

All Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

December 9, 2011

**GOD
Wants
Fellowship
Mini-Book
Part 2**

Printed for:

HANDS FOR JESUS

P.O. BOX 250494

MILWAUKEE, WI 53225-0494

For more information visit our Web sites at:

www.handsforjesus.cc

www.handsforjesus.org

2011 by Merle E. Koepke

All Rights Reserved

Introduction

Do you know why God created man? It came to me one day that “God wants fellowship.”

This is part two of this series of Mini-Books on **“GOD Wants Fellowship.”** It is important that we understand what was revealed in part one of this series. This part is a continuation of what was already revealed in part one.

In Genesis 1:1 it says, **“In the beginning God created the heaven (heavens) and the earth.”** This was in the beginning, before God created the angels, and other living beings. God also created wisdom, knowledge and understanding. God desires that we would also have wisdom, knowledge, and understanding (Prov. 2:6).

After God created the heavens, the angels, and the earth, there was no one that God could have perfect fellowship with in all that He had created. Have you ever been alone with no one to talk with? If you were ever alone with no one to talk to, you would understand how important fellowship is. There is the world, the elements of the world, the plants, animals, the birds, etc. You may think you were alone, but truly you were not alone. You were just in a position that you had no one around that you could talk with.

If that ever happened to you, you will better understand the situation that God had before He created man. God could talk to Himself. God the Father could talk to the Son and the Holy Spirit. God could even talk to the angels. But, what good did that do?

How would you feel if you were the only person in the world? Yet when you look around you there may be some animals, or birds, or other creatures. What would you have if you were the only person with no other people in the whole world?

Eventually, it would get very boring without another person to talk with. Talking to animals, and birds, and other creatures is maybe ok for a while. But, if you are going to live forever, would it not be better if you had other people to talk with?

GOD Wants Fellowship Part 2

When the LORD God created man, God was looking for someone with whom He could have “fellowship.” Therefore, the LORD God created man in His own image and likeness (Gen. 1:26, 2:7).

What a great plan God had when He created man in His own likeness and image. Being that man was in the likeness and image of God, God could at least talk to man in a language where man could understand God. It sure was better than talking only to angels, who were created beings, but not in the likeness and image of God. Angels are wonderful creatures. Angels can do much more than people.

On August 19, 2003, two angels appeared to me in my livingroom. I had fallen asleep. While sleeping I felt a cold hand grab my foot. I awoke instantly, and saw two men, dressed in US Army combat uniforms standing by my feet. I began to think, who are these men? I also thought, these two men could take me and twist me around their finger. I would never want to argue or fight with those two men.

Angels are much greater in power than people. In 2 Kings 19:35 it says, **“And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.”** When you see two angels standing by your feet, you do not want to fight with them.

I did not know they were angels until they disappeared while I was looking them in the face, trying to determine who these two people were? I did not talk to them and they did not talk to me. I maybe could have talked to them, but they were not there to talk to me, only to let me know they were there so that I would know they were for me, not against me.

Angels are wonderful creatures, created by God to do what they do. At times you can talk to them, and they can talk to you. But there is more to fellowship than just having someone to talk to.

God created man for a specific purpose. God wanted someone He could have fellowship with. God wanted someone who would understand God and His plans for all of creation. God created the heavens and the earth. But God still did not have anyone He could have perfect fellowship with.

God has all wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. God desires to have more people, just like Jesus. Jesus was a man, “in the flesh,” but Jesus was also the Son of God. As the Son of God, Jesus did whatsoever the Father wanted Him to do.

Jesus had fellowship with God. Jesus talked to God the Father. Jesus obeyed God the Father. Jesus never did anything without first knowing it was the will of God the Father. That is perfect “fellowship.”

Jesus knew who God the Father was. Jesus knew God the Father personally. Jesus was with the Father from the beginning (John 17:5).

Jesus was related to God. God was His Father. But, God is looking for more that just relationship. Relationship and fellowship are not the same thing.

Christians are related to God. God is their Father. But there is a lot more to life than just being related to someone.

A child in the world could be born as an invalid (unable to walk or talk or do anything by

itself). Yet, that child is still related to its parents. How much can an invalid child do for its parents? They are related to their parents. But, what kind of fellowship can the parents have with an invalid child? How much better would it be if the child was normal and able to do the same things that the parents can do?

Being related to God is great and wonderful. But, if there is no fellowship with God, what will we accomplish in life. What will God benefit from someone who is not in fellowship with God? What will we accomplish in life if we do not have fellowship with God?

