



SPIRITUAL

GROWTH



WHAT PRAYER PROVOKES?

Then, accompanied by the disciples, Jesus left the upstairs room and went as usual to the Mount of Olives. There he told them, "Pray that you will not give in to temptation." He walked away, about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed" (Luke 22:39-41 NLT)

INTRODUCTION: *Jesus knew very well the power he would obtain and release each time He would pray. He knew that coming before his Heavenly Father and having communion with Him was the key for His power to manifest. Everything the Lord did was to demonstrate for us what we should do to live in victory. Today we will learn what prayer can provoke and cause:*

1. ANGELIC ACTIVITY. (Luke 22:42-43)

- The Lord Jesus was on the verge of the most difficult and painful moment of His life. He knew that, to not fall into temptation, it was necessary to seek His Father's strength in prayer. In response, the Father sent His angels to strengthen Him.
- That is why if you are living in a difficult or painful situation, don't fight in your own strength, don't distance yourself from God, and don't run to the wrong people. Run to God and He will send His angels to strengthen you so that what seemed deathly results in life and blessing.

2. IT OPENS THE HEAVENS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCENDS. (Luke 3:21-22)

- After Jesus prayed, the heavens opened up and the Holy Spirit came upon Him.
- When we pray, we provoke the Heavens to open so God can send His blessing or response to what we may be needing. Not only that, but the Holy Spirit comes upon us to console, guide, and help us do the will of God.

3. IT RECHARGES OUR BATTERIES (Luke 5:16)

- After long and heavy days, Jesus knew that the key to regain strength was to seek His Heavenly Father in prayer.
- When you no longer have strength, when the days are long and hard, or when discouragement comes, pray. Seek God's help and your batteries will be recharged there.

4. IT HELPS US MAKE BIG DECISIONS (Luke 6:12-13)

- Before choosing those, who would be apostles, Jesus spent the night praying. It was a very important decision because the expansion of evangelism depended on them.

- Every time we need to make a decision, whether it be big or small, changing jobs, buying a home, choosing a career, choosing a spouse, moving from a city or any other decision, God knows the future and knows what is best for us. Therefore, it is wise to consult Him before making any decision.

5. IT KEEPS US ALERT FOR THE LORD'S COMING *(Luke 21:36)*

- The Lord Jesus warned and made known that He would return once again for His children and that we should be ready for His return.
- The best way to be prepared is having communion with God, praying every day so that we remain sensitive and firm so as to not stray from His path.

6. IT KEEPS US FROM FALLING INTO TEMPTATION. *(Luke 22:40)*

- Jesus fought against temptation in prayer. He knew that Satan would tempt Him, but Jesus prepared Himself by praying and fasting so as to not give into his offers and defeat Him.
- The Lord wants us to learn how to follow his steps. We are all tempted to do wrong or give into our weakness.

Jesus wants to help us and the way to do this is going to Him every day, asking His help to not fall, sin, and displease Him. Have the confidence that He will strengthen you and give you a way out to not fall.

CONCLUSION: *Every Christians priority should be to intimately seek God every day in prayer. Remember this: much prayer, much power; little prayer, little power. If you want to live a life that is aligned with God, you need to listen to God every day.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and I ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so that you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

What benefits have you seen through prayer?

What do you need to happen in your life?

Have you all experienced a breakthrough through prayer? Share it.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- Make prayer a lifestyle. Establish a specific prayer time to begin to pray every day.

FASTING AND ITS BENEFITS

But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. (Matthew 6:17-18 NLT)

ILLUSTRATION: *The Bible tells the story of a young Jewish woman named Esther, who became a queen during the reign of King Xerxes. During that time, the King promoted a man named Haman as his most powerful right-hand man. Haman convinced King Xerxes to kill the entire Jewish race because they had different laws than them. The King agreed and to confirm this agreement, he took off his official ring and gave it to Haman. The King did not know that Esther and Mordecai were Jews. Nevertheless, Esther called her people, the Jews, to begin a three-day period of fasting and prayer in hopes of gaining favor with King Xerxes. On the third day, Esther came before the King and asked to hold a banquet, where she was planning on revealing her petition. It was done, and on that day, she exposed Haman's evil, and he was ordered by the king to be killed. As a result, her petition to free the Jews was conceded. (Esther 2-7)*

INTRODUCTION: *God has plans of good for you and your family's life in such a way that there is no excuse to not receive His blessings. One of the keys to reach God's promises is learning to hear His guidance through prayer and fasting. Let's look at what fasting signifies in the following points:*

1. WHAT IS FASTING?

- Fasting refers to abstaining from foods or activities to be able to focus

on and connect to God. It means, taking the time to consecrate yourself to Him with the goal of being more sensitive to His voice.

