

**CHRIST HELPER'S
MANUAL**

17 PROVEN GUIDELINES

BY FRANK E. HENRICH

CREDITS

To God for gifts and leadership.

To my wife, Barbara Henrich and my family for editing and image work and advice.

To J. P. Hurlbert for asking me to give a speech which later resulted in this book being created.

To Dr. Jeffrey Burton Russell for his encouragement and advice.

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**VISIT THE WEBSITE www.poemsforchrist.com for poems and other
articles by Frank Henrich.**

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This manual is meant to be a helping guide not a complete study on the subject of conduct while serving God.

A LETTER FROM THE AUTHOR TO YOU

In this book is a condensed version of the book *Jesus and Me in Workplace Ministry* by Frank Henrich available from Amazon.com on your computer. We will be taking a journey of faith together, so I thought you might like to have some background information on your fellow traveler. So let's give it a whirl!

I was born in 1931, being raised by Christian parents during the depression in a small town in South Dakota. After graduating from the University of South Dakota with a business degree in 1953, I served as an officer in the United States Navy during the Korean War, and then started my business career, which involved the founding of three companies in packaging materials products. Married 55 years in 2012, my wife and I have four grown children and nine grandchildren.

When I was 31 years old, God touched my life in such a way that I knew He is real, alive, and Spirit. With a zeal to share our Lord Jesus with others, my Christian work has been focused in bringing Christians back into church attendance, and increasing their faith in God. I was never in a paid ministry, but my mission field was in my business life, where God used me to assist many persons in trouble.

In 1973, I prayed asking God to give me a writing ministry, so I could leave some faith-strengthening material with those He helped. Soon I was writing short articles and poems on faith building to help myself and friends to handle their problems. Some of these articles and poems are in this book, and were written between 1973 to the present. I am now 81 and am retired from business, but staying very active with family and writing. As poems come to me, I write them down, and then ask God where and to whom I am to give them. I share this ministry with my wife who is always adding her needed touch.

This led us to start a web page in January 2009 called www.poemsforchrist.com that sends the poems out into the four corners of the world. Its success still surprises us. Praise God. Now we believe God wants us to put them into a book for you to read.

I would like to close this letter to you with one of my prayers to God:

THE PRAYER OF A CHRISTIAN WRITER

There are thousands of persons who can write about the wonders of God better than I can, but does the Holy Spirit permeate their words? For when the Holy Spirit speaks through the words, it is not so much what they say; but the Holy Spirit leaps from the words to the spirit (soul) of another person; to prick, touch, sooth and heal; to awake the human spirit to the realness of God. Oh! Holy Spirit, my prayer is not that I write the finest manuscript, but that you permeate my words. Let them be a conduit of your power. Help me to shape the word thoughts, as you desire, so God will be glorified.

by Frank E. Henrich April 2, 2006

Let's us now start the journey, you and I, through the book. May God bless you as you read this book.

Frank Henrich December 11, 2012

PREFACE

This book describes a journey. Yes, a life trip where I sought to draw closer to God and be His lay minister on a one-on-one basis to the people life has brought into my circle of activity. Would you like to come with me as I describe its many turns in the road? If so, I invite you. Come get into my car and let's go. I will be your tour guide. The trip will be thru the guidelines I learned from God through the hard knocks and joys of such a trip. Why do I bring you on this road to God? Could it be that you hunger to know more about God? Or could it be that God is preparing you to be His outreach, to be His hands or His voice through which the Holy Spirit will inspire other souls lost on their way - some saved and some yet to know Jesus as their Savior and Redeemer. Are you saying to yourself that time is short and you long for God to use you for His glory?

The beginnings of this book started when I was asked to give an address to a group of businesspersons in May 2012. I thought what could I, as an 81-year-old retired businessman, say of interest to these active middle-aged

businesspersons? Then came the thought, I could tell them the lessons God taught me during the 31 years I ministered in the workplace. So with pen in hand, my paper filled with seventeen guidelines I learned to use and always followed. I then made my outline for the speech.

While doing this, a picture was viewed by my mind. It appeared in what I call the theater of my mind. You know the place where we relive memories. What I saw in the theater was a picture of me sitting in a chair looking out of a window. Then the picture changed to another camera pose where I was looking out the window into the dark night. It was a summer's night, and I was watching the insects fly around and around a light bulb on the outdoor porch ceiling. Then the meaning came clear to me. As insects are drawn to the light so are spiritually sick persons drawn physically to persons who hold the spiritual light of Christ within them. That explains why we soldiers for Christ find the hurting souls keep coming to us for solace. When the picture was gone, I sat down at my computer and wrote the poem called "The Light of Christ within Us." The lecture to the businesspersons started with reading this poem.

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WITHIN US

As the single light glowing on a porch ceiling
When the darkness of night fills the shadows
The insects fly around and around its glow
Wishing only to touch but knowing better.

So we are drawn to light from darkness
Like the sight of windows aglow coming home,
Signaling a place of warmth, security, and love,
Coming after a day of working for our needs.

Few like to dwell in darkness and avoid it
So can we say with assurance that light
And the searching for light is a good pastime
For an earthly person like you and me?

But we have spoken about physically seen light,
Is there another kind? If so, what kind of light?
It is the spiritual light of Christ aglow
Fed by the Holy Spirit in His followers.

The physical world does not see this light
But it is a beacon of light for the hurting,
Yes, it is a homing device gathering
Those hungry for God or in deep need.

For those persons who carry Christ's light
Are indeed blessed in a special ministry
To the souls who are drawn to them
Seeking to know God better and have soul rest.

So pray daily that the light in Christ,
Yes, that invisible light to the unlighted
Will shine out reaching to the souls
To approach you for spiritual nourishment.

Let your life be seen by those you know
As a beacon they would like to follow,
And wonder not why your help is sought
By the soul who is facing a trauma.

So be diligent in helping those persons
Who God causes to seek your aid,
For it is indeed a wonderful ministry
For you, a soul seeking to do God's work.

By Frank E. Henrich May 14, 2012

John 8:12 Jesus said to the people, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." NLT

Matt 5:13-16 "You are the light of the world — like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. Don't hide your light under a basket!"

Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.” NLT

INTRODUCTION

Who is the real minister to those you meet in the workplace? It is not your church pastor; it is, you, a worker earning your livelihood. For you carry the light of Christ in you that is nourished by the Holy Spirit, assisting you to reach out to the needy soul or that soul seeking to know God better. Have you come to a point in your walk with Jesus that you have asked to be His voice and hands to a troubled world? The individual spirit of a hurting person will be seeking God's help, and seeing the light of Christ in you, will be drawn to you.

Here are 17 guidelines to help you. These are helpful hints that I learned in my 31 years in such a ministry. (Each of these guidelines will be discussed more thoroughly in the upcoming chapters.)

SEVENTEEN GUIDELINES TO BE EFFECTIVE AS A GODLY MINISTER IN YOUR WORKPLACE:

- 1. To be a minister for God in your workplace you need to ask God to be empowered and used.**
- 2. Pray each morning to be used by God that day and that God will give you a knowing that you have been used.**
- 3. Your role as a minister to persons in your workplace area is passive. You will see someone and say to yourself, “Now there is a person I will tell about Jesus.” But in your eagerness to step out in your own power without a directional knowing from God, it will be fruitless.**
- 4. Be ready when the Holy Spirit calls you into action. This can be with a word of knowledge or an urge to act or speak to a person, or it can be that the person inquires of you.**

- 5. Pray and study while asking God to empower you to represent Him in your marketplace where you labor.**
- 6. When you go into a meeting where there can be conflict, send the love of God there first, ahead of you.**
- 7. When not in a special action for God, give your work the use of your full mind. Stop useless daydreaming. You compete with competitors who are giving their work 100% of their effort.**
- 8. Live a holy life. Yes, you will at times sin and feel unworthy. But we operate in our ministry to businesspersons not in our own strength but God's. So confess your sins, and pick up your ministry again.**
- 9. As you mature, you will find peace, joy, love and purpose for living in the continuous connection with Jesus, which I call Presence Christianity. You will choose not to sin because of the desire to maintain this connection of grace.**
- 10. You should seek to learn more about God from the Bible, from learned Christians, prayer, and attendance at the College of the Holy Spirit.**
- 11. Guard yourself from spiritual pride. Seek to be humble, meek, yet bold.**
- 12. Do not be surprised to find Christians who hinder your ministry for God.**
- 13. Attend church, Bible studies, and fellowship while keeping your theology very basic concerning salvation.**
- 14. If in your presence a sin happens, you must respond immediately regarding your disapproval or you will be considered by others as approving of the sin.**
- 15. God may move or adjust your workplace to fit where He wants you to minister. When you asked God to let you be a minister to your workplace, do not be surprised if God creates events that move you to another city or a new company where He has work for you. Remember God's ministry through you is more important to God than where you work.**

16. Your ministry may not be as a pastor, for pastors are enablers that prepare active Christians to reach out to lost and needy souls, helping the frontline warriors who in their work will battle for souls.

17. Don't hide your Christianity from workers in your workplace or you may be asked to do something that is sinful.

I love telling the story about my sister Mary Ellen when she was 12 years old and was late for supper. Mom asked Mary Ellen, "Did you not hear Ellie, your brother, calling you for dinner?" Mary Ellen answered, "He called me but I did not hear him." Is God calling you to a ministry in your workplace? Hear now the call of God on your life. Let the Christ-light shine from you.

In this book I have limited my writing to events that took place when I worked a secular job. But they will also apply to the persons in a jail ministry, during visits with your neighbor, and wherever life takes you. Yes, whenever you have human contact these will help you.

SCRIPTURES TO STUDY

John 15:1-8 1 Jesus, the True Vine "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. 3 You have already been pruned for greater fruitfulness by the message I have given you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you; for a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful apart from me.

5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Anyone who parts from me is thrown away like a useless branch and withers. Such branches are gathered into a pile to be burned. 7 But if you stay joined to me and my words remain in you, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted! 8 My true disciples produce much fruit. This brings great glory to my Father. NLT

CHAPTER 1 – GUIDELINE ONE

TO BE A MINISTER FOR GOD IN YOUR WORKPLACE YOU NEED TO ASK GOD TO BE EMPOWERED AND USED.

God will never force a ministry on you, but He will give you the desire for this work. We alone have the power to say no. It is called free will. So when God blesses you with the desire to serve Him where you work, thank Him, and say, “Yes, oh yes, my Lord. Empower me with the Holy Spirit ministerial gifts that I need to represent you.” Here are some of my prayers written in prose. It’s okay, you can read them to God using your name in the poem. For example where the word “I” appears, insert your own name.

Here is a special guideline for you when reading poetry. Poetry contains condensed thought. Its purpose is to motivate you to think. Reading it once and feeling you have captured its essence rarely happens. To obtain the full effect of a poem, I suggest you read it three times with a lapse of time between each reading for this allows your mind to recall experiences from your life and reevaluate your own perspectives.

PLEADING PRAYER OF A MESSENGER

Dear Lord Jesus, my Redeemer
What task do You have for me
Tomorrow at the rising
Of the morning from its sleep?

Surely there must be a task
For these hands to help handle,
Perhaps a voice of encouragement
To a Christian weary and hurting.

Please, when you do use me thus
Quicken the eager spirit inside me,
Then I will know and glorify You
My God, my Redeemer Jesus.

By Frank E. Henrich
September 13, 2011

As workers for God in our marketplace or in our contact with others, we are spiritual leaders. Let us reflect on the words of that great Christian leader, J. Oswald Sanders, when he writes about being a spiritual warrior leader. He wrote the following in his book *Spiritual Leadership*, pages 18-19:

“True leaders must be willing to suffer for the sake of objectives great enough to demand their wholehearted obedience. Spiritual leaders are not elected, or appointed, or created by synods or churchly assemblies. God alone makes them. One does not become a spiritual leader by filling an office, taking a course work in the subject, or resolving in one’s own will to do this task. A person must qualify to be a spiritual leader.” The author continues later, “As that person matures, God confers a leadership role, and the Spirit of God goes to work through him. When God’s searching eye finds someone qualified to lead, God anoints that person with the Holy Spirit and calls him or her to a special ministry.”

I want to tell you that when I first realized that God was using me, it was such a thrill. It was so exciting. And it’s still as exciting every day that he uses me. If you are seeking to do His work, could it not be that God has given you the desire? Tell Him, yes, use me!

LORD, HELP ME TO BE A CHRIST HELPER

I am but one voice,
 Among many saying,
Make clear the way,
 Before the Lord God.

Each voice has a slant,
 That God wants to convey;
A direction correction,
 A loving rebuke.

No one hears me,
 Is my voice to be heard
Only by the wind
 That has no roots.

**When will it be heard
By persons who care?
Yes, I know, my God,
When You will it so.**

**Then let me plead,
Not for my glory or fame;
But for human souls,
Who are losing their way.**

**Help me to show them,
That their glory rests in You,
Their Creator and Lover, not in
Themselves or physical things.**

**In Your mercy, lift
Partially the spiritual veil;
Let them gain a glimpse,
And they will turn back to You.**

**Use me as Your instrument,
In whatsoever way;
But let it be, that Your voice
Is heard thru me.**

**Lord, let me be a minister
In the field of my labor.**

By Frank Henrich 11-10-84

Each morning I have learned to pray for the coming day. You will learn about a special way to pray in the next chapter.

CHAPTER 2 - GUIDELINE TWO

PRAY EACH MORNING TO BE USED BY GOD AND THAT HE WILL GIVE YOU A KNOWING WHEN YOU ARE BEING USED.