Think about what happens to those who leave this world without fellowship with God. Where do they go? How much of this world do they take along with them when they leave? Wouldn't it be better to have fellowship with God and go to be with God when we leave this world? We know we will not be here on earth forever. If we do not know that, then we are very ignorant of spiritual things.

Adam and Eve were created in the likeness and image of God (Gen. 1:27). Adam and Eve could talk with God, and have fellowship with God. They had the ability to talk to God. The LORD God talked with Adam before sin entered into the human race (Gen. 2:16,17).

Then Adam and Eve began to have fellowship with the Devil when Eve first talked with the serpent. God was looking for fellowship with man, whom He created in His own likeness and image. Man began having fellowship with the Devil instead of with God.

Isn't it sad that what happened in the garden of Eden is still happening today? Isn't it sad that after all that God has done for Christians, they still want to have fellowship with the Devil, who is "the god of this world?"

After all that God has done for Christians, why do they still prefer to live like the world lives? Why is the world and the things of this world more important in the lives of Christians than fellowship with God?

It is because the Devil has blinded their minds to the truth. God has given us His Word. Many Christians are not interested in God's Word. They are more interested in the things of this world.

Fellowship With God Part 2

Studying the Scriptures is the beginning of fellowship with God. If we do not study the Scriptures, how will we know the will of God. How will we understand God and His desires for those who are His Children in Christ Jesus?

God has all wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. Without the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of God and His will, what will happen to us? We need fellowship with God in the Word of God, if we are to mature and become of value to God. Those without wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of the Scriptures are of no value to God.

When we study the Scriptures with the help of the Holy Spirit to reveal things to us, we are in fellowship with God. But that is not all there is to fellowship with God. Knowing what to do, and not doing anything is of no value to us or God.

All our learning will be of no value if we do not do according to what we learn. We can have all knowledge, but without wisdom and understanding, it will not do us any good.

There is a lot more to fellowship with God than just studying the Scriptures. But, if we do not study the Scriptures, we will not have anything of value in our lives.

The Devil loves Christians who read the Scriptures. The Devil can do his will by getting Christians to read the Scriptures without the help of the Holy Spirit, and use them to deceive others. There is a lot of that going on in Churches today.

In Job 1:6, it says, **“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.”** When Christians go to Church, the Devil also comes along with them. The Devil comes to see who he can devour with his doctrines, and theologies (1 Peter 5:8). The Devil loves to use the Bible to deceive Christians.

If Christians are not in fellowship with God, they are automatically in fellowship with the Devil and do not know it. There is more to fellowship with God than just going to church on Sunday. There is more to fellowship with God than just talking to others who say they are Christians.

Without the Word of God, we cannot have fellowship with God. Without wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of the Word of God, we cannot have fellowship with God.

Without being a doer of the Word, we are not truly in fellowship with God. We may “think” we are, but our thoughts are not always God’s thoughts. In Isaiah, 55:8, it says, **“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.”** Christians need God’s thoughts, not the worlds thoughts. Christians need God’s ways not man’s ways.

We must never stop studying the Scriptures. We are having a certain amount of fellowship with God when we are studying the Scriptures. If we stop studying the Scriptures, we could lose our fellowship with God. We could be deceived and desire the things of this world more than the things of God.

In 1 John 2:15-17 it says, **“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him...For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world...And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”** When the love of God is no longer in us, we are no longer in fellowship with

God. That is not good to say the least.

If we stop studying the Scriptures, we may not benefit from the faith that God has given us. The disciples had faith. It was given to them by God when they began to follow Jesus. But, their faith was not always working for them. In Luke 8:22-25, it tells of a time when a storm arose on the Sea while Jesus was asleep. The disciples woke up Jesus. And Jesus **“rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm”** (Luke 8:24). Then Jesus said to His disciples, **“Where is your faith?”** (Luke 8:25).

It takes time in fellowship with God in the Word, to build up our faith. Without faith, we cannot please God (Heb. 10:38; 11:6). Romans 10:17 tells us, **“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word (rhema) of God.”** The Scriptures are the written Word of God. When we are studying the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit will speak to us from the Word of God, whereby our faith becomes active. When we act upon the Word of God with confidence by “an utterance” from the Holy Spirit, faith manifests. Without confidence, faith does not produce any results. The disciples had faith but they did not have the confidence to use it in Luke 8:22-25. They had faith, but they did not have the confidence to activate their faith. Studying the Scriptures helps us to have confidence and speak the Word of God in boldness.

