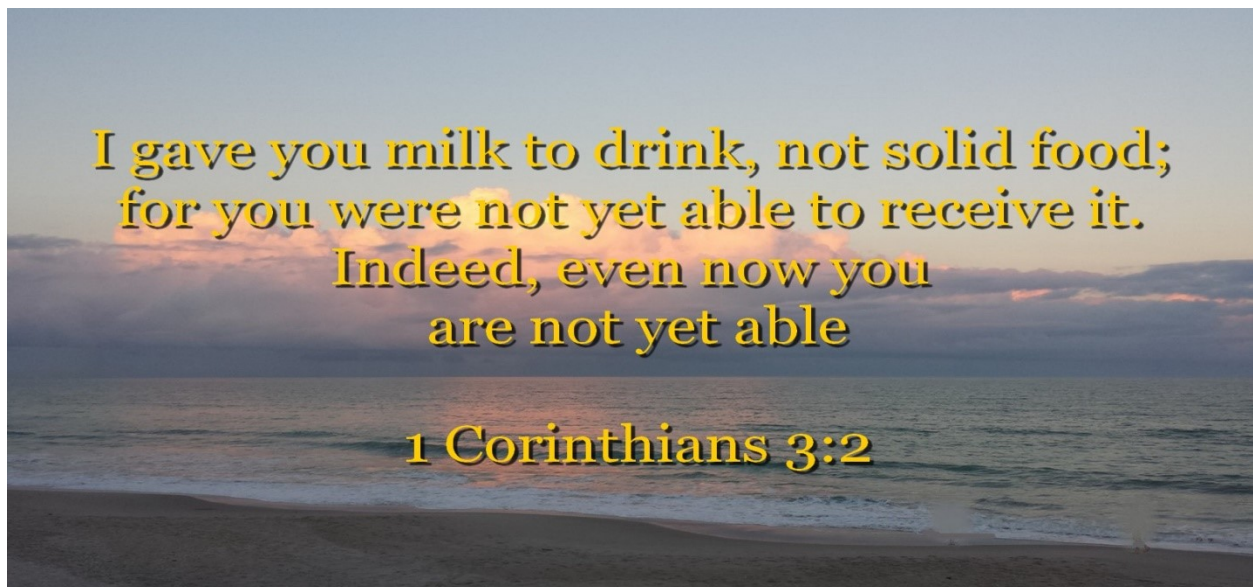
Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by speaking the words of Scripture to other people. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by trusting God to understand the Scriptures and learn more about the deep things of God which He has prepared for all those who love Him?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved would have faith in the revelation of God concerning all the things He has prepared for the Beloved.

HALLELUJAH !

7 Milk Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would be able to receive more than milk to drink.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul could not speak to the Corinthians as spiritual men. They were men of flesh, spiritual infants in Christ. Paul had to give them milk to drink, because they could not stand solid food. Even when Paul wrote to them, they still were unable to accept solid food, because they were still fleshly.

Fleshly people are filled with jealousy and strife and walk down like men. The church at Corinth was filled with divisions, some people claiming to follow Paul and others Apollos and yet others Christ. Paul pointed out to them that Christ is not divided. Paul and Apollos worked together in Christ for the Corinthians. Paul planted and Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. Each person will receive their own reward according to their own work. They are all workers in God's field building God's building.

Because the Corinthians were jealous and bitterly divided among themselves, Paul indicated they were still fleshly, walking down like men. Paul taught them about milk therapy.

Milk Therapy means that when the Beloved walks down as a man, they can only receive milk. So long as they persist in fleshly disputes among themselves, characterized by jealousy and bitterness, they can only survive on milk, because they cannot receive solid food from the word of God.

God has infinite power to solve all disputes and remove all jealousies. God does that through the ministry of the Scriptures regarding Milk Therapy. Until the Beloved understands from the Scriptures that both Paul and Apollos were diligent workers for God with different ministries at different times, the Beloved will not make progress in growing up in Christ and leaving the flesh behind. Only Milk Therapy sustains the Beloved while they persist in fleshly behavior, characterized by jealousy and strife. Giving them solid food will not advance them in Christ.

Text

1. **For**. Paul explained that the Corinthians were still infants in Christ, and so used the term “for” to express the connection between infants and milk.
2. **I**. Paul could not speak to the Corinthians as mature Christians.
3. **Milk**. Because they were infants, unable to handle solid food, Paul had to give them only milk.
4. **Drink**. Paul could only give them Milk Therapy because they were acting in the flesh and not as mature Christians.
5. **Not**. In order to achieve greater growth, they would have to put aside their jealousy and strife and so grow up in Christ.
6. **Solid**. Only when they stopped acting like fleshly people could they receive solid food.
7. **Receive**. The Beloved must understand the need for Milk Therapy so long as they persist in their jealousy and strife.

Summary for Milk Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that some Christians live in jealousy and strife with one another.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the Beloved can only receive Milk Therapy so long as they persist in jealousy and strife.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Jesus will not provide anything more than Milk Therapy until God causes in the Beloved the growth which unifies all Christians.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by understanding that strife and jealousy among Christians results in Milk Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by ending strife and jealousy?

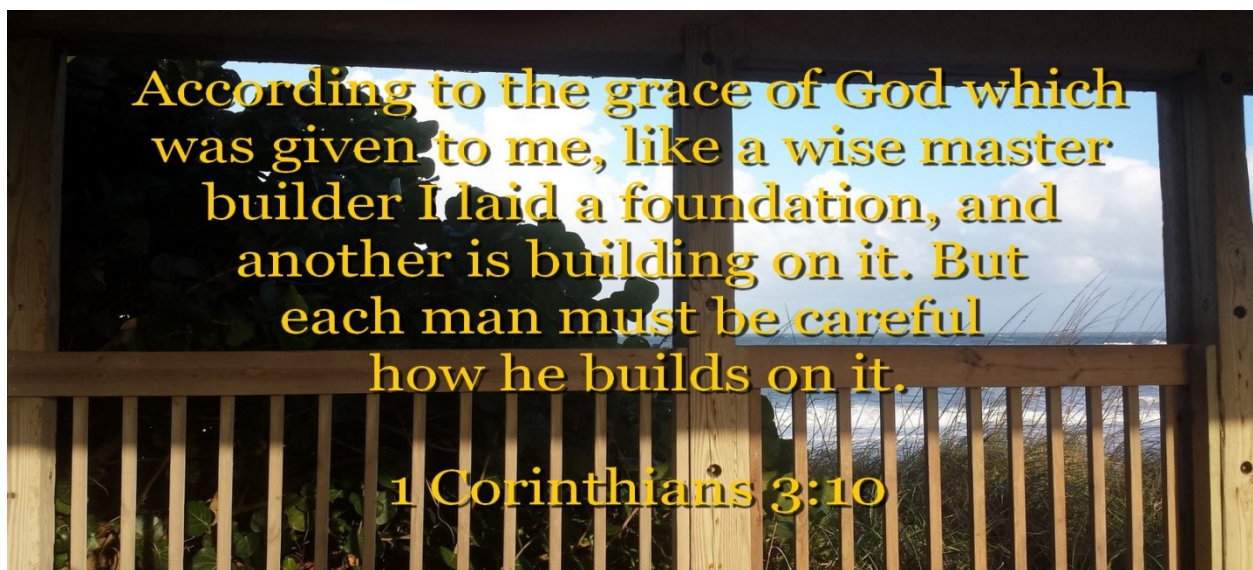
Closing

Pray that the Beloved will put an end to strife and jealousy with other Christians.

HALLELUJAH !

8

Rewards Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would be a wise master builder each day.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul described the ministry of Apollos as building upon the foundation Paul laid at Corinth by proclaiming the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to them. Paul planted, Apollos watered, and God gave the increase. Paul actually described the picture of continuous ministry for all saints. Every saint has something to contribute to the ministry of Jesus Christ and building His church.

Paul looked to the future and tied it to the present. Paul ministered at Corinth according to the grace of God which had been given to him. He functioned like a wise master builder in laying a foundation. Paul understood that others would build upon that foundation. No man can lay a foundation other than the one that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Therefore, we know that Jesus is the foundation of the church and all building should be done upon that single foundation.

Because different people will be building upon the foundation of Christ, each builder must be careful how they build. If anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver or precious stones, their work will remain. But if they built using wood, hay or straw, then their work will be burned up. Paul explained that in the future, every builder's work will be tested with fire. That fire will reveal the quality of each man's work. Each man's work will become evident because the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. Therefore, we must be careful to build with materials as a wise master builder, because the fire will test the quality of our work. Only gold, silver and precious stones will survive that fire, while wood, hay and straw will be burned up.

If any man's work built upon the foundation of Christ remains after the fire, you will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss. He himself however will be saved, yet so as through fire. Therefore, knowing that God will test all of our work in the future with fire, we must be careful to build today upon the foundation of the Lord Jesus Christ very carefully.

The beloved must comprehend that rewards await the wise master builder. All of us must be careful how we build with our lives every day. Only building upon the foundation of Jesus Christ with gold, silver and precious stones will produce lasting results that God will reward. The fire is coming to test the quality of all of our works, which we have done day by day on earth.

Exegetical Therapy: An Introduction

Therefore, we must be careful to make every day count for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ by being a wise master builder.

Text

1. **Grace**. Paul explained that he built by the grace of God.
2. **Given**. That grace of God he used to build was given to him by God.
3. **Wise**. He built as a wise master builder, employing the wisdom of God and the power of God.
4. **Foundation**. Paul built upon the only foundation of the church, which is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.
5. **Another**. Paul also understood that while he built upon that foundation, laid through the preaching of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, another would come behind him and continue building upon the foundation of Christ.
6. **Careful**. All builders must be very careful about how he builds upon the foundation of Christ.
7. **Builds**. The Beloved will be building every day, but they must be careful as a wise master builder, to build with gold, silver and precious stones so that their work will withstand fire which will test the quality of each man's work in the future. When the Beloved's work comes through the fire and survives because it is composed of gold, silver and precious stones, God will reward the Beloved for such faithful service in building.

Summary for Rewards Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means the Beloved must build each day with gold, silver and precious stones.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God has given us grace to build each day as a wise master builder, building upon the foundation of the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the Beloved must understand that God rewards building with gold, silver and precious stones.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by encouraging them to build with gold, silver and precious stones so that they will be rewarded when their work remains after being tested by fire. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by encouraging the Beloved to build today to receive an eternal reward in the future?

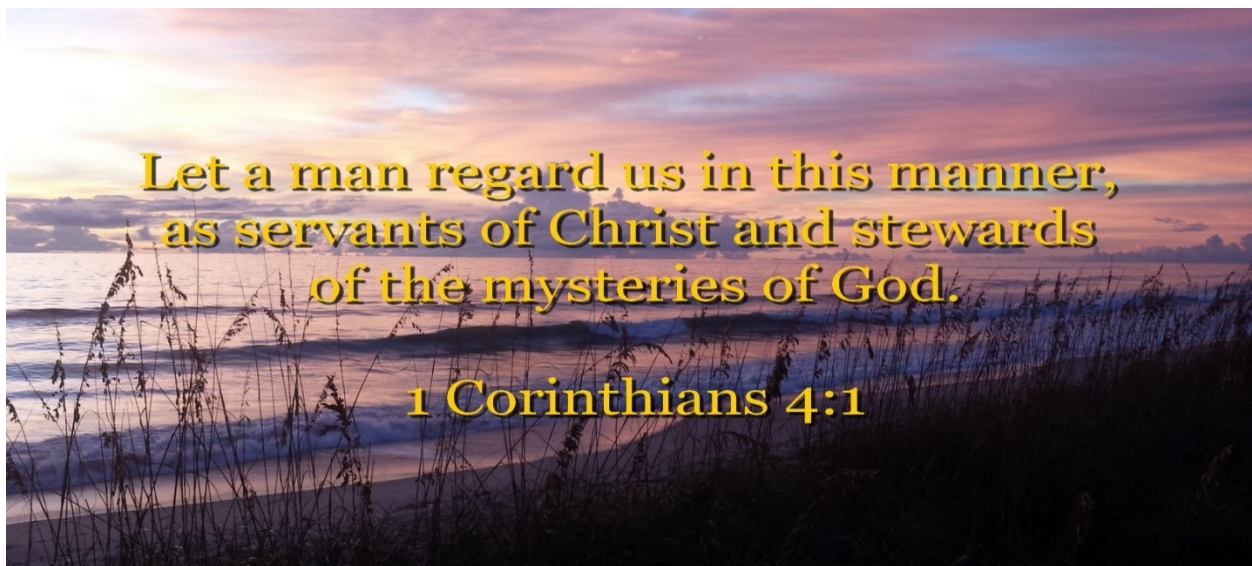
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Pray that the Beloved will build today with gold, silver and precious stones so they receive a reward after the quality of their work has been tested by fire.

HALLELUJAH !

9

Stewards Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand what it means to be steward of the mysteries of God.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul described how other people should view the apostles. Paul revealed that they should be considered as slaves of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Jesus said He no longer would call His 12 learners slaves, but rather friends, because He disclosed to them what God was going to do. While servants serve voluntarily, the Beloved has been purchased with the blood of Christ and has an absolute obligation to do the will of the beloved's Master, God. We have become slaves of righteousness and slaves of God for all eternity. Even so, God calls us His friends and beloved children.

In the New Testament a mystery was something that was hidden in the past generations, but now made known through the apostles and prophets (Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 3:1-13) (see [New Testament Mysteries](#)). Paul proclaimed many mysteries, focusing especially upon Jesus Christ and Him crucified for both Greeks and Jews, comprising one church.

Exegetical Therapy means that the Beloved has been entrusted with the mysteries of God, handed down to them from the apostles through the Scriptures of the New Testament. If the Beloved neglects to proclaim Christ and Him crucified, the only Savior for both Jews and Greeks, then the Beloved's spiritual life will lack proper growth and development.

Exegetical Therapy involves the power of God and the wisdom of God in Christ Jesus developing the spiritual life of the Beloved. Part of that process involves God entrusting the New Testament mysteries to the Beloved and all saints must act as stewards of those mysteries. Stewards must be found faithful.

Paul explained that when he was examined by any church or any human court, it was a very small thing to him. Although his own conscience provided no guilt, he was not acquitted by his conscience. The Lord Jesus examined Paul. Therefore, Paul warned the Corinthians to stop passing judgment before the time, and the way for the coming of the Lord Jesus will bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motive of men's hearts. Then, each man's praise will come to him from God.

Exegetical Therapy means that we look to the Lord Jesus Christ to examine our lives. We avoid passing judgments upon the behavior of others, except those judgments already rendered in Scripture about certain behavior. Exegetical Therapy does not involve any human judgments about the behavior or motives of the Beloved. Exegetical Therapy seeks to

encourage the Beloved to be examined by the Lord Jesus with Scripture applied by the Holy Spirit for conviction of sins and encouragement and cleansing from God.

Text

1. **Regard**. Paul indicated that men should regard the ministry team as slaves of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

2. **Us**. Paul used the term us to describe himself, Sosthenes and others on the ministry team acquainted with the church at Corinth.

3. **Slaves**. Paul used the term slaves, because God had purchased them and redeemed them through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. They were no longer their own, but slaves of God.

4. **Christ**. They were also slaves of the Lord Jesus Christ, because He shed His precious blood to ransom them.

5. **Stewards**. Paul wanted people to think of him as one of the stewards of the mysteries of God.

6. **Mysteries**. A New Testament mystery involves something previously hidden, but now revealed through the apostles and prophets of the New Testament, all according to the wisdom of God.

7. **God**. In the wisdom of God and in the timing of God, God revealed many mysteries in the New Testament, including the mystery that both Jews and Gentiles both comprise one church, the body of the Lord Jesus Christ, by believing the same Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Summary for Stewards Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means the Beloved should understand that they are slaves of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the Lord Jesus requires that stewards be found faithful.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the Beloved should be a faithful steward of the mysteries of God as a slave of Christ.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by being a faithful steward of the mysteries of God as a slave of Christ. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by faithfully fulfilling your duties as a steward of the mysteries of God and a slave of the Lord Jesus Christ?

