Day 5







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Prayer





Shod Your Feet with The Gospel of Peace





Everywhere we go or whatever we do, we now have the power of the Holy Spirit within us, we clearly see the opportunities to bring the Good News Gospel of Jesus Christ into our own lives and into the lives others.



Obstacles in our path are turned into opportunities...





What is the Gospel of Peace?

Gospel is the story of Christ's life and teachings, esp. as contained in the first four books of the New Testament, namely Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

In Spiritual warfare it is like strong sturdy foot gear that keeps us steady and moving forward on our Christian journey and our call in life.





Gospel of peace is the Good News of Jesus Christ, meaning:

- First and foremost complete SALVATION from sin and death.
- Continual forgiveness and freedom from all bondages.
- Healing everywhere we hurt.
- Righteousness and abundant living.
- Peace that surpasses all understanding.
- Joy that knows no bounds.

• The perfect Love that fills our void to overflowing. It is that Kingdom of God found within and around us – choosing the "effective will of God" in ourselves and to all in our sphere of influence.





As Spiritual warriors, in a Kingdom where surrender to Jesus Christ is the key, our part is to walk in that Peace each day throughout every opportunity that comes into our path.

Obstacles versus Opportunities

Opportunity is defined as a *favorable occasion when we have the option of making a decision that could have a positive impact*.

While we all experience obstacles in our day-to-day lives, it is the Holy Spirit led Believer that sees obstacles as opportunities.





The challenge is the approach to the obstacles.

THE KEY: Remember, it is not in our own power, but in Christ's power that He enables us to walk victoriously.

1. How do we discern or perceive the situation?

a) In Numbers 13 – 14, when a member of each of the 12 tribes of the Israelites were called to check out the land God had promised them, all but Caleb and Joshua, saw the situation as impossible. The negative opinion of the 10 caused a rebellion among the people. They failed to realize that God does not operate from our limited human perspective. They suffered faith failure, as a result of fear.





b) As Believers in Jesus Christ, we have the renewal of the mind, our perspective is not based on our limited natural abilities, but rather on God's supernatural power. Our part is whole hearted commitment to obey.

2. How do we know what to say or do?

- a) Sensitivity to the still small voice of the Holy Spirit reveals insight that we would never achieve otherwise. A divine connection for a divine opportunity.
- b) We are given not only faith, but the words, as we are used as instruments of peace. Out intellect, our pride, our knowledge has nothing to do with this victory. Example: Apostle Paul in Greece.





c) Since this is a divine appointment it is through God that we are given direction what to say, what not say, or when to say something in due season.

3. If we are not surrendered, we cannot be used.

a) We are in a battle that is going on in the spiritual realms.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12

b) Jesus is the Lord of our lives. While it is up to us not to ignore God-given opportunities, our perfect surrender is required to step out in faith.





4. Jesus is our way-maker, the fountain of living waters.

a) We possess spiritual gifts which we can use to ignite the Gospel of Peace in the lives of others.

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. **1 Corinthians 12: 7-11**





- b) The Lord gives us everything we need to do what He calls us to do.
- 5. The battle belongs to God, our part is to stay in line with His will and His way.
 - a) It is in keeping our priority to God first that He fills us with the unconditional love He has for others. In other words, God loves others (whoever they might be) just as much as He loves us. Our motives are pure.
 - b) To be used as instruments of this perfect love in seamless servant hood to others reflects His love for them.
 - c) This reaches beyond all barriers!



Since we live by faith, and not by fear, opportunities on the onset may be disguised in obstacles of inconvenience, difficulties, or even danger.

This is where the **power of prayer** takes us beyond our natural inclinations of self preservation into the realm of supernatural instruments of peace. From self-serving to God-serving for the greater glory of His Kingdom without end.



Opportunities Abound

The Process: We all think we are going through this process to get to the end, constantly looking to the end, when **to God the process itself is the end**. In other words, *"It is the little things that count."*







How close are your opportunities?

Acres of Diamonds Story





Opportunities Abound

Examples of potential divine opportunities:

- Time given to an elderly relative or a neighbor.
- Patience in a check-out line when you find yourself in a hurry.
- Paying attention to your children or young people that cross your path.
- Listening to a spouse, whether you agree or not.
- Taking the extra step to help someone with the gifts you have been given.
- Stepping away from a group that have fallen into gossip.

Giving of your time, your talent, and your treasures



Opportunities Abound

The idea is to remain in a state of Christ-centered servant leadership. This translates into a ripple effect of God's perfect love.

Our heavenly Father impart to us more treasures than we could have ever imagined –riches in pearls of wisdom, sapphires of serenity, rubies of restoration, emeralds of endurance, diamonds of truth and a heart refined like gold.

"...there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing." 2 Timothy 4:8







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