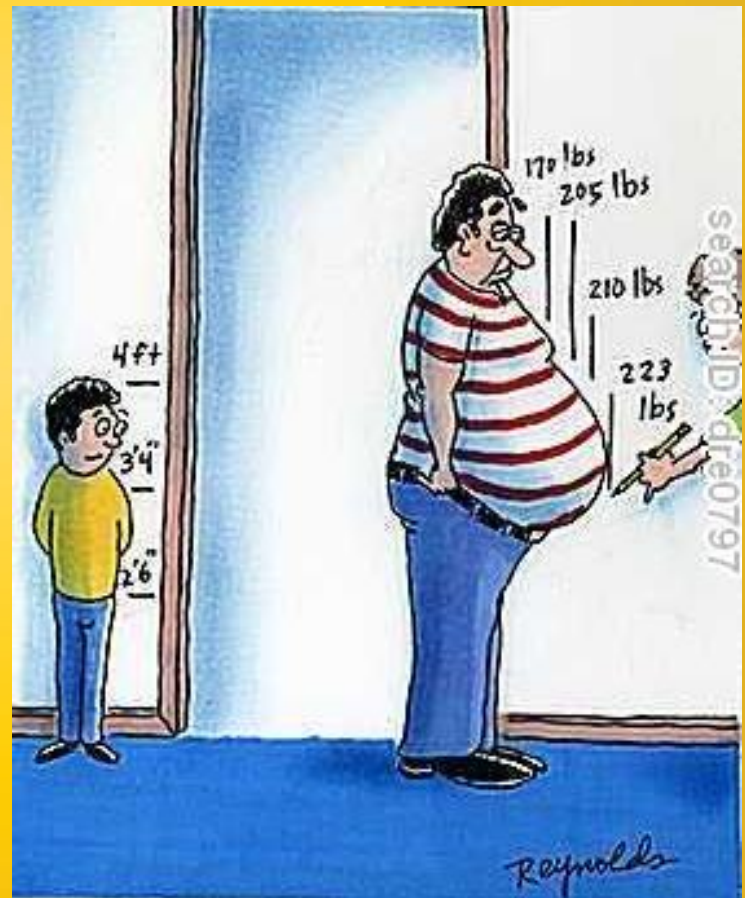