It is a good practice to prostrate yourself on the floor asking God to use you that day and when he uses you to give you a knowing of His use.

Here is a poem I like to pray:

MORNING DAILY PRAYER

Oh, grace of God fill me,
Oh, grace of God comfort me,
Hide me in your covering,
Keep my mind pure in you.

Guide my path with a light
Revealing your wisdom way,
Take fear for tomorrow
Away from my tired psyche.

For all things are in your power,
You have the cattle on 1000 hills,
My mind cannot fathom your reach,
Your awesomeness is overwhelming.

So take this humble, contrite soul
Giving me boldness to reach out,
To be your hands, voice and touch
To the troubled souls I meet today.

By Frank Henrich February 9, 2012

Then your thoughts turn to ask God:

GOD, WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

Oh! What peace there is,
When Jesus is guiding me,
Oh! How much contentment,
When I attune with His presence.

Oh! Fright, be gone from me,
Oh! Fame, you desiring spirit,
Be gone from me now,
For God's time is my time.

**How do I know His timing?
It's a knowing in my psyche,
It propels my desires
And moves me to action.**

**Be content, oh my wandering soul,
Be calm and wait patiently,
For your awakening will come,
Coming suddenly, be ready.**

**My prayer to God is I am ready,
Use me today for Your glory.**

By Frank Henrich Aug. 15, 2008

**Read Matt 7:7-12, Proverbs 3:13-18,
and James 1:5-6**

In conclusion, preparing your heart through daily prayer and confession to God, will greatly bless your marketplace ministry. In the next guideline, you'll learn the wisdom of waiting on God's leading.

CHAPTER 3 – GUIDELINE THREE

YOUR ROLE AS A MINISTER TO PERSONS IN YOUR WORKPLACE AREA IS PASSIVE.

You will see someone and say to yourself, "Now there is a person I will tell about Jesus." Your eagerness to step out in your own power without a directional knowing from God will be fruitless, leading you to realize that you need to learn how to wait for God's calling for action.

For new ministers for God (that's you and me), this is the first stumbling block we reach. The gift of discernment comes after praying for it earnestly and with its search we learn patience and obedience.

Here is also an article I wrote on discernment that should help you.

DISCERNING OF SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

God intervenes in our lives through circumstances and thought. Through circumstances many times we do not see His hand at work. Thought direction is a more rare form of God's revelation to man. It is so beautifully described for us in the Bible in Kings, chapter 19, verses 11-15:

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; 12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

13 So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

14 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

15 Then the LORD said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus." NKJV

Please note that the voice Elijah heard was not an audible voice, but a still silent voice. This silent voice comes to us through a thought implanted in our minds by God. Yes, inspired thought!

When a Christian receives a full understanding that God is Spirit, then God can instruct and give His confidence to that person. A Christian is also open to receiving thought messages which are from four sources: 1. From God, 2. From his own spirit, 3. From his mind and 4. From satanic spirits. When a Christian receives in thought an insight that he believes is from God and it requires action on his part that will affect many persons, the Bible instructs us to test the spirits. In the maturing of a Christian there comes a time when he seeks to do the work of the Lord. In doing this work he needs direction and may be called upon to act for God in special situations.

As this person seeks more and more to be His servant, he recognizes the need to have a faithful direction. It is then that God gives him thoughts that he instinctively knows are not from his mind. So he wonders at its source.

This thought-source training I found covered a year for me. And then even though I went through the training twenty-five years ago, that training included three tests of such thoughts. These three tests are: 1. If the thought does not result in God being glorified by someone or myself discard it; 2. If it requires an action by me that is contrary to Biblical teachings then discard it; or 3. If it requires an action by me that affects more than two persons in an adverse way and is of a major nature, have it tested by asking prayer discernment from Christians who have the gift of spiritual discernment.

1 John 4:1-2 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God NKJV

In other words, I seek a prayerful spiritual discernment from fellow Christians who have been given the gift of discernment by the Holy Spirit. The problem can become, who are those persons who have this gift? Recently, I needed to find those who have this gift of discernment and found them hard to find. But then it is up to God to provide me with these people if indeed He desires that some insightful thought material be tested. So I wait to see if God provides them. If not, I aim to proceed without their discernment and fear not.

Brian Ralston, a man of God, who is a Christian teacher and minister who I highly respect wrote me the following: “Discernment is a gift that God gives to some, but not all. Discernment is also a rare gift, which I think can be granted if one seeks it from the Lord. I agree with you that it is tough to find, as some who have it are concerned about being "prideful" about it, and thus, are a bit hidden. Others may have it, but not realize it.”

So what have we learned? We have discussed how God intervenes in our lives through thoughts and how to evaluate them and when necessary to test them. I encourage you to seek the gift of discernment for without it your servanthood for God, will be limited. Trust in God for He will never lead you astray.

I believe that for you to be a minister for God to the marketplace, you need discernment. So pray for it. But while we are being instructed by the Holy Spirit in the College of the Holy Spirit, we become impatient.

CHAPTER 4 - GUIDELINE FOUR

BE READY WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS YOU INTO ACTION.

This can be with a word of knowledge or an urge to act or speak to a person or it can be that the person makes an inquiry of you.

As I explained in Chapter 2 and 3, I have learned that any off- handed attempt to be God's messenger to a sick soul was fruitless. But now I had become passive and anxiously awaited God to use me. I also was learning to discern knowing from God, yes, the discerning the spirits. Then the first call came. Small as it was, my spirit was warmed with the knowledge that God called me to serve. So with this success, I made sure I prayed every morning for a opportunity to serve. There are so many true events that I could describe, but your time is valuable so I will tell you about the "The Man At The Lunch Counter." It is about a man who was losing his faith.

THE MAN AT THE LUNCH COUNTER

This is a true account of an event in my life. On most mornings I lay prostrate on the floor and pray, "Please God, use me today in your service and when you do, please give me an inner knowing that I am being used." The incidents that followed in my life were many, but I would like to tell you of one. It was a business day for me and being a salesman I traveled. It was noon, and I found myself hungry in San Leandro, California. Not knowing where to go, I spotted a small cafe and upon entering found myself in a narrow building just wide enough for one long counter stretching back 30 feet. The kitchen was in the back. On the customer's side of the counter were round swivel stools without any backs and the place was packed with noonday customers.

My first thought was the cafe is full but upon walking down the narrow passageway between the stools and the wall, I spotted one stool free. Being hungry, I made a beeline toward it and sat down. I ordered my food and then I had an unusual thought come to me, as a silent command that told me to tell the man sitting on my left that he was losing his faith. I looked at the man, who I had not spoken to or acknowledged his presence.

He was a businessman in his thirties just about through with his lunch. I looked at him for a few seconds and reminded myself of my morning prayer. Without another thought I looked at his head bent down over his food and said, "You are losing your faith." He jerked his head upward toward me and stared. He said nothing and his face first showed anger at being disturbed by a stranger. Then I could see anger fill his facial features. His cheeks started to turn red. I said nothing more and we stared at each other for a time that seemed endless to me. Then slowly the red drained out of his face and he spoke saying, "How did you know?"

I told him that I had received a word of knowledge from the Lord Jesus along with a command to tell him. That inner witness that I asked God to give me when I was being used, filled me and I felt fulfilled. The man's name was Dave. He sat there and we talked until I had finished my lunch. Going outside we continued to talk. He explained that he had studied for the Catholic priesthood and dropped out, had married and had two children. Slowly he was sure he was losing his faith in God and had stopped going to church each Sunday. Soon one of his children would be ready for First Communion and he was trying to decide what to do. He was visually shaken that God, through me, had given him a revelation that God truly is real and still loved him, yes him, with all his doubts. We agreed to meet for lunch again.

Over the next four months we met for lunch four times. He started to return to church and saw to it that his child received First Communion. The last interesting thing about my contact with Dave was at our last lunch. We had selected a quiet restaurant with lots of room between tables so that we could talk freely. After a bit of conversation he said to me, "I do not know why I should listen to you; you are not a priest." The bluntness of his remark at first stung me. But then I remembered how Catholics are often taught that only the priest can handle spiritual matters. Besides this there is often an after reaction to a spiritual intervention event in one's life. First, they are excited about it and then they say, "Could this really have happened? I better put up my guard and back away." The interjection of the priest idea, well, that was an attempt to build a wall between us.

I said back to him, "That is a good question. Let's both pray to the Holy Spirit to see if you should listen to me?" I immediately closed my eyes and silently prayed. What happened to me then was in the inner theatre of my mind; you know the place you play back memories both good and bad.

Well, there I saw a man under a canvas tent open on all four sides but with a canvas top hovering two feet over his head. Then the meaning of the image came to me. I opened my eyes to look at Dave. He was looking back at me. I said to him, "You have built a tent between you and God. If you remove the tent, you have no more need of me." And so it was, we never met physically again. But I did phone him six months later and all was well between God and Dave, and his family was attending church regularly.

What did I learn through this experience? I learned a prayer to be used as a servant is honored by God. I learned that God can use anyone in any situation, if he or she is willing to be bold and expose oneself when called to action. What did Dave learn? He learned that God is real and that God had not forsaken Him. So if you feel that you are losing your faith, don't wait for God to intervene miraculously but instead get down on your knees and be honest with God. Tell Him you are losing your faith and need His help. A humble and meek soul receives much food from a loving God.

I have been taught in the College of the Holy Spirit that God will first place a shawl of power over our shoulders. Yes, a shawl instead of a cloak of power. For with the shawl, God has given us power in certain areas or arenas, but not in others. As we are able to handle a greater mantle of His power, He fills in some of the holes in our shawl. Many Christians fail to pray for the power of God to increase. It is as though their life is satisfied with what they have or their minds do not want to give up control to the Spirit of God. Which is greater as a guide for our lives, the Spirit of God or our minds that are a creation of God? Yet, many in very high places trust in man-made programs of outreach to lost souls instead of submission of their minds to the leading of the Spirit of God.

God has given us the Bible where He has guidelines. It is God's word of the past. His Spirit is a Spirit that is alive and active, otherwise prayer would be of no value. As you walk with God in this ministry slowly you will learn to trust God more. You will be called too spiritual for the likes of many who trust the Spirit of God only partially. God gave us the Scriptures and God promised never to violate them. So we have a check on knowing the Spirit of God. Yes, God gave us minds to use fully but not to dominate His Spirit.

CHAPTER 5 - GUIDELINE FIVE

HOW ARE WE EMPOWERED BY GOD FOR THIS MINISTRY TO OUR MARKETPLACE?

Under the direction of the Holy Spirit, we are given an infusion of spiritual gifts that gives us the use of divine power. These gifts are our tools that come as we desire to be God's servant to a wayward world. We desire to want to do thank-you work for God in appreciation for God's great gift of salvation. These thank-you works are not to earn salvation as we already have the gift of salvation, given to us without price or work, as so clearly stated in Titus, chapter 3, verses 4-7, *"But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."* NKJV

This desire to serve God we know pleases God as He is always looking for workers as recorded in Matthew, chapter 9, verses 37-38. *"Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'" NKJV*

How then can we do God's work? We want to be his arms, hands, and voice to lost souls by being an enabling agent of God to Christians whose faith is waning because of a crisis in their lives or to be teachers to the persons who are hungry to know more about God. These are Christian spiritual ministries and are separate from Christian social ministries such as feeding the poor, running health clinics and etc. that are also badly needed. This book will only address the spiritual ministries.

When we receive Jesus as our Savior, we received the Holy Spirit. The work of the Holy Spirit in us will yield the fruit of the spirit in us as recorded in Galatians, chapter 5, verses 22-26, *"But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Here there is no conflict with the law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there. If we are living now by the Holy Spirit, let us follow the Holy Spirit's*

leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or irritate one another, or be jealous of one another.” NLT

These attributes of the fruit of the Spirit are central to transforming the inner self of a person. As the Holy Spirit continues His work in us, we become hungry to serve God in outreach to lost souls. Jesus told us to do this just before He ascended to Heaven as recorded in Acts, chapter 1, verses 6-8, *“When the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, ‘Lord, are you going to free Israel now and restore our kingdom?’ The Father sets those dates,’ He replied, ‘and they are not for you to know. But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere — in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth’.” NLT*

This power for outreach to the lost comes in Holy Spirit gifts, which are spiritual power-tools God gives us to use in our ministries for Him. In the last paragraph we discussed the fruit of the Holy Spirit that transform us and now we are discussing the gifts of the Holy Spirit that give us power to reach the lost. These gifts come to us through the infilling many call the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Kenneth Hagin’s book *“The Holy Spirit and His Gifts,”* which you can commercially buy from Ken Hagin Ministries (866-312-0972) is an excellent study guide.

We started this chapter with the question, *“How are we empowered by God for these ministries to our marketplaces? The answer is we are infused with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which are of spiritual power. Remember there is a difference between the Holy Spirit fruits as recorded in Galatians, chapter 5: 22-26, “But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” These fruits transform our personal life to be pleasing to God. NLT*

However, the Holy Spirit Gifts give us power as recorded in 1 Corinthians, chapter 12, verses 1-11. Paul is writing, *“And now, dear brothers and sisters, I will write about the special abilities the Holy Spirit gives to each of us, for I must correct your misunderstandings about them. You know that when you were still pagans you were led astray and swept along in worshiping speechless idols. So I want you to know how to discern what is truly from God. No one speaking by the Spirit of God can curse Jesus, and no one is able to say, Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are*

different kinds of spiritual gifts, but it is the same Holy Spirit who is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service in the church, but it is the same Lord we are serving. There are different ways God works in our lives, but it is the same God who does the work through all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church.”

