

## Introduction

In this teaching session, we will talk about the effects of a new creation mindset in 5 areas of the believer's spiritual life:

1. Prayer
2. Worship
3. Fasting
4. Reading the word
5. Giving.

## 1. Prayer

### John 14:12-14 (NASB)

<sup>12</sup> "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.

<sup>13</sup> "**Whatever you ask in My name**, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

<sup>14</sup> "**If you ask Me anything in My name**, I will do it.

### John 16:23-24 (NASB)

<sup>23</sup> "**In that day** you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, **if you ask the Father for anything in My name**, He will give it to you.

<sup>24</sup> "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

### Mark 11:24 (NASB)

<sup>24</sup> "Therefore I say to you, **all things for which you pray and ask**, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you.

### Matthew 10:8 (NASB)

<sup>8</sup> "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

- In the church era, after the cross, there are mainly 3 types of prayer relationships:
  - One of love towards God and ministry to Him (on the vertical)
  - One of building yourself up in faith
  - One of war against the devil and darkness (on the horizontal).
- The prayer in relationship to God:
  - It can be a prayer of asking God for something, or of pouring out your heart before Him.
  - When we ask God for something, we don't command Him to do it, but we ask Him.
  - When we ask for something, we don't beg or implore God, as if we try to convince Him to give us the desired thing. He already wants to give it. But when we ask God for something, immediately we should thank Him for it, knowing that we have been heard.

Ex: revivals. No more prayers of begging for revivals. These are short-term experiences that don't last. You can live a revival 24/7 and for the long-term. The Christian is not called to live for God and be effective only during revivals. Those were acts of God's mercy and love for people, because the body of Christ did not have enough revelation of the gospel and of the identity in Christ.

Revivals were prominent during the Old Testament, when God would raise a man to save His people and the Holy Spirit would come down from time to time. That is not the case in the New Testament. While revivals can still happen even today, every believer is called and expected to walk and live in the fullness of God and of the Spirit 24/7.

- The type of requests for which we can use this prayer type and address to God are:
  - Things that involve other people's wills: for their salvation, or intercession for a certain issue.
  - Things pertaining to our future or destiny, about which we don't know exactly from the Bible what the will of God is, and we cannot call them into being. These are things like: taking a job or not, getting involved in a certain ministry, going to a certain college, marrying a certain person, etc.
- Pouring out your heart before God, even through crying, is not necessarily a sign of unbelief, but a heart relief. Sometimes you feel overwhelmed, pressured, or maybe there is a sin that bothers you, or maybe you are overwhelmed by His love, etc. Even Jesus Christ cried and sweat in the Gethsemani garden and asked the Father, if possible, to take the cup from Him. It was not a moment of weakness or sin, but of battle and intimacy with God.
- When you want to talk to God about a sin in your life, try not to focus for a long time on you and on what you did, but on God and on thanking Him for already taking away your sins completely. Definitely don't use your crying to appease God or make penance for your sins.
- Prayer of building yourself up in faith:
  - Includes mostly prayer in tongues
  - It also includes declarations about yourself and your identity in Christ, with the purpose of renewing your mind, and of stirring up your spirit. These declarations come from the personal meditation time and from personalizing verses.
- Prayer in relationship with the devil and darkness:
  - They are mostly commands, not prayers.
  - They are targeted mostly against sickness, evil things, and situations, against lack, and against things that we know for sure from the Bible that we have a right to command over.
  - Healing people, casting out demons, raising the dead, proclaiming prosperity, they are all demands in Jesus' name and not so much prayers. We say to the mountain to move.

#### 1 Corinthians 14:2, 4, 15 (NASB)

<sup>2</sup> For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men **but to God**; for no one understands, but in his spirit **he speaks mysteries**.

<sup>4</sup> One who speaks in a tongue **edifies himself**; but one who prophesies edifies the church.

<sup>15</sup> What is the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and **I will pray with the mind also**; I will sing with the spirit and **I will sing with the mind also**.

#### Jude 1:20 (NASB)

<sup>9</sup> But you, beloved, **building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit**.

### Ephesians 6:18 (NASB)

<sup>9</sup> With all prayer and petition **pray at all times in the Spirit**, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.