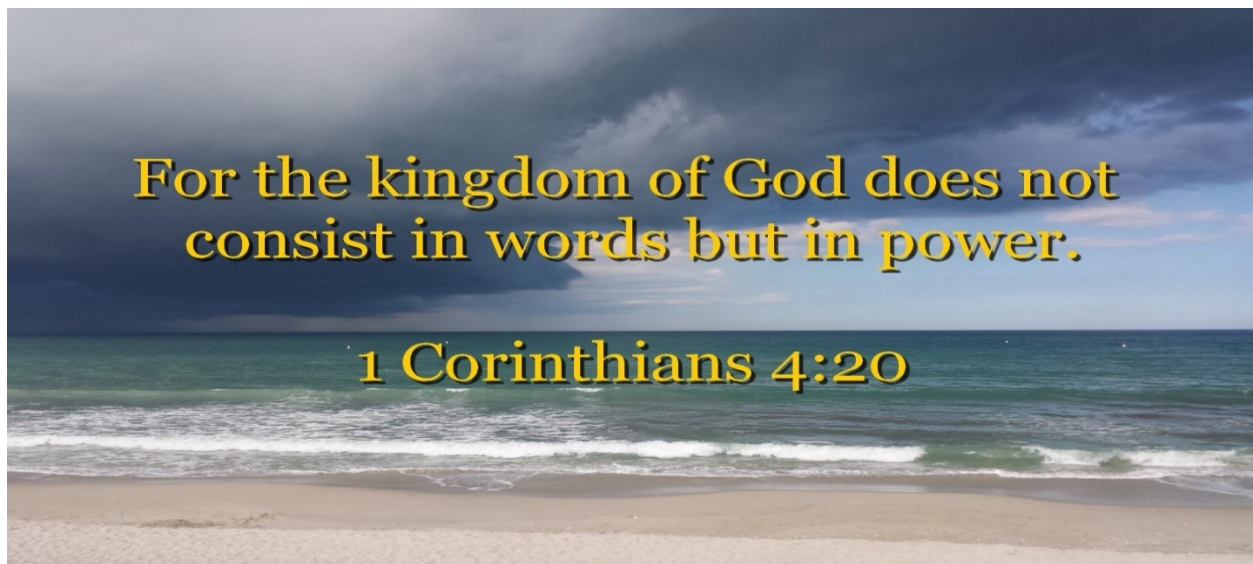
Closing

Pray that the Beloved would act as a faithful steward of the mysteries of God and a slave of the Lord Jesus Christ.

HALLELUJAH !

10

Kingdom Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand that the kingdom of God does not consist in words, but in power.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 4:14-21 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul came to Corinth share the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Some of the Corinthians believed and he became their spiritual father. Paul ministered there for 18 months or more, but his second epistle reflects a lack of spiritual maturity among the believers at Corinth.

Paul explained that the Corinthians thought they were flourishing spiritually. They thought they had become kings, who were rich and filled. They thought they were prudent in Christ but the apostle Paul and his ministry team were fools and weak and without honor. Of course, Paul did not share that view of them. Paul explained that the ministry team was hungry and thirsty, poorly clothed, roughly treated and homeless. They worked with their own hands. Yet, the Corinthians had developed a negative view of Paul.

Paul said he did not write to shame the Corinthians, but to admonish them as his beloved children. They had countless tutors in Christ, but only Paul was their spiritual father through the Gospel. Paul urged them to be imitators of him. For that reason he sent Timothy to them, his beloved son in the Lord, who would remind them of Paul's ways which are in Christ, just as he teaches everywhere.

Paul observed that some of the Corinthians had become arrogant, acting as if Paul would not return. Paul said he was coming soon, if the Lord wills, and he would find out, not the words of those were arrogant, but their power. For the kingdom of God does not consist of words, but power. Paul asked the Corinthians what they wanted. Do they want Paul to come with a rod, or with love and a spirit of gentleness?

Exegetical Therapy includes Kingdom Therapy, which includes the power of God working in the lives of the Beloved. When people become arrogant and discount the value of the apostles and their teaching, they forget that the kingdom of God does not consist of words, but in the power of God. Therefore, Kingdom Therapy helps the beloved comprehend their own arrogance and replace it with a humble appreciation of the power of the kingdom of God. If they ignore Kingdom Therapy, then God may send visitors with a rod, instead of love with a spirit of gentleness.

Text

1. **For**. Paul linked the kingdom of God with the power of God.
2. **Kingdom**. When people become arrogant, trusting in the words of men, they often need Kingdom Therapy to understand again the power of God.
3. **God**. Paul said he would find out about the power of men when he visited Corinth again, but he wanted them to know that the kingdom of God consists of power, not words.
4. **Consist**. The kingdom of God does not consist in the words of men, and everyone who trusts the words of men ignores the power of God.
5. **Words**. Paul dressed sharp distinctions between (a) the words of men which make them arrogant and puffed up; and (b) the kingdom of God which consists of the power of God.
6. **But**. Using the word but, Paul contrasted the words of the arrogant men with the power of God which resides in the kingdom of God.
7. **Power**. Exegetical Therapy includes Kingdom Therapy which deals with the arrogant words of men and turns the Beloved away from those empty words and back to the power of God displayed in the kingdom of God.

Summary for Kingdom Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means some believers grow arrogant and puffed up by the words of men.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God uses Kingdom Therapy to remind people that the kingdom of God consists of power, not the words of men.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God intends for the Beloved to avoid being bamboozled by the words of men so that they forget that the kingdom of God consists of the power of God.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by reminding them that God can send visitors with a rod or with love and a spirit of gentleness. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by reminding people that the kingdom of God consists of power, not the words of men?

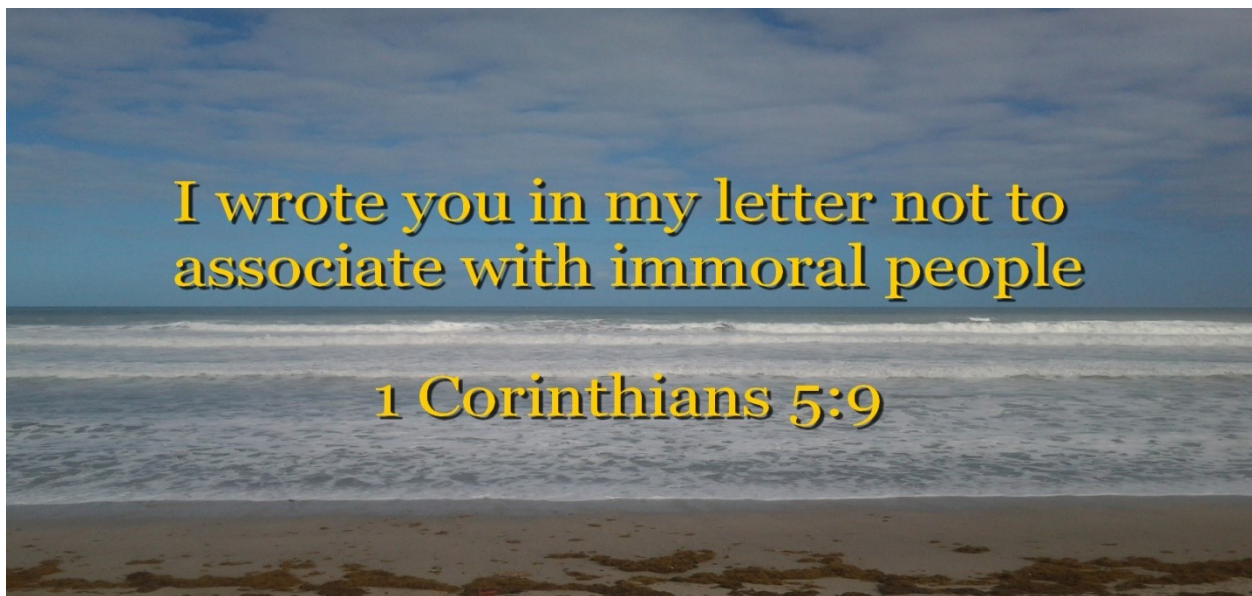
Closing

Pray that the Beloved will understand that the Kingdom of God consists of power.

HALLELUJAH !

11

Association Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Association Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 5:9-13 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Associations are so very important to God that He provided clear guidance about not associating with certain people. When the church no longer associates with a person, they must practice Exegetical Therapy in the form of Association Therapy. Association Therapy describes God's plan for the church not to associate with the immoral people, nor the covetous, idolaters, revilers, drunkards or swindlers (the Non-Associates). In fact, God prohibited the Beloved from even eating with such people.

God intends for the church, including the Beloved, to practice Association Therapy with the Non-Associates. The goal of Association Therapy is to restore such people to fellowship with the church, only after they have repented of their sin and turned away from it. God did not direct Association Therapy towards unbelievers in the world, but toward so-called brothers living in sin. Please take notice that Paul did not say they were actually unbelievers, but they claimed to be believers and participated in the fellowship of the church.

By practicing Association Therapy, the saints can encourage the Non-Associates to change their ways by the power of God. Writing under the inspiration of God, Paul had already declared that a little leaven leavens the whole lump. Paul meant that letting terrible sins go without corrective action only leads to more sinful behavior in the congregation. Therefore, the congregation should not associate with the Non-Associates until they repent and change their mind and actions.

Paul also described Association Therapy as part of the judgments the saints enforce. God has already rendered the judgment that the saints must not associate with the people practicing the sins described above. The saints do not judge those outside the church. Therefore, Association Therapy never requires not associating with unbelievers outside the church. Those unbelievers need to hear and believe the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Association Therapy was never meant for unbelievers outside the church, so long as they remain unbelievers and outside the church. God assured the believers at Corinth that He would judge those outside the church. For those so-called believers acting as Non-Associates, they must be removed from among the believers, until they repent and turn to God.

Text

1. **I**. Paul wrote under the inspiration of God as an apostle of Jesus Christ.

2. **Wrote**. Paul wrote the Holy Words God gave to him for the Corinthians and for us.

3. **Letter**. Paul had written a previous letter to the Corinthians concerning associating with immoral people, but clarified his meaning.

4. **Not**. He did not want the Corinthians to associate with certain sinners.

5. **Associate**. Associating in this case meant not even eating with them.

6. **Immoral**. Paul used the term pornois, describing general sexual immorality.

7. **People**. Paul meant that the saints should not associate with the so-called brothers in the church who engaged in pornois.

Summary for Association Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that we must be careful not to associate with immoral people.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God seeks to bring sinners to repentance using Association Therapy.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means saints must follow God's commands for purity in the church.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by following God's commands regarding not associating with some so-called brothers. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by not associating with some so-called brothers?

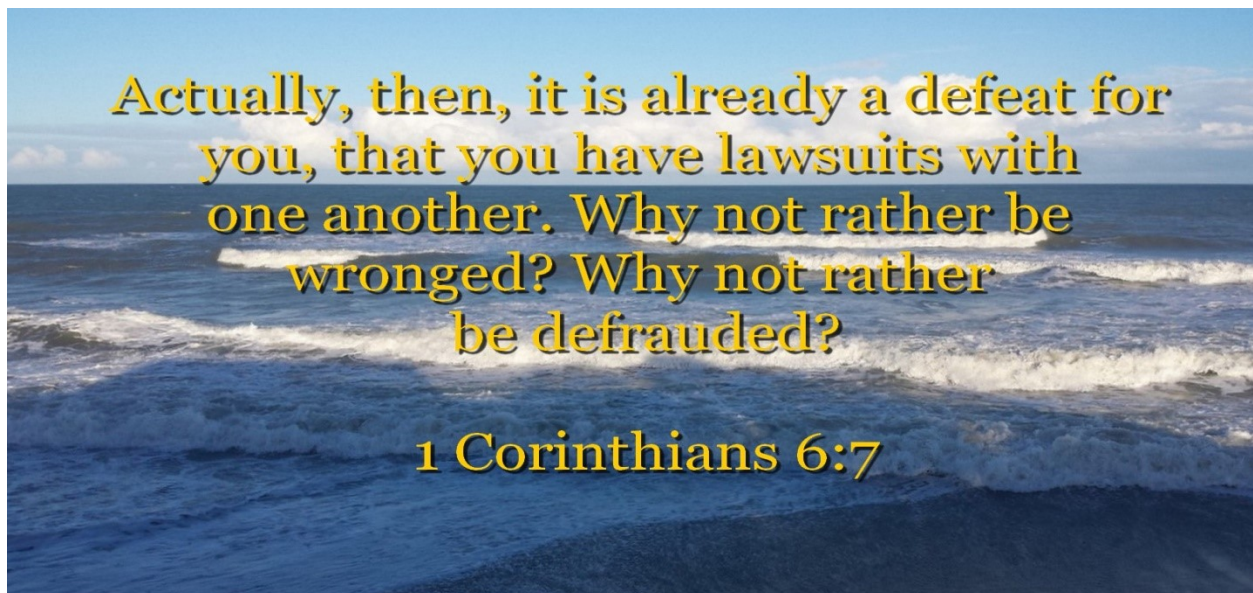
Closing

Pray that the Beloved will learn not to associate with some so-called brothers.

HALLELUJAH !

12

Litigation Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved avoid litigation with other believers.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 6:1-8 with the Beloved.

Discussion

The Corinthian saints had lawsuits against each other. Paul outlined the problems with Christians suing Christians in secular courts.

First, Paul indicated that all lawsuits before the unrighteous are improper. All legal matters should be resolved before the saints, not before the unrighteous. Christians suing Christians in secular courts presents a bad testimony to the unrighteous.

Second, saints will judge the world. Therefore, the saints are competent to form the smallest law courts.

Third, the saints will judge angels. Therefore, the saints are absolutely qualified to judge matters of this life.

Fourth, the saints must never appoint as judges those people who are of no account in the church. Therefore, even if the secular judge is a believer, saints must not go to secular courts because of the bad testimony to the world.

Fifth, when saints sue saints in secular courts, such lawsuits are a shame to the church.

Sixth, saints should appoint a wise brother to decide between the opposing saints and the forum should be the church, not the secular courthouse.

Seventh, saints should rather be defrauded in wrong before they go to secular courts and so cast shame upon the church.

Paul concluded his discussion of litigation between Christians in secular courts by declaring that such legal actions defraud other Christians and wrong them. Therefore, under no circumstances should believers be filing lawsuits in secular courts. Likewise, they should not be defending lawsuits in secular courts brought by other Christians. All such disputes should be resolved in the church by a wise man appointed to resolve such disputes.

Litigation Therapy, as part of Exegetical Therapy, involves resolving disputes between Christians inside the church. A wise man in the church should be appointed to apply the Scriptures to resolve the dispute between

Christians, with venue laid in the local church. Wise men in the church should be appointed to resolve all legal matters inside the church.

The beloved should be taught the principles of Litigation Therapy. God established a system in the church for a wise man in the church to hear disputes between Christians and resolve them according to biblical principles. Any Christian who files a lawsuit against another Christian in secular courts should be put under church discipline immediately. No one should associate with that Christian litigating in secular courts until the secular case has been dismissed with prejudice and the matter resolved in the church. In God's eyes, the secular courts never provide the appropriate forum for litigating disputes between Christians, even if the secular court has a Christian judge presiding. When one Christian sues another Christian in a secular court pursuing an insurance claim, they still are litigating in a secular court which God prohibited because of the bad testimony of Christians suing Christians and appointing people of no regard in the church as the judge. Ultimately, God declared that the church is the only appropriate forum for such disputes and the Scriptures must be applied by a wise man in the church to resolve the matter.

Text

1. **Actually**. Paul declared that the Corinthians were defeated because they had lawsuits against one another.

2. **Already**. They were already defeated because those lawsuits remained pending.

3. **Defeat**. They were defeated because no outcome in a secular court would glorify God by one Christian prevailing over another Christian.

4. **You**. Paul indicated with the plural that the whole church was being defeated by the presence of secular lawsuits among the Christians.

5. **Lawsuits**. God indicated that all lawsuits brought by one Christian against another in a secular court were improper.

6. **Wronged**. God revealed that it would be better for one Christian to be wronged by another Christian than to go to a secular court and litigate.

7. **Defrauded**. Paul concluded that it would be better for one Christian to be defrauded by another Christian than to have the matter litigated in a secular court.

