

“Receive Ye the Holy Ghost”

By Brother Parrish Lee

Sunday, February 14th, 2016

Thank you, musicians, and thank you, singers. You may be seated, everyone. Isn't it wonderful to be in the House of the Lord this morning? Think of the options; think of your options. You could be many places, this morning, but, to be in the House of the Lord, where people are going to sing His praises, give Him obeisance. He's going to get the glory and he honor and the praise forever and ever and ever. And, as the song said, Name above all names, Worthy of all Praise. My heart will sing, How great is our God. Amen.

Giving honor to God who is the Head of my life, who is the Head of our lives. Giving honor to those who have gone before us, our founding pastor, first, whose labor, he and his wife, brought forth this branch of ministry. Our general pastor, now, who—what a wonderful visit it was last week, as he and his family came and ministered. What a blessing! Wasn't that a blessing? Amen; amen. For all those who have come and stood in the gap to make up the hedge. To all those who have allowed their lives to be offered up, that they might be able to serve the Lord. We give thanks to all of them, and we give thanks to all of you who come and resent yourselves before the Lord that you might receive of God what He has for you: A truly blessed day. Amen.

Our theme for this month, our theme for this month—I think, actually, I gave—somewhere along the line, I gave the wrong Scripture. This is actually a mighty great scripture; it's actually part of the service: **“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”** (Acts 1:8) But, our *true* theme for the month, our scripture for the month, is from the Book of John chapter twenty, as our pastor preached on last week, and as we are going to continue, verse number twenty-two:

John 20:22 *And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost:***

John 20:20-23 *And when He had so said, He shewed unto them His hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus to them again, **Peace be unto you: as My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you.** And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.***

Amen. If we could just bow our heads for a word of prayer. Lord, we thank You for all that You have done for us, for all of our lives. God, even for this morning; even that You woke us up and allowed us to be in our right mind, allowed us to get here today, God, to come and worship none other than You, to be in the presence of Your praise, God. We thank You for our time of singing, worshipping, of giving honor to You, Lord, as so many have testified. And, God, we thank You for just being with us. And, God, we pray, at this point, at this point of the service, that You would do as Your Word said, that we would not allow Your Word to return unto You void, but You would feed Your flock, as You said, both with knowledge and understanding, God, that Your Word might have its way, and You might have Your way in our lives, God, that we can leave from here in accordance to how You would have us to leave. And we present ourselves, as we pray and claim, in Jesus' name, and everyone said, amen.

Amen, saints. So, we're talking, this month, about, “Receive Ye the Holy Ghost.” So, we pick up our message today, and it starts after the crucifixion, if we were to read all of John chapter twenty, it

starts after they had laid Him in the tomb, and Mary Magdalene had gone there, and she saw that the tomb was empty, and she told the Disciples, "Hey, there's an empty tomb," and they ran down, and they saw, too, themselves, that the tomb was empty. It takes place after she went back, and looked, and saw the gardener, who she *supposed* was the gardener and she found out that, truly, He was the Lord when he called her. It takes place after all that.

It takes place when the Disciples were in a room as they were in fear of the Jews and what they would do to them. It takes place when the doors were locked, and Jesus appeared in the room. Going through locked doors, and He showed them the marks in His hands and the stabbing in His side. And, the Bible says that all the Disciples were glad when they saw Him, when they saw Him. And it goes on to say how He told them, it says here in verse number twenty-one, "**Peace be unto you. As My Father sent Me so send I you.**" As My Father has sent Me, even so, do I send you. And it goes on, and He said, "**Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.**" So, the Lord did here, what the Bible says God did in Genesis. He changed *everything*. He breathed on this clay. In Genesis, man became a living soul, but, here in John, He breathed on them to give them of the Spirit that He had. In Genesis, we got of the Spirit of God, which was life, we got of the Spirit of the Living God, who had victory over *everything*. He breathed on them, said, "**Receive ye the Holy Ghost,**" and this changes *everything*. And it goes on to say, "**Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.**" In other words, I send you forth in this Spirit, with this Gospel. "You are now My ambassadors. I'm giving you the power of establishment, as you go forth." This changes everything.

So as we get to part one—that was just the introduction. We get to part one.