- The Bible does not teach that prayer leads to "gaining" God's favor or make Him think that you deserve something. Fasting aligns you to what God desires to communicate to you so you can fulfill your purpose.
- During fasting periods, you should take some time to worship the Heavenly Father, pray and read His Word. When you seek His face in intimacy, He reveals His heart to you and gives you direction so you can make the correct decisions that will bring acceleration and change to your life.
- Fasting doesn't only mean abstaining from food, but you can also fast television, social media, or any other daily activity and use that time to invest in praying or reading the Bible. The point is to distance from the common environment to get closer to God.

2. THE THREE TYPES OF FASTS:

- **Natural fast.** This fast is what the Lord Jesus would practice and consists of not eating at all, only drinking water. The Bible does not say that He didn't eat nor drink. It says that He did not eat, because it says He was hungry. However, it does not say that He was thirsty. (Luke 4:1-2)

- **The total fast.** One does not eat nor drink. However, these fasts cannot be too long because the body needs water. Some Biblical examples are: (*Esther 4:16*), Saul in Damascus (*Acts 9:9*), Moses who fasted twice for forty days (*Deuteronomy 9:9*), and Elijah (*1 Kings 19:8*)
- **The partial fast.** Abstaining from eating certain foods or only eating fruits and veggies, or only drinking juices. You can even choose to only eat once a day. For example, the Daniel fast consists of plants and water (*Daniel 10:2-3*). It is most likely that he did not do a natural fast because of his job for the government.

Note: *When you choose to fast willingly and voluntarily, you must ask God for direction on what kind of fast you should do.*

3. PURPOSE OF THE FAST:

- **Fasting reveals the things that control you.** If there is pride, anger, or fear inside of you, God will reveal it to you so you can be free. If pain exists, resentment or lack of forgiveness in your heart, the Holy Spirit will show it to you when you are praying so you can be healed.
- **Fasting helps you maintain balance in your life.** It is very easy to get distracted from what is really important in life and lose focus of the Lord. Paul said: “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you.” (*1 Corinthians 6:12*).
- **Fasting helps develop discipline.** David wrote, “I will humble myself with fasting” (*Psalm 35:13*) It is discipline and discipline brings freedom.

When you are a disciplined person, you can resist temptation and the problems and circumstances of life without falling in your faith.

CONCLUSION: *There are certain blessings which we need to be more spiritually shrewd to take. Make fasting a habit and obtain the discipline to see a breakthrough in your life. Jesus was the best example of all because of his life of constant prayer and fasting. Because of this, He was able to be a blessing wherever He went. Supernatural power would come out of Him all the time!*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

Have you experienced a spiritual breakthrough due to fasting?

What other benefits have you experienced through fasting?

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

- If you want to go to another level or obtain spiritual breakthrough, ask God to show you what kind of fast He wants you to do.
- Challenge yourself to fast at least once a week.
- During your fasting time, set some time apart to seek the presence of God and read His Word.

BENEFITS OF THE POWER OF GOD

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

ILLUSTRATION: *A seller of Bible books was brutally assaulted in the forest. He was ordered to light a fire and burn the books he was carrying. Once the fire was lit, he asked for permission to read a portion of each book before burning it. From one he read Psalm 23. “This is a good book, don’t burn it and give it to me” said the thief. From another he read 1 Corinthians 13, the chapter about love. “This is a good book, don’t burn it and give it to me” said the thief once again. From another book he read the Sermon on the Mount, another was the Good Sower, and another was the Prodigal Son. In each case, the same thing happened. In the end, none of the books were burned. The seller was able to continue his trip, but without the books. Many years later, he ran into the thief, but this time he was an ordained minister. The books had made the transformation. It was the Word of God.*

INTRODUCCIÓN: *La Palabra de Dios nos da la sabiduría que necesitamos para desarrollar nuestras vidas con éxito, nos da el conocimiento de lo que está bien y lo que no está bien ante los ojos de Dios, y como la historia anterior lo dice, es lo que Dios mismo nos regala para ser perfectos y para prepararnos a trabajar en la buena obra de la forma que Él desea que lo hagamos. Seamos personas realmente saludables, alimentando nuestro espíritu con la Palabra de Dios.*

1. THE INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES. (2 Tim. 3:16)

- The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired by God and are the revelation of God to man.
- They are our infallible law for faith and conduct. (*Thessalonians 2:13*) (*2 Peter 1:21*).

