

WHEN

I

SEND

YOU

YOU

GO

WITH

POWER

When I Send You, Go with Power – Ps Paul Stead

Chapter 1 – Commissioned with Authority

“This is the day the Lord has made. We shall rejoice and be glad in it. Hallelujah.”

That is more than a line we recite; it is a reality to live from. God causes us always to live in triumph. Yet many times the battle feels like it’s in the mind. You wake up oppressed, as if there’s a convoy of trucks parked on your head. The heaviness sets the whole atmosphere.

But here’s the truth: you don’t need to put up with it. The Word says to exchange the garment of heaviness for the garment of praise, and when you do, the heaviness lifts.

David understood this. When Saul was tormented by a demon, David was called into the palace to play his harp. As he worshipped, the presence of God came, and the torment lifted from Saul. That is the power of praise. It changes the atmosphere, it breaks oppression, and it brings peace.

Authority Over Oppression

Never forget to praise the Lord. In all things, give thanks. God did not bring heaviness to weigh you down, but He has given you authority to push it back. Jesus gave us His name so we can stand against every form of oppression and command it to leave.

You might ask, “What kind of authority do I really have?” Think of a police officer. Without the uniform, he is just another man in the street. He could wave his arms to stop a truck, but who would recognize him? Yet when he puts on the uniform, drivers stop. Not because of the man himself, but because of the authority that uniform represents.

It is the same with us. When Christ sends us, He clothes us with authority. We don’t go in our own name; we go in His. And when we go in His authority, the enemy recognizes it and must yield.

Sent and Supplied

In Luke 22, Jesus asked His disciples, “When I sent you out empty-handed, did you lack anything?” Their answer was, “Not a thing. God provided all we needed.”

That’s the principle of commissioning. If you are sent, you will be supplied. Jesus never gives an assignment without the authority and provision to carry it out.

But notice this: His commissions are always specific. In Matthew 10, He gathered the twelve, imparted authority to heal sickness and cast out demons, and then gave them clear instructions — go to the lost sheep of Israel, not to the Gentiles or Samaritans.

Why? Because territories matter. Just as there are local, state, and federal governments in the natural, there are principalities, powers, and rulers in the spiritual. Each operates over a territory. And where you live is part of that spiritual landscape. Your commission is to bring the light of Christ into your territory until His kingdom is established there.

The Kingdom is Accessible

And what message were the disciples told to preach? “Heaven’s kingdom realm is accessible.”

It’s not locked away, it’s not distant. It is near enough to touch. And the evidence of that kingdom looks like healing the sick, casting out demons, even raising the dead.

“Freely you have received, freely give.” They didn’t need to pack extra clothes or take money for the road. Why? Because when God sends, He provides. The worker is worthy of His provision.

Empowered, Not Empty

Paul echoed this in his letter to Timothy: “Live your life empowered by God’s free-flowing grace.” Grace is not just unmerited favor — it is God’s power working in and through you by the Holy Spirit.

It’s like a car. You can own it, polish it, and park it in the driveway, but without fuel it won’t move. In the same way, you may have the commission, but without empowerment you cannot fulfill it. That’s why we must continually “plug in” to God’s presence.

Paul reminded Timothy to stir up the gift within him, to fan it into flame. Fear was trying to grip him, but fear is not from God. Fear, anxiety, and stress are spiritual forces that enslave. Instead, the Holy Spirit gives us power, love, and self-control. That is the equipment needed for the commission.

Running the Race Lawfully

Paul also compared ministry to a race in 1 Corinthians 9. All runners compete, but not all run lawfully. Some are sent; others just went. There’s a difference.

Many people do things in the name of the Lord — missions, miracles, even impressive works — but Jesus’ question is simple: “Who sent you?” When you are sent, you carry heaven’s authority. When you just go, you carry your own ambition.

That is why it’s not enough to start in the Spirit; we must also finish in the Spirit. Peter stepped out on the water by faith, but when he turned his attention to the wind and waves, he began to sink. Fear and pride will always tempt us to take back control. But faith is certainty in God’s integrity. Faith says, *If He promised it, He will do it.*

God Knows Where You Are

And here is the anchor: Jesus knows exactly where you are. He ever lives to intercede for you. Right now, He is praying on your behalf. That is your assurance.

Even when circumstances feel overwhelming, like the fiery furnace faced by Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, God is present. He has not lost track of you. You are commissioned, you are supplied, and you are never alone.