Summary for Litigation Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means Christians should never sue other Christians in a secular court.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that God gave us Litigation Therapy wherein a wise man is appointed in the church to resolve disputes in the church between Christians.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God ordained Litigation Therapy as a means of resolving conflicts between two Christians in the church.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by avoiding all lawsuits in which Christians sue other Christians in a secular court. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by rather being defrauded or wronged before you file suit in a secular court against another Christian?

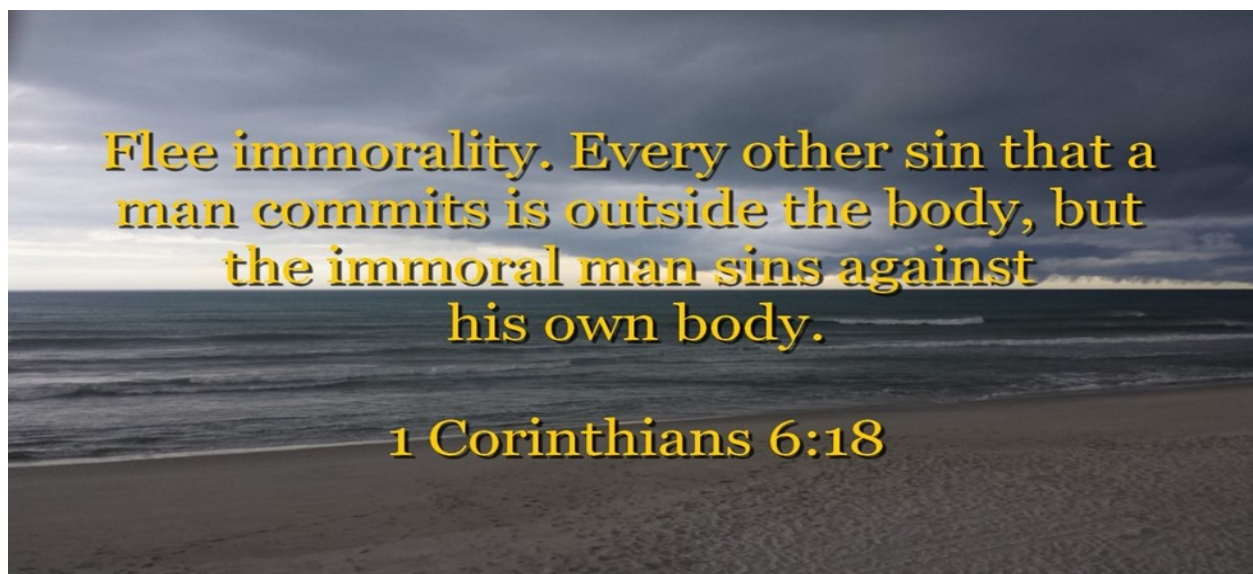
Closing

Pray that the Beloved would practice Litigation Therapy to resolve disputes between Christians that otherwise would go to secular courts.

HALLELUJAH !

13

Immorality Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would flee immorality.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul declared that all things are lawful for him, but not all things are profitable. Paul then explained that the body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. God not only raised up the Lord Jesus, but He also will raise us up through His power. Therefore, we should treat our bodies as holy to the Lord.

Our bodies are members of Christ. We should not take members of Christ and join them to a prostitute. Anyone who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one flesh with her, just as the Scriptures say; the two shall become one flesh. Whoever joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with the Lord.

Flee immorality. The immoral man sins against his own body, but every other sin is outside the body. We should always keep in mind that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit who indwells each believer. God gave the Holy Spirit to us as a gift. We are not our own. We have been bought with a price, the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, we must glorify God in our bodies.

Exegetical Therapy includes Immorality Therapy, which involves fleeing immorality. Christians should not indulge in immorality, because their bodies belong to the Lord. When they commit immorality, they become one flesh with other people. They corrupt their bodies and suffer the consequences. Paul taught about Immorality Therapy because he wanted Christians to know the dangers of immorality and how to avoid them. Every Christian is a temple of the Holy Spirit and together all Christians are the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit. We glorify God by fleeing immorality and using our bodies, which are not our own, for the glory of God each day.

Text

1. **Flee**. Paul commanded us to flee immorality.
2. **Immorality**. The term immorality covers all kinds of sexual problems.
3. **Every**. Except for immorality, all sins are outside the body.
4. **Sin**. Immorality produces sin against your own body.
5. **Body**. The effects of immorality often have both spiritual and physical devastating consequences for your body.
6. **Man**. When a man acts immorally, then he becomes one flesh with another person.
7. **Own**. He also sins against his own body and bears the consequences of that sin in his own body and in his life.

Summary for Immorality Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that we flee immorality through Immorality Therapy.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we understand that immorality involves a sin against our own bodies.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we are not our own and so through Immorality Therapy we avoid joining our members to anyone else through immorality.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by remembering Immorality Therapy to avoid sinning against our own bodies. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by treating your body today with the knowledge that we are not our own, but bought with the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ?

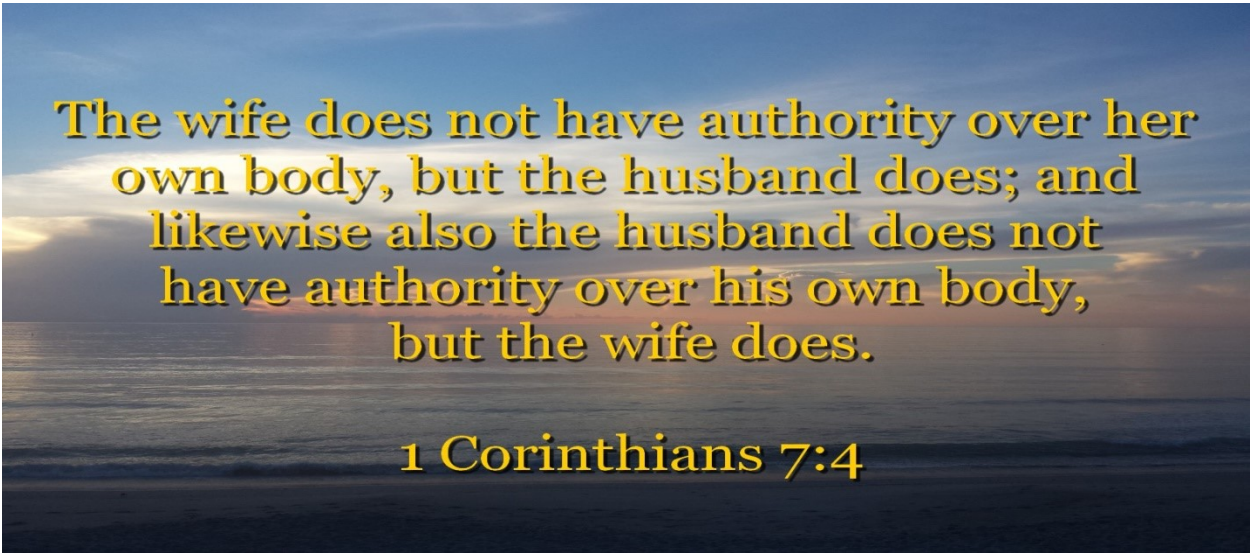
Closing

Pray that the Beloved would practice Immorality Therapy to avoid sinning against their own body.

HALLELUJAH !

14

Sexual Therapy

A photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with the sun low on the horizon. The water is dark and calm. The text is overlaid in a yellow, serif font.

The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

1 Corinthians 7:4

Pray

Pray that the Beloved would understand Sexual Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-7.

Discussion

God revealed that it is good for a man not to touch a woman. Because of immoralities, however, each man is to have his own wife and each woman is to have her own husband. God provided the basis for Sexual Therapy to overcome immoralities.

God further revealed that the husband must fulfill his duty to his wife and likewise also the wife to her husband. In this context of sexual activity, Paul was making the point that both husband and wife should consent to sex with the spouse. Please take notice that Paul spoke of males and females joined in marriage.

Regarding the frequency of sex, the wife does not have authority over her own body but the husband does. Likewise, the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. Therefore, Sexual Therapy describes the frequency of sex and the manner of sex with this mutuality of sexuality. Each spouse has control over the other spouse's body.

Regarding one spouse depriving the other spouse of sex, God revealed that one spouse should not deprive the other spouse, except by agreement, and only then for a time. The spouses should use that time in prayer and then come together again, so that satan will not tempt them because of their lack of self-control. Paul indicated he said that by way of concession not of command. Paul meant that these general rules concerning sex apply in Christian marriage, but marriage is not mandatory. In fact, Paul said that he wished that all men had the gift of chastity like he had, but he recognized that each man has his own gift from God.

As the Beloved learns and applies Sexual Therapy in the marriage, they can rest assured that they have God's blessing. The basic principles concerning Sexual Therapy will provide a wholesome sex life that glorifies God. Sex should never be viewed as shameful or dirty, but a gift of God to be exercised solely in marriage between a male and a female, both created in the image of God.

Text

1. **Wife**. Paul provided clear guidance about Sexual Therapy for both husband and wife.

2. **Authority**. Although Paul clearly taught the headship of the husband over the wife, when it comes to sex, husband and wife enjoy complete mutuality, where each spouse has authority over the other spouse's body.

3. **Her**. Therefore, the wife does not have authority over her own body.

4. **Body**. The husband has authority over the wife's body.

5. **Likewise**. Paul then explained that the wife likewise has authority over her husband's body. Therefore, God ordained complete mutuality in sexuality.

6. **Husband**. The husband must nourish and cherish his wife, but she has complete authority over his body.

7. **Authority**. Just as the wife has authority over the husband's body, so also the husband has authority over the wife's body. In this context of sexual activity, following these principles of sexual mutuality will resolve many issues related to sex in marriage.

Summary for Sexual Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means the wife does not have authority over her own body.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the husband does not have authority over his own body.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God ordained complete mutuality in sexuality.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by keeping in mind the basic principles of Sexual Therapy in marriage. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by thanking God for Sexual Therapy in marriage?

Closing

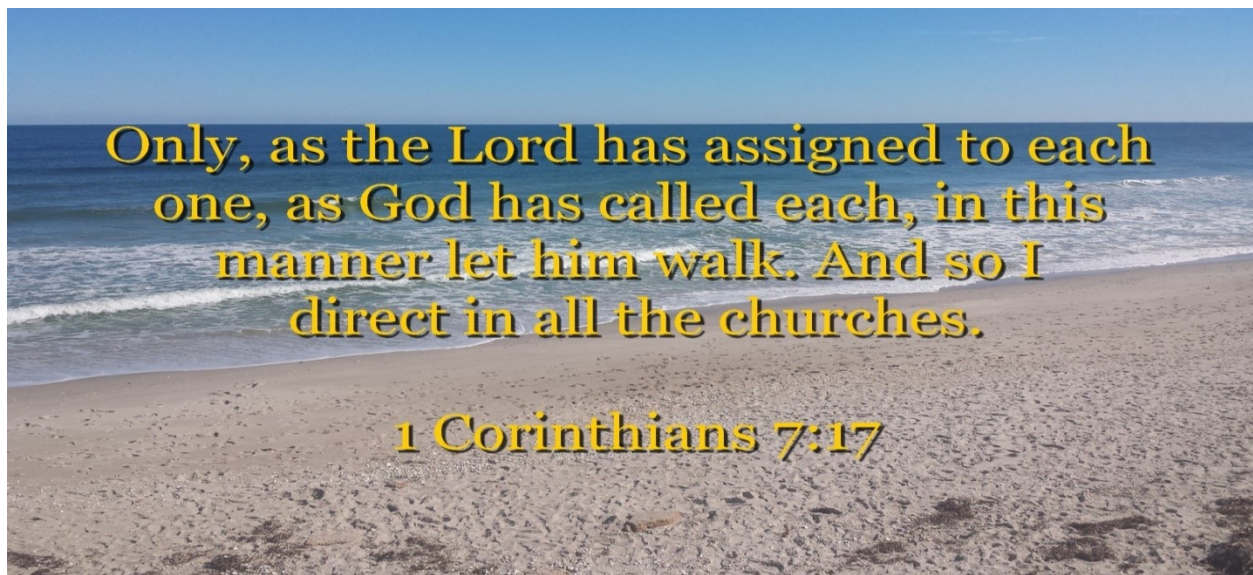
Pray that the Beloved would understand Sexual Therapy is revealed in the Scriptures.

HALLELUJAH !

\

15

Mixed Marriage Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand Mixed Marriage Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 7:12-20 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul described mixed marriages, composed of one believer and one unbeliever. God used Paul to reveal His plans for mixed marriages, including Mixed Marriage Therapy.

God joins two people together in marriage and no one should separate what God has joined together. Some people may argue that a believer should never remain married to an unbeliever. Do not misunderstand, God never intends for a believer to marry an unbeliever. But for the Christians who are already married to an unbeliever, God gave specific reasons for a believer to remain married to an unbeliever.

First, God instructed Christians to never divorce an unbeliever, so long as the unbelieving spouse consents to live with the believer. Therefore, because God provided very specific guidance about never divorcing an unbelieving spouse, Mixed Marriage Therapy always follows that guidance.

Second, the unbelieving spouse is sanctified through the believing spouse. Of course, that sanctification does not always guarantee salvation of the unbelieving spouse. That sanctification, however, does mean that the Christian spouse will be a sanctifying influence throughout the home. Therefore, Mixed Marriage Therapy always encourages sanctification in the home.

Third, if the unbelieving spouse leaves (divorces) the Christian spouse, which means they file for divorce in secular court, then the Christian spouse may let the unbelieving spouse leave. Therefore, Mixed Marriage Therapy means that if an unbelieving spouse files for divorce in a secular court and obtains a final judgment of dissolution of marriage, then the Christian spouse should respond in peace to such an action.

Fourth, once the unbelieving spouse is divorced in the eyes of the state, then the Christian spouse will not be under bondage to that marriage any longer, but free to remarry in the Lord. God has called us to peace. Therefore, Mixed Marriage Therapy means that God will help the Christian spouse find an appropriate new spouse at the right time.

Fifth, the Christian spouse never knows if they will be the means God uses to produce salvation in the unbelieving spouse. Because the Christian has already become one flesh with the unbelieving spouse, they owe a lifetime duty to that unbelieving spouse to proclaim the Gospel and sanctify

the home. Therefore, Mixed Marriage Therapy always promotes salvation first in the marriage because of its eternal consequences which far outweigh any earthly discomforts related to the marriage.

Text

1. **How**. Paul asked two important questions related to mixed marriages. Both of those questions asked the Christian spouse if they know they will save the non-believing spouse.

2. **Know**. Paul meant that because the Christian spouse never knows if the Christian spouse will save the non-believing spouse, the Christian should remain in the mixed marriage as a constant testimony of God's love and forgiveness.

3. **Wife**. The Christian wife will never know if she will save the non-believing husband.

4. **Save**. The Christian wife always has a duty to proclaim the Gospel to her non-believing husband and so promote salvation.

5. **Husband**. The Christian husband always has a duty to proclaim the Gospel to his non-believing wife and so promote salvation.

6. **Save**. The Christian husband must always present Christ through loving nourishment of his non-believing wife.

7. **Wife**. Because the Christian husband never knows if his non-believing wife will be saved, he should stay in the marriage, just as the believing wife stays in the marriage.

Summary for Mixed Marriage Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Christians must remain in mixed marriages so long as the non-believing spouse consents to stay in the marriage.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the Christian spouse may save the other spouse.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means if the non-believing spouse divorces the Christian spouse, the Christian spouse is not under bondage and may remarry in the Lord.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by following the principles of Mixed Marriage Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by promoting the principles of Mixed Marriage Therapy?

