

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Accessing All God Has For Us



“Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.”” Ephesians 5:14

There’s a phenomenon known as sleepwalking, when a person is asleep but goes through the motions of performing an activity. Similarly it’s possible for us to be asleep in the spirit, going through motions but not making tangible progress. Oftentimes it’s lack of spiritual awakening that leads to us not attaining the fullness of all God has for us. What does awakening mean?

- ✦ The act of awaking from sleep
- ✦ A revival of interest or attention
- ✦ A recognition, realization, or coming into awareness of something

The Lord recognises the importance of an awakened spirit this season in enabling us to can fully partake in all He has already prepared for us. Join us this series to partner with the Holy Spirit as He guides us into a spiritual awakening that will transform our lives and destinies.

Day 1

Dimensions of Awakening

“...Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” Ephesians 5:14

The Bible likens those who are spiritually asleep to those who are dead. Such a person cannot receive anything Jesus has for them, or perceive anything the Holy Spirit. This state of slumber is particularly dangerous because it's equated with darkness. As it's difficult to find a pathway in the dark is how difficult it will be for someone in a state of spiritual slumber to find and walk in the ways of God.

“Then the angel who had been talking with me returned and woke me, as though I had been asleep.” Zechariah 4:1

As dangerous as total slumber is, partial slumber could be deemed more dangerous as the person's spirit isn't totally asleep, there are still many things that the spirit cannot access. Zechariah had to be awakened even though he was already engaging an angel in a lengthy, deep spiritual encounter. This suggests to us that awakening is in levels and dimensions. Some may be completely asleep spiritually, yet some who are awake need to be awakened to greater dimensions.

“For God speaks again and again, though people do not recognize it.” Job 33:14

God is always speaking to our spirit, but if the spirit is asleep, it won't be able to hear God and access His instructions, warnings, etc. This makes it critical as we engage the Lord in prayer to always pray that He wakes us up from any form slumber that is holding us back. As slumber in the natural can rob us of making maximum use of the hours in the day productively, spiritual slumber limits how much of God we can access and lead to a lack awareness of what's going on around us.

Prayer: Lord wake me up from every form of slumber that's holding me back from receiving all You have for me and becoming all You created me to be

Day 2

Awakening and illumination

“I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

Jesus told us that we would face many challenges in our journey of life, but those challenges don't have the power to overcome us. Our ability to rise above the challenges of life is directly connected to our level of awakening. An unawakened spirit is likened to a person lying prostrate and it's inevitable that someone in such a position becomes overwhelmed with the issues of life that will definitely arise.

“ARISE [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you—rise to a new life]! Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! [Zech. 8:23.]” Isaiah 60:1 AMPC

Two of the things that happen when our spirit is awakened is that we are able to arise from a place of depression, frustration, and other things that the troubles of life have led us to feel. What makes the difference isn't that the issue goes away, rather we are able to see the light the Holy Spirit brings and from there receive strength to address the situations. The first step to receiving light is arising: determining within ourselves to pay attention to the state of our spirit so that we can walk in the fullness of all Jesus paid for and all God designed us to be.

“You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.” Matthew 5:14

When we walk in light we receive illumination not only for ourselves but for others as well. As believers we are meant to bring light in every area we find ourselves: personal, professional, social, etc. The light that an awakened spirit carries brightens the path for others as it points back to Jesus.

Prayer: Lord wake my spirit up so I can arise and shine as I carry Your light. Let every area of my life receive light in increasing measure. Help me fulfill my mandate as the light of the world, pointing all back to Jesus.



Day 3

Awakened Ears

'The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.' Isaiah 50:4

Just as our physical body has multiple senses, our spirit also has senses designed to empower us to live optimally. One of the key senses is our hearing. Because God doesn't speak to our mind but to our spirit, it's important to have ears that can hear what He is saying. The same way people can be hard of hearing naturally, it's also possible to have dull hearing or even be totally deaf spiritually.

'He who has ears to hear, let him hear!' Matthew 13:9

Jesus often ended His parables with the statement above which tells us two things. One is that not everyone has ears, second is that even those who have ears may not hear what the spirit is saying. This is a good place to note that we may have ears for our body and soul (emotions, intellect), but only a person who has accepted Jesus as Lord and saviour will hear what the Holy Spirit is saying, because it must be spiritually discerned.

"You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you." Acts 7:51

'For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers' 2 Timothy 4:3

Having accepted the gift of our salvation, we still need to exercise our spirit to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying. This happens in spending time in the word of God, prayer, meditation, obedience and fellowship with the Holy Spirit. When we neglect these, we develop what the Bible calls uncircumcised or itchy ears. With our ears awakened, we will receive the guidance, instructions and where necessary rebuke from the Holy Spirit as He works with us to become more like Jesus. In His guidance and instructions come the information we need for our promotion, protection, preservation, prosperity and so much more.

Prayer: Lord deliver me from dullness of hearing, awaken my ears to consistently hear You.



Day 4

Precision Listening

“If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.” Then He said to them, “Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given. For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.” Mark 4:23-25

Having our ears awakened requires us to pay attention to what and how we hear. Life is very noisy with many different voices speaking to us all vying for our attention. Knowing this, one of the things we must be mindful of is that the voices we pay more attention to will be multiplied and amplified. Meaning that we will always hear more of what we choose to focus on and it will keep getting louder until anything else is drowned out.