2. BENEFITS OF READING THE BIBLE DAILY:

- **It makes us wise:** (*Psalm 32:8*) The Word of God gives us wisdom to make correct decisions. When we are in the midst of a difficult situation, it guides us to act correctly.
- **It teaches us to live a life that is pleasing to God.** (*Psalm 119:105*) The Bible is clear in teaching us things that please or do not please God.
- **It rebukes us from doing things that are not right.** (*Hebrews 4:12*) The word “rebuke” originates in the Greek word “elegchos”, which means “convince”, “fail”, “admonish”. The root of the word comes from “test”, “conviction.” It is about presenting “evidence” or “test”, it means to “refute” or “admonish.” It is about convincing a person to present adequate evidence to make a change (in thought, attitude, conduct, or conviction).

- **It corrects us:** (*2 Timothy 3:16-17*) - The word correct is to rectify, warn, and restore. It restores us to a straight and correct state. It straightens out what was wrong or mistaken in us. It changes us, improves our lives and character.
- **It instructs us in justice:** The Word helps us to act correctly and understand out of justice. Integrity is doing what should be done out of right or reason.
- **It perfects us:** Through the Word we are perfected, when we practice it, we look more like Christ.
- **It prepares us for good deeds:** It prepares us to do what is right, to act with kindness, patience, grace, and love with everyone who surrounds us.

CONCLUSION: *A believer that reads, re-reads, meditates, memorizes, analyzes, and puts to practice Sacred Scripture will be a disciple who is transformed by the power of the Word of God. Little by little the word will perfect you to be the person God wants you to be. Join into the hundreds of us who follow a daily Bible reading plan and challenge yourself to not only be a listener of the Word but a doer of His Word.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died on the cross for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

From where or who do you find direction when you need to make a decision?

What benefits have you experienced from studying the Bible every day?

In what ways has the Word of God transformed you?

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

- Before Reading the Bible, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and give you new revelation every day that you read.
- By reading the Bible, have a notebook or journal in hand to take notes and write: God's message for you today, and cite the verse or verses that spoke to you), cite God's promise for your life, the commandment to obey and what you will practice.

HOLINESS

... *But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy.* ¹⁶ *For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."* (1 Peter 1:15-16 NLT)

ILLUSTRATION: *It is said that a big musical concert was scheduled in a small town. The best bands were to come and play pop music, and everyone was mobilized to make the event happen. They set the tent up, chairs, sound, lights, etc., but the band had sent their instruments in another vehicle and that vehicle had not arrived yet. When it finally came, the piano was missing, and they tried to sound-check without it but it didn't sound right. Nearby was a Christian church and they got an idea: ask the church for their piano. When they arrived, the pastor came out and spoke with them, and didn't lend the church's piano. There ended up being no concert that night.*

INTRODUCTION: The moral of this story is that that instrument had been dedicated to God's service and couldn't be used for mundane, secular service. In the same way, you were set apart for the exclusive use of our Lord Jesus and shouldn't be used by the world.

1. WHAT IS HOLINESS? (Ezra 8:28)

- **"Holy"** in Hebrew and Greek languages means **"set apart for God, consecrated exclusively for one use, dedicated and available to Him."**
- It means: *Devotion in the sense of living a life of service to God, imitating and looking like the God we serve.*
- Living in holiness means living a life that is consecrated to God, set apart from evil and sin and devoted to God's service. Example: Who are we and what do we do when no one is watching? What thoughts do we

meditate on? How do we react? What do we watch on TV? What do we talk about when we're with others?

2. HOW DOES ONE OBTAIN HOLINESS?

- **Accepting Christ as Lord and personal Savior.** We should allow the Lord to govern our lives, and let Him control our entire being spirit, soul and body. (1 Tes. 5: 23).
- **Man purifies himself when he separates himself from that which is evil and impure.** (Ephesians 4:22-24). We should strip off the old man and redress ourselves in the new man. Bad words, bad actions, bad habits, bad expressions, bad conduct. We should part from these things and consecrate ourselves to God.
- We obtain holiness when we repent from our evil ways. In other words, we take a 180 turn and turn toward God.