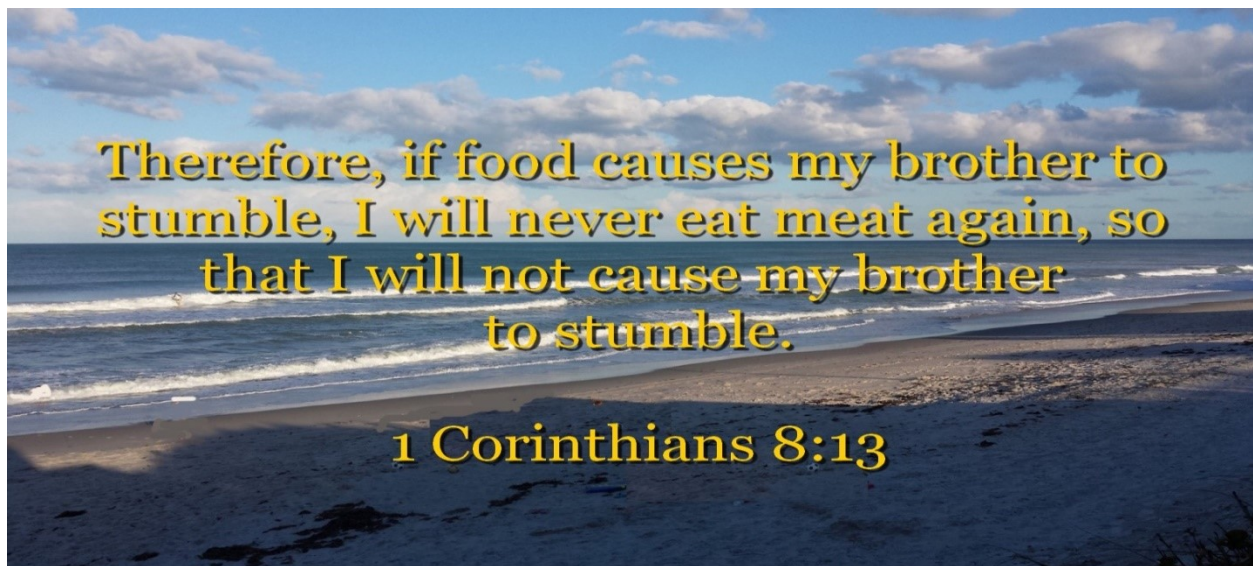
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Pray that the Beloved would promote the principles of Mixed Marriage Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

16

Liberty Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand how to avoid causing your weak brother to stumble.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul taught the Corinthians about personal liberty in Christ. He started by discussing things sacrificed to idols, a common practice in Corinth. Paul explained that knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies. Paul emphasized that there is no such thing as an idol in the world. There is only one God and no one else. Although there are many so-called gods in heaven and on earth, just as there are many gods and many lords, for Christians there is but one God, the Father, from Whom are all things and in Whom we exist. Likewise, there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, by Whom are all things, and we exist through Him.

Because not all men have this knowledge, and some are accustomed to idols until now, Christians must be careful what food they eat. The weak Christian's conscience is defiled by eating food sacrificed to idols. Food however will not commend us to God. Likewise, we are neither the worse if we do not eat, nor the better if we do eat. Yet, we must take care with our liberty so that we do not become a stumbling block to the weak.

We become a stumbling block to the weak when they see us eating meat sacrificed to idols. Although you may hope that the weaker brother sees you eating meat sacrificed to idols and his conscience will be strengthened, such hope may be dashed. If the weaker brother is ruined by my knowledge, then that brother for whom Christ died may be ruined. Therefore, by sinning against my weaker brother and wounding his conscience when it is weak, I sin against Christ. To avoid such sin against my weaker brother in the Lord Jesus Christ, Paul said that I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause my brother to stumble.

Please take notice that Paul described the proper use of liberty in this passage. Knowledge about Christ and His ways provides great liberty. We can certainly eat meat sacrificed to idols with a clean conscience before God. There is only one God and all other gods are false gods or no gods at all. While my conscience may be safe and secure eating meat sacrificed to idols, people without that knowledge of God and His ways may be deeply offended by my eating food sacrificed to idols.

Paul said it was enough that he would stop eating meat sacrificed idols for the sake of the conscience of the weaker brothers. Notice, however, that Paul told them that every moment he was not eating meat in their presence was only because of their weaker conscience.

Paul explained that the way people overcome their weak conscience is when the stronger brother with greater knowledge restrains his liberty around them, but lets them know the only reason he is restraining his liberty is because of their weaker conscience. Therefore, we know that Liberty Therapy has two simultaneous elements to help the brother with the weaker conscience.

First, the stronger brother restrains his liberty, so that he does not sin against the conscience of his weaker brother and against Christ. Paul made sure to explain the knowledge that it is perfectly okay to eat meat sacrificed idols.

Second, the stronger brother lets the weaker brother know that only because of the weaker brother's conscience, does the stronger brother restrain his liberty. Paul educated the weaker brother about knowledge that there is no such problem with eating meat sacrificed idols, but then restrains his liberty while telling the weaker brother about his lack of knowledge. Paul not eating meat was a constant testimony to the weaker brother that his conscience remained weak and needed to be strengthened.

Text

1. **Therefore**. Paul drew the conclusion that he would never eat meat again, so that he will not cause his brother to stumble. Of course, Paul told his brother what he was doing as a testimony to the weak conscience of the brother.

2. **Food**. Paul could eat any kind of food because of his knowledge that there really are no idols.

3. **Causes**. If Paul's liberty to eat whatever he wanted in Christ causes his brother to stumble, then Paul will stop eating, but inform the weak brother of the reason he is stopped eating in his presence.

4. **Brother**. Paul loved his brother and did not want his brother to have problems because of Paul's liberty.

5. **Stumble**. If our liberty causes our beloved brother to stumble, we have sinned against the brother and God.

6. **Never**. We should never allow our liberty to cause our brothers to stumble, but we should also educate them about liberty in Christ.

7. **Cause**. While we never want to cause our brothers to stumble because of our liberty; we also want our weaker brother's conscience to mature in Christ as they see us restraining our liberty because of their weakness. We practice Liberty Therapy with our weaker brothers by restraining our liberty, while testifying to them that their consciences are weak and restraining our liberty.

Summary for Liberty Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means we know that our liberty can cause our weaker brothers to stumble.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we practice Liberty Therapy by restraining our liberty for the sake of our weaker brother while testifying to them about why we are restraining our liberty.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means love compels us to use Liberty Therapy to help the weaker brother overcome his weak conscience.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by practicing Liberty Therapy with them. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by restraining your liberty for the sake of the weaker brother, while testifying to the weaker brother with your actions that his conscience remains weak?

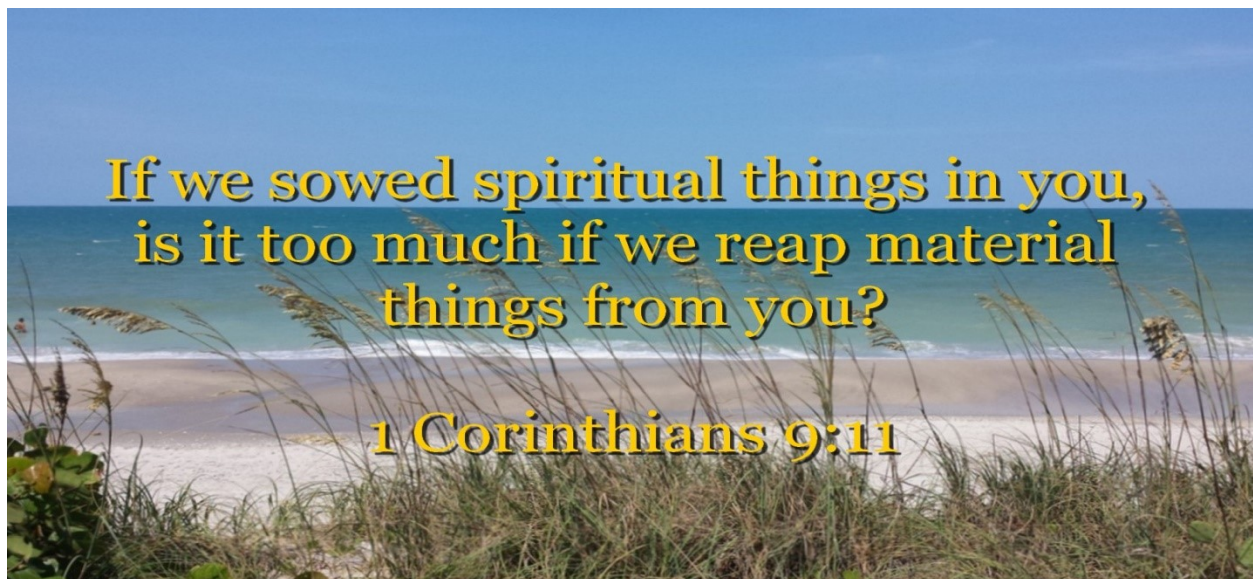
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Pray that the Beloved will learn about Liberty Therapy and the freedom we have in Christ.

HALLELUJAH !

17

Support Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand Support Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 9:1-14 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Some people at Corinth were giving Paul a bad time. They doubted he was really an apostle at all because he did not spend time with the Lord Jesus, such as the 12 apostles. Please recall, however, that Paul had The Spiritual Gift of Apostle, but never held the office of apostle described in Acts chapter 1, which Judas Iscariot vacated with his death.

Paul reminded the Corinthians that they were the seal of his apostleship in the Lord. They came to salvation because he preached the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to them. He was sent by God and gifted by God to be an apostle to the Gentiles, including the Corinthians.

Because some of the Corinthians doubted Paul's apostleship, they also doubted the need to support Paul and his ministry team. Apparently, they had no problem supporting other people like the brothers of the Lord and Cephas. Paul reminded those Corinthians that soldiers serve at the expense of the people they take care of. Likewise, the one who plants a vineyard eats of the fruit of it. Similarly, the one who tends a flock uses the milk of the flock.

Paul then cited the Law that says that one must not muzzle the ox while he is threshing. The plowman ought to plow and hope in the thresher of it and hope in sharing the crops. Paul meant that he sowed spiritual things in of the life of the Corinthians and so they should respond by providing material assistance to Paul and the ministry team. No one could claim a greater right to share materially from the Corinthians than Paul and the ministry team.

Having outlined the basis for a claim for material support from the Corinthians, Paul then reminded them that Paul and the ministry team never used that right for material support. Paul and the ministry team endured all things so that we will not be a hindrance to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul then explained that those who attend regularly to the altar have their share from the altar. So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the Gospel to get their living from the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Support Therapy means that those who proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ should be supported from that ministry. Many people claim they do not have enough money to support the Lord's work. They miss out on many blessings related to finances because they do not put God first in their giving. They tend to forget that their ability to work is a gift from the Lord Jesus Christ. They also tend to forget that all the money they receive

comes from the Lord Jesus Christ. We are merely stewards of the money God provides to us, not owners. Therefore, Support Therapy helps people manage their money appropriately and support the ministers who proclaimed eternal life to them. God loves a cheerful giver and promised to supply and multiply His blessings upon people who use His resources to His glory. As a passing note, Christ Assembly does not accept donations from the public, because God has provided private means of support for the ministry. Things may change in the future, but for now God has blessed Christ Assembly with the support it needs.

Text

1. **Lord**. Paul reminded the Corinthians what the Lord Jesus taught about support.

2. **Directed**. Jesus directed that those who proclaim the Gospel should be supported.

3. **Proclaim**. Like others before him, Paul proclaimed the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. **Gospel**. In fact, Paul brought the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Corinthians.

5. **Get**. Therefore, like others who brought the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to other places, the Corinthians should support Paul and the ministry team.

6. **Living**. Paul and the ministry team should get their living from the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

7. **Gospel**. The people who proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ should be supported with joy by those who have been blessed by the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Summary for Support Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means those who proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ should be supported.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means the Corinthians should support Paul because he brought the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to them.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Support Therapy provides support from those who believe the Gospel of Lord Jesus Christ to those who brought the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to them.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by practicing Support Therapy for those who proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by promoting Support Therapy to provide financially for those who proclaim the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ?

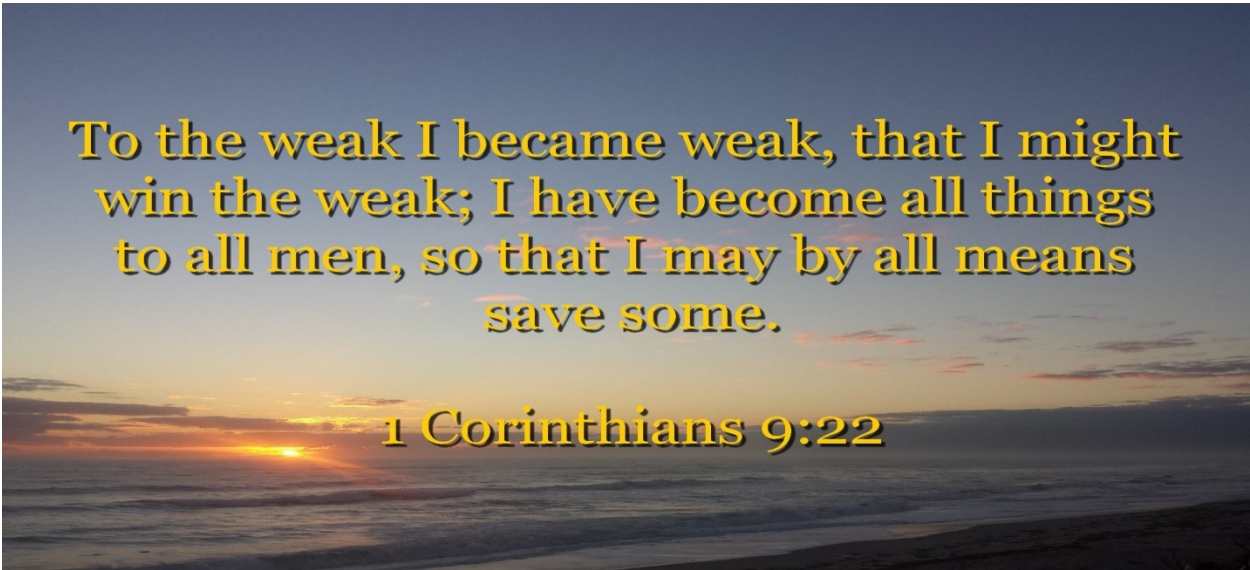
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Pray that the Beloved would practice Support Therapy with their giving to the Lord Jesus Christ.

HALLELUJAH !

18

Weak Therapy



To the weak I became weak, that I might
win the weak; I have become all things
to all men, so that I may by all means
save some.

1 Corinthians 9:22

Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Weak Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-27 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul described winning the race and receiving the prize. Paul preached winning and receiving the prize. He wanted to be a champion in his spiritual life in service for the Lord Jesus Christ. In order to become that champion for Christ, Paul had to understand how to win people for Jesus Christ. God showed him that he must become like other people to win them to Christ. Paul did not sacrifice his doctrine nor his holiness for the sake of winning people. He changed his behavior and practices to avoid offending people needlessly.

Paul revealed how he changed his behavior to win certain people. For example, Paul said that he was a free man, but made himself a slave to all, that he may win the more. He explained that he became as a Jew to the Jews, so that he might win those who are under the Law. To those without the Law, he lived as without the Law, so that he might win those who are without the Law. To the weak he became weak, so that he might win the weak. He became all things to all men, so that he may by all means save some. Paul did all things for the sake of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, so that he may become a fellow partaker of it.

Paul exhorted the Corinthians to run the race, knowing that everyone runs, but only one wins the prize. Paul commanded the Corinthians to run in such a way that they may win. Paul said to focus upon self-control in all things, if you want to win the race. Therefore, Paul ran in such a way, as not without sin. He boxed in such a way, as not beating the air. Paul disciplined his body and made it his slave, so that he would not be disqualified after preaching to the others.

Exegetical Therapy includes Weak Therapy, which means that to win some people for the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, you must become weak like they are. This same principle of Weak Therapy means that we lay aside our freedoms and personal desires so that we win the prize of leading people to the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior by eliminating needless impediments to the presentation of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul became a Jew to the Jews for the sake of the Gospel. Likewise, to those without the Law, he lived without the Law. Weak Therapy means that we become like those we are sharing the Gospel with, yet without sin. We avoid all impediments to sharing the Gospel with different groups. We discipline our body and run straight to the finish line at full speed, unencumbered by selfish choices. We discipline our body and make it our slave, so that we will never be

disqualified. We run with spiritual aim, to win the spiritual prize. We exercise our spiritual strength when we practice Weak Therapy to win some.