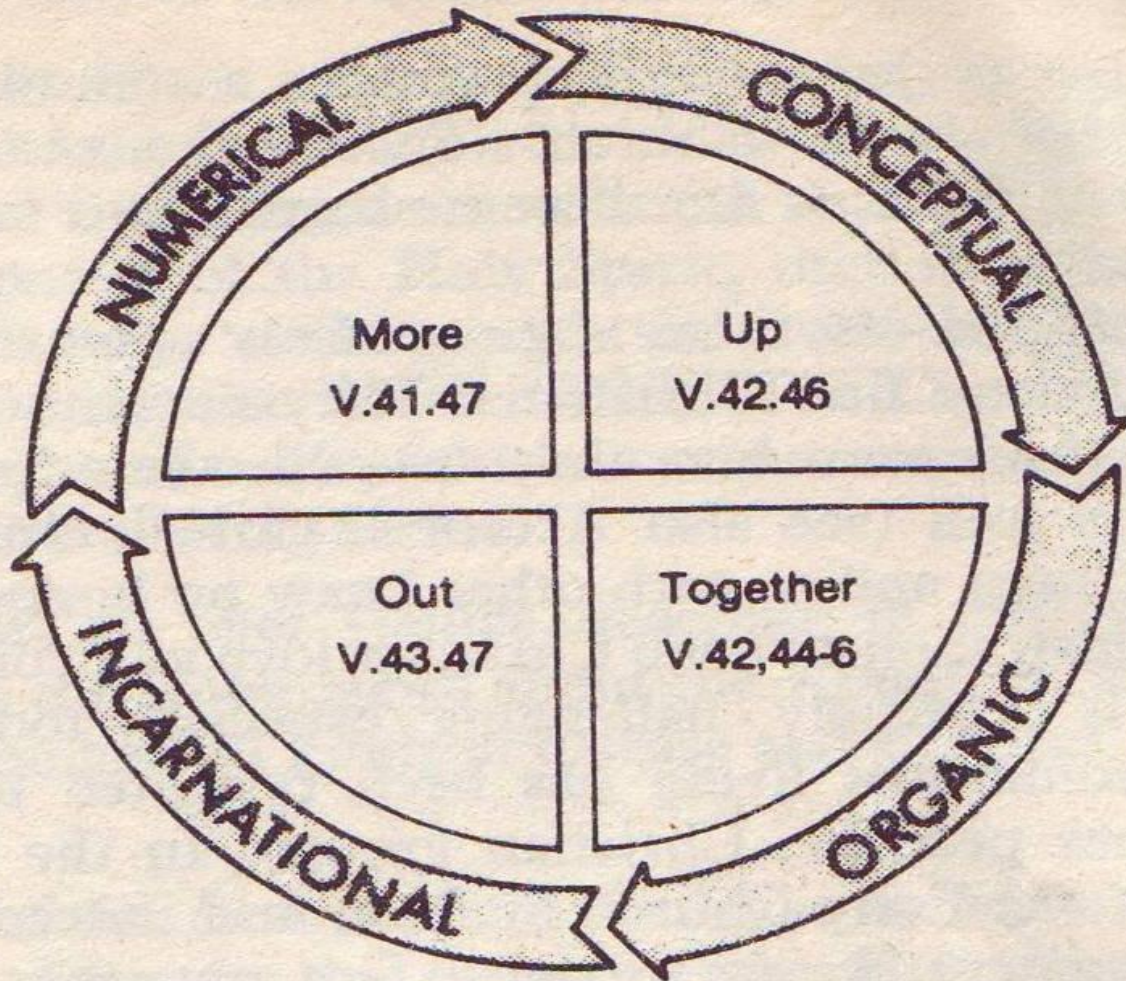