“To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another he gives the gift of special knowledge. The Spirit gives special faith to another, and to someone else he gives the power to heal the sick. He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and to another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to know whether it is really the Spirit of God or another spirit that is speaking. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, and another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. It is the one and only Holy Spirit who distributes these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.” NLT

These gifts are power gifts to reach out to spiritually transform others and to build up the church. God gives these to His chosen workers, as they need them and in the strength that they need them to perform the spiritual ministries. The infusion of these gifts by God to His workers is usually called the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. But I believe that God gives some of these gifts to persons who do not want to receive the baptism, which includes receiving a tongue language. Some persons have a fear of speaking in a language their mind does not understand. I received the great gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with tongues, so it is all that I can attest to.

This infusion of spiritual gifts does not usually happen when we are born again as the Holy Spirit needs time to transform us inwardly with the Holy Spirit fruits. We have to be trained by the Holy Spirit. I like to call this training, the attending of the free College of the Holy Spirit, in which we pass through different learning experiences so we can handle more power rightly for God. This can be a long journey.

Am I saying that you need to have experienced the Baptism of the Holy Spirit to gain salvation? No! Am I saying that churches that shun the Baptism of the Holy Spirit are not doing a work for God? Oh, no! They are bringing salvation to lost souls and their work is very important. I am only sorry that they do not receive the full filling of the Holy Spirit. Why do

they not experience this? Perhaps we will ask God when we get to Heaven. We live with and in the revelation that God gives us. So now ask God to reveal Himself to you in a way you can better serve Him. God has a plan for you who trust in Him and He promises to lead you. The Christian walk on earth is a walk in faith and trust and obedience as He directs us.

In 1972, I asked God if the baptism of the Holy Spirit was real and if so did He want me to have it and sealed my request with the promise of Matthew, chapter 7, verses 7-12, "*Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.*" NKJV

Some days later, I was driving home in my car alone, I had a cassette of sing-along praise music, and I was singing along praising God. The words I said changed from the words of the songs, and I was singing the melody in new words, a tongue language that I did not understand. I started to cry with joy so that I had to get off the freeway and find a spot to stop. I sang and sobbed with joy for a half hour. My mind asked "Was this the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?"

The next Sunday after the worship service a person who I did not know by name called me aside and then told me, "The answer to your question is yes, you have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit." God comforted me and my doubts. So I know the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is real. I was 41 years old in 1972. If I had died at the age of 40 would I have been saved? Oh, yes! But God wanted me to minister for Him in the marketplace, and I needed the gifts of the Holy Spirit to move forward.

BE CAREFUL, DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT BY DECLARING HIS WORKS THE WORKS OF SATAN

The Scriptures are very clear here: *Eph 4:27-32*

28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.
NKJV

Matt 12:24-30 24 Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, "This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." 25 But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. 26 If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? 27 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. 28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. 30 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.
NKJV

Matt 12:31-32 31 The Unpardonable Sin "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. 32 Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come." NKJV

The Scriptures warn us to be careful not to grieve the Holy Spirit by declaring that His gifts manifested in the workings in Jesus followers are the works of Satan. If you so judge, your soul may be in peril. Your physical mind has great difficulties discerning the spiritual workings of God. So take care for the Scripture warns us. Instead of condemning, we should be shouting with joy that God is working His miracles, yes, the miracles we have sought in our prayers.

GOD'S GIFTS ARE GIVEN AS NEEDED!

It was two years after I received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit that I received the gift of discernment. I was attending a church meeting where

the speaker was speaking on a subject, trying to persuade me to reverse a Christian belief that I held strongly. I closed my eyes and asked God if the action he recommended was of Him. If I am wrong, please correct me. When I opened my eyes the figure of the man turned into the ugliest, totally black image. In a minute later, he turned back to his normal physical appearance. I needed to know and God showed me the ugly blackness of his sick soul.

So I hear you say, well, “I have not received the gift of discernment.” I believe all Christians have received the simplest form of discernment when they decide to go to a location where they have sinned before. The Holy Spirit gives their minds a thought pointing out the danger of such an act. Often we respond saying, “I can handle myself now.” So we go ahead with our own power and often sin. I believe when we pray the Lord’s Prayer at the end we say “And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from the evil one,” we are asking for that knowing or discernment of danger.

WORK IN THE MARKETPLACE

My work in the marketplace for God came alive in 1975 and grew, three years after receiving the baptism. God trains us in His time. In the thirty-one years from 1975 to the year 2006, I never earned a salary for my work for God. My substance came from working secular jobs to pay my way and support my family.

In my middle life, I asked God for the gift of writing Christian articles and poems. God gave me that gift that resulted in praising God in poetic prose and articles that I handed out to people as I felt led. He gave my wife the gift of editing the work. So when I retired in 2006, we created books of the poems and articles, giving them away free.

In 2009, the website called Poems for Christ was created and these writings were sent out around the world at www.poemsforchrist.com. Perhaps now in 2012, I am to become a teacher writing a book on Christianity. The future is still happening and I want, at 81, to be used until God calls me home.

I liken a Christian Community to a great symphony orchestra that contains many different instruments, from the sweet, mellow, soft sound of the clarinet to the swishing, fast, high pitch of the violins. Then there are the

beats of the drums and the heavy brass sound of the trumpets, trombones and bass horns. All are needed to play a symphony. I visualize the violin section as the spiritual section of the orchestra. It is a rare Christian Community that has the full range of sounds for there seems to be a limiting of some classes of instruments. When a community operates with only a partial set of instruments, its message to the world is weak. Oh, if only all our Christian churches could be full symphonies.

I would like to tell you about an event in my life where I learned the power of prayer and someone else learned God still loved him. I call it the “Double Whammy Story” since it had a message for both me and for another.

ARE MY PRAYERS HEARD?

THE CASE OF THE DOUBLE WHAMMY !

By Frank E. Henrich

What is this Double Whammy? This true story began in April 1975. My name is Frank Henrich and I began to question whether prayer is as powerful as some would claim. My employment was as a sales representative in my own little company, selling products throughout the San Francisco Bay Area to large industrial companies.

Many a book on prayer had met my perusal with the result of always being still in greater wonderment. Could prayer really be that powerful, was my thought? A wonderment which left as its effect, a desire to see prayer as an effective spiritual weapon for me, but one I still questioned. Let me put your mind at rest, I did not question that prayer works. What I questioned was would God answer direct prayers of a very specific nature.

I, in frustration, turning all books aside, decided to trouble my mind no more on it. I do this often when I do not know the answer and I find my mind troubled because I do not understand fully. I turn to Matthew, chapter 7 verse 11, and ask God to fulfill the promise of Jesus by giving me a clear mind on this subject as a gift from Him. It is a call for spiritual wisdom and understanding. Paul in his letter to the Colossians

expressed it so beautifully in chapter 1, verse 9: *“So we have continued praying for you ever since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you a complete understanding of what he wants to do in your lives, and we ask him to make you wise with spiritual wisdom.NLT*

My wife was a nurse in a hospital. One of her fellow workers, a woman named Joan, had a problem with which my wife, Barbara, felt I could assist her. Joan’s husband was rushed to the hospital with emphysema. Joan came from a Catholic background. Her husband, Matt, was a Protestant in his youth but not active in any church for years. Joan did not know any Protestant ministers but yet Matt wanted to see a minister. When Joan mentioned this to Barbara, she suggested that I come and pray with him. The meeting was arranged and I prayed over him. His health improved enough for him to go home.

Some weeks passed, and I was calling on clients. It was a Wednesday and my appointment calendar was full. I started the day eager to obtain some sales. At noon, I called my answering service for messages. My wife had left a message for me to call her. I called her and she said Matt was again in the hospital and his condition was critical. His wife wanted me to come to the hospital immediately and pray for him. Before I responded to my wife’s request, all my afternoon appointments and their importance flashed through my mind, but then did God want me to pray for Matt? It seemed as though, before I could ponder further, I said I would come at once. I hung up the receiver of the pay booth phone and began canceling my afternoon appointments. I was 50 miles from the hospital and I was going out there during my prime selling time. The thought kept repeating in my mind as I drove to Novato, CA “Lord, you don’t need me there. You can heal him without me. You don’t need me there.” I could not seem to erase this recurring thought and the seemingly emptiness of my going there. I became irked with myself and thought, “It must be that God wants me to comfort Joan. That must be why He’s sending me there.”

Fifty minutes later, I arrived at the hospital. I found Barbara and she told me the number of Matt’s private room. I pushed open the door expecting to find Joan there and expecting to soothe her troubled mind. To my surprise, she was not there. Only Matt was there and he was unconscious. I said in my thoughts, “Why should I pray over this man! He will not know that I am praying for him. This doesn’t make sense.”

There was a large, comfortable chair at the foot of the bed and I went and sat down. I do not know how long I sat there but I certainly remember what happened there. Suddenly, I had an inward knowing that God wanted to restore Matt and for a reason beyond my intellect, I was to pray for him. I jumped up and mightily I prayed over Matt. Later, as I left the room, Matt was still unconscious and no one had entered, even though I prayed for some time.

Matt passed the crisis and in a few days returned home. I went over to see him to ask for his forgiveness for being reluctant to pray for him. I told him of the events of that day and the prayer for restoration for his life. He began to cry. You would have to know Matt to understand that it was difficult for him to cry; he was a man's man. He then told me that when he was around 17 he had accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior in a small Protestant church in the South. There he had been very active in the work of the Lord. At age 20, he left there and went into the world and from that point for him it was wine, women and song.

Now time had passed, no longer was he pleasing to the world. He was 55 and had emphysema in the advanced stages and yet God still loved him. I believe he was crying because Jesus wanted to restore him. I too wanted to cry because God had answered my question on the power of direct prayer. He used me in His work and that brings the greatest joy to me; and while doing this, showed me the power of prayer. For Matt and me, it was a double whammy.

Matt lived for a year and a half confined to his bed with continuous oxygen. The Lord filled him with a peace and a joy that surmounted all his obstacles. I saw him often. I would go over to encourage him, to exhort him but found that he exhorted me. He began a study in the Bible and the Lord used him to touch those in his life and in the mobile-home community in which he lived. It was not the kind of testimony that Matt would have thought he should give for the Lord. It was not the testimony of a successful, manly, proud male, but rather of a man dying while proclaiming in his words and actions that God loved him and had restored him. If you are a fallen away Christian, Matt would have said, "God can restore you." I know of two persons who received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior through the witness of Matt.

CHAPTER 6 - GUIDELINE SIX

**WHEN YOU GO INTO A MEETING WHERE THERE CAN BE
CONFLICT, SEND THE LOVE OF GOD THERE AHEAD OF YOU.**

I NEED TO SEND GOD'S LOVE AHEAD OF ME

I was tense as I drove to the Verba plant,
I needed an order today from them.
So I pulled my car off the road
And sat and prayed, God, please help,
It was then that I realized a great help,
I needed to send God's love ahead of me.

So I prayed, God bless Ben and Verba,
Be present when I go into Ben's office,
Let your love surround us as we talk,
Let Ben feel the grace of your love,
It was then that I realized a great help
I needed to send God's love ahead of me.

I knew Ben was not a religious man,
A man who had few scruples,
I suspected he received kickback
Money from some of his suppliers,
It was then that I realized a great help
I needed to send God's love ahead of me.

So visit after visit I sent God's love
Ahead to cover Ben and our meetings
For I needed Ben's business to survive,
So I turned to God, my Supplier,
It was then that I realized a great help
I needed to send God's love ahead of me.

So my friend, when you are stressed
With the expectation of a rough event,
Just stop and ask God to go ahead of you
Paving the way with His great love,

**It was then that I realized a great help
I needed to send God's love ahead of me.**

By Frank E. Henrich August 3, 2012

**This poem is based on a true story; only the names have been change.
Verba Corporation's business was 60 percent of my sales volume. Keeping
Ben happy and contented was a big job, so for years I did just as this poem
describes. As the poem states, I learned a guideline from God. How about
you? Yes, learn to send God's love and peace ahead of you when you face a
difficult situation.**

CHAPTER 7 - GUIDELINE SEVEN

**WHEN NOT IN A SPECIAL ACTION FOR GOD, GIVE YOUR WORK
THE USE OF YOUR FULL MIND. STOP USELESS DAYDREAMING
AS YOU COMPETE IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD WITH
COMPETIORS WHO ARE GIVING THEIR WORK 100% OF THEIR
EFFORT.**

DAYDREAMING IS NOT ALLOWED

**I will tell you a story
Pretending it is someone else.
But why mask, the me, in the story,
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**My fire for Jesus and His work
Filled my mind with many thoughts,
As I worked at my job each day
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**During the quiet moments at work
My mind did dream of ministries
Imaged by my mind of working for God,
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**We work in a business climate
Where our competitors focus 100%
Of their time in order to succeed,
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**Can I bring the bacon home to family
When I function at less than full speed?
Am I fooling myself while hurting my family?
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**I studied and pondered the difference
From daydreams and the reality of life
When God calls us thru urges or desires,
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**So I asked myself, “Did God ask me
To daydream on the job?”
No, He never did, came from my mind,
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**So I woke up and determined
Unless God called me to action
My mind would be 100% on my work,
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

**God set up mankind to work
So earning substance is a noble task
So tell your mind no daydreaming,
For daydreaming is not allowed.**

By Frank Henrich July 23, 2012

AUTHOR WRITES ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCE

**I was 54 in 1985 when we moved our business to Modesto, California, USA.
My wife and I had a two-person business that was struggling along but was**

providing for our needs. My wife said to me, “You are 55 years old and we do not own a house to live in and we have no retirement funds for our retirement.” I decided that to succeed I would have to stop daydreaming and give my work 100%.