- Prayer in tongues should be more present than the one in native language. Notice which one is the “also”.
- Prayer in tongues is useful for all 3 types of prayer: speaking mysteries to God and ministering to Him, building yourself in faith, and as a weapon against darkness.

## 2. Worship

### 1 Peter 2:9-10 (NASB)

<sup>9</sup> But you are A CHOSEN RACE, **A royal PRIESTHOOD**, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that **you may proclaim the excellencies of Him** who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

<sup>10</sup> for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

- The primary purpose of praise and worship is to minister to God in our role of priests (royal priesthood), and to proclaim His excellencies. To minister to someone is “to attend, care for, wait on, nurture, and serve them”. Times of worship should be designed to perform service for the Lord.
- Worship has to do with giving something to God rather than getting something from God, like more anointing, power, forgiveness of sins and acceptance, significance, or victory. Those are already given by God to us in FULL.

### Ephesians 5:18-20 (NASB)

<sup>18</sup> And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but **be filled with the Spirit**,

<sup>19</sup> speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord**;

<sup>20</sup> **always giving thanks for all things** in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father.

- Thanksgiving is primary in worship.
- As a secondary result of worship, believers are also stirred up in their spirit, filled with the Holy Spirit, and built up in faith, during worship.
- Our worship creates a platform, or an atmosphere in which the Holy Spirit can minister to the hearts of men and women, and change the direction of their lives. Spiritual gifts can be easier manifested, especially prophecy.

### Hebrews 5:1 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, **in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins**;

### Hebrews 13:15 (NASB)

<sup>15</sup> Through Him then, **let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God**, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

- As priests, we bring gifts of thanksgiving and sacrifices of praise instead of sacrifices for sins.
- The atmosphere of worship should always be a joyful and celebratory one, not a sorrowful, crying for sins, sentimental, romantic, selfpited one, even during softer worship songs.
- The primary motivation for worshipping God should be unconditional love and nothing else.

### John 4:23-24 (NASB)

<sup>23</sup> "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

<sup>24</sup> "God is spirit, and those who worship Him **must worship in spirit and truth.**"

- The lyrics of the songs need to be based on the truth. A few marks of truth in songs lyrics are the following:
  - They don't ask or beg God for anything in praise and worship, especially for things that have already been given in Christ, OR things that can never be given (non-sensical), OR things belonging to the past – to the Old Testament mindset.

### EXAMPLES OF SONGS

#### TAKE ME IN, by Petra

Take me past the outer courts

Into the holy place *(this is Old Testament temple)*

Past the brazen altar

Lord, I want to see your face *(today His face is always shown, He's always with us. And then physically we will see Him face to face only at the end)*

Pass me by the crowds of people

The priests who sing your praise

I hunger and thirst for your righteousness *(we no longer hunger for righteousness because it has come)*

And it's only found one place

Take me in to the holy of holies *(we are in the holy of holies)*

Take me in by the blood of the lamb *(we are in already)*

Take me in to the holy of holies

Take the coal, cleanse my lips, here I am

Take the coal, cleanse my lips, here I am

#### THIS IS THE AIR I BREATHE

And I I'm desperate for You *(in what way am I desperate for Him??? That was in the Old Testament.*

*Now He is in me and with me)*

And I I'm lost without You *(I will never be without Him again or lost again once I am in)*

#### DAYS OF ELIJAH

These are the days of Elijah *(No, these are the days of Jesus Christ)*

Declaring the word of the Lord, yeah  
And these are the days of Your servant, Moses  
Righteousness being restored

And these are the days of Ezekiel  
The dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days of Your servant, David  
Rebuilding the temple of praise

#### DRAW ME CLOSE TO YOU

Draw me close to You (*I am already close to Him*)  
Never let me go (*He will never let me go*)  
I lay it all down again (*What do you mean lay it down AGAIN? Are you doing God a favor just for Him to consider you His friend??*)  
To hear You say that I'm Your friend (*I am more than a friend, I am His son*)

#### I AM A FRIEND OF GOD

*No, I am a son of God.*

#### BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

God you give and take away (*That is bad theology from Job 1:21. God never takes away. The devil takes away. What Job said was before he knew who really was behind his trials*)  
Oh you give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord, blessed be Your name

#### CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

Cast me not away from Thy presence, oh Lord (*Once I am saved I will never be cast away*)  
Take not Thy Holy Spirit from me (*Once I am saved the Holy Spirit will never leave from me*)  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation  
And renew a right spirit within me.