# Growing up, growing out?

(the challenge of the middle aged man!)

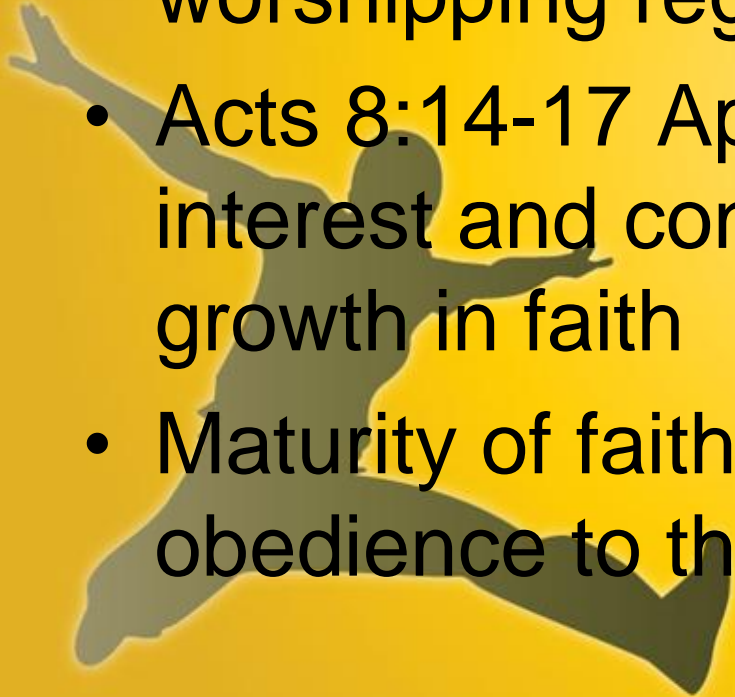


# HOW CHURCHES GROW



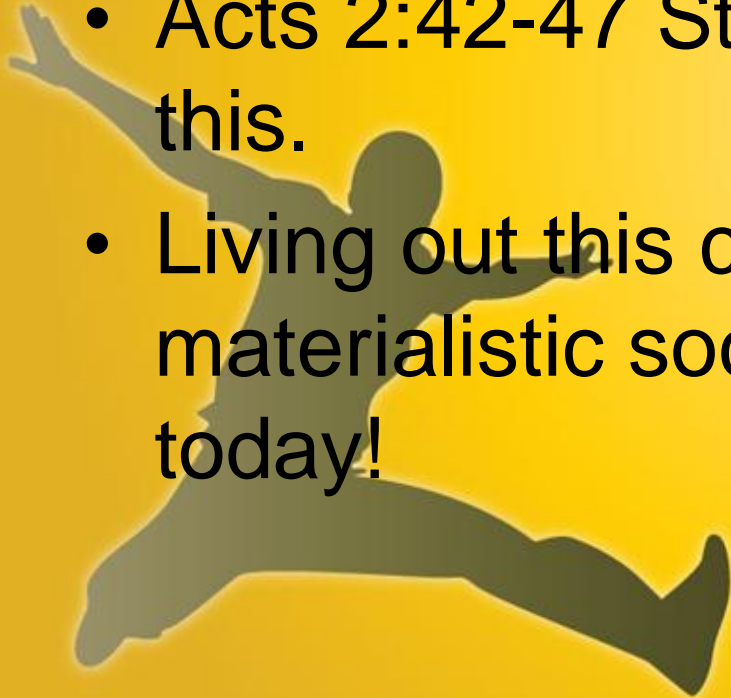
# Growing Up To Maturity

- Acts 2:42,46
- They grew through teaching, prayer and worshipping regularly
- Acts 8:14-17 Apostles continued to show interest and concern for the believers growth in faith
- Maturity of faith comes about by obedience to the Holy Spirit.



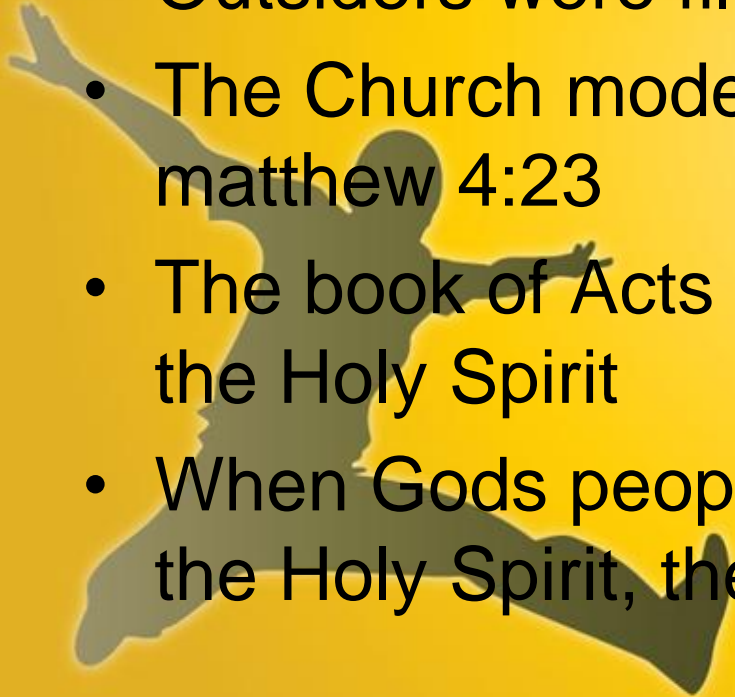
# Growing Together in Community

- Commitment to Christ embraces a commitment to His Body - The Church
- Acts 2:42-47 Stresses the importance of this.
- Living out this counter lifestyle in a materialistic society is even more relevant today!



