



**THE
HOLY SPIRIT**
OUR HELPER IN THE MARKETPLACE

✨ "You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed and placed and purposefully planted you, so that you would go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit will remain and be lasting, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name [as My representative] He may give to you." John 15:16 AMP

✨ 'The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord' Isaiah 11:2

Jesus is committed to His agenda and intentionally plants us in various areas in the marketplace, so He has representation in every sector. He is also very intentional about ensuring we represent Him effectively and that we shine and bring Him glory. This is why in addition to planting us, He also empowers us, so we are fully equipped for success in our respective fields. There are different forms of equipment available to us but the most potent key to success in the marketplace is the Holy Spirit.

This series we are looking at 5 ways the Holy Spirit equips us through:

- 🔑 Direction
- 🔑 Instruction
- 🔑 Exposure
- 🔑 Insight
- 🔑 Illumination

We pray that as we go through this series, we see how to lean on the Holy Spirit in every area of our careers/businesses so that we consistently function as the light of the world.

Day 1

Strategic Direction

'The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.' Psalms 32:8

Functioning in the marketplace requires a high level of discernment because we are dealing with people of diverse backgrounds, perspectives and spiritual affiliations. In order to navigate effectively we need the Holy Spirit to handhold us through:

"All right, you may test him," the Lord said to Satan. "Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don't harm him physically." So Satan left the Lord's presence.' Job 1:12

Job was an extremely wealthy man with over 11,000 livestock and at least 500 employees. Very likely working with Job would have been the ambition of many as he was the wealthiest man in the region, but there's no way any of these employees could have known that a conversation took place in the spiritual realm concerning Job which would affect them. Job 1:15-17 details all but 3 of Job's employees died because of this spiritual decision. Life is spiritual and we don't know the spiritual conversations that are constantly occurring, so we need the Holy Spirit to guide us through everything from where to work, who to hire, the sectors to launch into, where to locate our business and much more so we do not become collateral damage.

Then the Lord said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your father and grandfather and to your relatives there, and I will be with you." Genesis 31:3

'For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.' Ecclesiastes 3:1

There's a shelf life for every assignment, job role, business venture or model, but if we're not aware of this, we may miss critical transitions. At times, we stay where we are doing what we're doing because we either don't know it's time to move or we don't know what else to do, or how to go about it. The Holy Spirit's direction helps us navigate these uncertainties so we always know what to do. Even though Jacob had become successful, the Lord told him it was time to relocate as that phase of his career was over. Likewise, the Holy Spirit may be prompting some of us that it's time to start a new phase of our career/business.

Prayer: Holy Spirit please guide me in making the right decisions concerning my career/business. Help me be sensitive to Your leading

Day 2

Strategic Instruction

'The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt, but do as I tell you...When Isaac planted his crops that year, he harvested a hundred times more grain than he planted, for the Lord blessed him. He became a very rich man, and his wealth continued to grow.' Genesis 26:2,12-13

There was a famine in the land (a recession in today's terminology) and Isaac wanted to do the logical thing and go to a seemingly better environment. However, the Lord instructed Him to stay where he was. This could have been quite confusing especially as Isaac looked round and saw all the difficulty around him. Yet because he chose to obey (we always have a choice) in that same year, he prospered and became very wealthy in the middle of a recession.

'...We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.' Colossians 1:9-10

The implication of accepting Jesus as Lord and Saviour is that He gets to say how we live our lives in the way that will be pleasing to Him in all aspects of our lives, especially in the marketplace. Because He cares for and is very intentional about us, He has ensured that every provision we require to succeed is attached to our alignment to His plan for our lives. This means that the instructions we receive may not necessarily appear to align with our external circumstances simply because He is working according to His schedule, not ours.

The famine didn't go away, but Isaac still prospered in the same land. If we don't get specific instructions from the Holy Spirit, we could end up leaving the opportunity that God had designed for us to prosper in simply because of what we see. What Isaac saw wasn't false, there was indeed a famine. However, by obeying the Lord he was functioning from a higher dimension based on instructions from the One who sees the end from the beginning.

Prayer: Lord You know the future better than I ever will. Please give me the instructions that will preserve and prosper me in my career/business. Help me fix my eyes on You and not on what's going on around me so I don't miss what You would have me do.

Day 3

Discerned Exposure

"Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, From the rebellion of the workers of iniquity, Who sharpen their tongue like a sword, And bend their bows to shoot their arrows—bitter words, That they may shoot in secret at the blameless; Suddenly they shoot at him and do not fear." Psalms 64:2-4

Jesus made it clear in Matthew 10:16 that He was sending us out as sheep amongst wolves. This means that we are daily engaging with individuals, systems and structures that are predatory in nature. But not all "wolves" are obvious, so what the Holy Spirit does for us is to protect us from what we may not be aware of. Remember we are called to shine as light, however not everyone will be pleased with this light as it may challenge what they are doing.

