

## ***Enjoying the Fullness of God***

### **I. Review – Prayer and the Glory of the Gospel**

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION is released through prayer!

**God Waits for Prayer to Send His Word – the *primary means of power* in the service of God's Word (sword)**

**2 Thess 3:1 NKJ** Finally, brethren, **pray** for us, **that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified**, just as *it is* with you,

Here the WORD is pictured as an athlete running a race.

That it MAY run, is linked to our prayers!! God links the GLORY of the WORD to the prayers of his people!

The WORD is sped and its GLORY manifested AS WE PRAY!

MARTY C. TESTIMONY:

On the way to the airport recently I was taking a Limo, and had a Muslim driver. So, I began a conversation with him as follows:

So, how long have you been driving a taxi in this city?

Where are you from?

"Pakistan"

When did you come here?

"I moved to Canada several years ago, ..."

What are the religions in Pakistan?

"Muslim, Christian, Hindu, in that order."

I am a Christian - I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins, and that because of that I am forgiven, and can have a personal relationship with God. What do you believe?

"I am muslim. I believe that Jesus was a prophet, too."

Do you know where Mohammed is buried?

Have you ever considered that you can go around the world and see the tombs of every major religious leader, but you can't do that for Jesus?

"No - why not?"

Because he rose from the dead! He is not in a tomb.

"Well - that is very interesting!"

Pause.....pause.....pause..... God tells me DO NOT SAY A WORD RIGHT NOW.....

He then replies, "I believe that you are telling the truth - I have never thought about this before - but you are right - Jesus did die on the cross. This was to bring all people to himself forever, right? I have heard about that part before. I believe this really happened."

## II. Knowing Father – Basis of A Transformed Soul

[John 17:3](#) And this is eternal life, **that they know you** the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

[John 17:26 ESV](#) I made known to them **your name**, and I will continue to make it known, **that the love with which you have loved me** may be **in them**, and **I in them.**"

The Glory of the Happy God

[1 Tim 1:11 ESV](#) ... in accordance with **the gospel of the glory of the blessed<sup>1</sup> God.**

[1 Tim 6:15 ESV](#) ...(God) who is the **blessed** and **only Sovereign**, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

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<sup>1</sup>μακάριος—MAKARIOS — blessed, fortunate, happy, free from daily cares and worries.

## A. Our Father's Joy in Our Lives

2 Cor 5:9 NIV So we make it our goal **to please him**, ...

Prov 15:8 NKJ ... *the prayer of the upright is His delight.*

Matt 25:21 ESV His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. .... *Enter into the joy of your master.*'

Ps 16:11 ESV You make known to me the **path of life**;  
in your presence there is **fullness of joy**;  
at your right hand are **pleasures forevermore.**

Ps 36:8 ESV They feast on the abundance of your house,  
and you give them drink from the **river of your delights.**

## B. The Father's Joy in Our Knowledge of His Nature

### Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing

1. It's all about HIM! He is a Supremely Happy God. You wouldn't want to spend eternity with an unhappy God. The Good News wouldn't be good news if it came from an unhappy God.
2. The activity of God in our lives is to make us know Him.

Ps 34:8 NIV Taste and see that the LORD is good; **blessed**<sup>2</sup> is the man who **\*takes refuge in him.** (\*Ps 91:4 under his wings)

When we **run into God** and **hide in Him**, take refuge, His overflowing BLESSED HAPPINESS infuses us, saturates us, and fills us with what fills him.

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<sup>2</sup> אֲשֶׁרֵי – ASHREI – Blessed! Happy! A heightened state of happiness and joy, implying favorable circumstances, often resulting from God's kindness.

Our Father calls Himself **“THE FOUNTAIN OF LIVING WATERS.”**  
(Jer 2:2) Continually self-replenishing, overflowing, needing nothing.

**The glory of a spring is that people come and drink.**

Isa 12:2 ESV “Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

3 With **joy** you will draw **water** from **the wells (springs) of salvation.**

Isa 62:5 ESV ... and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God **rejoice** over you.

### III. His Delight is in our Participation

He is a Community of Persons! The Holy Trinity. He partners with us in His Works as we Participate in His Divine Nature.

Prov 15:8 NKJ **the prayer of the upright is His delight.**

#### A. He Delights in Answering our Prayers

John 14:13 ESV Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that **the Father may be glorified** in the Son.

The Father is glorified when His nature --Lover, Giver, Flowing Fountain – is revealed.

HIS FAVORITE FOOD IS ANSWERING PRAYERS... WHEN HE IS HUNGRY HE LOOKS FOR PRAYERS TO ANSWER.

When our Father is hungry, He looks for prayers to answer.

2 Chr 16:9a ESV For the **eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, ...**

Psa 50:15 ESV ... **call upon me** in the \*day of trouble;\* I will **deliver** you, and you shall **glorify** me.”

## B. Increased Revelation of His Happy Love

The Holy Spirit increases the glory of the Father and the Son

[John 16:13](#) *ESV* When the **Spirit** of truth comes, ... [14](#) He will glorify **me**, for he will take what is mine and **declare it to you**. [15](#) All that the **Father** has is mine...

The Son reveals the glory of the Father

[John 17:26](#) *ESV* I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that **the love with which you have loved me** may be in them, and **I in them**."

We enter into that fullness of glory

[Eph 3:19](#) *ESV* and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be **filled with all the fullness of God**.

What an amazing thought, that you fill our hearts with the love of the Father for the Son *and* the Son dwells in our hearts as well. Thus our hearts become the home of the infinite love of the Trinity, the site where the greatest pleasures of God, the full measure of His joy is experienced and expressed.

We can "**behold**" this manner of love **with every breath**, focusing our mind on His great love by which we are called the children of God, indeed, that is what we are!

[1 John 3:1](#) *ESV* See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. ...

In this **simple practice**, our **mind** is elevated into the things above, to the beautiful God who loves us, and our **souls** are exalted with divine longing, the longing that Jesus Himself declared He has for us, the love that the Father has for the Son. By this, our **whole being** including our **bodies** are **transformed**, participating together in the divine communion and becoming itself a dwelling and possession of God, no longer the seat of enmity toward God, and no longer a home for desires contrary to the Spirit of God.

My friend Steve asked, “How can a normal person do that?”

I responded, “How does a chain smoker remember his next smoke?”

By our breath. By attaching our focus to our breathing, we can continually tap into the infinite solutions and joy that are in the Father of Lights, who is continually joyful, confident and sublimely filled with pleasures.

### III. Praying in the Spirit He Provides

[Eph 6:18](#) praying at all times in the **Spirit**, (breath)

[Eph 3:19 ESV](#) ... to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be **filled with all the fullness of God**.

With Joy from the Wells of Salvation

***GRACE, GRACE! For prayer***

***The NERVE that moves the mighty ARM that swings the SWORD of the WORD.***