Takeaways – Chapter 1

- Heaviness is broken by praise; worship shifts atmospheres and brings freedom.
- Jesus commissions with both assignment and authority; without His sending, there is no power.

- Territories matter — both natural and spiritual — and every believer is sent to establish light in their region.
- The kingdom of heaven is accessible now; healing, deliverance, and miracles are evidence of its reality.
- Provision follows the commission; trust God for everything you need.
- Grace is empowerment through the Holy Spirit, not just unmerited favor.
- Fear is a spirit, not from God; the Holy Spirit gives power, love, and self-control.
- The key question is not what you did, but who sent you.
- Jesus knows exactly where you are and intercedes for you in every trial.

Chapter 2 – Running the Race with Self-Control

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stood in the fire because they refused to bow down to idols. They did the right thing, yet it looked as though they were about to die for it. But in the very furnace of destruction, God turned up. He didn't just deliver them — He converted the heart of a whole nation through their faithfulness.

This is what it looks like to run the race with your eyes fixed on God.

Running to Win

Paul writes that all runners compete, but only one receives the victor's prize. That doesn't mean the kingdom is stingy; it means our attitude must be right. We don't run casually. We don't run to simply make up the numbers. We run to win.

And what does "winning" look like in the kingdom? It looks like seeing someone saved. It looks like the sick healed, bills paid, families restored, and lives set free. If our eyes are not fixed on breakthrough — if we aren't looking for victory to manifest in real people's lives — then we are running with the wrong attitude.

The parable of the talents illustrates this. One man received his talent and buried it. He never entered the race, never put his gift to work. His end was dismal because he chose safety over faithfulness.

The Discipline of Self-Control

Paul likens the life of faith to that of an athlete. "A true athlete," he says, "is disciplined in every respect, practicing constant self-control in order to win." Earthly athletes push their bodies for a crown that fades, but we run for a victor's crown that lasts forever.

On that day when rewards are given, crowns are received. And those crowns are not just trophies — they are worship. We will cast them at the feet of Jesus, declaring, "Apart from You, I couldn't have done this." He, in turn, places the honor back on us, and we will wear that recognition for eternity.

This is why Paul longed to hear the words: “Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord.” The promise is that faithful ones will be made rulers over territories in the eternal kingdom. Heaven is not sitting on clouds with wings and harps. It is governance, rulership, and responsibility in the eternal adventure with Christ.

Training Like a Champion

Self-control is not an optional extra. Without it, we drift into worry, anxiety, and stress. These open the door to weakness and even sickness. Anxiety plummets the immune system. Stress talks you into defeat before the battle has even begun.

But self-control pulls us back to truth. It teaches us to rise after failure and do better next time. Don't buy real estate in defeat — move out of that territory. Run to win the eternal crown.

Paul says, “I don't run aimlessly or box like one beating the air. I discipline my body and bring it under control.” Our bodies make demands, but they are not to be in charge. Like an athlete in training, we learn to put the desires of the flesh beneath the desires of the Spirit.

It's foolish to attempt dangerous feats without training. Soldiers in special forces go through rigorous preparation before they're sent into battle. In the same way, it is unwise to throw ourselves into ventures without prayer, wisdom, and the empowerment of the Spirit. Self-control pauses, assesses, and commits every step to God. Then we move forward “not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit.”

The Fruit of the Spirit

Self-control is not produced by sheer willpower. It is the fruit of the Spirit. Jesus said in John 14 that when He returned to the Father, the Holy Spirit would be sent to us. The Spirit would be to us everything Jesus was to the disciples.

But here is the key — we must engage Him. If we ignore Him, we quench and resist Him. Worry, stress, and anxiety are signs we have done just that. The Holy Spirit longs to guide us through trials, to provide resources, and to reveal God's glory. But if we push Him aside, we cut ourselves off from the very help we need.

God takes pleasure in answering our prayers. He delights in it. Think of Paul and Silas in the Philippian jail. Chained in the darkest dungeon, they chose to pray and praise. Heaven responded. God shook the prison with an earthquake, opening every door and setting the captives free. That's what happens when we choose to engage the Spirit instead of giving in to fear.

Choosing the Spirit's Way

Anxiety, worry, and stress belong to the devil's atmosphere. Peace, joy, and love in the Holy Ghost belong to God's. You must choose which you will live in.