It was then that I asked myself, “Did Jesus ever ask me to daydream of ministries for Him?” The answer came back, no! So from that point on when my mind wanted to slip into a hopeful daydream, I said, no and turned my thoughts back into my work. God continued to use me when He had a job for me and 13 years later we had 7 employees and sold the business, earning retirement money. Also we had a home free of debt. Praise God. I like to think that part of that success was a result of stopping my daydreaming.

So, my friend, when God calls you to action it will not be thru a daydream. Learn to discern God’s callings on your life and then be bold as His voice and hands when called to a needy world. Otherwise be the best worker at your trade you can be.

CHAPTER 8 - GUIDELINE EIGHT

LIVE A HOLY LIFE

You will at times sin and feel unworthy. In our workplace, we operate in our ministries to persons not in our own strength but in God’s. So confess your sins, and pick up your ministry again. I would like to tell you about an event that touched my life concerning my desire to live a life pleasing to God.

TROUBLE WITH MY CHRISTIAN WALK

During the summer of 1983, I was having trouble walking my Christian walk. In seeking help, I thought if Jesus wanted me to walk a better life, He could help me. So I started to pray for direction. Day after day, I prayed.

Growing roses is one of my hobbies. One day, there was a prize red rose in my garden and I picked it. The rose is known to rose growers as the Chrysler Imperial. It is a large, fragrant red rose. This one was big and so beautiful, I selected a single rose vase to hold it -- to give it the honor it

deserved -- and then placed it on the desk in my bedroom. For days, I watched the large bud open more and more. One night just before going to bed, I looked at it again. It was almost completely open, and I could smell its fragrance. I knew that the next morning when I woke, it would be in full bloom.

When I opened my eyes the next morning, I remembered the rose and immediately looked over at it. It was bent over and dead. All its beauty was gone. I went over to see what had happened. It was then that I saw the problem. The water had dropped to a level below the rose stem during the night. I thought, "Oh no! I feel cheated. If I had only checked the water level last night!"

But it was time to go to work so I started to dress, and while sitting on the edge of my bed something happened to me that I will never forget. I was pulling on my socks when this rare event happened. I was facing away from the desk with the rose.

In my mind's eye, you know that theater in your mind, where you relive memories, I saw the rose in the vase again -- dead and bent over. And at the same moment, I received into my mind a silent word-thought that I knew did not come from me. The thought was, "You have to stay in the nourishment if you want to walk in Me." I immediately knew that the Lord Jesus had answered my prayer with the direction I had sought. My response was, "Lord, show me the ways to stay in your nourishment."

How about you? Are you receiving nourishment?

Here are some thoughts on living a holy life that I have learned:

INSIGHTFUL PRECEPTS TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE

By Frank E. Henrich April 15, 2009

God controls the blessings of my life because I am consecrated to Him.
I am to try to live a holy life pleasing to God.
Jesus paid the price for my sins on the cross.

God knows the number of hairs on my body.
God is so awesome that my mind cannot comprehend Him.
My duty is to place God as my top priority, then family, then work and then fun.
The spirit world consists of good and evil.
Some persons have sold their souls to Satan for some earthly power.
Depend on God to provide discernment for what is good and evil, when needed.
When God gives me a ministry, He will give me the spiritual and natural powers to perform the task.
The good spiritual world is directed by God, the bad by Satan.
Satan cannot read my unspoken thoughts, but can my written and spoken ones.
God will live within me granting His presence.
Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would live in us, comfort us and direct us.
Pray for God's inner witness when you have decisions to be made.
If I sin, it is important I confess it so the Holy Spirit can return my inner witness.
God has given me compassion to reach the persons who do not know Him.
God has given me compassion to increase faith in Jesus to those who are weary or sick.
Attend regularly a church service for there soul food can be obtained.

The next poem to me is a call to be holy. The person in the poem called "Love" is God.

TRANSPARENCY

Love says to me, "Be transparent for me,
Live a life of my transparency
For with this style, you are a witness,
My glow will sparkle from you."

From me, "Oh! I wish I could,
But how could I survive?
Don't you see; my sins I must hide?
Let others see, Oh, no!
My human nature says to hide in my house,
Hide in my clothes and speech."

*Love says, “Know you not; on the cross before all,
I was naked, whipped and left to die,
How transparent is that? Can you not be
As transparent as I?
Remember it is My spiritual nature that will glow,
Not your human nature.”*

*From me, “Oh, show me the way to sparkle,
A transparent beacon for you to others.”*

By Frank E. Henrich March 11, 2007

Scriptures: Luke 11:35-36, Matt 6:22,
Matt 5:14-16, Romans 2:19

To assist us in becoming more transparent, the next poem is about the need for a life transformed and guided by the Holy Spirit. As the Lord transformed my life, I found that I questioned all my beliefs, as one by one, each was challenged in the various wanted and unwanted events of my life. Some concepts I reaffirmed and now hold strongly, and some I discarded.

I wish I could say that this process was painless, but I would be lying to you. Over the last 50 years, most of my beliefs have been tested and now they seem fixed. As much as life can ever be fixed, for God is teaching us new things every day. I found as time passed I confirmed my orthodox Christian beliefs with a leaning to keeping my salvation based on the core tenants of Christianity. I decided to hold to the core of Christianity and to leave the non-salvation issues to ask God about when I get to Heaven.

Here are some additional insights to ponder in your pursuit to live a life pleasing to God:

PONDER THOUGHTS FROM THE DIARY OF AN OLD MAN ON HOW TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE

By Frank Henrich 2004

- 1. The Christian walk is a walk in Christian humility and Christian meekness with a proper balance between spiritual and worldly aspects.**
- 2. In your Christian walk, work hard, for God promised food to the birds but He does not throw it into their nest. Then let God guide your way through circumstances, unseen to others, as are His ways. God never violates His word in the Bible. Pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit.**
- 3. Accept the fact you will never have a solid grasp on the workings of the spiritual world. Therefore you must walk in faith in Jesus, who will always be your guide.**
- 4. God can use you as a supporting actor in lessons He is teaching others; recognize that you are not always the main character.**
- 5. Richard of St. Victor, a monk in a monastery in France wrote around 1170 AD a story called “Benjamin Minor” describing the road of an earnest Christian. His description is worth finding the article. Yes, you can find it!**
- 6. Let your love always be genuine. Seek things for others in love and they will respond with same. If hurt, let your anger turn to compassion for they do not have Jesus’ love in them.**
- 7. Stick to the Christian fundamentals in your walk and in judging other Christians. Let the fine points not needed for salvation remain undecided for now.**
- 8. Remember God can end good projects. They are in His timing. Keep your walk in the Lord Jesus fun. Give Him your burdens. Seek your pastor’s counsel and other Christian friends on emotionally packed decisions.**
- 9. Ask God to use you to save lost souls. Some souls are so needful; fasting must be added to prayer. Maintain a close relationship with a band of Christians in a weekly Bible study.**

LET US WALK THE HIGHWAY OF HOLINESS

Isaiah 35:7-10 (KJV)

⁸ And a highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it *shall be* for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err *therein*.

⁹ No lion shall be there, nor *any* ravenous beast shall go up there on, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk *there*:

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

God allows U-turns. We are saved by Jesus blood, so now let us do what the Lord wants of us and walk the road of holiness.

CHAPTER 9 – GUIDELINE NINE

LIVE IN A CONNECTION WITH GOD CALLED PRESENCE CHRISTIANITY

The poem and articles below will describe for you what Presence Christianity is and why living in continuous connection with the Holy Spirit in us is a must for this ministry.

When I write to God, I call Him “Old Friend.” Here is the letter I wrote to Him.

IS PRESENCE CHRISTIANITY FOR ME?

By Frank Henrich March 16, 1982

Dear Old Friend,

I fully realized today that regardless of how sanctified we may become, regardless of how many retreats, hours in prayer, worship services or whatever we do to try and please You, we are never anything more than a very fragile earthen body that holds Your Spirit; a very fragile earthen body that can fall to temptation in less than a minute, even when we feel

strong. Perhaps this is what Luther meant when he said, “We can’t become holy.” Our strength lies in not that we are being tempted; not that we can live a time out of sin, but rather that You lie within us; it is Your strength and faith that is what we shed forth on to those so in need of You.

It’s a daily battle just like alcoholism is, to remain spiritual and to remain in a “Presence Communion Worship with You.” Just like the alcoholic fights a daily battle against liquor, we fight a daily spiritual battle against sin and the Devil. The Devil fires his darts against God’s warriors every day. These darts are intended to knock us down. The shield we hold is the faith of Jesus Christ, a gift to us. We are earthen vessels and we shall not be here on earth anything more than earthen vessels. The apostle Paul writes of this “Presence Christianity” so beautifully in Second Timothy, chapter 2, verses 14 through 26.

“Remind everyone of these things, and command them in God’s name to stop fighting over words. Such arguments are useless, and they can ruin those who hear them. 15 Work hard so God can approve you. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. 16 Avoid godless, foolish discussions that lead to more and more ungodliness. 17 This kind of talk spreads like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are examples of this. 18 They have left the path of truth, preaching the lie that the resurrection of the dead has already occurred; and they have undermined the faith of some.

19 But God’s truth stands firm like a foundation stone with this inscription: “The Lord knows those who are his,” and “Those who claim they belong to the Lord must turn away from all wickedness.”

20 In a wealthy home some utensils are made of gold and silver, and some are made of wood and clay. The expensive utensils are used for special occasions, and the cheap ones are for everyday use. 21 If you keep yourself pure, you will be a utensil God can use for his purpose. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.

22 Run from anything that stimulates youthful lust. Follow anything that makes you want to do right. Pursue faith and love and peace, and enjoy the companionship of those who call on the Lord with pure hearts.

23 Again I say, don't get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights. 24 The Lord's servants must not quarrel but must be kind to everyone. They must be able to teach effectively and be patient with difficult people. 25 They should gently teach those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will believe the truth. 26 Then they will come to their senses and escape from the Devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants. NLT

Paul expresses this thought further in First Corinthians, chapter 4, verses 3-4:

“But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. 4 For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. 5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God. NKJV

Please, Oh God! Give me strength to live a life, give me strength in faith to not break my communion with You. Thank You, Old Friend.

Love, Frank (Here use your name)

It is impossible to live in His presence unless you grasp His awesomeness. When I think of God's greatness, I recall an airline trip and how, as I flew, the realization of God's majesty came upon me.

HOW BIG IS GOD TO YOU?

When you study the history of mankind over all the centuries, you will lose your faith if your understanding of God's majesty is small.

I flew from Omaha, Nebraska to Sacramento, California, a distance of 1500 miles, and sat there looking down on the rivers and the small cities and the forests and said to myself, "My God created all this. His majesty is so beyond my mind's ability to fathom." So I prayed a prayer, "Oh help me, God, to not try to understand what I am unable to comprehend but let me accept the awesomeness of your great majesty while I honor You and be

Your fingers and voice to this earthly world."

How big is God to you? Is He the size of your small brain, the size of your intellect? That little! Then your God is too small a God to create this entire world. Think again. Let your mind not be puffed up with pondering that it is superior to your Creator, for such action leads down the road to hell. If your God is small take time to think and ponder His majesty. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you.

The wonderful truth is even though God is of majesty beyond our intellect, He loves us and we can trust Him to guide our lives. Praise God in all His majesty.

By Frank Henrich September 20, 2010

The next poem discusses the need for a continuous connection with God. The Apostle Paul tells us in the Scriptures that our bodies are temples of God.

**CAN WE HAVE A CONTINUOUS
CONNECTION WITH GOD?**

or

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN GOD COMES TO VISIT!

By Frank E. Henrich February 10, 2006

**Oh Presence, how sweet you are
When my Lord comes to me
My body sparks with delight
My senses are on fire
Yet in all this
I am quiet outwardly, at peace.
That happens when my Lord comes to visit!**

**How can I have so much fire
Within and be so still?
When a euphoria of well-being
Fills my inner being with a song**

That swells higher into a wave
Of gentle peace and pleasure
That happens when my Lord comes to visit!

Oh that it could be continuous,
Oh that it could be forever,
Yet how could I function here on earth?
How can I work to feed my family?
How can I have time for friends?
I would not be able to work
That happens when my Lord comes to visit!

So in God's wisdom, God says, "No,"
The grace of my presence in you
Must be limited in the normal day
Then I say, "What am I to do?
When I meet earthly problems
When the day looks dark as it moves
When I long for that peaceful connection."

Oh, Lord, what am I do?
What am I to do?
Then the words trust and obey fill my mind
Am I right with God?
Is Jesus my spiritual companion?
If I can say, "Oh yes, I have confessed my sins"
Then suddenly peace fills me.

And I say, "Lord Jesus, I have a problem."
Then inwardly I have a knowing
That He has never left me.
Then I can respond, "You're in charge
Please take care of it while I do my part
And I will accept the outcome
Whatever it will be, for you're my guiding light.

As long as I can rest in your presence.
Even if it is not a wonderful ending.
Yet, in my humble way, I say, Lord Jesus,
You are in charge and I will be watchful

As the Bible tells me in 2 Timothy 2:24

**“And the servant of the Lord
Must not strive; but be patient.”**

This patience, this presence, is given to me

By your gift of unmerited grace.