Point 1: The Holy Ghost Is Personal

Acts 2:1-4 *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

Now, the setting here is they were all in—the Bible says that Day of Pentecost was fully come, which would have been, of course, fifty days after the Passover time. When the day was fully come, it says that they were all in one accord, in one place, in one mind, in one heart, with one purpose. They were single-focused. All together in a spirit of unity, with one accord, and in one place. And, it goes on to say that there came a sound—now, what this must have been like! It had to be awesome. There came a sound, not from a committee, not from a group of people, not from some praise and worship, even. It didn't come from Earth, it came from Heaven! The sound came from heaven itself, and from He who is over Heaven, and it says it came from Heaven, and it filled all the house where they were sitting, and it sat upon each—*each*—one of them, because that's how personal this is.

Acts 2:5-11 *And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under Heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of*

Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

So, here, this is how personal is the Holy Ghost is. Those who gathered, those who were in one accord, in one place, in one mind, it filled them. But, the devout ones who came, were ministered to, seeing the evidence of God filling those who were in one accord, in one place, following the Lord, Himself. The Holy Ghost came, not to separate, but to bring everybody into the presence of God. Those that don't know, it pointed the way, and they said, "You know what? How is this that I can understand these people, these Jews? These Galileans? How can I understand them? They're speaking in every single tongue that is here." Devout people who came to worship God! Because the Holy Ghost came to minister. It came to fill, to minister, not to separate, to minister! And, when we present ourselves to the presence of the Holy Ghost, he is faithful, and ministers, right in a way we can hear Him. I come from Baltimore; I speak a little bit different than the people up here. I understand when the Holy Ghost is speaking to me, when I'm in the zone, when I'm in the right frame, when I'm in the right heart, when I get myself together. I understand what God is speaking to me. And that is the testimony when we present ourselves to God. I love that scripture that you shared, Brother Jesse, where it says God's hand is not too short, neither His ear too heavy that He can't save, but we allow our sins and iniquities to come before us, therefore, He can't hear our praises, and our prayers, and what we have to say to Him, and His arm can't reach us, because it can't cut through the sin and iniquity (Isaiah 59:1-2). So, when we present ourselves to God, in that one accord, in that one mind, in that one heart, in that unified purpose, He is faithful to speak and minister to us. Receive ye the Holy Ghost.

Act 2:38-39 *Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. [...ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.] For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.*

So, the promise is unto us, and to our children and to as many as are afar off as the Lord our God shall call. But it has to start with us! It has to start with us, that the Holy Ghost desires to be in our life, to fill our life, to walk up and down all around our life. To do things that we've never seen. To make it bristle. To make it special. To make you hunger after the Holy Ghost. The promise is unto us, that we might be able to receive that gift. Two points that we need to make about this, about this starting with us. Point one: The promise wasn't tongues; the promise was the Holy Ghost. The promise inns the Holy Ghost. The promise is unto you, you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. What would tongues do, if it wasn't about the Holy Ghost? What would it be like, if you don't got the Holy Ghost involved? You're just out there stammering. It has to be about the Holy Ghost. And, point number two: The evidence, the evidence, the evidence of the Holy Ghost also is ours. After seeking after God, after presenting ourselves to God, not seeking after the gift, seeking after God. You know, we do wrong when we seek for something that we can materialize in our mind. We do wrong when we have something, and we have an image, and we want to set that up there before Him. We can do wrong with that, because it can kind of take the place of God. "God, I would really like to have this, and this is so special, I would take my eyes off of whom I should seek, to something else that is supposed to bless God, and I say, 'Let that make me special.'"

Jesse, I feel like you, when you said, "It is impossible to finish this message in this amount of time."

Part 2: The Holy Ghost Is Given To Profit Withal

1 Corinthians 12:1-7 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

Diversities of gifts and of administrations and of operations—but the manifestation of these gifts, and of these administrations, and of these operations, is given to profit everybody. It's give to profit the body. It isn't given to separate, to make some a little bit more special than others; it's given to build the church. It's given to make the body what is great in God. And, if you are gifted in administration or in operation, or even a gift, it is all given—given, it's not like you got it on your own—it is given by God. It is given by God.

1 Corinthians 12:8-13 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

So, to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom, to another the word of knowledge, to another, faith, by that same Spirit, gifts of healings, by that same Spirit, to another working of miracles, to another, prophecy, to another, discerning of spirits, all these things given by the same Spirit. It should be that when these things are manifest, that everybody grows. Receive ye the Holy Ghost.