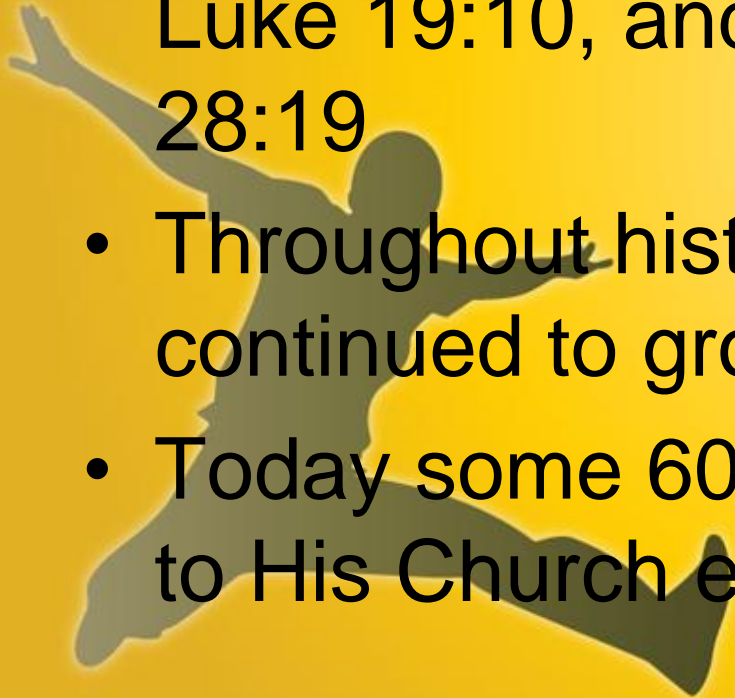
# Growing Out in Service and Evangelism

- Acts 2:43,47 The impact upon Jerusalem was significant
- Outsiders were filled with awe
- The Church modelled the example of Jesus, see matthew 4:23
- The book of Acts is an account of the ministry of the Holy Spirit
- When Gods people truly embody the ministry of the Holy Spirit, the miraculous happens!



# Growing More in Numbers

- Acts 2:41            3000!!!!!!!
- Jesus came to seek and save the lost  
Luke 19:10, and charged us with Matthew  
28:19
- Throughout history The Church has  
continued to grow
- Today some 60,000 believers are added  
to His Church each new day worldwide.



How would you describe your own experience of growth through the ministry and life of this church?

What do you think we need the Holy Spirit to help us with?



Luke 4:18-19



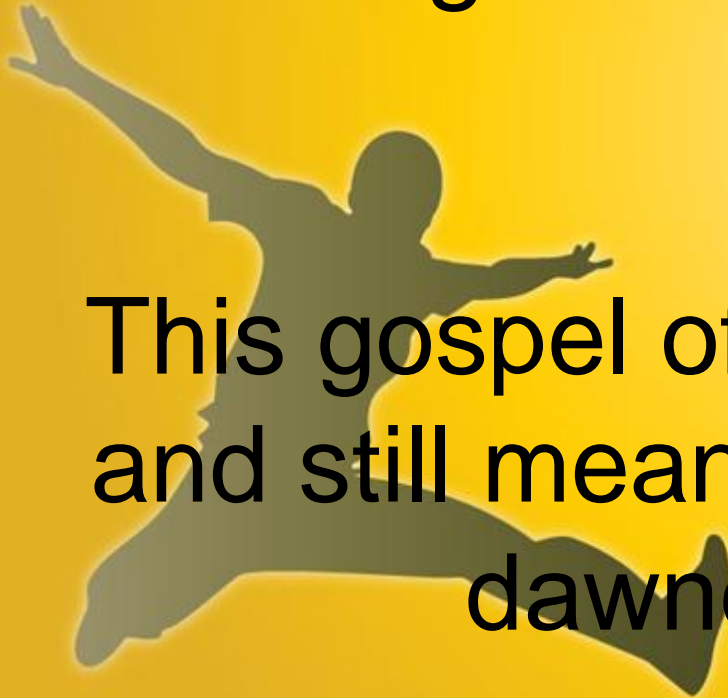
The Kingdom of God is not Gods gradual over-ruling in history leading us to a beautiful society. *It is a sudden interruption, an invasion of the future age and powers into the present scene.*

Roger Forster (The Kingdom of Jesus



The first century Jew would have responded, having heard Jesus proclamation, as we should with great excitement.....

This gospel of divine activity meant, and still means, that a new age has dawned in which....



The Spirit is poured out. God  
has come by His outpoured  
Spirit.



*I will pour out my Spirit on all  
people, your sons and  
daughters will prophesy.....Joel 2:28*

*I will pour out my Spirit on your  
offspring and bring blessings on  
your descendents.     Isaiah 44:3*