But, there is more to fellowship with God than just studying the Scriptures, to get faith. There is more than just studying the Scriptures that keeps us in fellowship with God. There is also “Prayer.”

Prayer is “talking to God.” Talking to God is “fellowship” with God. If we never talk to God, we cannot have true “fellowship” with God. What kind of fellowship would a husband have with his wife if he never talked to her? What kind of fellowship would Christians have with God if they never talked to God?

Many born again Christians do talk to God. But, most of their talking to God is, “God do this for me, or God do that for me.” It is all about what they want God to do for them. This is ok in one respect, but what about talking to God about the things God is interested in? What about doing God’s will, instead of just asking God to do our will?

True fellowship with God includes “doing God’s will.” Many Christians believe they are doing God’s will by the way they live. They think if they live a good clean life, they are doing God’s will. That is good in some respects. God does not appreciate it when Christians are living in sin.

The Devil has blinded the minds of many Christians with all sorts of doctrines and theologies. The Devil has Christians doing all sorts of things, thinking they are doing the will of God.

Many Christians do talk to God a lot. They pray and pray, but nothing happens when they pray. Why? There are many reasons why nothing happens when they pray.

For the most part, they did not pray according to the will of God, they prayed according to their own will. That is the kind of deception that the Devil has brought into the Churches today! The Devil has many Christians praying and praying, and nothing is happening.

In the New Covenant, God has given us His instructions on how to pray. God knows what the Devil is doing within the Churches today. God has all wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. God knows how to defeat the Devil.

The Devil has a lot of Christians trying to do God’s will their own way. God has a better way for those who will do it God’s way. God’s perfect plan for defeating the Devil is, **“praying in the Spirit.”**

Perfect fellowship in prayer is in **“praying in the Spirit.”** In 1 Corinthians 14:14, it says, **“For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.”** Did you notice that when we pray in the spirit, it is our spirit that does the praying, “not our understanding.”

The Devil loves to have Christians pray according to their own understanding. The Devil knows that he has most Christians praying their own will, not the will of God.

If what we pray is not the will of God, is God going to answer our prayer? Wouldn't it be better if we would pray the will of God, instead of our own will?

In Romans 8:26,27, it says, **“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered...And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”**

God wants His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven (Matt. 6:10). God's ways are not our ways, neither are our thoughts God's thoughts (Isa. 55:8). It would be much better if we would let the Holy Spirit pray for us from our spirit, and make **“...intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”**

Perfect fellowship with God is when things are done on earth the way it is done in heaven. Perfect fellowship with God is when God is in control of everything according to His will.

Many born again Christians today do not have fellowship with the Holy Spirit. They are born again, but they are missing the most important help that God has made available to His Children. That is “the baptism in the Holy Spirit, with the power to destroy the works of the enemy” (Acts 1:8). They may be born again, but without any power over the enemy. They are still babes in Christ. They cannot do anything for themselves. They are always looking for someone else to pray for them.

The power we need over the enemy comes with the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues (Acts 1:4,5,8; 2:4).

How many Christians today have let the Devil blind their minds to the greatest blessing God has for His Children, “the baptism in the Holy Spirit?” If born again Christians would study the Scriptures for themselves, they would know that speaking in tongues is God's will for everyone who is born again.

What are some of the greatest advantages we have in “praying in the Spirit?” One of the greatest advantages we have is getting our mind out of the way so that God can do His perfect will in our lives. What is God's perfect will for our lives?

God's perfect will for our lives is perfect fellowship with God for all eternity. God wants us to spend eternity with Him in heaven. Not only, just spend time with God in heaven, but to be just like Jesus. Doing the things that Jesus did and continues to do.

That is only one of the greatest advantages of praying in the Spirit. Another thing about getting our mind out of the way is that, when we do not do things according to our mind Satan has no control over what we do. God is in total control of what we say, while praying in the Spirit.

The Devil does not like it when we pray in the Spirit, because he does not know what we are saying. When the Devil does not know what we are saying, he does not know what to do to stop us. The only thing the Devil can do at that time is try to get us to stop praying in the Spirit. If the Devil can get us to stop praying in the Spirit, then he can get us to stop having fellowship with God.

In 1 Corinthians 14:2 it says, **“For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not**

unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.” When we are praying in the Spirit, even other people do not know what we are saying to God. The Devil does not know and other people do not know. Only God knows what we are praying.

God rewards us by revealing to us the mysteries of the Word of God and the mysteries of spiritual things concerning our fellowship with God. We get wisdom, knowledge, and understanding revealed to us while praying in the Spirit. The Devil does not like that. But, wouldn't it be better to please God than the Devil?