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” John 10:27

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17

One of the benefits of having an awakened ear is the ability to recognise when the Holy Spirit is speaking to us and being able to distinguish His voice from that of others. The Holy Spirit has many ways through which He speaks to us, but His primary channel is through the Bible. When our ears are awakened, spending time in the word of God becomes exciting because we have an expectation of an encounter - a passage we have read multiple times may suddenly “come alive” and address the situation we’re in at the time or shape our perspective concerning a matter.

Prayer: Lord awaken my ears to hear You speak to me when I spend time in Your word. Let my Bible study be a time of encounter with You so I grow in recognising Your voice and following Your direction.

Day 5

Prospering God's Priorities

"...And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand." Isaiah 53:10

Have you ever had someone buy you a gift you don't really like and had to grudgingly but courteously accept? The buyer of the gift very likely had the best intentions, but because he/she doesn't know you very well it was difficult to get a gift that would please you. That's the way it is with us and God. There are times we have wonderful intentions and genuinely wasn't to please God, but we may inadvertently even displease Him because we don't know what He was to from us at the time.

"And the one who sent me is with me—he has not deserted me. For I always do what pleases him." John 8:29

"For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Colossians 1:9-10

Jesus showed us how to walk experientially in a way that always pleased God. Apostle Paul also gave us insight into how not only to know what God wants, but to also please Him in everything we do. The keys to this are found in praying to know His will and for the spirit of wisdom and understanding to execute His will according to His plan. When our spirits are awakened one of the things we can access is the mind of God which lets us know His priorities at the time. This keeps us aligned to God's will, protects us from presumption and offending the one we want to please.

Recall when David wanted to build a temple for God, his heart was in the right place and anyone hearing this ambition would probably applaud him as Nathan the prophet initially did. But God made it very clear to Nathan that David's plan wasn't what He wanted (2 Sam:7). Which means had David gone ahead, he'd actually have offended God. We pray we don't inadvertently take actions that will hinder our relationship with God and restrict access to His will.

Prayer: Lord let my spirit be awakened to know Your will per time. Let Your pleasure prosper in my hands and let my life consistently bear the good fruit You seek from it.

Day 6

Delivering Supernatural Results

“Whenever the king consulted them in any matter requiring wisdom and balanced judgment, he found them ten times more capable than any of the magicians and enchanters in his entire kingdom.” Daniel 1:20

The human spirit is a great asset because of its inherent God-given capacity. This is what enables people come up with great investing and innovations. As good as this is, an awakened spirit in partnership with the Holy Spirit is able to achieve supernatural results because the power is coming from an unlimited resource.

The Hebrew boys were slaves just like many others, however through their consistency in developing their spiritual senses, through consecration, fasting and prayer, the results they generated far outweighed any of their peers in a multitude of areas and on a long term basis. This tells us that no matter how well we may be doing now, there’s much more available in every area of our lives.

“Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.” Ephesians 3:20

“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.” Genesis 26:2;12

Isaac was in an economy that was facing a severe recession, and he planned to relocate to greener pastures - a very logical thing to do. However, Isaac was able to receive God’s instruction to his spirit which he obeyed even though it appeared counter intuitive. It was this obedience that led to Isaac’s business generating supernatural results of such a magnitude that it moved him to a new dimension of prosperity. Had Isaac missed or ignored God’s instruction and gone to Egypt, he may have done well, but it wouldn’t been at the quantum of what he experienced through trust and obedience.

Prayer: Lord awaken my spirit to all You have for me and all You’ve designed me for. Let my life be a platform that showcases Your glory.



Day 7

Unshakeable Boldness

“I can do all things [which He has called me to do] through Him who strengthens and empowers me [to fulfill His purpose—I am self-sufficient in Christ’s sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace.]” Philippians 4:13 AMP

There’s a realisation that comes with an awakened spirit of the fact that as believers we are “containers” carrying God’s Spirit. And as carriers of His Spirit, we are already endowed with supernatural capacity to do all we’ve been designed to do. The question is how much room do we give the Holy Spirit to fill our container?

The Bible tells us that we can and should rely on Christ’s sufficiency as He more than covers for any gaps we may have. And not only that, He infuses us with His strength and peace, which should spur boldness in us as we take steps of faith. The key to accessing this victory lies in walking according to His purpose. It’s important to draw the distinction that the Holy Spirit is focused on empowering to fulfil God’s will God’s way, not necessarily our own desires. Once we are aligned with Him, we are unstoppable.

“But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.”
1 John 4:4

“But the Lord stands beside me like a great warrior. Before him my persecutors will stumble. They cannot defeat me. They will fail and be thoroughly humiliated. Their dishonor will never be forgotten.” Jeremiah 20:11

Alignment with God is a game changer because we know that we have the greater Spirit in us, assuring us of victory regardless of the numerous challenges we may face. We also know that nothing can bring us down because God is jealously watching over us. Yes, there will be challenges but they only serve as a training ground to build us up in the spirit as we ascend levels of awakening.

Prayer: Lord thank You for reminding me that I don’t walk alone. Thank You for reminding me that with You I am unstoppable in achieving Your purpose for my life.



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