Text

1. **Weak**. Paul explained Weak Therapy as becoming all things to all people. For example, he became weak to the weak.
2. **Became**. Paul described himself as having become a different person to different people, without being hypocritical or two-faced. He became weak that he might win the weak.
3. **All**. Paul applied Weak Therapy to all people, so that by all means, he might save some.
4. **Things**. In all things and with all people, Paul became weak, just like they were, so that he might win them to Christ.
5. **Men**. To all men Paul was willing to become weak, so that he might lead the weak to Christ as Savior.
6. **Save**. Paul ran with aim, any aim to save some by all means.
7. **Some**. Paul had no illusion that everyone would come to the Gospel and believe, but that never influenced his desire to run with aim and win the prize, because he was weak with all to save some.

Summary for Weak Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that we practice Weak Therapy so that we might win some of the weak.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we practice Weak Therapy and become all things to all people so that we might win some.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we praise God for revealing Weak Therapy so that we may become the servant of God running the race for God and winning the prize from God.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy and Weak Therapy with our friends and family by becoming all things to all people that we might win some. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy and Weak Therapy today by becoming weak so that you might win the weak?

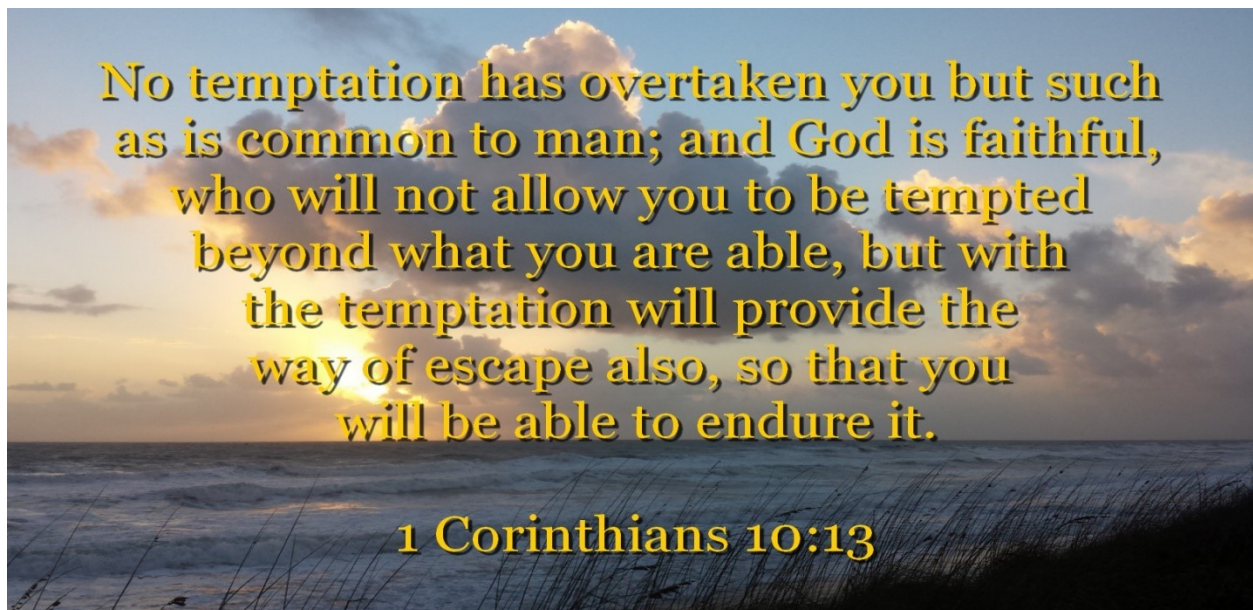
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Pray that the Beloved will learn to practice Weak Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

19

Escape Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Escape Therapy to overcome temptation.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 10:10-13 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul declared that God was not well pleased with the fathers of Israel, for they were laid low in the wilderness. They provided examples for the church to learn from. They craved evil. They were idolaters and 23,000 fell in one day. They tried the Lord and were destroyed by serpents. They grumbled and were destroyed by the destroyer. All of those things happened for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Everyone who thinks they stand should take heed lest they fall. No temptation has overtaken Christians but such as is common to man. God remains faithful and He will never allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able. With each temptation God will provide the way of escape, so that you will be able to endure.

Escape Therapy means that God never tempts anyone and He Himself can never be tempted by sin. Even so, as the God-Man, Jesus was tempted in all ways as we are, yet without sin. Jesus never gave in to temptation and so He provides the power for us to escape every temptation.

Escape Therapy rests upon the faithfulness of God. No temptation will overtake you which is not common to man. God means that we all face temptation and we all sin. We cannot, however, blame God for our temptation or our sin. God remains faithful, because He will never allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear.

Escape Therapy means we never have to walk into temptation with an attitude that says we cannot overcome this temptation; it is too great for me. Instead, we believe the words of God Who said He will never allow us to be tempted us beyond what we are able to bear. Therefore, we face every temptation as a victor, not a slave to temptation and sin.

Escape Therapy means that God will provide a way of escape from every temptation. If we seek an escape from the temptation, we know that God has already provided the escape. If we look for that escape, we can always find it and use it. Because the temptation will never be overwhelming, we have the confidence we will always be able to endure it, just as Jesus endured it. No matter how many times I have committed the same sin in the past, God remains faithful and provides a way of escape every time. After committing the same sin hundreds of times, God says the next time will not be more than you can bear. You can always escape the temptation by using His way of escape.

Text

1. **No**. Paul explained that no temptation overwhelms the Beloved.
2. **Temptation**. God never tempts anyone, but He controls every temptation.
3. **Overtaken**. When we are overtaken by temptation, we remember that God always remains faithful and temptation is not sin. Sin occurs when we indulge the temptation and give in to it.
4. **Common**. All temptations are common to man.
5. **Faithful**. God remains faithful, because He will never allow us to be tempted beyond what we are able to bear.
6. **Escape**. God will always provide a way of escape for every temptation.
7. **Endure**. We can endure every temptation by taking the escape God always provides.

Summary for Escape Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means we practice Escape Therapy by understanding how temptation works in all people.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we rely upon God's faithfulness to escape from temptation and so endure it by practicing Escape Therapy.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we can endure every temptation that comes our way, by escaping it through the faithfulness of God who gives us Escape Therapy.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by practicing Escape Therapy to endure all temptation. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by escaping from all temptation?

Closing

Pray that the beloved will practice Escape Therapy today.

HALLELUJAH !

20

Profitable Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Profitable Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 10:23-33 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Writing under the inspiration of God, Paul revealed a blanket truth: all things are lawful. Paul then explained that not all things are profitable. Likewise, not all things edify. Although all things are lawful, the Beloved must be careful to engage in profitable and edifying things.

Paul then directed attention towards your neighbor. You must not seek your own good, but the good of your neighbor. Paul then applied those general principles to eating meat sold in the meat market. We may eat meat without asking questions for conscience's sake.

If an unbeliever invites you to go, you can eat whatever is set before you without asking questions for conscience's sake. But if anyone tells you that this meat is sacrificed idols, then you cannot eat it. Paul did not mean your own conscience, but for the other man's conscience. Paul then asked a series of questions.

Why is my freedom judged by another man's conscience? If I partake with thankfulness, why am I slandered concerning that for which I give thanks?

Paul concluded by teaching that whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense to either Jews or Greeks or to the church of God. Paul sought to please all men in all things, so that they may be saved and built up. Paul did not seek his own profit, but the profit of many.

Exegetical Therapy includes Profitable Therapy, which means that Paul always sought the profit of the many, not his own profit. Paul explained that he pursued profitable things that edify other people. By following Profitable Therapy, people may eat anything served to them without asking questions. If, however, someone tells you that the meat was sacrificed to idols, then you are not to eat of that meat. Profitable Therapy means that you do not eat the meat for the sake of the one who informed you, and also for the conscience of the other man. Paul restrained his own freedom to eat anything by setting the interest of other men above his own desires. Paul knew that if he ate the meat, it would offend the conscience of his weaker brother. Of course, he could eat all things with thankfulness by himself. But Paul restrained his freedom and applied Profitable Therapy to seek the profit of others and edify his neighbor. The general principles of Profitable Therapy applied to far more things than eating meat.

Text

1. **All**. Paul declared all things lawful for himself.
2. **Things**. Paul knew he could eat whatever he wanted, because the requirements of the Old Testament dietary laws no longer applied to him.
3. **Lawful**. God had declared all things clean.
4. **Profitable**. Although all things were lawful for him, not all things were profitable.
5. **Not**. Paul determined it would not be profitable to eat whatever he wanted at the expense of tearing down his brothers.
6. **All**. Therefore, Paul concluded that not all things are profitable because not all things edify others.
7. **Edify**. Paul wanted to build up other people and so edify them, not cause them problems by exercising his liberty to eat all things.

Summary for Profitable Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Profitable Therapy requires restraining my liberty so that I profit others and build them up.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Paul applied Profitable Therapy and became all things to all people so that he may save some and build them up in Christ.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we build other people up in Christ by considering their conscience before we act in freedom.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by practicing Profitable Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by considering the conscience of other people before you act in freedom?

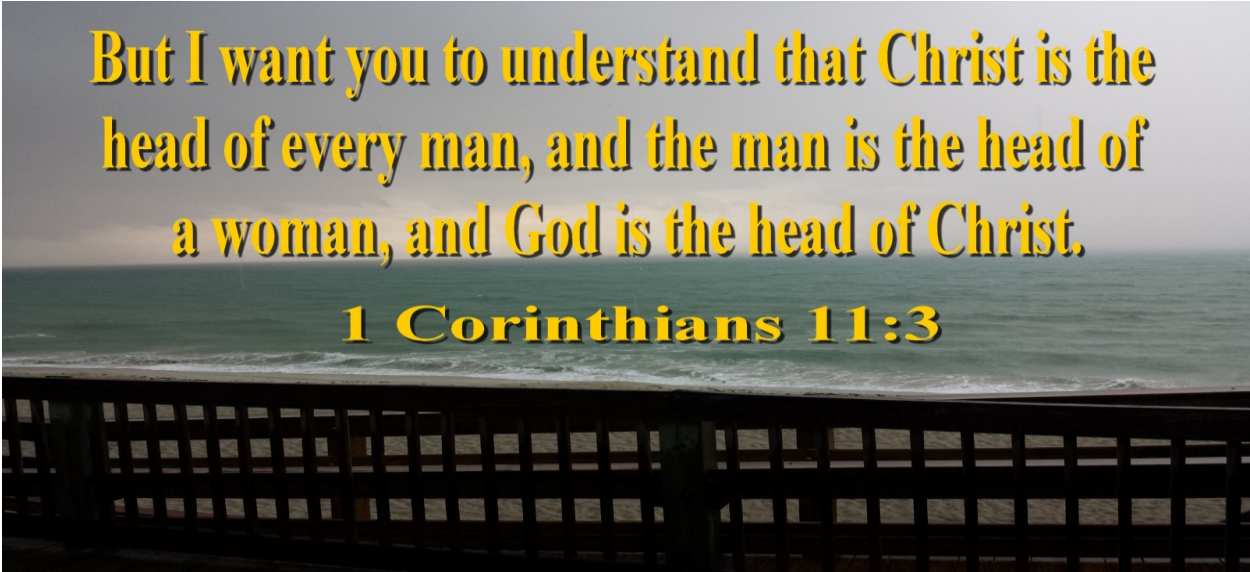
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Pray that the Beloved will practice Profitable Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

21

Headship Therapy



But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:3

Opening

Pray the Beloved understands Headship Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 11:1-16 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul commanded the Corinthians to be imitators of him, just as he imitated Christ. Next, Paul prays for the Corinthians because they remembered Paul and held firmly to the traditions he delivered to them.

Paul then described Headship Therapy, which means that God provided an order to certain relationships. First, Christ is the head of every man. Second, man is the head of woman. Third, God is the head of Christ. Those three relationships describe Headship Therapy. When we ignore or minimize those relationships, bad things happen.

Because of those headship relationships, every woman disgraces her head if it is uncovered when she prays or prophesies, because she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved. If a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off. Keep in mind that if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.

A man ought not to have his head covered when he prays or prophesies, because he is the image and glory of God. The woman is the glory of man, for the man does not originate from woman, but woman from man. Man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake. Therefore, the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

In the Lord, woman is not independent of man, and man is not independent of woman. For as the woman originates from man, so also man originates from woman. All things originate from God. Therefore, judge for yourselves: is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? Nature itself teaches you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him. If a woman has long hair, it is a glory to her. For her hair is given to her for a covering. If anyone is inclined to be contentious about these things, Paul said that we have no other practice nor have the churches of God.

Headship Therapy means that the power of God works through the relationships between man and woman and God and Christ. When the relationships described above are ignored, and the traditions growing out of those relationships abandoned or modified, then dysfunction results in the relationships. As the Beloved understands and practices Headship Therapy, not only will the worship in the local assembly improve, but all relationships improve under the headship of God.

Text

1. **Understand**. Paul wanted the Corinthians to understand the traditions he delivered to them and hold to them.
2. **Christ**. He wanted them to understand that Christ is the head of every man.
3. **Head**. Paul described a specific relationship of headship with Christ as the head of man.
4. **Man**. In turn man is the head of woman.
5. **Woman**. Paul intended for those relationships between men and women and Christ and man to be maintained according to Scripture.
6. **God**. God is also the head of Christ.
7. **Christ**. Christ is no less God because God is the head of Christ.

Summary for Headship Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means Headship Therapy provides a guide to perfect relationships which act like channels for God's power.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means as men and women practice Headship Therapy, the power of God flows through them in ways that glorify God and build up each other in Christ.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that the relationships between Christ and man and men and women and Christ and God define Headship Therapy.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by practicing Headship Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by understanding and following the traditions of headship provided by God?

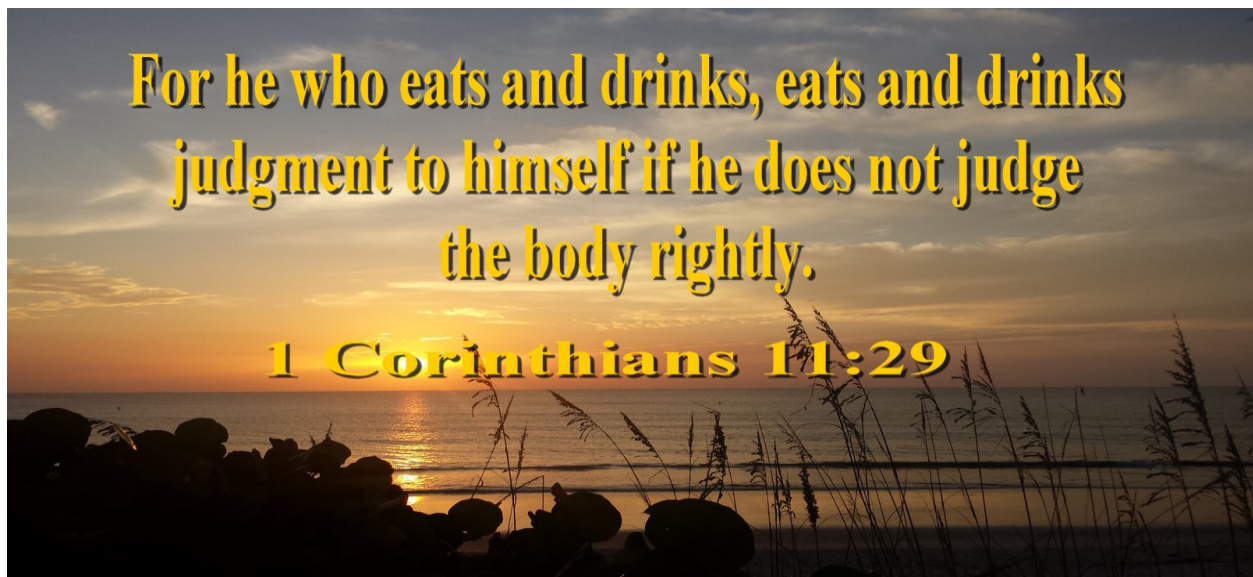
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Pray that the Beloved would understand and practice Headship Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

22

Judgment Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand Judgment Therapy

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-34 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul described the problems at Corinth with breaking of bread. When they gathered together to remember the Lord Jesus Christ, they were divided and shaming one another. The factions among them caused them to come together, not for the better, but for the worse. Paul did not praise them for such problems. Paul described Judgment Therapy as consisting of both a warning and a remedy.