- They bring thanksgiving and gratefulness. Worship is a gift to God.
- The emphasis should be on who God is (as a God of love and mercy, and not a God of law and punishment), on what He has done (His grace), and what we are now Christ (the new creation), but not so much on us, on our humanity, on what we were before Christ, on what we see and feel in the natural, or on the devil itself.

#### EXAMPLES OF SONGS

##### HEART OF WORSHIP

King of endless worth  
No one could express  
How much you deserve  
Though I'm weak and poor (*I am not weak and poor, but strong and rich. There is no me anymore, but Christ in me the hope of glory*)  
All I have is yours  
Every single breath

## ABOVE ALL

Like a rose, trampled on the ground,

You took the fall and thought of me above all. (*These are man-centered lyrics. He did not thought of me ABOVE ALL. His glory and the satisfaction of His justice were above me. We were certainly not above all.*)

- Any brief mention of our fallen human state before Christ should be done only in the past tense.
- You don't enter the presence of God when you worship, or enter through the outer courts of the temple. You are in the presence of God 24/7 unseparated. When you worship, you just become more aware of being in His presence with your mind. It is your awareness and your mind's perception of reality that changes.
- We don't do spiritual warfare through worship. All the spiritual warfare has been finished and done 2000 years ago. There are no spiritual strongholds in the atmosphere to be broken down. The strongholds that the Bible talks about are in the mind of the believer. In the Old Testament, people had to fast, pray and worship in order to have victories in war. We already have all the victories in Christ assured without any conditions.
- The worship must be brought in the Spirit:
  - That means allowing the Spirit to lead you in choosing the songs and depend on Him every step of the way. Be sensitive to His voice.
  - That means preparation and excellence.
  - Think about the lyrics you sing, make sure you believe them with all your heart (put faith into them) and add feeling and enthusiasm to them springing forth out of faith, not from human positivism. Be there in the moment with all your being.
  - Allow for free songs to come out of your spirit in your native tongue or in spiritual tongues in between songs.

## **3. Fasting**

- Believers don't fast in the new covenant in order to:
  - Get more power
  - Get more anointing
  - Convince God to do something in their favor
  - Heal somebody.
- That was true in the Old Testament because people were unclean and in death, and they needed to separate themselves unto God, so that God could move through them.
- Fasting in the New Covenant is for:
  - Ministering to the Lord
  - Developing self-control, discipline, and healthy habits
  - Being built up in faith
  - Increased sensitivity to the voice of the Holy Spirit, especially involving important decisions in your life or the life of a community/church.

## **4. Reading the Word**

- You don't read the Word to learn the moral laws and ethics and then try to remember them, obey them and implement them into your life. That is not renewal of the mind.

- You read the Word of God to learn about the new creation, about your identity in Christ, about the gospel, etc.
- You don't read the Word just to fulfill a discipline or to pay your dues to God, so that things would go well with you, or to appease God, or to feel spiritual, but to be built up in faith, in confidence, and to be able to exercise that faith and see results (make exploits for the kingdom of God).
- You don't read the Word for God's sake, but for your sake.

## 5. Giving

- You don't give tithes and offerings
  - To be more blessed
  - To avoid curse (Malachi)
- But you give tithes and offerings because you were blessed, and because that is God's nature and heart. Giving is done out of love for Him and His kingdom.
- The law of sowing and reaping is an earthly law working for anybody, and it is inferior to the law of faith.
- In Christ, even if you don't give or sow, you still have the same blessings. You're still blessed in Christ. You can never be cursed, because Christ took every curse.  
Does Christ need to sow in order to reap blessings? Does Christ need to give God to avoid curse? Can Christ ever be cursed?
- Any condition of "IF" for being blessed, or to have favor with God is a purely Old Testament way of thinking. In Christ, EVERYTHING is by faith alone, without any additions.

If you have any questions from the Bible or from this teaching session, or you have a personal problem (in finances, in marriage, with children, with addictions, or with a sickness in your body, etc.) for which you need prayer, please don't hesitate to contact us at [contact@eduardserediuc.org](mailto:contact@eduardserediuc.org) or directly from the website from the Contact section -> General Inquiry form. My wife and I will take the time to answer you and pray for you. May God bless you!