Fellowship with God in studying the Scriptures, is only the beginning of the fellowship God desires for His Children. There is a lot more for us, in fellowship with God than just studying the Scriptures.

God's desire for His Children is mentioned in Ephesians 1:3, where it says, **“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.”** Without all spiritual blessings in heavenly places, Christians will easily be deceived by the Devil. Why not get all of the spiritual blessings, not just some of them?

All spiritual blessings from heaven come through the working of the Holy Spirit. The gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 are all given “as the Holy Spirit wills,” not as man wills (1 Cor. 12:11). The fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22,23 are “the fruit of the Holy Spirit.” All of the fruit of the Spirit are given to us “by the Holy Spirit.” Everything we receive from God is given to us by the Holy Spirit. That includes, the new birth into the body of Christ, the fruit of the Spirit, the gifts of the Spirit, wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of spiritual things, etc.

Jesus came into this world “to make available” to us all that God desired for us from the foundation of the world. Jesus made available to us, but the Holy Spirit causes them to manifest.

Jesus made it possible for us to become born again. If Jesus had not taken our sins upon Himself and set us free of sin and death, we could not become born again. But, we still could not become born again without the Holy Spirit. It was the Holy Spirit that made us new creatures in Christ Jesus (John 1:13, 3:6). Without the Holy Spirit we would still be living in sin and death like others.

Jesus made it possible in His obedience to the Father, by His death and resurrection from the dead. But, it was the Holy Spirit that raised Jesus up again from the Dead (Rom. 8:11).

God is three persons, the Father, the Word (the Son), and the Holy Spirit (1 John 5:7). To have fellowship with God, we need to have fellowship with all three, not only with Jesus. Not only with God the Father. Without Jesus we cannot have fellowship with the Father. Jesus made it possible for us to have fellowship with the Father.

But without the Holy Spirit, we could not become born again of the Word and the Spirit (1 Peter 1:23, John 3:6). Why are there so many Christians who are not in fellowship with the Holy Spirit by “praying in the Spirit?”

Praying in the Spirit is fellowship with the Holy Spirit. In fellowship with the Holy Spirit, we are given the ability to pray the perfect will of God. Not, just for ourselves but even for others. When we pray in the Spirit, it is our spirit that does the praying. When our spirit does the praying, the information comes from the Holy Spirit, who is dwelling in our spirit.

We can study the Scripture from Genesis through Revelation all of our lives. It will not benefit us, if we do not have the Holy Spirit to teach us from the Scriptures. What men teach us is

not always true. But what the Holy Spirit teaches us will always be the truth (John 16:13).

Many Christians today are being taught by men, according to the wisdom of men, not according to the wisdom of God. In 1 Corinthians 2:4-14, the apostle Paul wrote, **“And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power...That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God...Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought...But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory...Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory...But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him...But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God...For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God...Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God...Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual...But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”**

Jesus said in John 6:45, **“It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God...”** In Isaiah 54:13, it says, **“And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.”** Was Jesus telling the truth? Certainly. Jesus was speaking what was written in the Scriptures.

In Isaiah 28:9-11, it says, **“Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts...For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little...For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.”**

The anointing of the Holy Spirit comes when we receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Then in 1 John 2:27 it says, **“But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”**

How will the Holy Spirit teach us all things?” By “the anointing,” while speaking in tongues and studying the Scriptures. It is the Holy Spirit that will teach us, not man. In John 14:26, Jesus said, **“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”** If Jesus said the Holy Spirit will teach us all things, then we should get involved with the Holy Spirit in everything we do.

What would we gain if we did not have the Holy Spirit teaching us? What man teach us from man's intellectual understanding will not help us at all. It will only keep us from being taught by the Holy Spirit. How much better would it be if the Holy Spirit would do the teaching rather than man?

Again, in John 16:13, Jesus said, **“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will**

guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.” Doesn't that make you excited? God, “the Holy Spirit” wants to teach us all things, rather than people who do not know all things.

If we truly want to learn something, it would be better to be taught by the Holy Spirit Who knows everything, than by some people who only know some things. And some of the thing they know are not even the truth.

God wants to have fellowship with people, whom He created in His own likeness and image. Our Fellowship should be with all three, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

For more information on this subject, get all of the parts to this series of Mini-Books. For other help, you can also go to our Web sites on the Internet and download as many free books as you desire. Go to:

www.handsforjesus.cc
www.handsforjesus.org