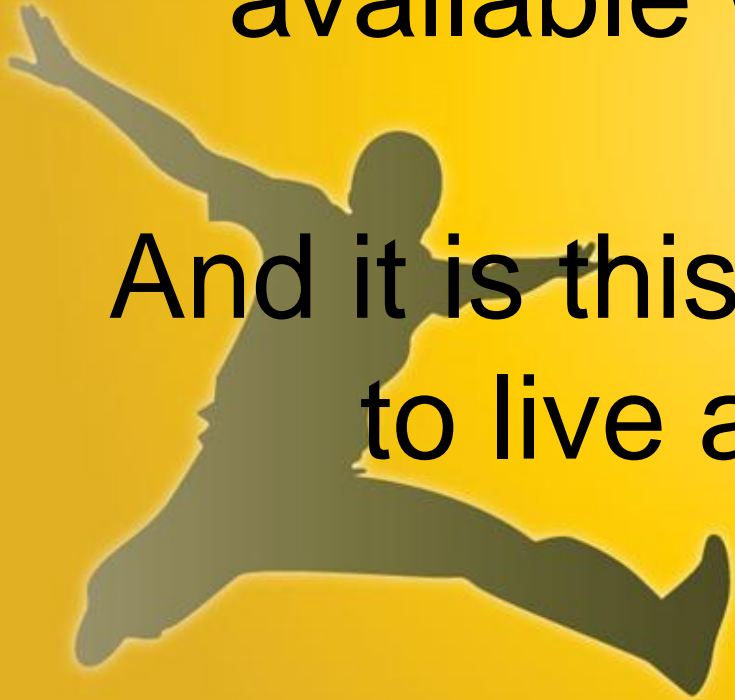
The Holy Spirit, anointing Jesus at his baptism, is now flowing to all mankind.

*I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire*

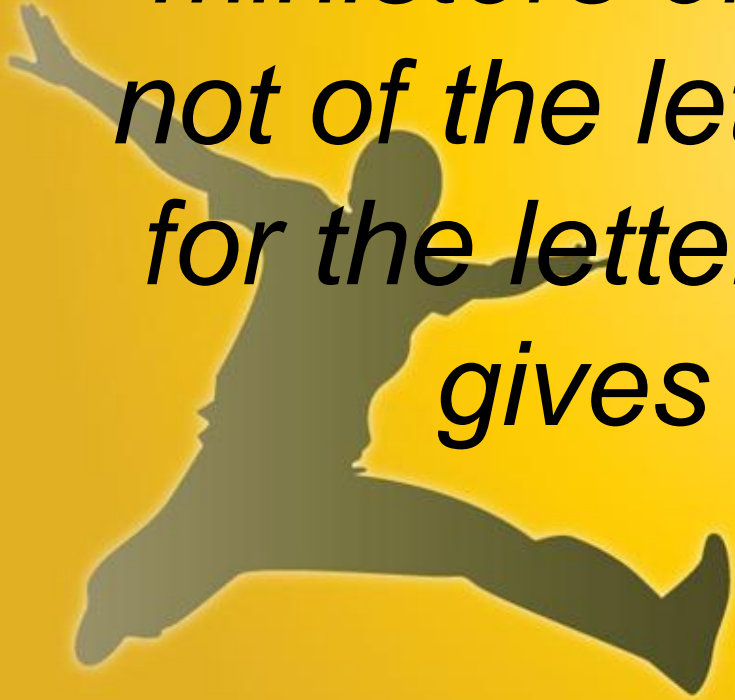


God is NOW TOTALLY  
ACCESSIBLE by His Spirit  
available without limitation!

And it is this Spirit that we need  
to live and minister in.



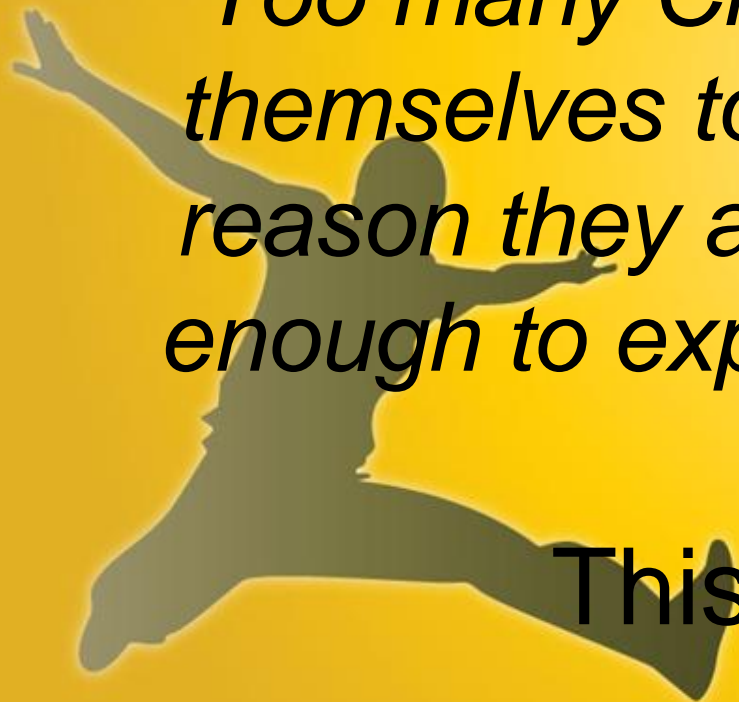
*'He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life'. 2 Corinthians 3:6*