Lord Jesus, please never take this grace from me.

Let your spiritual Presence always abide in me.

I will tell the world of your miracles,

The wonderful things you have done,

In my life that happen, and happen and happen.

Presence of Jesus is an inner knowing that He is with me

Not in a physical way but in a spiritual connection.

It is this knowing that lifts my spirit

And lets my being be filled with peace

That flows from this knowing

In unmerited grace to see me thru the worst and best

Events of life and onward to Heaven.

Would I want to live without this connection?

Oh no, never !!

You say, “I do not possess it!

This spiritual connection, you describe.

Is it new or have other authors described it?”

Oh yes, many have written about its wonders.

You can also - just ask Jesus to visit you.

Read Scriptures Exodus 33:14, Psalms 16:11 & 31:19-20

CHAPTER 10 – GUIDELINE TEN

SEEK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD.

**Yes, learn more about God through Bible reading, from learned persons,
prayer and attendance at the College of the Holy Spirit.**

**To begin this subject let me tell you how I learned this guideline. When
younger I let the church keep me informed about God and what He wanted**

of me. But at the age of 31, an event happened that started me toward a deeper search to know God. I call it “The Yellow Rose.”

THE STORY OF THE YELLOW ROSE

A TESTIMONY OF AN EVENT IN THE LIFE OF FRANK HENRICH

By Frank E. Henrich

It was a bright, sunny winter day in South San Gabriel, California, near Los Angeles, mid afternoon and not a happy day for me, as my father had died three months before. At thirty-one, I was an outside salesperson for a large manufacturer and that day business had not been good. Being the sole support of my wife and three children gave me stress. What would Dad do? Whom can I turn to now he is gone? My business schedule brought me close to his cemetery so I stopped deciding to visit his grave. I purchased an inexpensive bouquet from the small florist roadside stand that was conveniently located across from the road from the cemetery.

I had done this before and the florist always used a rubber band, twisting it many times around the stems so the flowers would hold together when placed in the metal holder at the grave site. The metal container is buried in the ground over the grave and when the flowers are dead, the caretakers empty the container, turning it upside down in the hole so water would not gather.

As I approached the grave site, I mourned his death and my inability of never being able to seek my father’s wise council again. Placing the bouquet on the bright green grass, I pulled out the metal container from the grave and walked over to the waterspout to fill the container with water. Having placed the filled container back into the hole in the grave, I went over to pick up the bouquet. After picking up the bouquet from the grass, to my astonishment, I saw lying on the grass, under where the bouquet had lain, was one beautiful yellow rose.

The yellow color against the bright sunny, green grass, made it stand out and I knew it was not there when I set the bouquet on the grass, for I would have seen it. I could not believe what I was seeing. I looked at the bouquet, and the rubber band was still intact. I searched the bouquet but the rubber

bands held the stems tight. No flower had come out of the bouquet and besides inexpensive bouquets do not contain roses.

I picked up the yellow rose and it was a bud just slightly open. I felt it and it was real. I had taken no drugs and had not been drinking. Suddenly a peace flooded through me and the thought kept repeating in my mind, “Your father is well and happy, mourn for him no more.” The Biblical verse of “*Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted,*” Matthew, chapter 5, verse 4 NKJV also came into my mind. My sorrow had turned to awe! A sense of well being and peace filled my body, for I had lost my earthly father as an anchor but now I have a new anchor in Jesus. Suddenly, I realized that when the church says God is spirit, they were right, God is real and he cares about me. He is alive and vibrant, and I wanted to know more about Him. A new dimension of life opened to me, and I wanted to know more about God.

Whenever I have doubts about God and his love and caring for me, I remember the yellow rose experience and have faith again. You may not have had a yellow rose experience but perhaps there was another time, in a different way, when God made Himself known to you. If you have not, ask Him to reveal Himself to you.

The months and years that followed were for me a time to try to come to grips with the knowing that God is really real; a seeking to understand more about Him and what He wants of me. In an attempt to understand what was happening to me, I wrote the below article calling it “The Invisible Door.” It helped me and I pray it will assist you on your journey with God.

THE INVISIBLE DOOR

God touched me in 1962 in what I have called the Yellow Rose Event, and suddenly I knew what I had hoped to be true, is true. That God is real and Heaven is real. It happened in less than 2 minutes and my life was forever changed. For now I knew God is Spirit and He loves me. I realized I knew so little about God as Spirit and the spirit world. I came to realize God is Spirit and can dwell within me. The words of the Scripture:

“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him.

For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are” (1 Corinthians, chapter 3, verses 16-17 NKJV).

Suddenly I had a personal relationship with God, I was enthralled to learn more. Jesus’ presence, I felt within me. It was as if I had been living in a very large room called the physical world. I knew where most things I needed or wanted were located and what I needed to do to obtain them. But where did the spiritual world fit into my physical world? The physical world to me was like a large auditorium and then my eyes looked where there had been a blank outer wall. There I saw a door that had been invisible to me before and I was beckoned to walk over to it.

Yes, suddenly in the pale green blank wall a beautiful golden door appeared. The wall was transformed before me. It was as if it had been there all the time, but I had not been able to perceive it. The door opened slowly inward and I saw for the first time the wonders that awaited me. The room was very large as I could not see its outer walls. There were people all over and everywhere gathered in groups at various mini structures while others moved back and forth. The brilliance of the color and variety dazzled my eyes. There I stood alone wondering if I should step forward. The old physical auditorium had represented the confines of my life. I had been seeking to know God better. The door was answered prayer. Jesus is so good to us.

When Jesus came to dwell with me, there was such a joy. A blinding joy and peace that I was like the rocks, I had to cry out, “Praise the Lord.” There were areas for Christian conferences and Bible studies. There were inspiring books to read and Christian teachers teaching who I would never have listened to before. Now I couldn’t seem to get enough of their teachings. I had a new joy. Some may call this the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Some may call it the mark or turning point of someone becoming an earnest Christian. Terms when defined limit one’s viewpoint so let us not define it. Call it what you might. All I know is that I was like a child again. I had found that my God loved me in a new and exciting way.

All these new ventures were like a room full of toys. I dashed from one to another, from a Christian conference to a Bible study to an inspiring book. You who call me unstable, you’re right but you can have your stability if your stability is based on a God, who dwells in your intellectual mind. Such a God is not really personal and it’s a weak substitute and who wants a

substitute when you can have the real thing?

After three years passed and I had examined the contents of the room, stability in my walk started to develop. I began to realize it was more important to concentrate on one or two areas than on all the activities of the room. I was learning the lessons of the importance of church membership for I also needed the fellowship of all Christians not just my own brand.

The next step came when I did not insist upon my own brand of Christianity, if by so doing, I could be of greater assistance to God. After a Christian has seen the invisible door, moving into a real personal relationship with God, I have noted the following observation: God will move the Christian from a lukewarm church into an enthusiastic church for three years of training and then to a moderate evangelical church where he can be “Spiritual Salt.”

The event in 1962 when God touched me became my faith anchor when troubles filled my life. God did not promise us a rose garden but that He would be with us through it all. We have to trust and obey for that is the only way to have Jesus and eternal life.

Who really has the desire for a stable Christian walk? Is it the one who has never seen the invisible door? The Christian who still sees God intellectually? Or is it the earnest Christian who has passed through the invisible door a number of years ago? For those of you who have not discovered the invisible door, I must tell you, there is no shortcut. You can live your earthly life without ever seeing the invisible door and the joy and the peace that it brings. I must admit I feel sorry for you. For you will have missed so much. How do you find the invisible door? On your knees in supplication and prayer! Asking Jesus for the gift of the realization of His presence within you! For you see, Jesus is within us whether we recognize His presence or not. Then if I intellectualize His presence, aren't I realizing it? No, to realize anything you must experience it. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how to pray. Praise God! It is my prayer that you will pray the following prayer:

Oh Jesus, I pray that You will give me the realization of Your real presence within me. Show me that invisible door that opens to Your wonderful peace and joy. Amen.

By Frank Henrich September 25, 2011

As time passed, I discovered I was attending a school that taught about God and what He wanted of me. I have named this *The College of the Holy Spirit*. In the poem below, I will introduce you to it and invite you to attend. Although I think you are already unknowingly attending now.

HAVE YOU ENROLLED IN THE COLLEGE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Sam, have you enrolled in the
College of the Holy Spirit?
You haven't ?
That sure surprises me.
For the tuition is free
And the classes great.

Yes, Sam, I enrolled many years ago
Came about it by accident,
Not really, I was attending
And didn't know it.

Listen Frank, I said no
I am not attending this school.
I never heard about it
Must be all in your head.

Have you enrolled in the
College of the Holy Spirit?

Sam, sorry you aren't enrolled
But I can help you
To find the registrar office
And fill out the papers.

It has an unique campus
There are no buildings
No classrooms & scheduled classes
And all this learning is free to boot.

Well now, Frank, I know you're loony
Whoever heard of a free college?
Take some time off; see a movie
Go out fishing, go for a walk.

Have you enrolled in the
College of the Holy Spirit?

Oh! I should have realized
You're a rushed Christian
Who doesn't spend time with God
Too busy to read the Bible.

It is when we spend time
In contemplation and prayer
When we love reading the Bible
We are enrolled in college.

Frank, why is that so special?
Only because when we do
The Holy Spirit inspires our spirit
And we receive soul food.

Little time spent at church or study
Sparse soul food obtained.

When you receive soul food
Directly from the Holy Spirit
It is so wonderful and you want
All your friends to attend.

So how about it, Sam?
The next life is dawning
On the distant horizon.
Are you ready to see Jesus?

Have you enrolled in the
College of the Holy Spirit?
Will Jesus say, Sam!
Why didn't you attend?

**Let's enroll today, Sam,
In the College of the Holy Spirit?**

By Frank E. Henrich February 2006

CHAPTER 11 - GUIDELINE ELEVEN

**GUARD YOURSELF FROM SPIRITUAL PRIDE. SEEK TO BE
HUMBLE, MEEK AND BOLD**

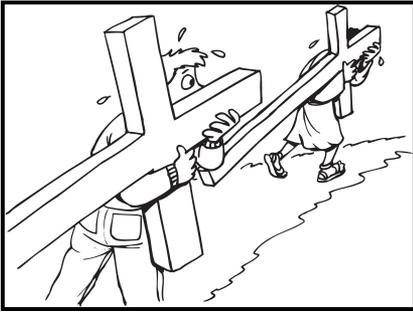
In 1974, I attended a weekend retreat. One afternoon I went up to the front for prayer. The man who had addressed us came to me as I knelt and told me that God had commissioned me to a ministry. I was pleased to receive this unexpected gift so I searched for the speaker after the meeting. I asked him what advice he could give me to help me in my new work for God. He said, "You must avoid spiritual pride." I thought, what is spiritual pride? It seemed a new term for me so I asked him what he meant.

He said, "You know what pride is in the physical meaning, don't you." I responded, "I did, it is bragging about your deeds." He then said, "Well, spiritual pride is taking credit for God's work done thru you. Remember God is a jealous God, so always give the credit to Him." It has been 38 years since he spoke to me, but I have never forgotten his message.

Over the course of time, how many successful ministers, who in their successes, forgot to publically give the credit to God for their work. Sadly many! Yes, we all have seen the wreckage of lost ministries.

Part of our humble, meek, and bold walk is to carry the cross God has given us. There can be imperfections of all kinds, but we are to carry our cross with joy. The next article below speaks of this.

**WE ARE EARTHEN VESSELS FASHIONED BY GOD TO DO HIS
WORK**



CARRYING OUR OWN CROSS

By Frank E. Henrich Dec. 1, 1978

God clothes His light in earthen vessels. The Scripture says in Genesis, chapter 3, verse 19, *“For dust thou art, and unto dust shall thou return”* NKJV

Jesus told us to go tell the nations the good news of the gospel. Just before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He gave us a charge as recorded in Acts, chapter 1, verse 8, *“But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere — in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* NLT

So when God’s golden light shines spiritually on a sick soul, that person has to respond by accepting the presence or rejecting it. If they choose to reject God’s injection into their lives, they feel right only if they do it rationally. So they attack not the Light of God but the earthly vessel by saying he is not intelligent, but stupid and simple to believe in what he or she cannot see. They do this out of fear that they would have to stop their habitual sins or lifestyle.

As a result they are choosing evil because of fear of loss of pride and acceptance -- fear that others might say they are stupid, etc -- one fears, another fears, etc. -- is how the system functions. So they attack verbally the one thing they can attack, the earthen vessel (you and me) who hold the Light of Jesus Christ -- the key to heaven -- a new nature filled with love and peace -- only given to us by declaring Jesus our Savior is our light. It is better they attack us than God. It is part of the cross we bear. We carry the Light of Jesus Christ forward into darkness (evil), daily depending on faith

and trust in Jesus Christ. The crosses we bear are the performing of little acts day by day, moment by moment that glorify our God regardless of what mankind thinks. So wonder no more why some hate you, but let your light shine.

Guard yourself from spiritual pride by giving the credit where it is due to God thanking Him for using you His servant.

Read Matthew 16:24-27, and
Galatians 2:20

Let us now turn to the subjects of our being humble, meek, yet bold for God. I suggest you study the meanings of the words *meek* and *humble*. They have very different meanings. Look up Scriptures that speak of these virtues. Here is a fictional story but it teaches us about being meek, being humble, and acting boldly for Jesus.