Sometimes we don't recognize that certain things that are gifts that God gives. Sometimes we don't even recognize it. I had the opportunity last Saturday, we had a men's fellowship breakfast, men's fellowship breakfast. Our General Pastor came up; it was a wonderful time. But, it came time for food, one of my favorite times. It came time to eat. And, I was kind of wondering how we were going to work this out, and I didn't give Brother Greg a lot of warning and everything, because, you know he seems to always work some kind of magic. I saw the little counter they had set up, and they had three pans there, and I was like, "Three pans? Three pans? We got nearly forty brothers, here, and he's got three pans here. Oh, well, we got this place for four hours; that's probably going to take an hour and twenty minutes. Ah, well, we couldn't have had it as great as we wanted to, but, it's going to be okay. It's still going to be okay." That brother got in there, and, with those three pans, I got a chance to see a gift of operation. Right before my very eyes. It looked like magic to me. You know why? Because I hadn't given respect to the gift. I hadn't given respect to the gift that was going over, God had placed it in somebody else. Not everybody has all the gifts. They're given to profit withal. And, yesterday—yesterday—I had a chance to be with the youth group and, you know, I was with a couple of them; Aaron, Brother Aaron, me and him, we went and Brother Jose, he was with us, and, we three took another three young people, and we went and visited the nursing home, and then we visited the VA. And I got a chance—I actually got a chance to see the working of God in the teens. And some of the teens, gifts that I hadn't seen before! But, given

the opportunity, they were shown, and you know who they profited? Everybody who was there! They profited those that we visited, they profited those who thought they were going to go and be leaders; they profited me. Gifts of operation, gifts in administration, gifts from the Spirit of God. And, in verse eighteen; just want to say that one more time. All these things given by the same Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:18 *But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.*

“God, what about this? God, what about that? God, God, God, God, God?” And God says, “I’m going to give you what I want you to have, because I know what I’m doing with my body. I know what I’m doing in the body of Christ, and I’ve got many things I want to add to your life, but I’m the One that adds it,” is what the Lord says.

And, if it ever got to the place where—I’ve found myself here before. I found myself desiring a certain gift. I had it all mapped out, “knew” what was going to happen. I was going to get this certain job, and pray for this certain gift, and these certain miracles were going to happen, and that was going to be the path that I was going to have. I had it all mapped out. And, you ever have anything mapped out in God? And God had to blow it up; He had to blow it up! And say, “Who is doing the leading and guiding here? You?” And I had to come to find out, where I say, “Not my will, Lord, but Thy will be done.”

I had a chance to talk to somebody else, who was telling me the same thing. And they said, “You know, I prayed for the gift of healing.” I was like, “Out of all the gifts, why that one? Everybody seems to want that one.” “The gift of healing! And, you know what? I prayed for a whole year, and I didn’t get it.” Okay. I was waiting for the other shoe to drop. What was the point of that? And, actually, they told me, “That was the point. I didn’t get it.” I said, “You prayed... It doesn’t matter how long you pray. The issue is that you seek God. If I don’t get it today, I’ll look for it tomorrow. If I don’t get it this week—there’s things I’m still looking for from God. I didn’t give up! I’ve been saved for thirty years, I’m still looking forward to some things from God!” Why would we let the devil take it away? Why let the devil talk you out of it? Why would you let the devil say, “Ha! Got one over on you,” when you know God wants to bless you? When you know God wants to fill you, to set us up, in particular, as members in His body by His Spirit? Don’t give it to the devil!

And, the last verse that we wanted to see in First Corinthians twelve:

1 Corinthians 12:25 *That there should be no schism [or division] in the body; but that the members should have the same care [the same care] one for another.*

Part 3: Our Relationship with the Holy Ghost Matters

Did you know it matters what we do with that Spirit of God? It matters to God what we do with it? Some may think that they have a choice, and we could do anything we want with the Spirit that God gives us. We could do anything we want, it doesn't really matter, but, did you know—I’m saying this facetiously, I know you know this—but if we lie to the Spirit of God, did you know you fall into the same category as Ananias and Sapphira? And that was all about saying they was going to give an offering, and they figured that they were lying to Peter, but Peter said, “You ain’t lying to me; you lied to the Holy Ghost. That’s between you and Him.” And, did you know that it’s possible that we could grieve, or make sad, the Spirit of God. God didn’t just give us His Spirit because He didn’t have nothing better to do; He gave us His Spirit out of love. Because He loves us. His Spirit, He gave it to us, to bring us closer to Him. As the Bible says, it is the gift of God. In fact, this gift is so precious that the Lord Jesus singled this one out. He said if you, or if anybody, if anybody sins or blasphemes against the Holy Ghost, it won’t be forgiven in

this life nor in the life to come, not in this world, nor in the world to come. And, we do need to take just a moment on this one.

