

What would it be like to live in a world without fear? The world gives us a view of power through fear: authority, control and manipulation. We are under the pressure of controlling agendas from almost everywhere in life. But Jesus Christ demonstrated the true art of power when He came into the world with God's freeing agenda of Love...

The Art of True Power

(Walking skilfully and mindfully in the love of God shed abroad in our hearts)

Matthew 20:25 - 28 (NKJV) ²⁵But Jesus called them to Himself and said, *"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. ²⁶Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. ²⁷And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

A. Jesus contrasts two very different "systems" of power: Domination through Authority vs Service through Love.

- *"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them."*
- The world's idea of power is CONTROL through power.
- Along with CONTROL is someone's AGENDA for your life.
- We need to become AGENDA – FREE, except for the Loving agenda of God: to love us into freedom!
- *"Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant."*

B. The world wields power through the domination of Fear.

- The world has nothing to give the spirit of man, so it has to control outwardly through fear!
- Fear is a SPIRIT
- Uses power to control, manipulate, agenda-ize.
- God says that in love there is no "fear of punishment"
- **John 4:16-18** *"And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment("punishment" – NIV). But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.*

C. God demonstrates power through serving in Love.

- God fills our spirit with Himself as Love and this inward RESOURCE enables us to live as God would.
- John 3:16 – God's Agenda is to LOVE the world back to restoration through His Son.

D. We are called to walk in the ART of Jesus's kingdom Power: LOVE

- John 13:34-35 – *"A NEW commandment I give..."*
- Jesus came to demonstrate God's True Power to the world: LOVE!
- This is the true mark of His Kingdom people! (v. 35)

E. Our Greatest Stewardship with the planet: God's Love is shed abroad in our hearts!

- **Romans 5:5 (NKJV)** ⁵Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
- **We can live as a new breed of people in the earth! Live the agenda of God's love!**
- *"Love never fails"* – 1 Cor 13:8a

F. Where the church needs to be in these days:

- **Ephesians 3:17 - 19 (NKJV)** ¹⁷that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—¹⁹to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

- Rooted and grounded in love
- Able to Comprehend the love
- Knowing this love
- Filled with God's fullness of Love

Walking Mindfully in Love's Awareness

Learning to keep our mind rooted in Love's Directives

1 Corinthians 16:13 - 14 (NKJV) ¹³Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. ¹⁴Let all that you do be done with love.

A. Review of Last Message:

- **Becoming Skilful in Love:** Using love as an all-purpose medicine to life's "ills".
- **Eph 4:31 -5:2**
 1. Refrain from harming others (4:31)
 2. Offer love to others (4:32)
 3. See yourself as God's Beloved (recipient of God's continuous love) (5:1)
 4. Live in the power of Christ's love (5:2)

B. This Message: Keeping our Mind's rooted in Love's Directives.

- There is an awareness of God's Love inside us. Most of us stumble upon it once in a while but God calls us to live in it.

- The problem is not that we have no love, it is that our minds are distracted from it.
- Become aware of Love within your spirit!

C. We are called to do everything in Love (This requires us to be aware of what love is and what love wants in us).

- ¹³Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. ¹⁴Let all that you do be done with love.
- This is a BOLD call.
- This command assumes some things: we know love and know how to be directed by Love.

D. Our minds need to be re-rooted in Love as the source of our living.

- Since the Garden of Eden man's mind has been rooted in the wrong tree: the tree of the KNOWLEDGE of good and evil.
- God wants us rooted in LIFE and the nature of that Life is LOVE
- What we need to be rooted in, in our Minds... *"...that you, being rooted and grounded in love..."*
- Where is the root of Love? In our spirit where God's Spirit dwells. Not in our mind. So the more we turn our mind to our spirit the more our minds will be renewed in God's Love.

E. Love is a Person. Walking in Love is walking in awareness of Christ's Life in us.

- Walk with Love, talk with Love, listen to Love, fellowship with Love.

LEARNING TO KEEP OUR MIND ROOTED IN LOVE'S DIRECTIVES

1. All Life has a quality of awareness.

(What life and what awareness are you developing?)

Galatians 5:16 - 17 (NKJV) ¹⁶*I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.* ¹⁷*For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.*

A. Trees, dogs, ants, etc... **all life has a nature, and with it, a quality of awareness.**

- Trees have a tree nature; dogs have a dog-nature, etc.
- Human beings are unique: we have a human nature to be indwelt and elevated into God's Nature!
- With every nature there is a quality of AWARENESS
- We care for the life with the awareness it has.