THE PATH TO EMMAUS HALL

By Frank E. Henrich May 23, 2006

I have a story to tell you. It all started on August fourth at a Christian mountain retreat resort. The summer sun was bright, promising a pleasant day as a group of men made their way from the breakfast table to the conference room down the hall. There were twenty-four men of different ages although none under 18 and the average age was 45. A vigorous group of men who are in the prime of life and spark plugs in their various churches.

The conference room was large and chair-less so the men stood waiting for whatever next was to happen. The coordinator called for silence and then told them the next conference meeting would follow in the Emmaus Hall, one mile up the camp trails. He then told them this would give them some walking exercise, plus the fresh air would sharpen their minds for the lecture at the hall on the subjects of meekness, boldness and humility as used in their walk as a Christian in the secular world.

The coordinator, Ted, then restated the three subjects and said, "I want all

of you who believe that boldness is the most important of these three attitudes to raise your hand. Good, now those who raised their hand go to the window on the far left. How many of you think that humbleness is the most important? If so raise your hand.” Seeing many, he said, “Good, now you go to the window near the door to the garden. The rest of you come close to me for you are the third group.”

Ted then said, “You will walk in groups of three to Emmaus. The men in the bold group, you go by the name of Bold, while the persons in the humble group are to be called Humble and the last group will have the name of Meek. Now, members of the bold group, I want each of you to select one person from the other two groups who you do not know and form a grouping of three. Remember do not use your real names for you have a special name for this project.”

The groups started forming and the room was full of conversational noise. Ted spoke strongly, “Gentlemen! Gentlemen, let me have your attention. When you walk to Emmaus Hall, you will walk with your group. We will send you out in four-minute intervals, on the three different paths to the hall. Remember to be courteous to other retreat groups you see. Who wants to be the first group? Oh, yes, I see your hands” gesturing to a group by the coffee table saying, “You can start now.”

The first group stepped out through the garden door into the sunshine and fresh air of the new day. Quickly they found the sign pointing turn right on the path to the hall. Bold stepped out in front of the other two as they entered the path. For a minute, there was silence. Bold spoke first, “I do not know how you could have selected meekness or humility. How far would you get in business with those tags? Yes, it takes boldness to be victorious.” Humility said, “That’s what non-Christians do, one must be very humble.” “Now, now,” said Meek, “Arguing will not help us. Let meekness guard our tongues.”

Just then they heard a voice behind them. They quickly turned to see a stranger on the path. The man said, “Will you step aside so I can go ahead of you?” He was a man in his mid forties walking alone. They stepped off the walkway so he could pass. When he was even with them, he stopped and looked into their eyes and said, “I heard you argue. When in dispute, should we not turn to the Bible for instruction?”

Meek, startled by the stranger's remark said, "I am not sure what the Bible says about meekness." The stranger replied, "Oh, Meek, we make life so complex just trying to understand it. Let's start with humility. It is the recognition that what we have comes from God. The Scripture Philippians, chapter 2, verses 3-4 says, *'Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't think only about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and what they are doing.'* And in 1 Corinthians, chapter 4, verse 7, *'What makes you better than anyone else? What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if all you have is from God, why boast as though you have accomplished something on your own?'* Humility is an attitude that guides our life into knowing that God will always be our provider."

Meek injected a thought saying, "That sounds like meekness to me." "Oh no," said the stranger. Meek looking down the path, said, "Will you explain the difference but we must keep walking for we have a class to attend." The stranger said, "That will be fine." The group commenced their walking again. The stranger continued his remarks in a slightly elevated tone to cover the sound of the feet walking on the path. The path had turned into a packed hard dirt surface that curved under and around the tall pine trees that smelled so fresh. The sun touched the top of the trees, but the path was in shade.

The stranger continued, "Meekness is based on the recognition that God is in command and in control of our lives. The Scripture speak of meekness in Matthew, chapter 11, verses 29-30, *'Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for you souls. For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light.'* And again in Matthew, chapter 6, verses 26-30, *'Look at the birds. They do not need to plant or harvest or put food in barns because your heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than they are. Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not. And why worry about your clothes? Look at the lilies and how they grow, they don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you? You have so little faith!'*"

The stranger stopped and turned to face them peering gently into their eyes and then continued, "Yes, it is hard to live a meek life. Harder than to live a

humble life! A devoted follower of Jesus learns over many years, how to build up his walk in meekness.

The stranger threw his arms out wide in a sweeping action and then said, “I am sure you have sat on a three-legged stool sometime in your past. You all know a chair of this type requires perfect balancing.” They all nodded that they understood him. He continued, “Let me use this figure to explain. Let us call one leg humility, the second leg meekness and third leg boldness.”

Bold broke into the conversation saying, “It is about time we talked about not being a softie.” “That’s right,” said the stranger, “The words, *good courage*, affirming boldness are found twenty times in the Bible along with phrases to not be afraid. My favorite is Joshua 1:9, *‘I command you, be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go’* and in Hebrews, chapter 13, verse 6, *‘That is why we can say with confidence, The Lord is my helper, so I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?’* and finally in 2 Timothy, chapter 1, verses 6-7, *‘This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.’* So you see as soldiers for Jesus, we need the stability of a three-legged stool.” The stranger continued, “We need meekness, humility and boldness all wrapped in one and correctly balanced.”

Humble spoke as there was a period of silence, “Well, that is okay when we deal with other Christians; but out in the secular world, I have to operate with different attitudes when I deal with non-Christians.” The stranger stopped and looked into their eyes saying, “You cannot act differently in the secular world or you will be a hypocritical Christian. You have Jesus to help you. You have nothing to fear.”

There was an uncomfortable silence that held sway until the stranger spoke again, “I will give you a very important bit of wisdom.” Bold said in a hurried voice, “What is it?” He leaned forward to make sure he did not miss it. The stranger responded, “If you want to be successful in your career, you must let your associates know that you are an active Christian and will not do anything that is in violation of God’s laws, such as to lie or steal. For then, they will never ask you to do an illegal thing, as they already know your answer. However, if you hide your Christianity and they ask you to do something illegal and you tell them no; well, that is curtains

for you as they will seek the fastest way to get you fired. As long as you do not openly evangelize them, they will leave you alone. While all the time you can be a light for Jesus. Being there where they can ask you why there so much joy in you when they have difficulties.”

Suddenly, there was a clearing ahead and the sun shone on the green grass. Emmaus Hall was only 200 feet ahead framed by the blue of the sky above and the bright sun shining on its white exterior with green trim. Meek said to the stranger, “Are you with the Leader’s Retreat for we are heading for a training session in Emmaus Hall?” The stranger slowly shook his head no. Humility said, “Please join us” and the others nodded in agreement. Bold added, “You are so knowledgeable.” But the stranger said, “It is time for me to pass on up the path. Let me leave you with a closing Scripture. Truly, one of my favorites, where Jesus said in John 15:5-11, *‘I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. I have told you this so that you will be filled with joy.’*”

They reached the side path of the hall. The stranger shook each of their hands and wished them God’s blessing. As they were walking to the door, they all agreed they had learned much from the stranger and wanted to hear more. Bold said, “We didn’t even ask him his name.” Then Meek’s face expressed much excitement when he explained, “That’s it. I understand how it happened we met the stranger, yes, that is what happened! It was all planned.”

Ted, the coordinator greeted them at the door. Meek said to the coordinator, “You sure are a clever fellow. You kept us off guard by sending a teacher to walk with us while instructing us on the lesson.” “Yes,” Bold said, “And what a great teacher!” Humble agreed saying, “I was fascinated by his memory of the Scriptures and I listened to every word.” The coordinator’s face went blank, as though not understanding. After a pause he said, “I sent no one.” The three men looked at each other in amazement and then they made a dash out of the door to look for the stranger. They could see the path a long way and no one was walking there. The path was empty. All Scriptures in this article are from NLT.

Let us finish this chapter with a poem describing how to be bold for God in a state of meekness. Being meek does not mean being soft and easily

manipulated. Meekness in our ministry for God only means that we try our best to let ourselves be led by God. It is a quality that can be elusive. We think we have it, but then our own egos reclaim center stage in our lives and unknowingly meekness goes out the back door. Yet God calls upon us to be confident in our dealings with people. Meekness does not mean we cannot be confident. The next poem speaks of a desire to hold on to meekness.

PRAYING FOR MEEKNESS

Sometimes it seems as if we can see ahead
Or at least we think we can piece by piece,
Life seems to be moving slowly ahead to a goal,
Yet at these times, we must not get ahead of God.

If we second-guess God and act before being led,
The desired result that God had planned
Is thwarted into a shape that is less effective,
For at these times, we must not get ahead of God.

For our vision is shortsighted compared to God
So even if we are doubly sure God wants us to act,
Hold back until God moves the circumstances
For at these times, we must not get ahead of God.

We so desire to move in a positive way, yes act,
But within us there is that still small voice
Saying, "Trust Me, for I will let You know when to move,"
For at these times, we must not get ahead of God.

Oh God, help me, give me the patience to wait
Until You clear the way in this ministry we share,
Give me the grace of waiting for Your call
For at these times, we must not get ahead of God.

For I want to be a good servant in your ministry
Keeping my mind focused in a meek way
To the desires of Your way as You reveal them,
For at these times, we must not get ahead of God.

By Frank E. Henrich October 14, 2012

CHAPTER 12 - GUIDELINE TWELVE

DO NOT BE SURPRISED TO FIND CHRISTIANS WHO HINDER YOUR MINISTRY FOR GOD

Oh! How I hate to write this guideline. But I would be amiss if I did not warn you. You will feel the mental pain of your Christian work being rejected by other Christians. These stings are a part of the cross you carry. Yes, I know it's wrong. But it exists and has throughout church history. I could cite for you such incidents that took place throughout all the centuries.

All Christians are ministers to those they meet each day. Just some of them take the message of Jesus and salvation to their fellows with more intensity. Those with intensity are called earnest, and God gives them many gifts of the Holy Spirit, so they will be equipped to do God's work. These gifts of the Holy Spirit are the tools of your ministry. You, as such a minister, will be the hands and voice of God to those in need of compassion, a faith boost, and to those seeking to know God better. I would never attempt to make a list of God's entire ministries by type. It would be an impossible task.

Here comes the rub or problem. These tools given to us by God will be resented by Christians who do not have them. They will question you for heresy. At the very least, they will withhold their help and encouragement from you. Yes, no help from the source you so expected support from. They will look upon you as someone who cannot be controlled and someone who can destroy their well-thought-out plans for your local church community. It is not the lost souls who you will find to be your main hindrance. The recognized theologian, Dr. Richard Lovelace (Th. D., Princeton), professor at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, wrote on this subject.

Here is a quote from his book *Dynamics of Spiritual Life* (page 12), “Spirituality is in many ways treated as the neglected stepchild of the Christian movement. It is often reduced to an emotional frosting spread over the surface of other parts of Christianity which are considered more substantial and important, such as the maintenance of sound doctrine, correct social engagement or institutional policy. But it is seldom recognized to be the indispensable foundation without which all of these are powerless and fall into decay. In other parts of the church a fairly shallow spirituality is the bread and butter of daily experience, but it is almost invisible as a matter of

serious concern among church leaders because it is either taken for granted or unconsciously held in contempt.” The author later states on page 13, “In many of these circles of spiritual theology, if its existence is recognized at all, is likely to be dismissed as mere pietism.”

Dr. Lovelace wrote in this book, page 19 that *“True spirituality is not a superhuman religiosity; it is simply true humanity released from bondage of sin and renewed by the Holy Spirit. This is given to us as we grasp by faith the full content of Christ’s redemptive work: freedom from guilt and power of sin, and newness of life through the indwelling of life and outpouring of his Spirit.”*

I would also quote on this subject from another respected theologian. Although he is writing about the medieval church, what he writes here applies to the Christian church of today also.

From the preface of the book *A History of Medieval Christian – Prophecy and Order*, by Dr. Jeffrey Burton Russell of the University of California, Santa Barbara, California is quoted, *“The history of medieval Christianity can be approached in a number of ways; among which none is more significant than to investigate the tension within the church between the spirit of prophecy and the spirit of order. Both spirits are in the tradition of Jesus and both are progressive. Both are opposed to the self-satisfied defense of the status quo that has too often characterized Christianity since the end of the great persecutions. Both seek to lead men into the imitation of Christ.*

But the spirit of order has attempted to reform men and their institutions to correspond with the will of God, while the spirit of prophecy has sought to transform them, to lift them out of this world into the world and life of God. I have in this book attempted to show both the importance of those two forces taken separately and the creativity of their opposition. “

Doctor Russell continues later in the book, *“It was the spirit of order that, holding to the process of gradual development, kept the teachings and practices of the Christian community within the bounds of tradition.”*

He also states, *“Speaking of the spirit of prophecy and the other tension in the church, he wrote “God, who is himself Love, is reached only by love itself. And when a man has penetrated that cloud of unknowing (author means here accepted God by faith) and come to God, and has poured out himself and*

filled himself with God, then the work of Paul is filled that he lives no longer, but Christ in him.” The author continues about this new life on page 194, “The burning arrow of love is the symbol of the prophetic spirit without which the life of the church would have died. It was the burning spirit of unquenchable love that called the church again and again back to the essential Christian experience, which is the encounter of the soul with God.” The author continues on this, “Kept the church warm with the warmth of their fire.”