The Anointing of the Holy Spirit is  
for all who believe!

*Too many Christians have allowed  
themselves to believe that for some  
reason they are not entitled or good  
enough to experience the Holy Spirit*

This is not true!!



‘You have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.’



*‘As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you.....’*

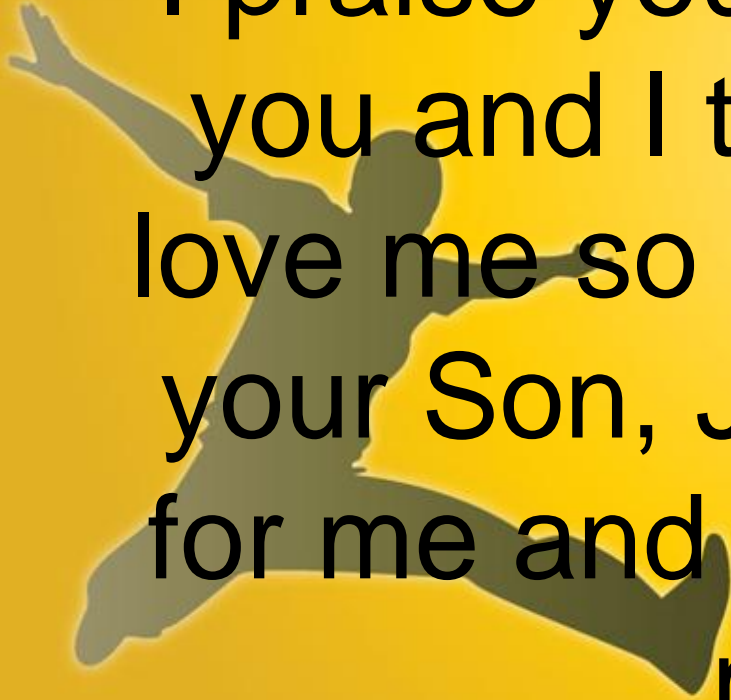
*1 John 2:20,27*

# Handout – about How to Know The Anointing

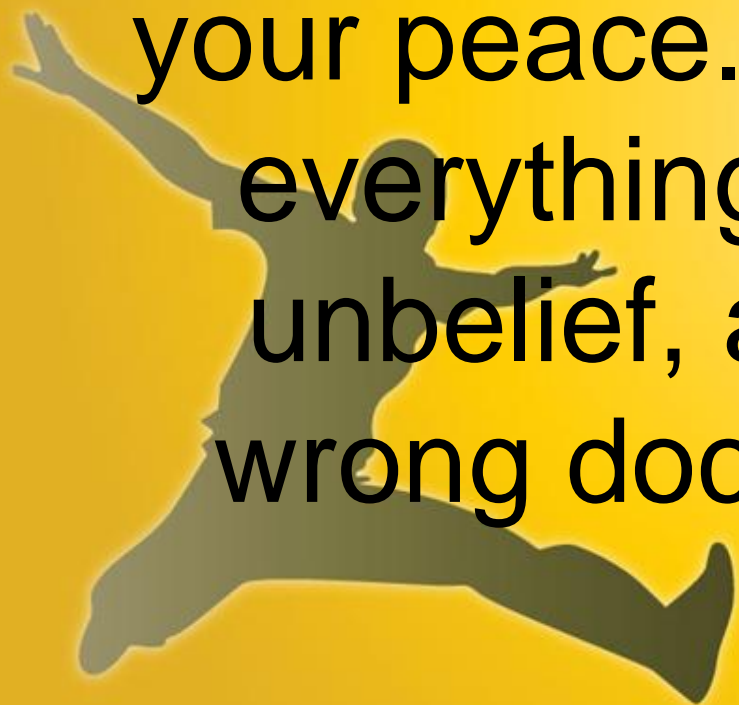


Dear Heavenly Father, I come  
in the name of your Son, Jesus  
Christ.

