PRAYER THAT CHANGES THE WORLD 3 - PRAYING AS SONS

I. GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

A. SEEDS AND SONSHIP *(Being a son is about inheritance not gender)*

Genesis 12:2–3 *"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

Gen. 17:7 *And I will establish My covenant between Me and* ***you and your descendants after you*** *in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to* ***you*** *and your* ***descendants after you****.*

Gal. 3:29 *And* ***if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise****.*

Rom. 4:13 *For the promise that he would be* ***the heir of the world*** *was not to* ***Abraham or to his seed*** *through the law, but through the righteousness of* ***faith****.*

- ***"SEED" SPEAKS TO DESCENDANTS -*** *SONS ARE DESCENDANTS*
- ***WE ARE THE "SEED OF ABRAHAM" BECAUSE OF OUR FAITH IN CHRIST. It is faith that triggers our adoption and new Creation***
- ***GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM IS GOD'S PROMISE TO US***
- **WE ARE SONS OF GOD -** ***BUT WE ARE ALSO "IN CHRIST"*** *-* ***UNITED WITH CHRIST****, Which is a deeper spiritual reality. Covenant, Sonship and Union are levels of reality that are always true, but experienced uniquely as we mature.* ***(More on this next week).***
- ***JESUS'INHERITANCE: LORD over ALL THINGS***

PSALM 2:7 *"****I will declare the decree****: The LORD has said to Me, '****You are My Son****, Today I have begotten You.* ***8*** *Ask of Me, and* ***I will give You The nations for Your inheritance****, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.*

- ***ALL THE NATIONS BELONG TO JESUS. That makes us part of His World Management Team,*** *also know as the Kingdom Of God. As sons of God, we partner with Him* ***through our prayers and decrees****.*

II. THE REALITY OF SONSHIP IS UNDERSTOOD AND ACTIVATED *WHEN WE ACCEPT* OUR NEW IDENTITY AS SONS OF GOD

Romans 8:14 *For as many as are* ***led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*** ***15*** *For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the* ***Spirit of adoption*** *by whom* ***we cry out, "Abba, Father."*** ***16*** *The* ***Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*** ***17*** *and if children, then heirs—****heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ****, if indeed we* ***suffer with Him****, that we may also be glorified together.*

A. THREE NECESSARY REVELATIONS FOR ALL BELIEVERS

- **HOLY SPIRIT ACTIVATION IS THE KEY TO EVERYTHING**
  Having the Holy Spirit without understanding the incredible resource He is, is like being given a brand new car, but not receiving the key fob. You can't do anything.You can't drive it, you can't go anywhere, you can't even sit in it because the doors are locked.

ACTS 1:8 *But* ***you shall receive power*** *when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

1. THE FIRST REVELATION FOR NEW BELIEVERS IS ***SONSHIP***

- **CHILDREN TEND TO LOOK/ACT LIKE THEIR PARENTS**

- **BEING LED BY THE SPIRIT IS HOW WE LEARN HIS WAYS**

Psa. 103:7 *He made known His* ***ways*** *to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.*

- ***HIS WAYS ARE THE PATHS* HE HAS MADE*** *FOR US TO FOLLOW HIM. WE LEARN THEM THROUGH HIS WORD AND BY HIS SPIRIT. WHAT MOTIVATES THE MIRACLE-WORKER?*
  **** Paths are well traveled trails. God's way is the best way!***
- **"ABBA" IS THE REVELATION OF WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST**

  OUR FATHER WHO ARE IN HEAVEN - *The first thing Jesus taught His disciples about prayer was DIVINE POSITION.*

- **Being a "SON OF GOD"** *Entry to the Divine Council. We displace the ELOHIM. WE <u>MUST</u> GROW INTO THE ROLE, EVENTUALLY, WE MIGHT EVEN BE TRUSTED TO VOTE (Like Abraham before Sodom and Gomorrah)*

- **IT IS CRITICAL THAT SONS MATURE AND GROW UP**

Gal. 4:1 *Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all,* ***2*** *but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father.* ***3*** *Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world.* ***4*** *But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,* ***5*** *to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.* ***6*** *And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"* ***7*** ***Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.***

2. THE SECOND REVELATION FOR NEW BELIEVERS IS PRAYER

Rom. 8:26 NLT *And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with* ***groanings that cannot be expressed in words****.* ***27*** *And the <u>Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.</u>*

- **THE UNSPOKEN INFERENCE is that something will go wrong**

3. THE THIRD REVELATION FOR NEW BELIEVERS IS FULLNESS

EPH. 2:17 *that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,* ***18*** *may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—* ***19*** *to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge;* ***<u>that you may be filled with all the fullness of God</u>****.*

B. SONS HAVE AN AMAZING INHERITANCE

1. SALVATION, NEW CREATION, ADOPTION, RESURRECTION LIFE, DIVINE HEALTH AND HEAVEN

2. AUTHORITY, ACCESS, POWER AND POSITION AMONG NATIONS

3. CONTINUAL FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD, WHICH IS ETERNAL LIFE

III. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MATURE SONS

A. IMMATURE SONS - ***Have not yet learned who God is and who they are. They are STILL GROWING TOWARD RESPONSIBILITY***

Gal. 4:1 *Now I say that the* ***heir****, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all,*

B. MATURE SONS - ***Are trusted with more. They function in the Kingdom with all Christ's authority. CARRY RESPONSIBILITY***

Heb. 12:7 *If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?* ***8*** *But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.* ***9*** *Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?* ***10*** *For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but* ***He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.*** ***11*** *Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it* ***yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.***

- ***OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER BELIEVERS HELP US TO GROW INTO MATURE SONSHIP. UNITY IS OUR DEFAULT STATE***
- ***OUR STRUGGLES AND TESTINGS HELP MATURE US. Trust***
- ***MATURE SONS ACT LIKE CHRIST AND CAN BE TRUSTED WITH MORE. Fully Trained/ Equipped for ministry (Eph.4)***
- ***MATURE SONS PARTNER WITH KINGDOM PURPOSE.*** *THEY DO NOT ASK GOD TO PARTNER WITH <u>THEIR</u> PLAN, THEY ASK IF GOD WILL ALLOW THEM TO HAVE A PLACE IN HIS PLANS.*
- ***PRAYER BECOMES A PARTNERSHIP. MATURE SONS PRAY. intercession is a key feature of sonship. Pray God's heart***