3. WHAT ARE THE FRUITS OF HOLINESS? (Galatians 5:17)

- Holiness is the fruit of a true conversion to Christ. It is also the result of repentance from sin and having faith in Christ.
- Some people think that because we are already Christian and serve God, we don't need to repent or stop doing certain things. It's not about almost

doing the right thing, but giving all sin, evil, gossip, criticism, rumors, fights, anger, jealousy, rebellion, sexual impurity, impure thought, greed, violence, vice, and anything that displeases God.

3. REWARDS FOR HOLINESS:

- **We receive the inheritance of the Holy Spirit.** And we will see the greatness of his power and glory. (*Hebrews 12:14*)
- **We are guarded.** Holiness is a weapon, because we maintain ourselves pure and clean. Satan cannot attack, touch, steal, kill, or destroy a child of God. (*Psalm 37:28*)
- **We give a good testimony:** It serves a testimony to he who does not know Christ. Holiness is manifested and gives testimony of the power of God that can transform lives. *Example: An alcoholic stop drinking, adulterer stops his wrongdoing, liar stops lying, thief stops stealing, abuse ends, broken marriages become restored, etc.*
- **We are happy.** (*Psalm 119:47*) *Those who chase happiness cannot reach it, but when we pursue holiness, we receive happiness without asking for it. Example: A great weight is lifted off us when we know our “secrets” won’t be discovered, because we don’t do what is wrong anymore. We have a peaceful conscience, and we sleep in peace knowing that our life is pleasing to God and the Devil has nothing to accuse us of.*

CONCLUSION: Being holy is looking more like God. It doesn’t have anything to do with capability, knowledge, gifts, charisma, etc. These are all important aspects, but none of it is necessary to be holy. Being holy means remaining morally correct, being set apart from sin and ultimately, consecrated for God.

SALVATION PRAYER: Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and personal savior, amen.

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

What area of your life do you need to sanctify? What things do you need to part from? What would your family and coworkers say about you?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- Inspect yourself and see if your lives have been of service and consecration to God.
- Renounce to all sin that was separating you from the holiness of God.

BENEFITS OF A LIFE FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! (Galatians 5:16-17, 22-23 NLT)

ILLUSTRATION: On one occasion, a man in the auditorium asked, "How can you take all the air out of a cup?" Someone answered, "Sucking it out with an air pump." He responded by saying that this would create a draft in the cup. After receiving many suggestions, the man smiled and took a jar filled with water. He filled the cup and said, "Look, now there is no air in the cup." Then he said, "The only way to take sin out of my life is to be full of the Holy Spirit."

INTRODUCTION: To live a victorious life, be constant in God's path and remain free, it's necessary to be full of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says that, "Wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." His desire is for us to live an abundant and victorious life, and that He can guide, strengthen, and direct us every day. Is your life full of the Holy Spirit?

1. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT? (John 14:26)

- Many people think the Holy Spirit is a dove, but in reality, that is not how it is. The Holy Spirit is a divine person who we can relate to.
- He is the **consolation** the Father send to guide us. He speaks to us, listens, teaches, desires, guides, and reminds us of the Word of God. He purifies us and intercedes for us. The Holy Spirit is a gift for all believers of Christ, without exception. (John 7:37-39)
- He is who tells us if we are doing something wrong. He is who corrects

our spirit against sin and brings us closer to Christ.

- He is who is with us on Earth to guide us, strengthen, and bring us closer to God every day and help us in our weaknesses. (Romans 8:26)
- ### 2. BENEFITS OF LIVING FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. (Acts 1:8)
- a. **It gives us power to overcome temptation and sin.**
 - The Bible says that Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit" and after that He was tempted. (Matthew 3:16, Matthew 4:11) Jesus overcame temptation because He was full of the Holy Spirit.
 - To be able to defeat temptation, we must be full of the Holy Spirit. Our battle is not in the flesh, it's spiritual. No one can confront the devil in their own strengths.
 - a. **We become temples of God's spirit and evil spirits cannot return (1 Corinthians 6:19)**
 - The Bible says that when we are free, our home, in other words our soul and body, are clean. (Matthew 12:43-45). The only problem is that they are unoccupied and if we do not occupy it, it will cause more damage.
 - We should seek to be full of the Holy Spirit so that our homes, that are now clean through freedom, are occupied by His presence and power. Our soul and body should be a temple where God lives.

b. **We produce good fruits** (*Galatians 5:22-23*) A person that is full of the Spirit is a person that produces its Fruits:

- **Love:** His presence fills us with love to give, to forgive, to accept others how they are and see them with mercy.
- **Joy:** It takes away our sadness, depression, bitterness and gives us permanent happiness, and our happiness does not depend on our circumstances, but on the faith and communion with God we have.
- **Peace:** Peace will not allow the economic, family, work, and illness fears to contaminate our hearts.
- **Patience:** To resist trials and temptations, it will help us to be constant and not look back. It will help us to persevere and tolerate what may come.
- **Faith:** To believe that there is nothing impossible for God, to see the miracles we are waiting on, to share with others what God has done in our lives, etc.
- **Humility:** In other words, living in tranquility, benevolence, and serenity with others.