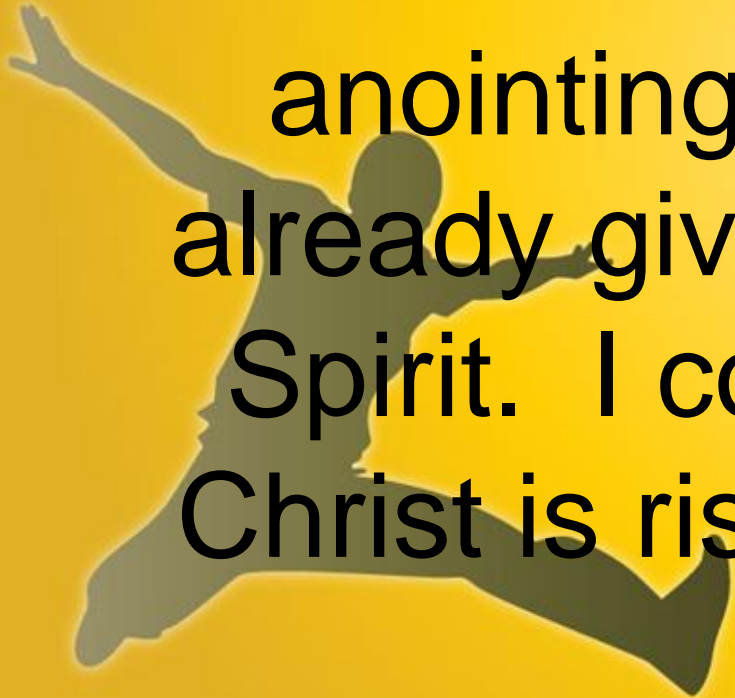
I praise you Lord and worship  
you and I thank you that you  
love me so much that you sent  
your Son, Jesus Christ, to die  
for me and pay the penalty for  
my sins.



I believe that I am reconciled to you through the blood of Jesus Christ and that I have received your peace. I renounce all sin, everything of the occult, all unbelief, all fear, all doubt, wrong doctrine, blockage of mind.



These I renounce in the name  
of Jesus Christ and I ask you  
Lord to let me know that  
anointing which you have  
already given me by the Holy  
Spirit. I confess that Jesus  
Christ is risen from the dead.



**You've got what it takes!**

**The world is facing a crisis.....**



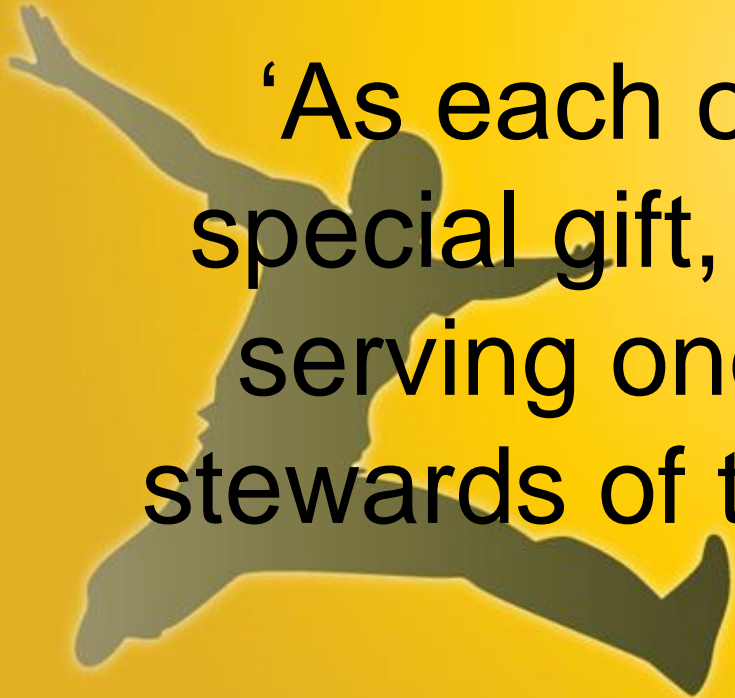
# What God give you

- His written word
- His power
- Equipped you with His Character
- Equipped you with Spiritual Gifts