God is not going to leave you in your anxious state. He will deliver you. He sets a table of victory even in the presence of your enemies. But you must lift up your eyes, fan into flame the gift of the Spirit within you, and draw on the power of the Holy Spirit.

Paul reminded Timothy: “God has not given you a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control.” That fruit of the Spirit is already available — we simply need to yield our minds and hearts to Him.

Assigned People, Assigned Territories

When Jesus asked His disciples, “Did you lack anything when I sent you out?” He was not just reminding them of provision. He was pointing them back to assignment. He had sent them on a specific mission to specific territories.

God does not send you to everyone. There are people marked with your name — people He has destined you to reach. That’s why prayer matters. James 5:16 says the fervent prayer of a righteous person makes tremendous power available. Elijah was a man just like us, subject to the same weaknesses, yet his prayers shifted nations.

The key is not to chase power for its own sake. Simon the sorcerer sought power to elevate himself, and Peter rebuked him sharply. Power is never the goal. Relationship with the Holy Spirit is. The Spirit works in and through you according to the unique design God has placed in your life, manifesting His love where others are in need.

This is not about collecting spiritual weapons for personal glory. It is about union with the Spirit, partnership with heaven, and submission to the Father. Jesus prayed in John 17 that we would be one with Him as He is one with the Father. That unity is where kingdom power flows.

But power without character is dangerous. Many start well, moving in the gifts, but finish poorly because they never developed depth of union with the Spirit. They followed the gift and neglected the fruit. The Spirit is looking for those who will remain submitted, so His work can be authenticated by heaven.

Takeaways – Chapter 2

- Faithfulness in the fire brings not only deliverance but also influence over nations.
- We run the race to win, looking for victory to manifest in people’s lives.
- Self-control is essential; without it, worry and anxiety open the door to defeat.
- Crowns are eternal rewards given for faithfulness, to be cast at Jesus’ feet in worship.
- Heaven is not idleness but rulership and adventure with Christ.
- The Holy Spirit must be engaged daily; ignoring Him leads to stress and fear.
- Prayer releases God’s power; righteousness positions us to partner with Him.
- True power flows from union with the Spirit, not from chasing gifts or recognition.
- Start with the Spirit, stay with the Spirit, and finish with the Spirit.

Chapter 3 – Union with Christ

Paul’s words in Galatians 2:20 cut to the very heart of the Christian life:

“My old identity has been co-crucified with Christ and no longer lives. The essence of this new life is no longer mine, for the Anointed One lives His life through me. We live in union as one. My new

life is empowered by the faith of the Son of God, who loves me so much that He gave Himself for me, dispensing His life into mine.”

This is not poetic language. This is the reality of union with Christ.

Becoming One

1 Corinthians 6:17 says we have become one spirit with the Lord. Salvation is not simply a ticket to heaven; it is the union of your spirit with His. And just as salvation is immediate, the working out of that salvation in our souls — our personality, will, and daily decisions — is a process of learning to walk in that union.

Marriage is a fitting picture. When a man marries, he becomes one flesh with his wife. From that moment on, he can no longer make decisions as if he is single. He must consider her, for every choice affects both of them.

In the same way, when we received Christ, we chose by our free will to enter into union with Him. We are no longer our own. We bear His name, His vision, and His purposes. To ignore Him in our daily decisions is to act as if we were still single, living for ourselves.

This union requires communication. Just as a husband and wife must talk and agree before moving forward, so we must invite the Holy Spirit into every decision. “Holy Spirit, I give You permission to teach me, to lead me, to bring me into this union.” That simple prayer shifts us from striving in our own strength to walking by His Spirit.

The Pearl of Great Price

When you first encountered Jesus, He was the pearl of great price. Like a man who sells all he has to buy that field, you saw Him as worth everything. You walked the aisle, said “I do,” and gave Him your life.

But just as marriage comes with the daily reality of two lives learning to live as one, so too does our union with Christ. He is with us 24/7. There is no separation. For some, this feels restrictive, but in truth, it is the deepest treasure of life.

If there is war in your union — whether in a marriage or with Christ — home becomes the last place you want to go. But when unity is nurtured, it becomes your refuge. That is why Paul repeats: your old identity has been crucified. Do not resurrect it. Leave it buried. The new life is Christ living through you.

Framing Your World

Genesis 1 shows us how God created the universe. He first formed the vision within Himself, then He spoke it into being. Hebrews 11:3 says He framed the world by His words. His words carried the construct of what He had already envisioned.