Paul warned the Corinthians that whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. Therefore, before a man eats of the bread or drinks of the cup, he must examine himself. If a man does not judge himself before he eats or drinks, he eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly.

Paul then described the results of failure to judge the body rightly. Some people may suffer weakness and sickness, and some even die. If they judge themselves rightly, they would not be judged. When they are judged, they are disciplined by the Lord so that they will not be condemned along with the world.

Judgment Therapy means that the power of God is displayed in the Beloved when the Beloved examines himself carefully before eating the bread or drinking. Having examined themselves, the command remains the same: eat of the bread and drink of the cup in remembrance of Jesus, proclaiming His Name until He comes again. Judgment Therapy also means that the failure, for whatever reason, to judge the body rightly before partaking of the cup or the bread results in judgment from the Lord in the form of discipline so that they will not be condemned along with the world.

Text

1. **He**. He who eats and drinks must examine himself.
2. **Eats**. He who eats the bread without first examining himself eats judgment to himself.
3. **Drinks**. He who drinks the cup without first examining himself drinks judgment to himself
4. **Judgment**. Judgment comes in the form of weakness, sickness and death.
5. **Judge**. He who does not judge the body rightly faces very severe consequences.
6. **Body**. God commands us to judge the body rightly, before we eat the bread and drink the cup.
7. **Rightly**. Rightly means that we examine ourselves before God, using the Scriptures to evaluate our own conduct.

Summary for Judgment Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means we practice Judgment Therapy before we partake in either the bread or drink of the cup.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we practice Judgment Therapy and then eat of the bread and drink of the cup in obedience to the command of God.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means we practice Judgment Therapy so that we are not disciplined of the Lord.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by judging ourselves rightly before we partake in either the bread or drink of the cup. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by examining yourself carefully before you either eat the bread or drink of the cup?

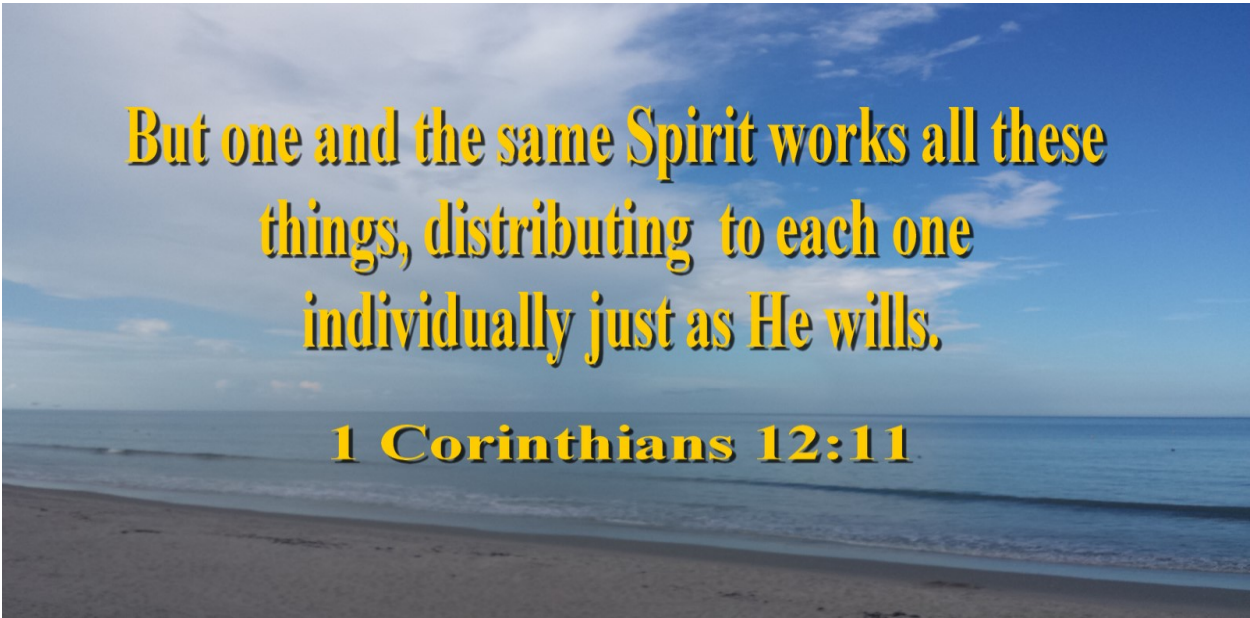
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Pray that the Beloved would practice Judgment Therapy before eating the bread and drinking the cup.

HALLELUJAH !

23

Spiritual Gifts Therapy



But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

1 Corinthians 12:11

Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Spiritual Gifts Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-13 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul did not want the Corinthians to be unaware of spiritual gifts. Only people speaking by the Holy Spirit can say, “Jesus is Lord.” In contrast, no one speaking by the Holy Spirit says that “Jesus is accursed.” With those basic principles in mind, Paul then explained spiritual gifts.

There are a variety of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit. There are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.

Each person receives a different manifestation of the Holy Spirit for the common good. One person has received the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit. Another person has received the gift of faith, and to another gifts of healings by the one Spirit. Another has received the works of powers and another prophecy and another the distinguishing the spirits and to another various kinds of tongues and to another interpretation of tongues. One Spirit works all these things, distributing to each person just as He wills.

Having described a variety of spiritual gifts, Paul then reminds the Corinthians that the body is one and yet has many members. All the members of the body are one body, just like Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, we are all made to drink of one Spirit.

Spiritual Gifts Therapy emphasizes both spiritual gifts and the ministries and effects associated with those gifts in the body of Christ. Each saint at the moment of salvation received a spiritual gift. At the same moment, they were also given a ministry and the power to produce various effects with their spiritual gift. In fact, one spiritual gift may give rise to a variety of ministries and a variety of effects. Spiritual Gifts Therapy helps the Christian understand their basic purpose in life which is to use their spiritual gifts to the glory of God. By using their gifts properly, the body of Christ is built up by what every joint supplies. The ministry of every saint remains vital to the proper functioning of the body. Only through the proper use of spiritual gifts will the body of Christ retain the full stature of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Text

1. **One**. Although the body of Christ has a wide diversity of spiritual gifts, one Spirit works all these things in the body of Christ.
2. **Same**. The same Spirit unifies the body of Christ through the proper use of the spiritual gifts He bestowed upon saints.
3. **Spirit**. The Holy Spirit has a vital role in distributing, empowering and harmonizing the proper use of spiritual gifts in the body of Christ.
4. **Works**. The Holy Spirit works through the gifts to produce maturity and unity in the body of Christ.
5. **All**. The Holy Spirit works all these things so that God is glorified and the believers are edified through the spiritual gifts.
6. **Distributing**. The Holy Spirit distributes the spiritual gifts just as He sees fit, with perfect omniscience matching the gift to the saint.
7. **Wills**. The will of the Holy Spirit, not the will of man, determines the distribution of gifts in the body of Christ, although Paul encouraged people to seek the greater gifts.

Summary for Spiritual Gifts Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means Spiritual Gifts Therapy provides the power of God to do the work of God in the body of Christ by using the spiritual gifts bestowed throughout the body of Christ to attain to the unity of the full stature of Christ.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Spiritual Gifts Therapy provides purpose for living each day by fulfilling the ministries bestowed upon us through our spiritual gifts.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Spiritual Gifts Therapy unifies the saints, welding them together in love so that they will each fulfill their ministries, producing the effects God intended.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by using Spiritual Gifts Therapy to fulfill our purpose in the body of Christ to the glory of God. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by learning about your spiritual gifts and how to use them?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved will practice Spiritual Gifts Therapy and so fulfill their ministry to the Lord Jesus Christ and the body of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit to the glory of God the Father.

HALLELUJAH !

24 Body Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Body Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-26 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Body Therapy relates directly to Spiritual Gifts Therapy, because they depend upon each other. While each Christian receives at least one spiritual gift at the moment of salvation, all Christians belong to only one body of Christ. The body is not one member, but many.

The diversity of the body makes all the difference. The foot cannot say, because I am not a hand, I am not part of the body. The ear cannot say, because I am not an eye, I am not part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

God has placed the members, individually, in the body, just as He desired. Each member of the body provides a vital function. The eye cannot say that it does not need the hand. The hand cannot say it does not need the feet. On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. Likewise, those members of the body which we deem less honorable, we bestow more abundant honor. Our less presentable members become much more presentable, whereas our more presentable members have no need of it.

God composes the body, giving more abundant honor to the members which lacked, so that there will be no division in the body. God intended for the members to have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all the members suffer with. If one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

Body Therapy means that the power of God works through the body of Christ and its individual members who are together united in one body. Each member of the body supplies a vital part of the body. God sets the individual members in the body just as He willed, not us. No part of the body may tell another part of the body they are unneeded or unimportant. God gives more abundant honor to that member which lacks, so that there may be no division in the body. God intended for each member of the body to have the same care for one another. Therefore, Body Therapy includes the care of each member of the body for every other member of the body. Body Therapy also means that God bestows honor upon the less presentable members of the body. Body Therapy unites all believers and honors all believers, so that all believers care for one another constantly, using their spiritual gifts to the glory of God.

Text

1. **God**. Regarding the placement of members in the body of Christ, God made some members eyes and others ears and many other body parts.
2. **Placed**. God then placed the full complement of body parts into the body of Christ.
3. **Members**. Each one of the members of the body of Christ supplies what is lacking otherwise.
4. **Each**. Each member of the body of Christ was hand selected by God and then set in the body of Christ just as He wanted.
5. **Body**. The body of Christ has many members, with many different functions and parts, but it remains one united body.
6. **He**. God makes the choices about the body parts, not the saints.
7. **Desired**. God made His choices according to His perfect will, which ensures that all the body parts will function properly, as the saints use their spiritual gifts and care for one another and honor one another.

Summary for Body Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means Body Therapy provides purpose for living in the body of Christ so that each member fulfills its function.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Body Therapy promotes honor, service, and growth for every member of the body of Christ.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Body Therapy promotes care for every member of the body so that we share joys and sorrows together.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by promoting Body Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by caring for the body of Christ, so that you rejoice with those members who rejoice and suffer with those members who suffer?

Closing

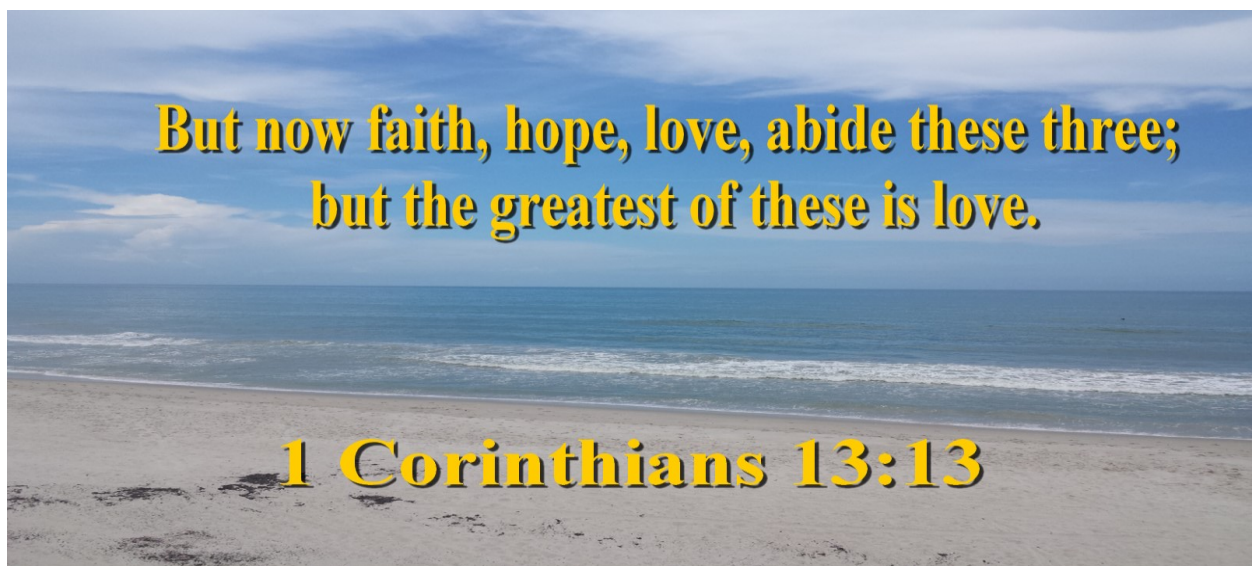
Pray that the Beloved will practice Body Therapy today.

HALLELUJAH !

25

Love

Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand the Spirit of Truth guides us into all truth.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Having revealed the value and purpose of spiritual gifts within the body of Christ, God then revealed love is the proper means for exercising the spiritual gifts and conducting all activities. Without love Paul said he is nothing, no matter how great his gifts may be.

Paul then described the qualities of love. Love is patient, kind, not jealous, without bragging or arrogant. Love never acts unbecomingly and never seeks its own. Love is never provoked and never takes into account a wrong suffered. Love does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices in the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things and endures all things.

Love never fails, although prophecy may be done away with. Likewise tongues will cease and knowledge will be done away with. Today we know in part and prophesy in part. When the perfect comes, the partial will be done away with.

When Paul was a child, he used to speak like a child, think like a child and reasoned like a child. When he became a man, he put away childish things. Now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face-to-face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I have been fully known. Now faith, hope and love abide, these three. But the greatest of these is love.

God revealed the absolute priority of love. The body of Christ must operate in love at all times and all spiritual gifts must be exercised in the spirit of love. Love not only covers a multitude of sins, but also provides the gateway to the future. Spiritual gifts may pass away, but love endures forever. The day is coming where we will be known fully and we will know fully. Until that day, faith, hope and love continue, but the greatest of those is love.

Love Therapy means that the Beloved can never achieve an abundant life or glorify God without love. Sin cannot be overcome without love. Triumphs cannot be had without love. While we might delight in faith and hope, love remains even greater. Until the Beloved practices love in all things, Love Therapy will focus the power of God upon loving God and our neighbor.

Text

1. **Now**. After God described the proper use of the spiritual gifts, and the importance of every member to the body, God then revealed a more excellent way consisting of love.

2. **Faith**. Faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen.

3. **Hope**. Love hopes all things.

4. **Love**. Love compels us to obey God and to seek the best interest of everyone else.

5. **Abide**. Faith, hope and love abide in the body of Christ as gifts from God.

6. **Greatest**. God wanted us to know that the greatest of those three, faith, hope and love was indeed love.

7. **Love**. Through love God makes Himself known, God is love and everyone born of Him loves.

Summary for Love Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Love Therapy provides the power of God for using our spiritual gifts and providing harmony within the church.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Love Therapy builds up the body of Christ in the proper use of the spiritual gifts.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Love Therapy remains the greatest therapy for the proper growth, development and cleansing of the body of Christ.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by promoting and demonstrating Love Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by encouraging with Love Therapy all those who rejoice and for all those who suffer?