Spiritual Gifts are special abilities that God gives you to accomplish His work. Rick Yohn

‘As each one has received a special gift, let him employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God’

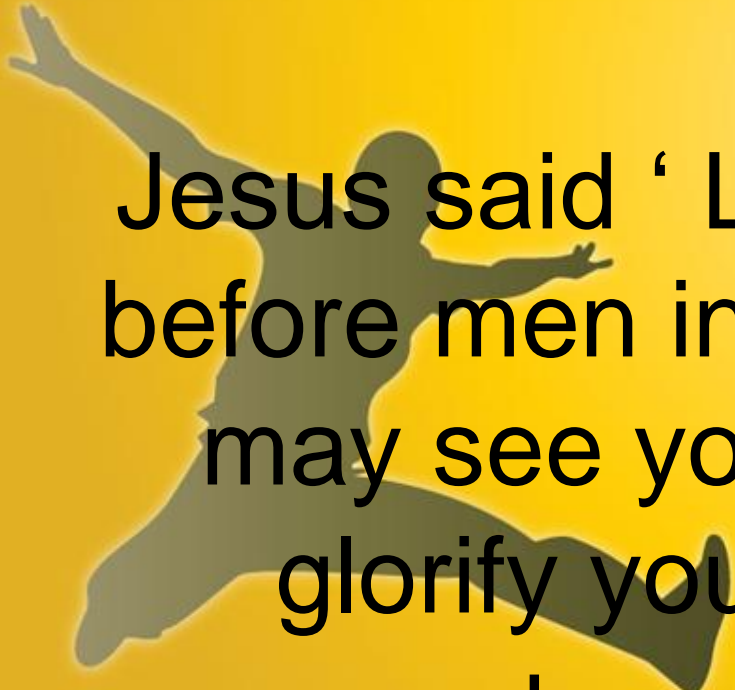


Spiritual Gifts are the possession of every believer, and we are accountable to use them in a way that glorifies God.

Rick Yohn

Jesus said ' Let your light so shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven'.

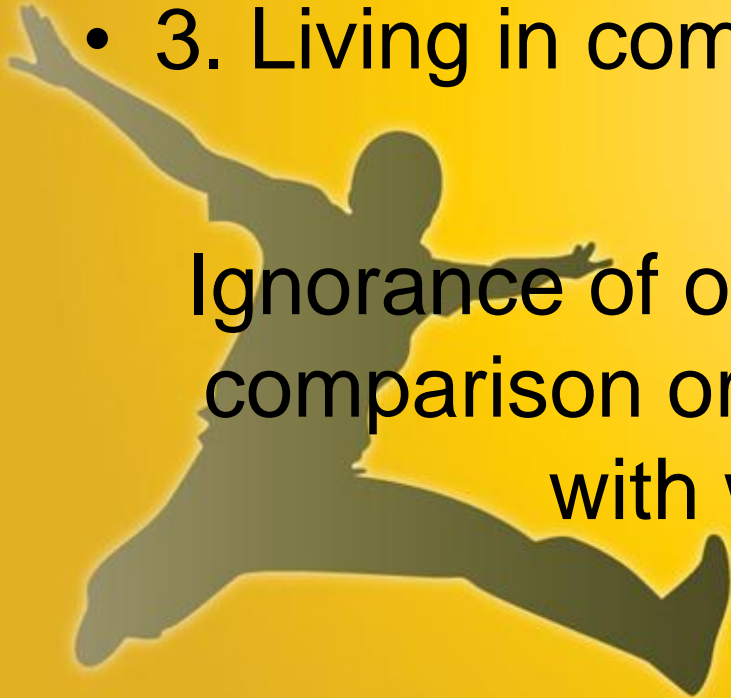
Matthew 5:16



# Challenges facing the Christian

- 1. Unknown potential
- 2. Comparing themselves to each other
- 3. Living in competition

Ignorance of our gifts and an attitude of comparison or competition are problems with which we reckon.



We deal with these problems  
because we have what it takes!

Gods Word, Gods power, Gods  
character, and Gods gifts.