Matthew 12:31-32 *Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men* [Now, that is a miraculous, awesome, tremendous... this was before He was ever crucified, before He laid down His life. He said all manner of sin that men can do. All of them. What an amazing thing to say. Every sin that we can do. We might have to pay for it somewhere, but, we can be forgiven in God. I might not be forgiven in my brother or sister, but, you know, if I take their food, but God will forgive me, if I repent.]: *but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.* [And then, then, He singles this out even more. He singled it out away from every other sin and transgression that men can commit. He singles it out so much, He expounds on it in verse thirty-two:] *And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man* [He's saying, "You might do me wrong. You might sin against the Lord Jesus, Himself, and you could still be forgiven! Look at Acts chapter two, verse thirty-eight, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" when they found out they really messed up. And he said, "You can repent of this. You can repent, and God will receive you."], *it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.*

Neither the world to come. He singles that one out, above every other one! And there is precedent for this, Saints. There is a precedent for this in the Book of Isaiah. This was something that they had heard before.

Isaiah 63:10 *But they rebelled, and vexed His Holy Spirit: therefore He was turned to be their enemy, and He fought against them.*

Now, vexed means that they pained His Holy Spirit, or they angered His Spirit. It even means they displeased Him, they grieved Him, they hurt Him, and they even made Him sorry. They made the Spirit, that God had sent them to help them, sorry that He was there, that He came to do that. Sorry for that relationship.

I have a little bit of a side bar here: God really, really wants to bless us with so much of His Spirit. There are measures of the Spirit of God. I mean, the Lord Jesus received it without measure, but, we, of course, *by* measure. And, God wants to bless us as much as we allow Him to. He has *many* things He wants to give us. After all, the Lord Jesus said, "...it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Once again, I told the story before, but I need to tell it again. Once, when I was in the service, I had a time when we were fellowshiping, and we were on the ship, and I knew I had the midwatch that night, which, for those of you who don't know meant I was going to be on the job from 10 o'clock at night to 3 o'clock in the morning. And it was somewhere around 7 o'clock. So, we fellowshiped for a while, and, when it got to be close to eight-ish, eight-fifteen-ish, and, I'm not stupid, I can count. I'm thinking, "That's going to give me about an hour, because I've got to get up about 9:30. But I'm pretty good at falling asleep, so, if I go to bed at 8:15, at 8:16, I'm pretty well out. So, we finished fellowshiping, and I lay down and God woke me up. God woke me up and old me I needed to pray. And as God woke me up—I don't know, I might have been asleep for 20 minutes—as God woke me up I could feel the presence of a heavenly chorus around me. I could feel it. It was amazing. I'd never felt that before. And God said, pray, and I was praying and praying, but I was really tired, and I had to go on the midwatch, and that was staring me in the face as I was praying. And it seemed like the Heavenly chorus was going all at the same time. And I prayed and prayed, because I wanted to be faithful to God, and I prayed and then, maybe 10 minutes, 15 minutes, might have been 20 minutes, I don't know, but I got to thinking, "Man, it's getting close to that time; I still need to get some sleep minutes. Okay, God, I done my duty, I prayed. Now it's time for me to

roll over and go to sleep.” and ayoom, I was out. And before, like I said, 9:30, they come and wake you up, but, before the person came to wake me up to go get ready to relieve the person on watch, God woke me up. God woke me up and told me, “You blew it! You blew it! I had something for you, and you blew it! What was so precious about another thirty minutes of sleep that you would blow Me off?” And that was what God told me. So, I went on watch, and I had to think about that all watch. And the next day I thought about that, and, who could you tell that that has happened to you? It’s between you and God. And, my whole point on that, my whole point on that is when God is calling you, is telling you something, when God is dealing with you, don’t say no. Don’t say no when he is communing and wanting to give you and bless you, and talk with you, wanting to bring things out in you. In fact, not only do we not want to say no, but this lesson has stayed with me for not only don’t say no, say yes. “Yes, Lord. God it might scare me. Never been there before, but, yes, Lord, anyway. God, I know how You are, and it seems like if You give me something, I’m going to have more responsibility.” Say yes, anyway. And, how many times has God given you something, and you find, “I might have been scared, but, what in the world was I scared of? Why did I hesitate? He had so much for me.” Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, Lord. And, don’t stop. Don’t stop seeking God for what He has for you. God’s going to bless Malcolm. God’s going to bless Andy. God’s going to bless Sonia. God’s going to bless Phil. God’s going to bless Ty. God’s going to bless Alex. And I pray God bless you and you and you and you, but I gots to be concerned about God blessing me. I gots to be concerned about what God has for me. People can pray for you, but they can’t do your praying for you.