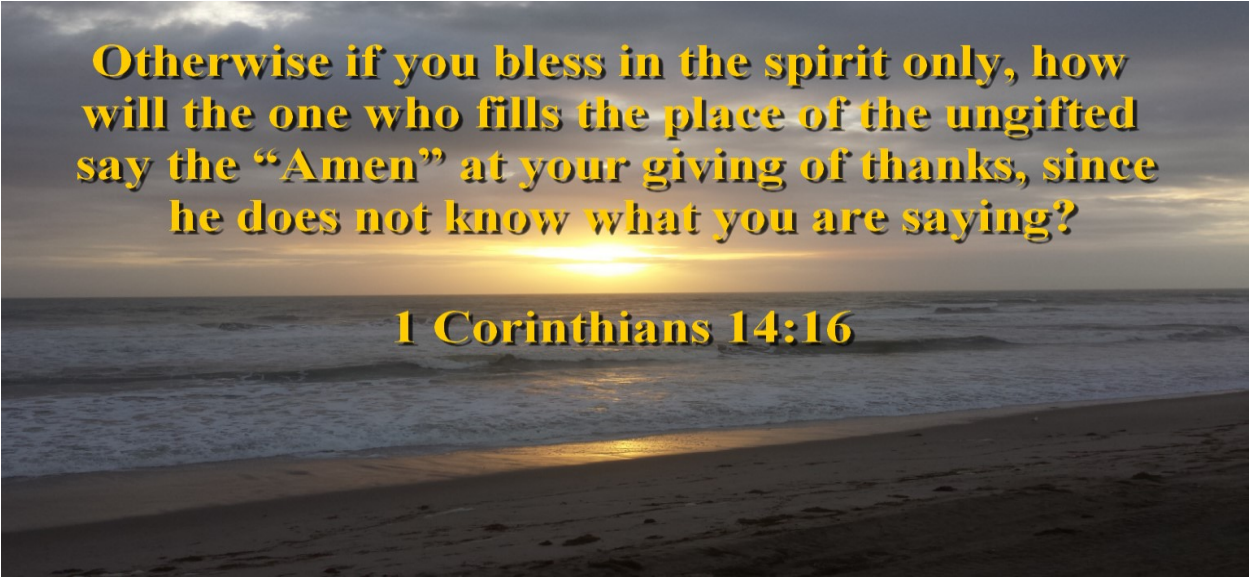
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Pray that the Beloved would practice Love Therapy in all things with all people.

HALLELUJAH !

26

Amen Therapy



Otherwise if you bless in the spirit only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the “Amen” at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying?

1 Corinthians 14:16

Opening

Pray that the Beloved may understand Amen Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 14:13-19 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul acknowledged that the Corinthians loved speaking in tongues, but they had problems with the proper use of that gift in public meetings. Paul said that although they were zealous for spiritual gifts, they should seek to abound for the edification of the church.

Because they should use their gifts to edify the church, the Corinthians should be careful that if anyone speaks in a tongue in a public meeting, they should pray that someone would interpret the message delivered through tongues. Paul observed that if he prayed in a tongue, his spirit prayed, but his mind is unfruitful. Paul wanted to pray with both his mind and his spirit. Likewise, he wanted to sing with his spirit and sing with his mind also.

If you bless in the spirit, how will anyone know when it is time to say amen, because no one will know what you are saying. You may be giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified. Paul said he thanked God that he spoke in tongues more than all of them. Even so, he desired to speak five words with his mind so that he may instruct others rather than 10,000 words in a tongue.

Amen Therapy focuses upon the power of God in the proper use of The Spiritual Gift of Tongues and praying in the spirit. Unless people understand what we are saying as we pray, use a spiritual gift, or otherwise bless God verbally, no one else will know when to say amen without someone else interpreting the message from God. No one knows what you are saying or when you are finishing, so that they can say amen to agree with your verbal communication. Amen Therapy means that Paul would rather speak five words with his mind so that he may instruct others rather than thousands and thousands of words in a tongue.

Text

1. **For**. After urging the Corinthians to pray that someone may interpret the message in tongues, Paul then explained the need to pray with the spirit and the mind.

2. **If**. Paul meant that he did pray in a tongue, but his mind was unfruitful, even as his spirit prayed.

3. **Pray**. Paul wanted believers to be able to say amen when he prayed, because they could understand his language.

4. **Tongue**. Praying and speaking in tongues produced sounds that others did not comprehend if they were ungifted.

5. **Spirit**. Paul distinguished the activity of the spirit from the activity of the mind.

6. **Mind**. When anyone prayed in a tongue, his mind was unfruitful.

7. **Also**. Paul wanted people to pray with their mind and with their spirit, so that the others could join in the amen.

Summary for Amen Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means Amen Therapy promotes the power of God working through Christians as they pray with their mind and their spirits.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Amen Therapy Christians should sing with the spirit and sing with the mind, so that people can join them in the amen for both singing and praying with others.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Amen Therapy promotes saints joining together with their minds and spirits to pray and praise God.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by praying with our minds and our spirits so that others will join in the amen because they know what we are saying. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by remembering Amen Therapy urges praying and singing with your spirit and your mind?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved would promote and practice Amen Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

27

Order Therapy



for God is not a God of confusion but of peace,
as in all the churches of the saints.

1 Corinthians 14:33

Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand the God of peace.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 14:26-33 with the Beloved.

Discussion

When Christians gather together to remember the Lord Jesus Christ and His death, God promotes peace, not confusion in the assembly. Therefore, when the believers assemble together, one has a psalm, another has a teaching, another has a revelation and another has an interpretation. Let all those things be done in peace, for the edification of the church.

If there is no interpreter, then the person with a tongue must keep silent. He may speak to himself and God. Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent. God wants everyone with a revelation to prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted. At all times, the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. Each prophet should follow the rules God laid down for prophecies during the local meeting of the assembly. God is not a God of confusion, but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

Order Therapy describes how the power of God works properly in the local assemblies. God may grant revelations to more than one person at a local assembly, but each person receiving a revelation must retain control of themselves and follow the rules established by God for public prophecies. God used prophets at Corinth to teach and edify the saints, in an atmosphere of peace and order at all times. In a more general way, Order Therapy means that God's powerful revelations and other blessings to the saints must be in a Holy Spirit controlled environment, described in the Scriptures. The meeting of the saints should never be a place of confusion or distraction.

Text

1. **God**. People who worship God must worship Him in spirit and in truth, because He is the God of peace.
2. **Not**. God does not promote disorder in the church.
3. **Confusion**. God promotes peace in the church by eliminating things that cause confusion for the saints.
4. **Peace**. Because God is the God of peace, the church services in the local assembly should follow God's directives for maintaining peace and order in the services.
5. **All**. All the churches of the saints should be governed by the same rules regarding peaceful services and orderly conduct.
6. **Churches**. The churches were spread across the New Testament world, but God provided specific practices for all the churches to follow when it comes to maintaining peace and order in each church.
7. **Saints**. When the saints gathered together, with the God of peace in their midst and in their hearts, their practice should reflect the peace and order of God.

Summary for Order Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means God includes Order Therapy so that each assembly may avoid confusion among the saints when they gather together.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Order Therapy assures that the power of God among the saints will be used to the glory of God and the edification of all believers.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means God uses Order Therapy to provide spiritual order and control in all the local assemblies.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by promoting Order Therapy in the local assemblies by following the scriptural rules for gathering together in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by practicing Order Therapy in the local assembly so that the peace of God reigns among the saints there?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved would practice Order Therapy in the local assembly.

HALLELUJAH !

28

Silent Therapy



The women are to keep silent in the churches;
for they are not permitted to speak, but are
to subject themselves, just as the
Law also says.

1 Corinthians 14:34

Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Silent Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 14:34-40 with the Beloved.

Discussion

God commanded the women to keep silent in the churches. God said they are not permitted to speak, but to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. If women desire to learn anything, they should ask their own husbands at home. God declared it was improper for women to speak in church. Paul had no other practice given to him by God.

If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, then that person should recognize that the things which Paul wrote were by revelation of God's commandment. If anyone refuses to recognize Paul's writings as revelations of God, he is not recognized.

Therefore, the brethren should earnestly desire to prophesy and they should not forbid people to speak in tongues. All things, however, must be done properly and in an orderly manner.

Silent Therapy provides the power of God for maintaining a proper and orderly environment for the church gathered together by the women remaining silent at the church service. Paul had already outlined the reasons that women should be in submission to the men during the church service. Just as the prophet must remain silent while another prophet speaks, so also the women remained silent while the men speak. Silent Therapy only applies to the church service so that it remains a blessing to God because of its proper and orderly form. The women will have vibrant ministry outside the church service, using their spiritual gifts where they will speak often, but never exercising authority over men or teaching men (1 Timothy 2:12). Adam was created first, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. They must receive instruction with entire submissiveness (1 Timothy 2:13-14).

Text

1. **Women**. God gave specific instructions for the women to remain silent during the church service.
2. **Silent**. Silent meant that they were not to speak, just like the prophets did not speak while another spoke.
3. **Churches**. By using the plural term churches, Paul showed that the universal command from God for the women to remain silent applied to all the churches.
4. **Not**. God did not permit the women to speak during the services.
5. **Permitted**. Women were not permitted to speak, so that the services would proceed properly and in order.
6. **Subject**. Women were to submit themselves to God and to His commands for proper and orderly church services.
7. **Law**. The Law of Moses also provided that women would be in subjection to men and not exercise leadership over them.

Summary for Silent Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Silent Therapy requires women to remain silent in the church service.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Silent Therapy helps maintain proper and orderly church services.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that women practice Silent Therapy to promote proper and orderly church services.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by practicing Silent Therapy in the church service. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by encouraging the women to remain silent during the church service?

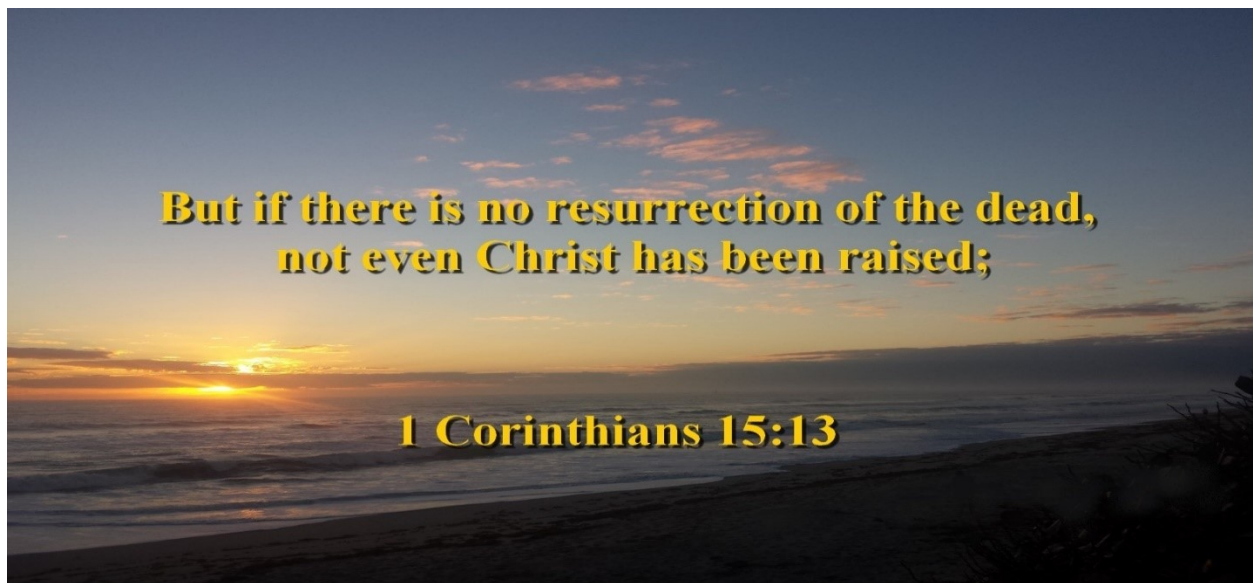
Closing

Pray that the Beloved practices Silent Therapy by encouraging the women to remain silent during the church services.

HALLELUJAH !

29

Resurrection Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved will understand Resurrection Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul discussed the preaching of Christ with the Corinthians. First, Paul indicated that the Gospel includes the resurrection of Christ on the third day, according to the Scriptures. The ministry team proclaimed that truth to the Corinthians as an essential part of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Second, in light of the preaching of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Corinthians, particularly with an emphasis upon the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, Paul asked how the Corinthians could say there is no resurrection of the dead. Obviously, Paul was challenging some of the Corinthians' unbelief in the resurrection. Denying the resurrection of Christ brings serious consequences.

If there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised from the dead. If Christ is not been raised from the dead, then all preaching is in vain and the Corinthians' faith is also in vain. Furthermore, everyone who proclaims the true Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ are false witnesses, because they testified that God had raised Jesus from the dead, if, in fact, Jesus has not been raised from the dead.

If Christ has not been raised from the dead, then the faith of the Corinthians is worthless and they are still in their sins. Likewise, all those who fell asleep in Christ have also perished. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, then we are of all men most to be pitied.

Resurrection Therapy focuses upon the power of God in promoting the truth of resurrection for all Christians, because Christ was raised from the dead as the first fruit of the resurrection. In other words, because Christ has been raised from the dead, we too will be raised from the dead because of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Risen Savior. Therefore, Resurrection Therapy brings the power of God into the lives of those who have lost loved ones in Christ, knowing that they shall be raised from the dead, just like Christ. The power of Resurrection Therapy also works in our life each day to do the will of God in our lives, bringing spiritual strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, and extinguishing doubts about our faith.

Text

1. **If**. For the sake of argument, Paul assumed that there is no resurrection of Christ by using the word “if.”
2. **No**. Some of the Corinthians claimed that there was no resurrection of Christ and Paul wanted to challenge them on that false statement.
3. **Resurrection**. Paul proclaimed the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Corinthians, which includes the fact that Christ was raised from the dead on the third day, according to the Scriptures.
4. **Dead**. Jesus was raised from the dead, then He promised that everyone who believes in Him will likewise be raised from the dead to spend eternity with Him.
5. **Not**. If Christ has not been raised from the dead, then the Gospel proclaimed by Paul was false and Paul was a liar.
6. **Christ**. Paul also dealt with the general case, that if there is no resurrection from the dead, then Christ has not been raised from the dead.
7. **Raised**. Without Christ having been raised from the dead, then the Corinthians and all other Christians are still in their sins.

Summary for Resurrection Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Resurrection Therapy provides hope for today and tomorrow because Jesus lives as the one and only resurrected Savior.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Resurrection Therapy empowers us to believe that our loved ones who died in Christ are alive with Him for eternity and will receive a resurrected body like He has.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Resurrection Therapy empowers our daily lives with the same power that raised Jesus from the dead.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by believing in the power of Resurrection Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by enjoying the power of Resurrection Therapy today?

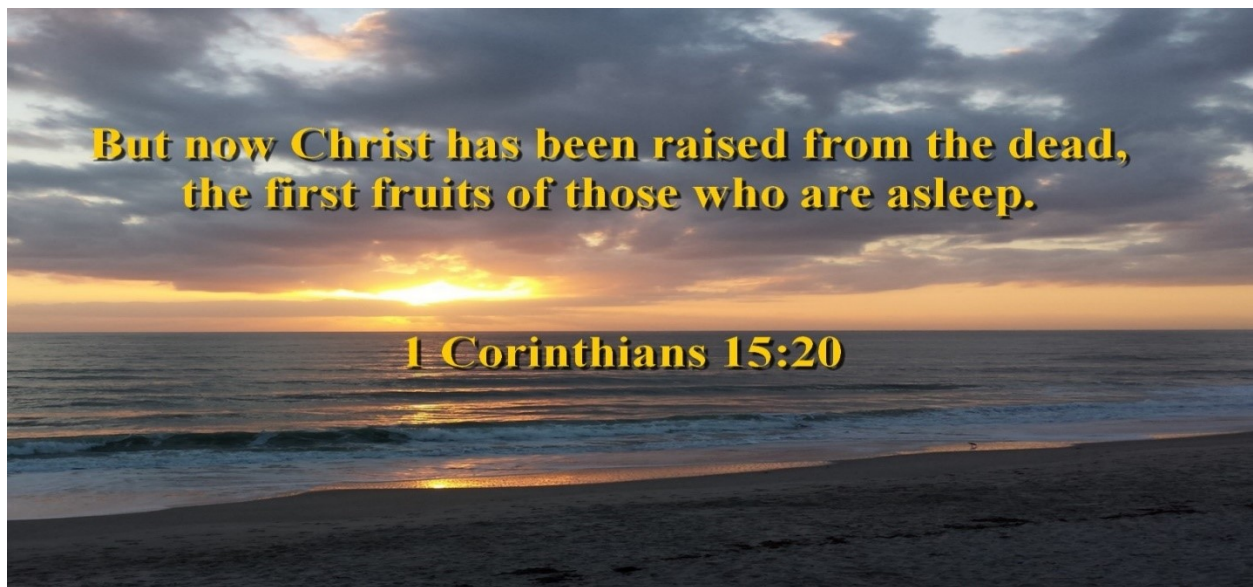
Closing

Pray that the Beloved would enjoy the power of Resurrection Therapy today.

HALLELUJAH !