3. **HOW TO BE FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** Every believer should seek to be full of the Holy Spirit, but to receive that they should: (*Ephesians 5:18*)

- **Accept:** Accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior in their hearts and had a true repentance.

- **Believe and desire:** You should believe that it is for you and that you can receive it (*Acts 2:39*) and desire it with all your heart (*John 7:37-38*)
- **Ask:** We should ask for it: (*Luke 11:13*) *“Father, I ask you in the name of Jesus to fill me with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, amen.”*
- **Receive it by faith:** In the same way that you received salvation by faith, you will also receive the filling of the Holy Spirit. (*Acts 2:4*)

CONCLUSION: *Today is the day for you to allow the Holy Spirit to fill you. He wants to bless you and give you a victorious and full life. Open your heart and allow for Jesus to be first in your heart and life so He can give you freedom.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and personal savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- What area of weakness do you need the Holy Spirit to intervene in?
- What difference has it made in your life to be full of the Holy Spirit?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION: *Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to fill everyone present, minister the anointing of the Spirit and ask for baptism with the evidence of speaking in tongues, etc.*

DO NOT BE DISTRACTED

“Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you” (Proverbs 4:25 NIV).

INTRODUCTION: *We are in the end times and the enemy is launching distractions against the children of God to stop them from fulfilling their purpose. The devil wants to rob you of the divine access to the Lord’s blessing for your life.*

1. WHAT IS DISTRACTION?

(Philip. 1:6)

- A distraction is something that prevents you from accomplishing your goal, calling, or destiny. A distraction can be a person, place, or thing. Examples: A worldly friend who texts you to go to the club, a bar, a thought that is being entertained, gluttony, drunkenness, etc.
- Distractions are intensified when you lose conviction of your identity, calling, or assignment. You must be convinced that God still isn’t finished with you. The Lord is perfecting something big in you that will bless those who surround you.
- Distractions always come when you are the closest to your breakthrough. The same way that a detour is created on the highway due to construction, the enemy creates a detour in your life to divert you from God’s path.

2. WHY DO DISTRACTIONS COME?

(Hebrews 12:1-2)

- As a child of God, you must put off everything that besieges you, because the purpose of distractions is to wear you down, so you do not run the race that is ahead of you with patience.
- The devil wanted to wear down Jesus through offense. When Jesus was heading to the cross, he was not looking at the cross and the offense, he was seeing you and me. His focus was not shaken by offense.
- Criticism, rejection, and discouragement want to tire you out. You need to learn to see the blessing through the criticism, rejection, and discouragement. First, you need to go through it to get to it!
- Satan wants to wear you down so that you do not go to the cross, but you need to die to your selfishness to obtain the blessing that’s on the other side of the cross. Jesus did not let himself be distracted by the cross that was in front of him, instead his focus intensified as he remembered his purpose in God.

3. WHAT DO DISTRACTIONS CAUSE?*(Revelation 3:16)*

- *You lose focus:* You become a vagabond who doesn't know where they're heading.
- *Your progress is delayed:* You still don't have a House of Peace, a discipleship, a business, etc.
- *You become barren:* You cannot bear fruit in your spiritual, family, social, or financial life.
- *You cannot meet your goals:* You cannot reach the goals you set because you lack discipline.
- *You become uncommitted:* God cannot count on you because you're lukewarm.
- *The prophetic words are not fulfilled:* There is no obedience, thus, the prophetic words aren't fulfilled.

4. WHAT IS THE SOLUTION TO DISTRACTIONS? (Colossians 3:1)

- You must be honest and repent so that changes happen in your life. The moment you repent, the devil loses his grip on you and he is dethroned from your mind and heart.
- You need to seek the things from above and set your mind on them. If you set your mind on your purpose, then you will attract your purpose. If you put your mind on your goals, then you will attract your goals.
- You must re-focus on God's original intention for your life. Your life is short, and you need to manage your time wisely. You do not have time to be distracted, God needs you to focus on Him at a 101%. The Lord does not want

half of your attention, He wants all your attention.