We do the same in daily life. Before tackling a project — repairing a carport, extending a chicken coop — we think it through, see the process, and then speak it out. Our words frame our reality.

That is why negative confessions are so destructive. “I’ll never be better than this. My life will never change.” Those words paint the world you will live in. Instead, frame your future with God’s promises: “My home is a place of peace, love, and joy. I am healthy, protected, blessed, and a blessing to others.”

What you say matters, because it builds the environment you inhabit.

Union in Daily Life

Union with Christ doesn't erase your personality; it transforms it. Just as a husband and wife learn to adjust to one another, so your desires and His will sometimes collide. The flesh wants one thing, the Spirit desires another. That tension is real.

Even in small things — like food preferences — the principle holds. Ps Paul joked about how his wife Helen loves fish, but a childhood trauma with a fishbone left him avoiding it. Their union meant compromise, sometimes two meals cooked instead of one. In the same way, our union with Christ means surrender. There are times our flesh pulls one way, but the Spirit calls another. And the Spirit must win if union is to flourish.

The Trinity at Work

Creation reveals how Father, Son, and Spirit operate together. The Father is the dreamer, the planner, the one who conceives the vision. The Son is the Word, the overseer who expresses the Father's plan. The Spirit is the power who executes it, making the unseen a reality.

In the same way, our union with the Holy Spirit brings heaven's plans into earth's reality. When God speaks, the Spirit infuses those words with resurrection power. That is why Paul could say, "I didn't come with enticing words, but with words infused by the Spirit — words that came with demonstration of power."

The gospel is not empty rhetoric. It is the power of God for salvation. When you receive His Word, you receive His Spirit, and the Spirit works in you with transforming power.

Living in Union

Adam lost the Spirit in Eden. Jesus came to restore Him to us. To live in union with the Spirit is to return to God's original design — man and God walking together in fellowship.

Faith is not merely hoping God will do something. Faith is anchored in His promise. Until His Word comes, you do not have a promise to stand on. But once it does, it becomes the title deed — evidence of what you cannot yet see.

This is the life of union: Christ in you, the hope of glory. His life flowing through yours. Your words framing your world in alignment with His promises. Your daily walk marked by surrender, communication, and trust in the Spirit's power.

Takeaways – Chapter 3

- Salvation is not just forgiveness; it is union with Christ.
- Marriage illustrates this union — two becoming one, requiring communication and agreement.
- Our old identity has been crucified; living from it only causes conflict.
- Words frame reality; confess God's promises to build the environment you want to live in.

- Union involves surrender — sometimes flesh and Spirit conflict, but the Spirit must win.
- The Trinity works together: Father dreams, Son speaks, Spirit empowers.
- The gospel is not just words; it is Spirit-filled power that transforms.
- Faith rests on God's promises — His Word is the title deed to unseen realities.

Chapter 4 – Faith, Petition, and the Anointing

Faith is not simply hoping. Hope looks into the future, waiting for something to happen, but faith is the substance of things hoped for. Faith takes hold of what God has promised and brings it into reality. It is trust in Him and in His ability to do what He said He would do.

When I talk about faith, I'm not talking about vague feelings or wishful thinking. Faith is specific. It is like the moment I stood before the priest at the altar to be married to my wife. That day was not imaginary. It was an event. It happened. I can still picture it. In the same way, when I go before God in prayer, it is not an exercise in theory. It is an event. It is the action of trust.

Prayer is a legal process in the courts of heaven. A petition is like a legal document presented on the basis of covenant rights. Jesus said in John 16:24, "Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full." We no longer need a middleman. We go directly to the Father, straight to the top, and we are instructed to enter boldly into His throne room.

When I present a petition, I bring God's Word back to Him. I remind Him of what He has already said. For instance, 2 Corinthians 1:20 says all His promises are yes and amen in Christ. So when I come with a need, I declare: "Father, You promised to meet all my needs according to Your riches in glory." I'm putting Him in remembrance of His Word. Then, by faith, I receive the title deed to that promise. Mark 11:24 says that when I pray, I must believe that I have received it. And when I do, peace drops into my spirit, and confidence rises that my Father has heard me.

1 John 5:14–15 says that if we ask according to His will, He hears us. And if He hears us, we know we have the petitions we asked of Him. That confidence doesn't come from feelings but from God's integrity. His Word is settled in heaven forever. And the unseen realm is greater than the natural realm. Everything in the natural is governed by what happens in the Spirit.