30

First Fruits Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand First Fruits Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Christ has been raised from the dead as the first fruits of those who are asleep. New Testament writers use the term sleep to describe the death of the physical body. By one man death came to the human race and by one Man the resurrection of the dead came to the human race. In Adam all die, so also in Christ all believers will be made alive.

God set forth a specific order of events related to resurrection: Christ (1) the first fruits, (2) after that those who are Christ's at His coming, and (3) then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, after He has abolished all rule and all authority and all power. Christ must reign until He has put all enemies under His feet. Death will be the last enemy abolished. God the Father put all things in subjection under the feet of Christ. God the Father, however, will not be put in subjection to Christ. When all things are subjected to Christ, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to God the Father Who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

First Fruits Therapy describes the power of God which resurrected Jesus from the dead as the first among many brethren to follow. Christians will be resurrected when Christ comes back to earth. In fact, the Bible describes the Clouds Resurrection wherein the dead in Christ are resurrected and given glorified bodies first and then those who are alive on earth at the Clouds Resurrection receive their resurrected bodies next.

First Fruits Therapy means that every believer can take comfort that their loved ones in Christ will be resurrected at the Clouds Resurrection, because Christ is the First Fruits of that resurrection. We have hope for tomorrow because we will follow Christ in resurrection and we will receive a glorified, immortal and imperishable body in the future. Because of that bright future and the promises of God, First Fruits Therapy lifts our souls and hearts and minds to God with a confident and persistent hope of glory to come.

Text

1. **Now**. In contrast to the arguments about Christ not being raised from the dead, Paul then proclaimed the certainty that Christ has been raised from the dead.

2. **Christ**. Jesus Christ died and then God raised Him from the dead on the third day, according to the Scriptures.

3. **Raised**. Christ has been raised from the dead. The fact of Christ's resurrection guarantees the resurrection of every believer. Jesus Christ was raised bodily from the dead.

4. **Dead**. Jesus died a physical death on the cross, but His body never underwent decay.

5. **First**. Jesus was the first resurrected to an immortal and glorified body. Jesus had raised other people from the dead, but they returned to their physical bodies and those bodies died later. Therefore, Jesus is the first fruits of those who are asleep.

6. **Those**. Those who are asleep refers to Christians who have died physically.

7. **Asleep**. Jesus referred to Lazarus as asleep, but his physical body had already died. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, but he returned to his physical body which died later.

Summary for First Fruits Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that First Fruits Therapy focuses the power of God upon our guaranteed resurrection because Christ was the first resurrected to an immortal, imperishable and glorified body.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that First Fruits Therapy brings hope not only for our resurrection, but also the resurrection of all those who are asleep in Jesus.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that First Fruits Therapy means that the fear of death no longer reigns in our lives, because Jesus Christ is the First Fruits of the resurrection.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by promoting First Fruits Therapy in bringing hope of resurrection for everyone in Christ. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by reminding people of First Fruits Therapy and our hope of resurrection founded upon Christ being the First Fruits of the resurrection?

Closing

Pray the beloved would understand and practice First Fruits Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

31

Inheritance Therapy



**Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood
cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does
the perishable inherit the imperishable.**

1 Corinthians 15:50

Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Inheritance Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 15:15-58 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. The perishable cannot inherit the imperishable. Therefore, we must be changed. Paul revealed the mystery of God concerning all believers being changed. A mystery in the New Testament always refers to something hidden in the past, but now revealed through the apostles and prophets of the New Testament. The Mystery of the Resurrection means that not all believers will sleep, meaning that some believers will remain until Christ returns to the clouds and resurrects all believers, including those who have fallen asleep in Jesus before the day of the Clouds Resurrection.

One day the trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised imperishable and we will be changed. The trumpet will sound and in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, the dead will be raised imperishable. The order of resurrection means that those who died and fallen asleep in Christ will receive their resurrected bodies first (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). Next, those who are alive and remain until the Clouds Resurrection will receive their resurrected bodies as they rise to join Jesus and the other saints in the clouds. This perishable body must put on the imperishable and this mortal must put on immortality. When this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then death is swallowed up in victory and death will have no more sting. The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law. We thank God because He gave us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Inheritance Therapy focuses the power of God upon our inheritance waiting for us in the future. Inheritance Therapy rests upon the promise of God that we will all be changed in the future when the trumpet sounds and the dead will be raised imperishable and those who are alive and remain until that moment at the Clouds Resurrection will receive new imperishable and immortal bodies. Inheritance Therapy removes the sting of death and proves that death has no victory over us who believe.

Text

1. **Brethren**. Paul explained the resurrection to the brethren, meaning males and females born from above by faith in Christ as Savior.
2. **Flesh**. Flesh and blood will not inherit the kingdom of God, and therefore we must be changed.
3. **Blood**. Jesus took flesh and blood and became a real man, so that He became fully God and fully man at the same time.
4. **Inherit**. Inheritance Therapy means that the power of God will change us one day so that we can inherit the kingdom of God.
5. **Kingdom**. We must be born again to see the kingdom of God and enter the kingdom of God, just as Jesus told Nicodemus.
6. **Perishable**. Our perishable bodies must put on the imperishable, and we do that through inheritance.
7. **Inherit**. The imperishable inherits because we are transformed so that we may inherit the kingdom of God.

Summary for Inheritance Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means Inheritance Therapy brings the power of God regarding the future into our present lives.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Inheritance Therapy includes the power of God to create a spiritual body for us that is imperishable and not made of flesh and blood.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means Inheritance Therapy causes us to look at our flesh and blood bodies as things that will never inherit the kingdom.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by promoting Inheritance Therapy because flesh and blood will never inherit the kingdom. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by looking forward to the imperishable body God will provide you in the future?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved will understand and promote Inheritance Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

32

Collections Therapy



On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

1 Corinthians 16:2

Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand Collections Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-4 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Before Paul closed his letter to the Corinthians, he wanted to discuss the matter of collections with them. Paul had already directed the churches regarding a collection for the saints in Jerusalem. Paul had a simple plan in mind. The Corinthians would gather together some funds for the relief of the saints in Jerusalem and Paul would hand that collection to whomever they appointed. Paul would also provide letters for their representative to carry the collection to Jerusalem.

The plan of Paul depended upon the saints at Corinth raising funds to help the saints in Jerusalem. On the first day of the week, each of the Corinthians was to put aside some money and save. The amount of money they should save depended entirely upon how much they had prospered during that week. Paul intended that when he arrived, he would not have to make any collections because the Corinthians had already put aside a sufficient collection for the saints in Jerusalem.

Collections Therapy means that saints witness God using His power in their financial lives. God blesses the saints by supplying and multiplying their efforts in giving. God supplies the seed for the sower so that the harvest will be multiplied by God. Likewise, God helps people to make money during the week so that they will have enough to share with others in need. Collections Therapy works hand in hand with the supply and multiply principle. As the Beloved understands God's financial blessings in the Beloved's life, Collections Therapy describes how the power of God provides for the physical needs of the Beloved and also provides extra to be shared with other saints according to their need. Collections Therapy means that the power of God provides financially for saints so that they will have an abundance to meet the needs of other saints as needs arise.

Text

1. **Collection**. Paul had already mentioned the collection for the saints to the Galatian churches and now he brings up the collection to the Corinthians.

2. **Saints**. The saints receive financial blessings from God which God intends to supply the needs of all saints near and far.

3. **I**. Paul mentioned that “I” directed the churches of Galatia to participate in the collection for the saints in Jerusalem. The collection for Jerusalem was a very personal matter for Paul.

4. **Directed**. Paul used his apostolic authority to direct the churches to raise funds for sharing with other churches.

5. **Churches**. The Corinthian church and the Galatian churches could join together in supporting the Jerusalem saints in their time of need.

6. **Galatia**. Paul established personal relationships with the Galatian churches and others and did not hesitate to call upon them to raise money to benefit other saints. Paul intended for those churches to set aside some money on the first day of every week.

7. **You**. Collections Therapy means that the Beloved sets aside some of the money they have received from God to share with other saints in need.

Summary for Collections Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Collections Therapy involves the power of God blessing the Beloved with financial means to bless other saints.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Collections Therapy should be practiced regularly by the saints in direct measure to the financial prosperity God has bestowed upon the Beloved each week.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Collections Therapy reflects the power of God at work weekly in the Beloved to produce financial blessings for the benefit of all the saints through a regular program of weekly giving.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by practicing Collections Therapy in our life every week. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by setting aside some funds each week to share with other saints according to the financial prosperity God has bestowed upon you?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved would understand and practice Collections Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

33

Open Door Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved understands Open Door Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 16:5-9 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul's life was filled with open doors for ministry. God led Paul to go through the right door at the right time, moving from place to place for spiritual ministry. Adversaries did not stop Paul from walking through open doors.

Paul first came to Corinth after the Thessalonian Jews chased him across Macedonia. Paul fled to Athens, Greece and later moved on to Corinth where the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to him. Jesus spoke words of strength and comfort to Paul: "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no man will attack you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city" (Acts 18:9-10). Paul then settled in Corinth for 18 months, teaching the word of God among the Corinthians.

Later, Paul wrote to the Corinthians that a wide door for service had opened for him in Ephesus. Although there were many adversaries, Paul knew that the Lord Jesus intended for him to minister there for a time. Paul followed a schedule given to him by the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul did not want to leave Ephesus until Pentecost, but let the Corinthians know how much he wanted to spend some time with them, perhaps even wintering there with them. Even so, Paul knew that the Lord Jesus would send him on his way at just the right time.

Exegetical Therapy includes Open Door Therapy. The power of God not only opens spiritual doors for the Beloved to walk through, but also empowers the Beloved to walk through those spiritual doors. God leads the Beloved to walk through a series of open spiritual doors so that the Beloved may minister to different people in different places. At times, God closes spiritual doors so that the Beloved will not walk through those doors, because He has opened that door to another Christian for ministry (Paul--Acts 16:7; Peter--1 Peter 1:1). The Beloved must recognize that the Beloved's life includes a series of open doors for ministry, using the Beloved's individual spiritual gifts in different ways, at different places, with different people at different times. The Beloved must keep the Beloved's spiritual eyes open to see those different spiritual doors and walk through those spiritual doors Jesus opens at just the right time. Jesus led Paul from place to place, opening doors for service in various places. In the Beloved's life, Jesus may move the Beloved geographically from place to place, opening doors for service. Jesus may also keep the Beloved in the same place, but open new doors for ministry in the same place. The Beloved must be attuned to Jesus opening spiritual

doors for ministry. Each new door presents opportunities for the Beloved to use the Beloved's spiritual gifts to the glory of God. The Beloved must first understand the concept of spiritual doors opening for ministry and then have the courage to overcome our fears to walk through those doors and start the Beloved's new ministry as Jesus leads the Beloved through each open door.

Text

1. **For**. As Paul explained to the Corinthians, he would not be coming to Corinth immediately because the Lord Jesus had opened a door for effective ministry at Ephesus.

2. **Wide**. Paul described that door as wide, meaning that he saw a very large opportunity for ministry in Ephesus. Indeed, Paul would spend considerable time in Ephesus and the disciples there would reach out to all of Asia with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. **Door**. Paul described a spiritual door opening wide at Ephesus. Jesus had opened a spiritual door for him to work there for a length of time set by Jesus. The Beloved must recognize the doors that Jesus opens for them.

4. **Effective**. Paul recognized that the spiritual door represented an opportunity for effective spiritual service using the spiritual gifts. Likewise, the Beloved must recognize the spiritual doors Jesus opens for effective spiritual service using the Beloved's spiritual gifts.

5. **Opened**. Jesus opened the door with His power and then empowered Paul to walk through that door.

6. **Me**. Jesus opened that spiritual door particularly for Paul.

7. **Adversaries**. Just because Jesus opens a spiritual door does not mean that adversaries will not be there waiting for the Beloved. Even so, Jesus sends the Beloved through that open spiritual door for effective spiritual service using the Beloved's spiritual gifts. The presence of adversaries on the other side of the spiritual door does not mean the Beloved walked through the wrong door at the wrong time.

Summary for Open Door Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that Open Door Therapy focuses upon the power of God to open doors for spiritual ministry using the Beloved's spiritual gifts.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Open Door Therapy causes the Beloved to see life as a series of open doors for using the Beloved's spiritual gifts in different places, at different times, with different people.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that Open Door Therapy causes the Beloved to understand that Jesus opens doors for ministry at just the right time and place.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by understanding Open Door Therapy and looking for the door Jesus opened wide for ministry. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by walking through the open door today?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved will walk through the door Jesus opened today and use their spiritual gifts to the glory of God.

HALLELUJAH !

34

My Love Therapy



Opening

Pray that the Beloved would understand My Love Therapy.

Read

Read 1 Corinthians 16:10-24 with the Beloved.

Discussion

Paul gave the Corinthians directions about Timothy and Apollos and also recognized Stephanus and Fortunatus, along with Aquila and Prisca. Paul had many friends and mentioned them in his letters. Paul intended that all the brethren get along in spiritual harmony. He shared his greetings with the entire church at Corinth, encouraging them to greet one another with a holy kiss.

Paul then indicated that he signed greetings in his own hand. If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be accursed. Maranatha. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

Paul's final words in the first epistle to the Corinthians focused upon his love for them. He said: "My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen." Paul had provided a lot of teaching and direction in his epistle for the Corinthians. He understood their problems and divisions. After providing great revelation from God for them, he reminded all of them of his love for them.

The Beloved always need to hear that we love them. Paul extended his love to everyone in Christ Jesus at Corinth. Paul did not play favorites, while he mentioned quite a few people by name. Throughout the epistle Paul emphasized the priority of love. Therefore, by reinforcing that love as he closed the letter, intended for his declaration of love to be the last thing they heard in the letter. He wanted the Corinthians to remember his love.

Text

1. **My**. Paul expressed his personal feelings of love for the Corinthians, even with all their divisions and sinful practices.

2. **Love**. The unconditional love, God's love, which Paul wrote about to the Corinthians, showed that he practiced what he preached to them.

3. **Be**. Paul felt that love and expressed that love for the Corinthians in keeping with all the loving things he had done for them.

4. **You**. Paul used the plural term for "you" because he wanted all the Corinthians to know that he loved them all, including the Corinthians who were doing sinful and divisive things.

5. **All**. Paul also used the term "all," indicating that no was left out of his love for the Corinthians. Paul, like Jesus, was no respecter of persons. He loved all the Corinthians.

6. **In**. Paul highlighted his love for all the Corinthians, in Christ Jesus. Paul meant that the Corinthians had eternal life through their faith in Jesus Christ. The love of Jesus Christ came through the ministry of Paul to the Corinthians and he continued that love as he closed the first letter to the Corinthians. My Love Therapy describes the power of God working through our love for one another.

7. **Christ**. Paul used the phrase "Christ Jesus," meaning Anointed Savior, which relates to Paul's Jewish roots in seeing Jesus as the Anointed Savior from God the Father. My Love Therapy communicates the love we have for everyone in Jesus Christ, particularly the Beloved.

Summary for My Love Therapy

- **Exegetical Therapy means that My Love Therapy brings the power of God through our words of love to the hearts of the Beloved.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that My Love Therapy needs to be on our lips and in our hearts as we communicate with the Beloved.**
- **Exegetical Therapy means that My Love Therapy includes the expression of our love for the Beloved which we communicate in clear and unequivocal words for them to hear or read.**

Application Guidelines

Today, we may practice Exegetical Therapy with our friends and family by understanding and promoting My Love Therapy. Will you practice Exegetical Therapy today by letting the Beloved hear from you today that you love the Beloved and everyone in Christ Jesus?

Closing

Pray that the Beloved would understand and practice My Love Therapy.

HALLELUJAH !

Conclusion

Jesus used Exegetical Therapy in its many forms to build up the body of Christ. Exegetical Therapy brings the power of God into the lives of the Beloved so that they love Jesus more and abide in His love. As we help people understand Exegetical Therapy, we have faith in the wisdom and power of God to change the lives of the Beloved. Through Exegetical Therapy, Jesus builds up His church, one Beloved at a time. He always has time to love the Beloved individually, according to individual needs of the moment. Exegetical Therapy describes the different means that God uses to make powerful changes in the life of the Beloved, to the glory of God.

HALLELUJAH !