CONCLUSION: The devil wants to rob your attention to delay God's plans for your life. There is something special that you carry, and the devil doesn't want you to share it with the world. Today, I invite you to make the Salvation Prayer so that God gives you the clarity you need to accomplish your purpose.

SALVATION PRAYER: Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart, so you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- Nowadays, how do you think the devil distracts people? Who are the people, places, or things?
- Why do you think that it is easy to be distracted in this world?
- If God was to search your heart right now, what would He find in it?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

Take time to renounce every distraction and to minister those who have felt distracted lately. Also, take the time to ask everyone for a certain goal they may have and then prayer for those goals.

LEND YOUR BODY TO JESUS

One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God. He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets. Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there. (Luke 5:1-3 NLT)

INTRODUCTION: *When Jesus came to this Earth, He began a work in humanity that should be continued by men and women who are willing to continue it. God needs us to loan him our bodies to do His will here on Earth. **But, what does it mean to loan the body to Jesus?***

1. **BE AN INSTRUMENT OF GOD.** (Acts 9:15)
 - Every machine that has been created in different parts of the world has been created for a specific purpose. In the same way, especially those of us who have given our lives to the Lord, we have been born to fulfill a purpose from God. What is that purpose? Being the source through which God can get close to man. *Example: Jesus used the boat to preach the Word and also bless Peter.*
2. **BE AVAILABLE:** (Luke 5:2)
We are the source through which God gets close to man and we need to be ready to be available to do his work at any moment, place, or time He needs us. He will place us in situations with people who have needs and that is where we have the opportunity to demonstrate that we are available to those who need help.

Example: The boat Jesus used was empty and available to be used.

- God wants us to be available to visit the sick, pray for families who need reconciliation, evangelize, invite people to House of Peace, available to serve the church, give out rides, open your home to preach the Word of God, etc. **Are you available for God?** Can you loan your mouth to Jesus to speak to others about him and that way save souls from death?
3. **DON'T MAKE EXCUSES** (Luke 5:3)
 - When the Lord asked for the boat to get on it and preach, the fishermen could've said no because it was taken already. On the contrary, Peter stopped doing what he was doing and obeyed Jesus, moving the boat further in so He could preach.
 - God encourages us to be grateful and take into account all that He has done in our lives, and not make excuses like: "It's too cold, too hot, I'm tired, I want to be with my family, I need to work, I have chores to do, I don't have time, etc." (Matthew 6:25)

4. **BENEFITS OF LOANING YOUR BODY TO JESUS.** (*Luke 5:4-7*)
- **We are prosperous:** When we loan our bodies to Jesus, life, money, effort, time, etc. He blesses us in a special way. *After Jesus finished using the boat that Peter had loaned Him, a great economic miracle took place and they caught an abundant amount of fish.*
 - **We are multiplied:** Our life becomes prolonged, we enjoy abundant health, God takes care of our finances, etc. *Peter and the other fishermen saw the multiplication of the fish until the nets ripped.*
 - **Supernatural miracles and provision from God are released in our lives:** Checks you didn't expect, salary raises, increased sales in your business, healing, closed doors open, etc. *Peter and his peers had started fishing hours ago and didn't catch anything, but because of their obedience they experienced a miraculous catch that changed the course of their lives.*
 - **Lives are changed:** God gives us the opportunity to see families transformed, youth coming out of drug problems, alcoholism, gangs, etc. *Peter and his peers were changed from that day. They stopped being fishermen of fish and began being fishers of men.*

CONCLUSION: *We are the instrument God needs to arrive to any place that has needs, for people to be saved, receive healing, physical and spiritual, and their lives to be restored. Will we be willing to loan our lives to the Lord? What is stopping you from doing so? Today, you can be like that boat that Peter loaned to Jesus to be a platform and speak to multitudes. Or maybe you can be like Mary who loaned her womb to God so through her Jesus could be born, who would bring salvation to all humanity. Make the decision to give your life to the Lord to be used by Him.*

SALVATION PRAYER: Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

In what way have you loaned your body to Jesus?

What experience have you had sharing the love of God with others?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

Ask God every morning to allow you to be a blessing to others and begin with loaning your body to Jesus at your job, school, the store, and anywhere else you may go.



There is a place for you