Faith Anchored in God

When I pray, I am not just saying words into the air; I am dealing with governmental issues in the spiritual realm. Prayer changes things because it pulls from God's eternal Word, which never changes, and applies it to earthly circumstances.

That is why Hebrews 11:6 says without faith it is impossible to please God. Faith is trust in who He is — His character, His integrity. When everything around me screams fear, when alarms are going off in every direction, I must still trust Him. I hear Him say, "Be still and know that I am God."

Years ago, when I was physically weak and down, I stood on the promise from Isaiah: "Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles." That Word kept me alive. I am standing today because that scripture works. You can trust God. When He says something, He backs it up.

Speaking in Union

Mark 11:22 tells us to have faith in God — to trust Him. But then Jesus goes further in verse 23: “If you say to this mountain, ‘Be removed and cast into the sea,’ and do not doubt in your heart, it will obey you.”

The key is union. When I speak in union with the Holy Spirit, heaven backs my words. I am not speaking out of presumption but in agreement with God’s Spirit. When I declare, “Mountain, be removed,” I am speaking as one joined with the power of heaven. And the mountain obeys, not because of me, but because of the Spirit who confirms the decree. It is never by human might or power, but by the Spirit of God.

Dumb Idols of Our Day

Paul warned the Corinthians about dumb idols that could not speak. In his time, these were carved statues. In ours, they may be technology, trends, or social symbols.

Today, many turn to Google as if it were an all-knowing god. Artificial intelligence can answer questions, but it cannot give life. James wrote that there are two kinds of wisdom — one earthly, one from above. Google, Siri, or the latest AI may provide information, but it is not eternal wisdom.

Others treat fashion labels as if they carried spiritual weight. Carrying a Gucci bag or wearing a certain brand becomes a way to demand recognition. But Paul said, “I am branded by Jesus Christ.” That is the only mark that matters.

Gifts and the Spirit

Paul also taught that there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not divided into pieces like cuts of meat. He is one Person, and the gifts are expressions of His presence through us. When the whole body functions together, we see completeness.

1 John 2:20, 27 tells us that we have an anointing from God and that anointing abides within us. The Spirit equips us with skills, insights, and abilities for specific purposes. In the Old Testament, He anointed craftsmen with skill to build the tabernacle. Today, He anoints people for business, governance, teaching, finance, or creative work.

There is always the anointing within — the Spirit’s presence in the believer. But there is also an anointing upon — the Spirit’s empowerment for specific assignments. We are to draw on both.

The Anointing in Work

Paul’s instructions in Ephesians 6 show that the Spirit’s anointing applies even in the workplace. Employers are to treat employees with fairness and value. Employees are to work with sincerity, as unto the Lord, seeking the good of their employer. If our attitude is wrong, the anointing cannot flow. But when we submit our work to God, He empowers us.

Whether building houses, cleaning homes, drafting plans, running a business, or governing a city, every believer can view their occupation as an assignment from God. Natural talents become kingdom tools when submitted to Him. In each season, our workplace becomes a field of ministry. And in each task, we can ask for the Spirit’s enabling anointing.

When I see my work as a kingdom assignment, everything changes. I no longer simply build or clean or manage — I represent Christ as an ambassador. The anointing then empowers me to do what would be impossible in my own strength.

Takeaways – Chapter 4

- Faith is substance, not wishful thinking; it takes hold of God's promises as legal rights.
- Prayer is a petition in the courts of heaven, presented on the basis of covenant promises.
- Confidence in prayer comes from God's Word, which is settled eternally in heaven.
- Faith trusts God's integrity even when circumstances scream fear.
- Speaking in union with the Spirit releases heaven's authority against obstacles.
- Modern "dumb idols" include technology, trends, and brands; only Christ's mark matters.
- The Spirit's gifts are expressions of His presence, not tools we own independently.
- The anointing is both within (always present) and upon (for specific assignments).
- Workplaces are fields of ministry; every job can be a kingdom assignment when submitted to God.

Chapter 5 – The Power Comes with the Assignment

When we walk in the Spirit, every part of life becomes an assignment. Whether we are going out or coming in, we are blessed. We are the head and not the tail, not anyone's lackey, but servants of the Lord. And Jesus taught that the greatest in His kingdom is the servant of all. That means we don't need to prove ourselves to anyone. Christ in us is our validation.