B. **Human beings have awareness on three levels**

(body, soul, spirit).

- 1 Thes 5:23
- Body has awareness of the physical world; soul has awareness of thoughts, feelings and desires; spirit has awareness of God.
- God's divine order: spirit (*leading*), soul (*following*), body (*directed*).

C. **When we are born of God, our spirit receives God's Life and has the awareness of that Life.**

- Rom 8:16
- The spiritual life is about developing a new life's awareness: that of our spirit.

D. All believers then have a new conflict of two lives, two natures competing for supremacy: **Flesh and Spirit.**

- "Flesh" is a term referring to our human nature disconnected from spirit and led by life in the physical world.
- Flesh has awareness of temporal life alone

- Spirit has awareness of God's eternal nature and ways

E. **Which nature you give attention to is what gets trained to lead your life.**

- What "awareness" are you giving attention to? You are TRAINING that awareness to become dominant.
- Prov. 4:20 – "My son, give attention to my words...."
- Eg. Mary and Martha

F. **We develop our spirit by giving attention to the awareness of our spirit.** *(found in the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, etc.)*

2. Life is experienced through the filter of awareness.

(A field of dreams or a chamber of horror – how do you see your life?)

Romans 8:6 (NKJV) ⁶*For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

A. **How would life seem if we saw life through the awareness of God's Love for us?**

- **Romans 8:35 (NKJV)** ³⁵*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*
- **Romans 8:37 (NKJV)** ³⁷*Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*
- What is life like looking through awareness of our sin, guilt, fear, etc: *Job 3:1-5, 11, 24-25*
- Our life experiences are FILTERED through the awareness we use to look at things.

B. Defining who you are: coming to awareness.

- What are you? If you explore this deeply, you get past the physical and temporal things about yourself and see that you are aware of your feelings, thoughts, emotions, desires, etc. The one being aware is at the deepest part of your identity.
- Awareness is deeper than thoughts, emotions, desires, etc.
- 1 Cor 2:11 – You are a spirit with awareness. You are a spirit, you have a soul and you live in a body.
- Awareness is spirit-deep.

C. The awareness of our spirit testifies to “the truth in love”. (Eph 4:15)

- It tells me what level of awareness you are living from.
- Develop paying attention to the awareness of your spirit and you will see things in truth and love.

D. Life seen through minding the flesh is death.

- Awareness of the flesh is characterised by fear: fear of what is only temporary and will not last.
- Awareness on tis level can not see the love of God

E. Life seen through Minding the spirit is Life and peace!

F. Clear awareness in life comes from our regenerated spirit. (Rom 8:16)

3. God’s Primary Awareness is Love.

1 John 4:7 - 8 (NKJV) ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

A. “Love is OF God... God IS Love.”

- This is some of the strongest doctrine in the Bible, but we have not seen it that way.
- John is trying to share a revelation with us he saw as the FINAL ANSWER to all the problems with the church’s degrading condition.
- John deals with these problems: sin, the antichrist, the evil one, etc. His whole answer in this epistle is to walk in the awareness of God as Love!

B. God is aware of things through and with Love.

- God never thinks or acts outside of love.
- He holds all He created in the awareness of Love. (*This nurtures, restores, heals, delivers, etc.*)
- When we turn to awareness of Love, we are meeting God where God is meeting us!

C. To Fellowship with God is to enter into Love’s awareness of all life.

- Fellowship with God is called in the Bible COMMUNION, because God communicates His Love to us in meeting Him.
- *2 Cor 13:14*
- When we set our awareness on Love, we enter into the way God thinks, sees, feels and acts.
- Psalms 103:7

D. God has a covenant of Love with this universe in Christ!

- Col 1:19-20

E. Let God’s Love reconstruct your whole inner awareness!

- If you do not see with love, you are wrong, no matter how correct your doctrine is! (proof – 1 Cor 13:1-4 and 1 Cor 8:1)