Doctor Russell’s statement of this Spirit-fire of the essential Christian experience, I believe, calls for a theology of holding to the basic tenets of salvation only and let the answers for other things be answered when we get to Heaven. It is our attempt to add to this basic tenant of salvation such as that we sin if we do not to go to church every Sunday, that we must experience the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in order to be saved, and many other appendixes that divide Christians into different camps, each headed by different spirits of order. Please note I believe in church attendance and am in no way opposed to church denominations. For we need the organization that the spirit of order provides, but we must not let the spirit or order strangle and stifle the spirit of prophecy. It is a fine line we walk.

Here Dr. Russell has written about the spirit of order and the spirit of prophecy, both are parts of the Christian movement and both seek to bring the lost to God through Christ our redeemer. Because of the gifts you will be given by the Holy Spirit, you will be a part of the spirit of prophecy. When discussing this subject with my daughter Meg, she said there is a saying, “Bible only – we dry up, Spirit only - we blow up, Spirit and Bible – we grow up!” (Anonymous)



Pictured here is the symbol of the Christian Church empowered by the Spirit of God. The gifts of the Holy Spirit listed in the Bible are the tools God gives us to assist in our ministry. They are spiritual gifts not physical gifts. God needs to train us to be effective in our outreach for Him and then gradually He gives us the tools to do His work. These are spiritual tools. The spirit of order questions them because it cannot rationalize them as being really of God. So we are in a dilemma. We ask how can our desire to serve God be better used? Who will God send to train us? As God uses you more and more, touching the lives of others, bringing God's love to them, seeing their lives change, you know it's God doing this, not your head. But how do you explain to them who doubt you, in a way that they can accept you and your ministry for God? Here lies the rub! Some you can and from others you cannot gain their acceptance. When you cannot receive their approval, they will either make it clear you should go to another church or they will ignore you and talk to you with self-protective arms extended. For they do not understand how the Holy Spirit works, but they cannot deny He is working through you for they would be quenching the Holy Spirit, and Scripture warns about this in 1 Thessalonians, chapter 5, verses 19-21 "*Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good.*" NKJV

We come down to the fundamental question, how does God speak to His community of believers? Some hold it only happens as we read the Bible or hear a sermon. I remember an event in my life (See Chapter 4) when God gave me a word of knowledge that the man sitting next to me at a lunch counter was losing his faith. God's love for that man was so great that He used me to say to the man, "You are losing your faith!" The result was that the man was so touched that he and his family returned to God. If the Holy Spirit works only through the Bible could that man have been reached? No. So God will give you spiritual gifts or tools in your outreach for Him, when you are His voice and hands to the weary Christian or to person seeking to find God.

Some will say, this event did not happen. Then you remind them of the Scripture Matthew, chapter 12, verses 33-37:

33 "A tree is identified by its fruit. Make a tree good, and its fruit will be good. Make a tree bad, and its fruit will be bad. 34 You brood of snakes! How could evil men like you speak what is good and right? For whatever is in your heart determines what you say. 35 A good person produces good words from a good

heart, and an evil person produces evil words from an evil heart. 36 And I tell you this, that you must give an account on judgment day of every idle word you speak. 37 The words you say now reflect your fate then; either you will be justified by them or you will be condemned."NLT

Then does the Scripture answer your critic's questions? Was the man at the lunch counter and his family (from the true story in chapter 4) restored to faith in God? Yes, so the fruit was good. For by the fruit you will know what is good. However, this may place you in a position of rejection by Christian forces that you depend upon for support. It may make it necessary for you to change churches. But it will do one thing for sure; God's touch in your ministry for Him will lead you to depend not on man or church leaders for direction and support, but on God and the presence of his Holy Spirit within you. This leads us to the next chapter about our place in a local church.

CHAPTER 13 – GUIDELINE THIRTEEN

ATTEND CHURCH, BIBLE STUDIES AND FELLOWSHIP WHILE KEEPING YOUR THEOLOGY VERY BASIC CONCERNING SALVATION.

Here we learn two things: First, why we need to attend church functions, and second, how to help others return to church fellowship so that they can use their God-given talents.

Is it important that you attend church and Bible studies? Oh, yes! You can move away from orthodox Christianity, if you do not have the rudder of the church when you are active with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. You will need to be fed and that's the purpose of sermons and Bible studies. Sometimes it is necessary to not seek your church's authorization to perform your ministry to your workplace. I have attended churches where my ministry was completely separate from the church and unfortunately, we sometimes have to function that way. However, I have attended churches where they were most helpful. Your ministry to your workplace is a one-on-one interaction so it can function aside from the church activities. However, when a church teaches you that spiritual gifts are not from God, you will need to go elsewhere, for your gifts are of greater importance than which church you attend.

It is important that you adopt a theology that centers on the basic tenants of Jesus' teaching, leaving those questions of which no one is certain, to be answered when you arrive in Heaven.

If you do not do this, you and your ministry may be destroyed by strong beliefs of appended ideas that go beyond the work of Christ on the cross. In reviewing the lives of persons who left a mark for Jesus, they turn in a meek and humble way to our wonderful Savior, whose salvation for souls can be understood by a child. When you meet resistance from the church that's under the spirit of order, any appendix you hold can be used to destroy your ministry. As your walk deepens in reaching out to the needy souls you will learn to accept this problem. In 1 Peter, chapter 4, verse 1, we are exhorted: "*Since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too.*" NLT Yes, we must love those who disagree with us and even those who hinder our ministry thinking that they are doing it for God. Have compassion while praying for them.

In review, this guideline also speaks about keeping your theology simple and being fed by your local church. As we mature in this walk, we read of others, in ministries like ours, now and in the ancient and near past. We see that they held to a Simple Jesus Core Theology. If you do this, other Christians can only criticize you for the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are manifested in your life. Here they must be careful not to grieve the Holy Spirit. If you insist that a real Christian has to do this or that besides holding true to the Christian core doctrines, your critics will have grounds to discredit your ministry.

To help you to keep your theology on the simple message of Jesus, I have selected a quote from Evelyn Underhill of England.

There are books that you read that seem to touch you deeply. Evelyn Underhill wrote many books on how to live a life with God. She was an orthodox Christian believer. In the paragraph quoted below you need to know that she lived in England during the first half of the twentieth century and died in 1941. I need to explain what some of her terms mean. For her the term "Reality" meant God and by the term "Mystics," she referred to only Christians who are seeking to live a life pleasing to God. She wrote about holding to the Christian core doctrines and then putting aside all the

other issues where the answers are not clear and only divide Christians. Here is found a quote of hers in the book “The Life of Evelyn Underhill” by Margaret Cropper, page 99.

“Here we are, little half-animal, half-spiritual creatures, mysteriously urged from within, and enticed from without to communion with spiritual Reality (God). If and when we surrender to this craving and this attraction, we enter thereby - through at first dimly - on a completely new life full of variety, of new joy, tension and pain, offering an infinite opportunity of development to us. Such is the life of prayer as understood by the (Christian) mystics, and as practiced with greater or less completeness of surrender and reward by all real lovers of Christ.”

CHAPTER 14 - GUIDELINE FOURTEEN

WHEN IN YOUR PRESENCE A SIN HAPPENS, YOU MUST RESPOND IMMEDIATELY OF YOUR DISAPPROVAL OR YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED APPROVING OF THE SIN.

This is a true story in my life. I was having difficulty keeping from sinning and I told a friend. He arranged for me to meet with his pastor. A person I did not know. When I arrived for the appointment we prayed and then the pastor immediately said, “You have forgotten to hate sin!” He was right! Two minutes later I walked out knowing what I had to do. Praise God for His word of correction to me. Even though this happened 35 years ago, I remember it as if it were yesterday. Does it also apply to your life? Have you forgotten to hate sin?

WE MUST LEARN TO HATE SIN!

It’s okay to hate sin,
In fact we must
Or we will be miserable
In this mixed-up world.

Hate you say, Oh No!
Hate is bad, bad, bad.
Yet I say, yes, yes, yes,
Hate we must do.

For only when we
Hate our sin weaknesses,
Will God give us
The power to conquer it.

In Romans 12:9, Paul writes,
Let Love be genuine,
Hate what is evil,
Hold fast what is good.

The trouble today
Is some churches
Have forgotten to hate sin
They condone it and are sick.

Does this apply
To the individual & culture?
Yes, for one corrupts society
And the other individuals.

Can these two
Be separated, held apart?
No, it is a mistake
For one corrupts the other.

It is not the individual
We must hate,
But sinful conduct
In its many forms.

For Satan would devour us,
So be very watchful
Oh, churches help us
Be guiding lights.

For he who would
Condone sinful acts
Let him be forewarned
He must learn to hate sin.

By Frank E. Henrich July 4, 2008

1 Peter, chapter 5. Verses 6-9, “*So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and in his good time he will honor you. Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you. Be careful! Watch out for attacks from the Devil, your great enemy. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for some victim to devour. Take a firm stand against him, and be strong in your faith. Remember that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are going through the same kind of suffering you are.* NLT

To summarize this chapter, yes, we must learn to hate sin. Just tolerating it will lead to compromise and soon we will be sinning also. The Our Father prayer Jesus taught us says, “And lead us from temptation.” I believe that the leading described in this prayer is an alert sent by God to your spirit that sin is present. Then God leaves it to you to use your free will to remove yourselves physically from the area of sin. It takes a greater passion to overcome a lesser passion. We need to cultivate our relationships with God so that living with a viable spirit connection (Holy Spirit living in us) is a greater passion than our sin weaknesses. Yes, I have weaknesses! Bet you do, too! So learn to hate sin. Guard yourself daily with a good Bible reading time and act to remove yourself from sinful situations.

CHAPTER 15 – GUIDELINE FIFTEEN

GOD MAY MOVE OR ADJUST YOUR WORKPLACE TO FIT WHERE HE WANTS YOU TO MINISTER.

When you asked God to let you be a minister to your workplace, do not be surprised if God creates events to move you to another city or company where He has work for you. Remember God’s ministry through you is more important to God than where you work.

To illustrate this guideline, I will tell you about two incidents in my life. Only the names of the institutions and persons have been changed. The first incident I call “God’s Strong Arm” and is so named because God protected me from my carelessness in order to preserve me for a ministry He had planned for me.

A bit of background will help you to understand the event. My local church decided to take half of their congregation and divide it into six house

churches. These house churches would be satellites of the main church, that for 3 out of 4 Sundays they would meet in different people's homes. The fourth Sunday, all would meet together. These house churches needed leaders so the church selected persons who went through a training program preparing them to hold a Sunday service and lead this small band of workers in an outreach for lost souls in different geographical areas. I was selected and trained. My family was deeply concerned whether I could assume this additional responsibility along with my work as owner and main employee of a packaging distribution company. I did not want to miss the opportunity but wondered if I was wise to continue. The house churches had not yet started when the event described below happened. God touched my life in a most unusual way and how He did it is described in the story below:

THE STORY OF GOD'S STRONG ARM

It was a November afternoon in 1978. After an unsuccessful and stressful sales call in Maxwell, California, I was driving to see the ATCO Company in Napa. It was not a short distance, and the highway, a narrow two-lane, forty-year-old highway, was going up and down every little knoll. I was tired, and I was pressed for time. Could I get there in time before they closed? The bright, low afternoon sun shone in my eyes as I turned westerly, and its reflection on the yellowish brown hills made my eyes sore, even with sunglasses.

The road had started its descent into the Napa valley. Ahead, the road curved to the left, and I could see it dipping down into a valley filled with oak trees. I had a feeling of impending danger for over a half hour, but I had dismissed it as baseless. The road went down into the little valley of dense trees.

My car entered the grove, and while trying to adjust to the darkness of the grove, before my eyes was a car, stopped dead, with the left-turn signal blinking, awaiting a coming car to clear the two-lane highway. I knew I couldn't stop.

There was not time, and there wasn't a shoulder to swerve out of the way (the road shoulder was only two-feet wide, and then there was only a rough ditch of uneven ground about the width of a car, followed by a raised area of wood fencing.) Then, suddenly my car moved to the right over that shoulder and ditch area. There were no bumps; it was as though the car was traveling on the smoothest highway. The next thing I knew was I was looking out my driver's side window as I whizzed by the rider's side of the

stopped green car. I saw her sitting in her car. My hands were clutching my steering wheel, and my foot had jammed hard on the brake pedal, pushing it to the floorboard. Then a tree passed by my right-side window. The green car was behind me now, and my car slowed.

Looking back, my car had passed the car with my driver's side wheels on the shoulder of the road and the other wheels on the undeveloped land near the fence. I could see the tree now through my back window. Slowly and carefully, and without effort, my car moved back on the road. All this time I had no control of it. I was being driven.

I looked back to reassure myself that this really had happened. The car was still there waiting to make a left-hand turn. I realized I hadn't done it myself. I had not swerved the car to the right. There wasn't time for me to think it out and act upon it, my mind had determined in the flash of a second, when I saw the car, that collision was inevitable.

As soon as it was safe, I stopped the car along the road. I said, "Lord, I didn't do it; You must have." Then came a wonderful knowing, for the following words came to my mind, "From a hospital bed for six months, you would not be able to do the work I have for you to do."

Since I had just completed my training to be a leader of the Festival House Church, an outreach of my local church, I knew the work spoken of would be there. I had gone through the training not sure if I could handle the load. My doubts had been answered in certainly a unique way.

What do protective angels do? In the Scripture Exodus, chapter 23, verse 20, "Behold, I send an angel before you, to guard you on the way to bring you to the place which I have provided." Then when Daniel was in the lions' den, Daniel chapter 6, verse 22, "My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouth." NKJV

Did the story end here? No, the houses churches started and the house church which I helped lead was called The Festival House Church named from the Scripture Isaiah, chapter 30, verses 29-30:

29 You shall have a song

As in the night when a holy festival is kept,
And gladness of heart as when one goes with a flute,
To come into the mountain of the LORD,
To the Mighty One of Israel.