This is why attitude matters. If I see my job as a kingdom assignment, I can expect the Holy Spirit to release His power through me. That's why even something as simple as a haircut can become a place of prayer: "Lord, release Your skill on this hairdresser today." The same applies at a doctor's appointment, in a restaurant, or during a business deal. The Spirit's presence is not limited to the pulpit — it covers the whole of life.

Paul reminded the Corinthians that there are diversities of gifts, administrations, and operations, but the same Holy Spirit is at work in all. It is always Him, working in union with the believer, confirming His Word with signs following (Mark 16:20). When we take our task as an assignment, He is present to empower it.

Inspired Words for Every Setting

Sometimes all that's needed in a moment is a word in season. A business deal might hinge on inspired words that convey integrity. A relationship may shift because of a word of wisdom released by the Spirit. The gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12 — wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, tongues, and interpretation — are all the Spirit Himself manifesting through us to profit others.

But notice this: the gifts are not about self-interest. They are about kingdom interest. When I treat my work as kingdom assignment rather than drudgery, everything opens up. What seemed boring becomes infused with purpose. Even the ordinary becomes an adventure with God.

A Union That Changes Everything

To wonder whether God will act when we lay hands on the sick is like wondering whether we are really married after fifty-one years. The problem is not with God but with our acknowledgement of union. When I embrace my assignment, I have a legal right in the Spirit to draw on His enabling power.

It is the Holy Spirit who heals, delivers, creates, and restores. He grows missing parts, opens blind eyes, and makes the lame walk. My role is to cooperate with Him, giving the glory to the Father.

Power and Assignment

Acts 1:8 says we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us. But notice — the power is tied to the assignment: “You will be My witnesses.” There is no power without assignment. If I am a baker, butcher, or candlestick maker, I must do it “as unto the Lord.” Forty hours a week is not wasted time; it is an opportunity to live out an assignment.

When I worked in the coal mines, others told me not to work too hard because it would show them up. But I worked diligently. And when opportunities for overtime came, guess who was called? Me. Why? Because I carried an attitude of excellence. God does not bless laziness. He blesses diligence.

The anointing follows assignment, and excellence opens the door to favor.

A Story of Deliverance

The power in Jesus’ name is real. I remember teaching this in a youth group — that those who call upon the name of Jesus will be delivered. Some thought it was boring. But a week later, one young girl learned just how true it was.

She was only fourteen, taking a shortcut through a parking garage in Sydney when she was surrounded by a gang of twelve. They grabbed her, assaulted her, and began slamming her head against the concrete steps.

In that terrifying moment, she remembered the lesson: “The power is in the name of Jesus.” So she cried out, “Jesus, help me!”

One of the attackers stopped for a moment, mocked her, and said, “That won’t do you any good here.” Then he resumed. But she kept calling out the name of Jesus...

Takeaways – Chapter 5

- Every task in life can be a kingdom assignment when offered to God.
- The Spirit empowers ordinary work as much as ministry.
- Our attitude determines whether the Spirit’s anointing flows.
- Gifts of the Spirit are for kingdom interest, not self-interest.

- Union with the Spirit gives us legal rights to draw on His power.
- There is no power without assignment — the two always go together.
- God blesses diligence and excellence, not laziness.
- The name of Jesus carries real power to deliver in the darkest moments.

Chapter 6 – Assignments, Provision, and the Superior Way of Love

The girl never stopped crying out: “Jesus, help me!” At that moment, it was as if a bowling ball had been hurled down an alley. Fear struck the entire gang. One by one, they released anguished cries and fled. The last one let go of her and ran as well.

The angels of the Lord respond to the Word of God through the power of the Holy Spirit. That night, they intervened. She stumbled out of the stairwell, concussed and bloodied, but alive. A youth pastor nearby saw her, rushed to her aid, and brought her to hospital.

The following week, she was on the front row of youth group, eyes wide, ears attentive, soaking in every word. She gave her testimony, describing the terror she endured — the grabbing, pulling, and attempted assault — but finished with one phrase: “Jesus saved me.”

Some may call the things of God boring, but not when you’ve experienced His deliverance.

Jesus in the Boat

Luke 5 shows us another picture of what happens when Jesus steps in. Simon Peter had fished all night and caught nothing. But when Jesus entered his boat and told him to cast his nets again, the result was overwhelming — a catch so large that their nets nearly burst and both boats almost sank.

Without Jesus, Peter had nothing. With Jesus in the boat, he had abundance. The difference was assignment. Partnered with Christ, ordinary work became extraordinary.