4. The key awareness in our spirit to cultivate is Love.

Romans 5:5 (NKJV) ⁵*Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

- A. Love can become the consciousness of our life, just as it is God's!**
- We all have a primary, dominant awareness we look with: criticism, judgmentalness, jealousy, fear, competitiveness, entitlement, etc.
 - But we can become dominant in love as God is.
- B. God's Love IS POURED out in us. It is alive and moving!**
- The Greek word means to pour, to gush forth, to spill out, to run over.
 - The implication is MOVEMENT and ACTIVITY and ABUNDANCE.
 - It is a motion to Abundance in every way.
- C. Tune into Love and release the presence of God. (1 Cor 13:4-7)**
- If we abide in love, God abides in us: **1 John 4:16_b**
- D. God's Love in you is developed by paying attention to its directives. (Luke 7:12)**

5. Attend to the Mind of Christ within you.

Philippians 2:5 (NKJV) ⁵*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,*

1 Corinthians 2:16 (NKJV) *"But we have the mind of Christ."*

- A. We have access to the Mind of Christ in our spirit.**
- It is a mind of Love.
 - It is a Mind of Compassion
 - It is a Mind of Giving.
- B. Learn to submit your mind to your spirit to walk in Love's wisdom.**
- Eph 4:23
 - Rom 8:5
 - The hinderences to Love are most often the REASONINGS in our mind. We justify why we should not or don't need to love another. Love is beyond reason.
 - "God is known by much loving"
- C. The Mind of Christ is characterised by service in the Love of God. (Phil 2:5-9)**
- D. You are only as saved as your head is!**
- E. Run all decision you make past love.**

6. Take care of the QUALITY of your awareness. *(and you will take care of the quality of your life)*

Philippians 4:6 - 8 (NKJV) ⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

A. Keep yourself in the Love of God. (Keep your inner awareness in His love).

- **Jude 1:21 (NKJV)** ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.
- This is the environment your soul was meant to live and grow in.
- *(Children who feel loved learn the best.)*

B. Take care of your inner awareness and the quality of your life will be better.

- Phil 4:6-8 – admonitions to keep your inner awareness positive and clear.

C. "Put off and put on..." the continual discipline of the spiritual life.

- **Ephesians 4:31 - 32 (NKJV)** ³¹Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³²And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.
- **Colossians 3:5 - 8 (NKJV)** ⁵Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them. ⁸But now you yourselves are to put off all

these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

- **Colossians 3:12 - 14 (NKJV)** ¹²Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. ¹⁴**But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.**

D. Cultivate a compassionate heart and mind by dwelling on God's Love.

7. What you hold in Love's Awareness and Attention will heal, be redeemed and transform by God's power!

1 Corinthians 13:7 (NKJV) "Love... ⁷bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

A. Things held in Love are in their right environment.

- Because everything was created in God's love, LOVE is the only proper or "natural" environment for things to subsist.
- Eph 1:4 (NIV) ⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame **before Him in love,**
- God never intended for you to have a thought, feeling, emotion or awareness outside of His love.
- Love is the "home" environment for your whole being.

B. Loveless awareness will eventually damage things.

- Anything held outside of love's awareness with entropy and degenerate from the potential God created it in.
- Hell can be defined as a place where there is no awareness of Love.
- As fish need water and mammal's air, our soul needs God's love to live in.

C. To hold things in with Loving attention is to place things in God's Activity.

- Hold your thoughts in God's love, your feelings, emotions, desires, hurts, disappointments, etc.
- With love's awareness comes God's activity to redeem and save!

D. Contemplative prayer: holding yourself in God's loving attention.

E. 5 areas to practice Loving attention:

1. Thoughts
 2. Feelings, emotions
 3. Listening to others
 4. Intentions
 5. Attitudes
- **Mark 12:30 (NKJV)** ³⁰ *And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* ⁴ ⁵ *This is the first commandment.*

8. Turn your mind to Love and let the Miracle begin!

Matthew 14:14 (NKJV) ¹⁴ *And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.*

A. As Jesus turned to Love, **miracles always followed.**

B. A mind tuned to Love is tuned to the **operation of the Gifts of the Spirit.**

C. **Holding things in Love**, keeps the door of the supernatural opened to God.

D. 1 Cor 13:8a – "*Love never fails*": **turn to God-success!**

Conclusion

Keep your mind rooted in the Love of God inside your spirit...

- ✓ It will keep your awareness of God, you, others and circumstances in the right perspective.
- ✓ It will bring your life into Communion with God
- ✓ It will ground you in God's activity
- ✓ It will open your life to the supernatural.