"For even your brothers, the house of your father, Even they have dealt treacherously with you; Yes, they have called a multitude after you. Do not believe them, Even though they speak smooth words to you" Jeremiah 12:6

Not all confrontations will be obvious, and not everyone that seeks to get close to us has good intentions. It takes the help of the Holy Spirit to discern when those speaking "smooth words" have negative intentions. This is why it's important to stay in the place of fellowship with the Holy Spirit, with a clear conscience and clean hands (meaning we are not also involved in trying to bring others down) so He can show us what is really going on and how to respond.

"...After saying these things, Jesus went away and was hidden from them." John 12:36

"So He Himself *often* withdrew into the wilderness and prayed" Luke 5:16

It's not everyone we must give audience. Jesus dealt with a lot of people and He also with The Holy Spirit lets us know who to let into our space and share our plans so we do not expose ourselves unduly by sharing our next move, business plans etc with. Discernment keeps us from exposing ourselves unduly to those who don't have clean intentions towards us.

Prayer: Lord give me a high level of perception so I discern who to permit into my space. Expose any plans against me and grant me the wisdom to navigate the marketplace effectively

Day 4 Insight

"There is a man in your kingdom who has within him the spirit of the holy gods. During Nebuchadnezzar's reign, this man was found to have insight, understanding, and wisdom like that of the gods. Your predecessor, the king—your predecessor King Nebuchadnezzar—made him chief over all the magicians, enchanters, astrologers, and fortune-tellers of Babylon." Daniel 5:11

Insight tells us why something is happening, the underlying factors impacting the outcome we are seeing or expect to see. When insight is absent, we will function based on superficial information, which will lead us to being reactionary - always responding to what has happened, rather than influencing the outcome we want to see. When King Belshazzar needed the interpretation of the handwriting on the wall, Daniel not only interpreted, he also provided insight into what the words meant and the implications for Belshazzar and his kingdom. When we have insight into the marketplace, trends, opportunities, we know how to position in advance for what is to come. We also know why some things work and others don't so we don't repeat the same mistakes.

"He explained to me, "Daniel, I have come here to give you insight and understanding." Daniel 9:22

"Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising." Isaiah 60:1-3

When we function with insight we are able to consistently provide tangible and lasting solutions and perspectives that will have a positive impact. This was one of the factors that differentiated Daniel, making him relevant across different administrations. As the world becomes increasingly darker, uncertainty and ambiguity will continue to increase. Individuals, companies, nations are all seeking insight because most projections are made on assumptions that can change in the blink of an eye. This is our opportunity as children of light to bring insight sponsored by the Holy Spirit. As we do so others will be drawn to us and give glory to our Father because it'll be clear that His involvement is present.

Prayer: Lord please give me insight and understanding regarding the challenges and opportunities around me so the solutions You provide through me will draw people to You.

Day 5 Illumination in Darkness

"This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all." 1 John 1:5

The Holy Spirit's presence brings light to every situation. When we actively engage Him, we receive His light which brings clarity, enlightenment, and light to every dark area. This means that any area where we lack clarity, understanding or where any form of darkness is present is an area that requires the Holy Spirit's illumination.

"Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light." Genesis 1:3

Light doesn't automatically show up, we have to intentionally call it forth. Whenever we encounter darkness in any form, we shouldn't keep quiet and accept it. We have access to the source of all light and when light comes darkness has no choice but to leave. However if we don't leverage our access, we run the risk of becoming overwhelmed by what should be yielding to us. Imagine being in a dark room with 100 lightbulbs waiting to be turned on, regardless of the number or power of the bulbs, no light will come until we flip the light switch. Light must be activated for it to shine.

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14,16

"And this Light never fails to shine through darkness— Light that darkness could not overcome!" John 1:5 TPT

Not only do we have access to light, because we are temples of the Holy Spirit, as carriers of light we're mandated by Jesus to let His light in us shine beyond our lives so that our Father in heaven gets the glory. Meaning when there's a complex or complicated situation in our company, business or nation, we should be the ones bringing the solution. Where there's chaos we should be the ones bringing order. Where there's confusion, we should be the ones bringing clarity. Wherever darkness exists in any form, we are meant to bring God's light to the situation. Because darkness cannot withstand light, the light we shine must change the situation for the better.

Prayer: Lord let Your light illuminate every area of darkness in and around me, please let my life shine Your light so people give You glory.

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