The same principle applies to us. Whether it’s cleaning houses, running a business, or pastoring a church, when Jesus is in our boat — when we acknowledge the assignment as from Him — provision comes.

God Already Has the Solution

In John 6, Jesus faced another impossible situation: a crowd of thousands with no food. He asked Philip how they might feed them, though He already knew what He was about to do. Philip panicked, calculating the cost. Andrew found a boy with five loaves and two fish, but it seemed laughable against the need.

Jesus gave thanks, blessed the food, and it multiplied until everyone ate their fill. The lesson is simple yet profound: God already has the solution. Before we ask, He knows. Anxiety adds nothing. Worry accomplishes nothing. Resting in His plan changes everything.

Preordained Works

Ephesians 2:10 says we are God's workmanship, recreated in Christ Jesus to do good works that He prepared in advance for us. These are not random acts but preordained opportunities. They are woven into our paths, waiting for us to walk in them.

Sometimes it looks like taking a meal to a neighbour. Other times, it's financial support, a prayer, a word of encouragement, or a practical act of service. These small works are often the doors through which God's greater plans unfold. If Jesus is in the boat, every assignment carries eternal weight.

The Motivation of Love

But here lies the heart of it all: the motivation must be love. Titus 3 reminds us that good works are profitable, but John presses deeper — love cannot be an abstract theory. It must be lived out in deed.

Power flows when love motivates. Healing, deliverance, provision — all of it is driven by the love of God. Paul told the Corinthians that gifts are important, but love is supreme. Without love, even prophecy, knowledge, generosity, and martyrdom are empty. Love is patient, kind, humble, forgiving, and enduring.

Love never quits. Prophecies will fade. Tongues will cease. Knowledge will vanish. But love will remain forever. It is the superior way, the lifestyle that makes every gift, every assignment, and every act of faith meaningful.

Takeaways – Chapter 6

- The name of Jesus carries real, practical power to deliver in moments of crisis.
- With Jesus in the boat, ordinary work becomes extraordinary provision.
- God already has the solution to every need; worry only blinds us to His plan.
- We are created for preordained good works — assignments designed in advance.
- Simple acts of kindness can open doors to God's greater purposes.
- The gifts of the Spirit must always operate through love.
- Love is the superior way — patient, kind, humble, enduring, and eternal.

Conclusion – Running with Power, Living in Love

Throughout these chapters, we have seen the unshakable truth that our lives are not random, but commissioned. When Jesus sends us, He also empowers us. Every assignment — whether in ministry, the workplace, the home, or the marketplace — carries kingdom significance. The Spirit equips us with authority, skill, and power to fulfill what we could never accomplish in our own strength.

We learned that faith is more than hoping; it is taking hold of God's promises as legal rights in the courts of heaven. Prayer becomes a petition backed by covenant, drawing upon what Christ has

already secured. And as we trust Him, we discover the peace that comes from resting in His integrity rather than striving in our own.

But faith without love is empty. The gifts of the Spirit — wisdom, knowledge, healing, miracles, prophecy, tongues — all flow from the Holy Spirit, yet their power is meaningless without love. Love is the superior way, the eternal motivation, and the lasting mark of Christ in us. Without love, ministry becomes performance. With love, every act becomes worship.

We saw that even ordinary work becomes extraordinary when viewed as assignment. With Jesus in Peter's boat, empty nets became overflowing. With Christ in our daily labor, we too find abundance. And when faced with impossible needs, like feeding thousands with five loaves and two fish, we remember: God already has the solution.

Our union with the Holy Spirit is not theoretical. It is practical, powerful, and protective — as real as the girl who cried "Jesus" and was delivered from danger. The Spirit empowers us to live with excellence, diligence, and courage, not in fear but in confidence that greater is He in us than he who is in the world.

And above it all is love. Love never quits, never fades, never fails. Love is patient and kind, not self-seeking or easily offended. Love celebrates truth, protects, trusts, and perseveres. Love remains when prophecies cease, when tongues fall silent, when knowledge fades. Love is the beautiful prize for which we run.

So let us live as people branded by Christ. Let us embrace every assignment as kingdom work. Let us pray with boldness, walk in union with the Spirit, and overflow in faith, hope, and love. And above all, let love be the driving force of our lives.

For when the Holy Spirit reigns in us, we become light in darkness, joy in sorrow, and witnesses of the King of Glory in this world.

Amen.