Part 4: The Greatest Gift

This is our last part here. The Greatest Gift.

Palms 145:9 *The LORD is good to all: and His tender mercies are over all His works.*

“The LORD is good to all: and His tender mercies are over all His works.” The works of God. You start thinking about the works of God, and, let’s face it, that starts with, “Let there be light.” That’s a work of God: Bringing light where there wasn’t light before. Light! And the, let the whole creation begin. The solar systems and the galaxies, the planets, the moons, the stars, what a work of God! We have—people grab these great big old telescopes, and they look up, they just want to see more about that great big creation going on out there. They’re finding stuff all the time! “Well, we never knew it was like this!” The works of God are marvelous! Come right here, down to Earth. We don’t have to be concerned with Mars and Jupiter and Mercury and Venus; let’s just talk about Earth. Here on Earth, we got grass, we got trees, we got shrubbery, we got vegetation, we got fruit. And then we got meat. We got hamburgers, we got lamb, we got steak—I’m sorry. We got animals that come forth, and they have a harmony to come together. Some of them are just marvelous to look at. I had a chance to go to Australia; saw things that I’ll never see again, I’m sure. Pet a kangaroo, hold a koala. All that stuff. Marvelous creations of God, and, it’s that way all over the world. You can see that God put many different works all over. And then, not just on the surface of the Earth; look at us! God made us all different, and yet, He made us all the same. A beating heart in every one of us. He didn’t leave anybody out with that. He put a mind in your brain. He put a tongue in your mouth with taste-buds. Taste-buds, and then you have the ability to talk. Look at what God did! Blood flowing through your veins. You didn’t have to ask for it; God did it anyway. The oceans and the fish therein. The sky and the birds that fly in the sky. Look at the creation of God! The works of God are enormous! From microscopic to telescopic, He just fills creation. And, according to this verse, according to this verse He is good to all, and His tender mercy is over all. His mercy. And, here, mercy is defined as the type of love that a mother had for her unborn child. It’s that type of love. It’s

great, and tender, and precious love. And that love is over the entire universe, and the solar systems; as great as that is, His love is greater. The love of God.

And, it doesn't stop there. If we could go to John chapter thirteen. Still talking about spiritual gifts and receiving the Holy Ghost. As Apostle Paul talked, he said there's diversities of gifts, and diversities of operations, and differences of administrations; he talked about whether it's of tongues, or interpretations, or whether it's of knowledge, or wisdom, or whether it's healings, or discernings, there's all these things of God. And then, the Lord says:

John 13:15 *For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.*

"I have given you an example..." So, the Lord, Great God in Heaven, says, "I have given you all an example; I've given you an example. As great as My works are, My love is greater. My love is greater." So, somebody might say, "Hey! You know what? I got the gift of prophecy." And another person, "I got the gift of tongues, how about that?" Another one says "Check this out; I got the gift of healing." The true question is, "What about your love?" What about your love? Because love is over *all* of that. What about your love?

1 Corinthians 12:31 *But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.*

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.*

If we could just bow our heads for just a moment. Lord, as we come into Your presence, we go over Your Word, and, God, it's amazing, the love that You have for us. It's amazing, just to come before You and learn of You, Almighty God. And what You want to do, what You want to give, how you want us to be in the center of Your will, and, Lord, all we ask is for You to bless us. For You to show us, for You to mold us, for You to make us, for You to guide us. God, for You to make a difference in our life, and look over us, Lord. If there is any area where we are saying no to You, God, give us the strength to kick no out of the way, to look toward the hills, from whence cometh our help, and say, "Yes, Lord. Yes, I will receive. Yes, I will do. Yes, I will have what You have for me." So, we do come before You, and we thank, pray and claim in Jesus' name. And everyone said amen. Give the Lord a praise.