30 The LORD will cause His glorious voice to be heard. NKJV

The second event in my life happened many years later. I had been ministering for a long time in the marketplace of my life. This is a story about God honoring our requests to be of service to Him and to my lack of understanding, which God forgave me.

Here is a bit of background to help you understand the situation that I faced. My little company stopped producing enough income and I knew I would have to go to work for a company. Here is the true story of “The Unknown Ministry.”

THE UNKNOWN MINISTRY

I had prayed for God to use me and it happened at the same time my finances were drying up. I did not want to go to work for Fulton Company, but it was the only opportunity available to me. But since I was there employed by them, I determined I would do the best job I could. The personnel manager for the company hired me for a sales territory near my home. He already had one sales person in my area. I worked under the halfhearted direction of the other local salesperson who did not want me hired for he had a friend he wanted hired for the job. When I went down to visit the plant in Phoenix, AZ, I learned that the plant manager had a feud with the personnel manager who hired me and he made it clear that he would not cooperate with me, keeping me waiting for an hour in the lobby before he would see me. I felt I would make it work, and besides where else could I go? I worked for the company for one year and was rightly fired for I did not create new sales volume as I was expected to do.

Throughout this time, I appealed to God to bless my work inquiring why had He not blessed my work. I faced losing my job with nothing on the horizon to replace it. I still wanted to work for God in the workplace ministry. Yet, I felt the burden of supporting four children. My working wife’s income alone could not support us. Then came the axe and it was over. Shortly after that I was on my way to a Christian day of retreat and lectures, when driving my car, I told God what I thought of His stewardship in my life. I must admit I was sharp with Him as I felt betrayed. Suddenly inwardly I received a knowing I was to shut up. Which I did!

Then as I was driving on down the road, in what I call the theatre of my mind, you know it is where your memories replay in full color, only this time it was not a memory, but instead came the faces of four people. They appeared one at a time. They were all people from the Fulton Company. One was my personnel manager, another was my local boss, another was a

man who was ill with cancer and worked in the plant office, and the fourth face was the plant manager who often messed up my customer's orders.

Then, God did not speak to me in a voice, but in thought came a clear understanding which I will try to put in words for you. I sent you to the Fulton Company to be light, yes a light for Me, to these four persons. For the cancer-diseased man, you helped him handle his last days on earth, but to the others you were there to call them back to their faith. For I had given them, thru you, a portal to return to Me - these Christians mainly in name only. Now this time of refreshment is over for them and on their own they will have to decide to be for Me or to deny Me, for they cannot be lukewarm anymore. I will not go against their will. You have completed your work at the Fulton Company. Then the thought came to me, "Did you not ask to do my work?" "Yes, Lord," I responded, "I asked to be a servant for You. Forgive my failure to recognize it."

Suddenly I realized that I was not a failure. The shame of losing my job was not a stain on me. For now I realized I was sent there for just a short time. That all this time I was being used by our wonderful God in His work, yes, unknowingly used? Praise God for giving me the honor to be His servant. I entered the car with a deep sadness of shame and dismay, but I stepped out of that car full of joy. We do not know how God will use us. God said he will test us to see if we really love Him. Within a week, I found a new job. God always provides those who love and serve Him.

Paul speaks in 2 Corinthinians, chapter 2, verse 9 *"For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things."* NKJV

God says to us in Isaiah, chapter 55, verses 8-9
*"For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.
"For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways,
And My thoughts than your thoughts."* NKJV

My friend, the above two experiences and Scriptures remind us that we are a creation of God. Our minds were created by God. He is so awesome, so be careful you do not judge your Creator, but instead go wherever He sends you with a glad heart.

CHAPTER 16 - GUIDELINE SIXTEEN

YOUR MINISTRY MAY NOT BE AS A PASTOR BUT ANOTHER CHRISTIAN MINISTRY.

Pastors are enablers to prepare active Christians to reach out to the lost and needy souls and encourage Christians who have fallen on hard times, which is a much larger ministry than church duties.

Some persons when fired up to serve the Lord think they should become a pastor. Being sole support for a wife and four children made it impossible for me to become a pastor for I had not attended a seminary and could ill afford to do it then. When we are a new fire for God we want to be part of a big ministry. But as we mature, we move more of the “ego” out and pray eventually for any ministry that He would give us. We learn that just because the ministry would have a good result, God will not bless it if it is not of God’s timing. For me I came to a “Raindrop Ministry” or at least that is what I call it.

I AM THE LORD’S RAINDROP

**I’m a raindrop trying my best
To nourish for You, Lord, hungry souls,
When I think of the vastness of Your power
I am lost in the failure to fathom Your awesomeness.**

**You know the minds of millions of persons,
You know their thoughts and actions,
You send Your love to each one,
You desire that each one seeks to adore You.**

**How can I even imagine such a powerful love?
And then to add to this You created us,
While all You want of us is to love You and serve You
While living a life of obedience to Your word.**

**Oh, how my mind goes into a whirl with all this,
And then You asked me to be a raindrop
Nourishing souls with Your heavenly knowledge,
Drawing back to You the weary ones.**

Humbled as I am, I say, “Who me, Lord?
You want me to be a raindrop for You?
Then let Your grace of power ignite me
And show me where my raindrop is to fall.”



Put a lake behind me to draw from
And let the drops fall, and fall, and fall.
Lord, please take me (insert your name) Your servant,
Give me the mission and power to be Your raindrop.

By Frank E. Henrich January 27, 2009

In conclusion, when it comes to choosing our ministry work, we need God to direct us to the ministry He has for us. It may not be the one we would select. We need to be open to the Holy Spirit’s direction.

CHAPTER 17 – GUIDELINE SEVENTEEN

DON’T HIDE YOUR CHRISTIANITY FROM WORKERS IN YOUR WORK-PLACE OR YOU MAY BE ASKED TO DO SOMETHING THAT IS SINFUL.

You wonder how I can prevent being asked to do something sinful at work. I have given this much thought and can tell you there is only one way. Do not hide your Christianity from the people who share your workload. This does not mean you need to try to convert them. But there are ways you can let them know you are a serious Christian. Then when a plot to steal or lie is hatched, they will not include you. However, if you hide your

Christianity from them and they ask you to participate in the sin, you must respond. When you say no, they cannot tolerate you and will do whatever they can to get you fired. Your only defense is to be up front with them that Jesus is your Lord and you follow His teachings.

Believe me I am speaking from experience. When I was middle-aged, I joined a company as a sales manager. I had only been there two weeks when I was invited to join in a plan to destroy the company. You see I had not had time to let them know I was a serious Christian. I told them I would not participate in their scheme and in one year I was fired as a result. I was out of work for four months until I found a new job. Several years later, the Lord provided a family inheritance and I started the first of three companies. Here I was free to speak of Jesus without prior approval of management. When I look back at this event, I remember the anguish of that time, but then there was the joy of being freer to tell of my Lord to my customers in a gentle way and being the example I wanted to be of His love.

Here is a poem about this type of work:

HIDE NOT YOUR CHRISTIANITY

I tell the people at my work thru my actions
That I am a Christian, who loves Jesus,
It's an amazing thing when you see them
Pull me privately aside to ask my advice.

Stone by stone great monuments are built
Act by act great achievements are created,
Belittle not the single act, simple as it is,
For out of these acts, life is remembered.

If we act with Jesus living in us
Then we can choose acts that glorify God,
It is then we are filled with great peace,
And our fellow worker is drawn to God.

My fellow workers never ask me to sin,
For they know in advance my answer,
So do not hide your Christianity
But let the light of Jesus shine thru you.

By Frank Henrich August 23, 2012

So in a quiet way we may move thru our duties at work being an unsung (unnoticed) worker for God. The below poem describes this:

When my wife read this poem, she wrote me a note saying, "Me, too." What do you say? Do not be bashful but get out your oars and start rowing for Jesus.

I'M ROWING FOR JESUS

Rowing, rowing to the lead
Of my Savior dear
Thru fog, rain or sunshine
I'm rowing, rowing for Jesus.

God gave me this sea of life
And a life in my rowboat
As I leaned over the wooden side
The water was cool to my fingers.

Its waters were serenely still,
But the memory of yesterday,
A day of my frantic rowing
To stay away from the rocks.

Oh, if only there were a harbor
To nose my boat to rest,
For my recent storm of life
Tossed me wildly about.

Rowing, rowing to the lead
Of my Savior dear
Thru fog, rain or sunshine
I'm rowing, rowing for Jesus.

**I thought perhaps I could
Search for a quiet harbor,
Stepping out of this sea of life
Living without pain or joy.**

**Oh yes, I could but won't!
For the Lord sent me here
On this sea of difficulty
As a test of my loyalty.**

**Yes, testing me if I can trust
In his saving love and hand
During all life's trials and joys
Being true to my Lord's calling.**

**The call to keep rowing for Jesus
Through all kinds of circumstances,
Ready to rise above them to serve
By just rowing my boat for Jesus.**

**Rowing, rowing to the lead
Of my Savior dear
Thru fog, rain or sunshine
I'm rowing, rowing for Jesus.**

**Is there no joy in this rowing
Of my boat thru the waters?
Oh yes, when I keep my eyes
Solidly on a Jesus course.**

**The grace of joy fills my body
And I row my boat safely
Within the boundaries set by God's
Standards for a life pleasing to Him.**

**So I steadily row forward
Each day on this sea of life
Rowing and praying for the right course
That will lead to Heaven someday.**

Rowing, rowing to the lead
Of my Savior dear
Thru fog, rain or sunshine
I'm rowing, rowing for Jesus.

By Frank E. Henrich April 4, 2012

CHAPTER 18 - CONCLUSION

The seventeen guidelines for a successful ministry for God, as I have learned them, have now been presented to you to study and use as you walk through life. I thought the book was complete but then was surprised to learn there was to be a bit more material for this book. You say, "What happened?" Well, an unexpected event happened to me at the next church worship service. I call it "An Insight."

AN INSIGHT

This is August 12, 2012, and yesterday I thought the book was complete. A goal had been accomplished. Then, praise God, as I sat today listening to the pastor's Sunday sermon, a knowing filled me that there was more to be written in the last chapter.

In the theater of my mind, where I often relive memories in full color, I saw something new to me. I was standing in a large grassy plain where the grass was short and a brilliant spring-green color. It extended in all directions for miles. I stood alone, but looking afar I saw a large army headed my way. The army was so large that I could not see its end, so it appeared as a large green mass approaching. They were all marching slowly across the landscape of time and somehow I knew they were all Christians. Then I recalled that I had written a poem called "God's Frontline Warriors."

Then came the thought that every general sends out scouting parties to test the strength of the enemy. It is very important for every army that they have this forward guard. Being in the forward guard can bring great risk of injury and even death so only the bold dare venture. In a Christian army this vanguard force is a volunteer group of souls requesting the honor to serve.

Then I realized that the leaders of the Christian army are its generals, and they cannot risk their lives being in the front guard. No, no, they are busy organizing and directing the army. These forward scouts have to be serious, earnest Christians wanting to serve God. The lukewarm Christian will most likely prefer to bypass this honor. The generals need a group of people as qualified volunteers who are trained to be bold, while moving ahead of the army and feeding information back to the generals to help them to prepare the way.

Then I realized that some of these frontline warriors are you and me, yes us, we who are in the ministry of presenting God daily to the marketplaces in our lives. We are part of that vanguard. God has trained us for this work.

As soon as I arrived home, I looked up my computer copy of the poem, "God's Frontline Warriors" to see what it said. Are you wondering also? Well, here it is for you to read. Praise God.

GOD'S FRONTLINE WARRIORS

**There is a silence that surrounds me,
It forms an invisible cocoon of peace,
Life swirls around me ever changing
Seeking an input from my energies.**

**This cocoon is formed grace from God
Unearned yet found in a God lover
With gifts to complete ministries
That forms the power for bold actions.**

**In this silence is a known direction,
A knowing of a way that is right,
Without nary a word spoken or written
The Christian mystic knows his place.**

**The degree that the world swirls about
The person living in Christ's presence,
Is of God's choosing for He has needs
For the cloistered and the frontline warriors.**

**I am not cloistered so I cannot speak
But no doubt Satan and flesh haunt them.
For I am a Jesus frontline-mystic warrior
Out in the joyful grind of daily living.**

**A warrior without a building or order
To protect from the outside sinful world,
Clinging tightly to an invisible Friend
As the world whirls in great disarray.**

**I must admit that I often have fears
That this wonderful invisible cocoon
Will be pulled from me by my God
And I will have to face the world naked.**

**You say how could this happen?
Easily, let spiritual pride puff me up or
When my meek submission to God
Goes astray claiming God's work is mine.**

**Humility and meekness yet with
The boldness when God so wills it,
These are the markers of a mystic
Along with doing God's work timely.**

**This road to become God's warrior
Is not obtained in a hour, a year
But painfully learned in life's fire
Until sensitive to God's call to serve.**

**Oh my Master, my Old Friend, thank you
For my invisible cocoon of silence
And the spiritual gifts and insightful
Direction for this, Jesus frontline warrior.**

By Frank E. Henrich April 18, 2011

You have received this book, *Christ Helper's Manual*, free from Yellow Rose Ministries, 1621 Falmouth Way, Modesto, CA 95355. If you found the book helpful in your Christian walk we would love to hear from you.

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