

On Eagles' Wings Pt 205

by Don Courville

The sermon emphasizes the importance of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and the transformative power of His blood and the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Duration: 36:57

Scripture: Acts 13:52, Ephesians 2:8, Hebrews 1:3, Hebrews 4:16

Topics: "Radio Show"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the excitement and power of the book of Acts in the Bible. He shares a personal experience of being delayed and using that time to pray, which led to a divine encounter with a man who needed to hear about Jesus. The preacher believes that Satan has infiltrated churches and hindered the power of the Holy Spirit, but he desires to see that same power at work today. He encourages believers to be learners, humble servants, and disciples who share their testimonies and lead others to salvation.

Transcript

I was just thinking of a story about that song, Jesus Paid It All, told by Dr. Walter Wilson. I've shared with you a couple of stories about him. He was speaking in a church, preaching, and at the last they had the invitation and a young lady started coming down the aisle and he noticed that as soon as she made a move to come, another older couple moved out at the same time.

And she got to him first and she said, Dr. Wilson, I am lost. I want to be saved. I want to find Christ as my Savior.

I'm a sinner. No sinner. And she said that, that that older couple slipped up there right behind her and said, Dr. Wilson, we'd like to introduce to you one of our finest Sun School teachers that we have in our church.

And then he turned to them and he said, would you kindly let me have some time with this young lady? She's just expressed to me that she would like to be saved and we'd like, we need some time to talk, just the two of us. And then he took a break in his story and sharing that many times, well-meaning friends can jump in and keep somebody from getting saved because they've assumed something. And, and what he did is he took her to Hebrews chapter one and verse three, and he shared this with her.

And this is what opened up the light to her. If you want to turn to Hebrews chapter one, maybe I'll take you through a few verses in Hebrews, but I was just thinking of this song, how Jesus paid it all and he paid it all by himself for our sins. There's nothing that that we can do along with the blood of Christ to get it saved.

It's by the blood alone that we're saved. It was the blood of Jesus Christ that cleanses us from sin. And so many times in our churches, church workers are thinking that something that they are doing is helping to get them saved.

And that's a, that's a doctrine from Satan because the Bible says, for by grace he is saved through faith and that not of yourselves. It is a gift of God and not of works so that no man can boast. God said that so no one can boast.

When we get to heaven, we're all going to have one song redeemed by the blood of the lamb, redeemed by the blood of the lamb. And he shared this verse with her in Hebrews one, three, talking about Jesus who being the brightness of his glory, the brightness of God's glory, and the express image of his person and upholding all things by the word of his power. When he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the majesty on high.

And the words that really stuck out to her was by himself. Jesus by himself did it for you and me. There was nothing that we could do to help him.

We had nothing in us that had any ability to help him. Look over at chapter two, nine, as long as we're there in Hebrews, look at chapter two, nine, but we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. Jesus took my death.

He tasted my death for my sins that I'll never experience. If I had to experience that, I would have to go to hell for all eternity. He did that.

While you're there, you can look up at verse fourteen, Hebrews two, fourteen. For as much then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same, that through death he might destroy, what? Him that had the power of death, that is the devil. When Jesus died on the cross, he destroyed the power that Satan had and delivered them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

If you're living in fear, let me give you some good news today. Jesus Christ died on the cross to deliver you from that fear. And if you're concerned about dying and going to hell, then you need to stay afterwards and let's talk.

We have some men, we have some ladies, let's just sit down and get our Bibles out and talk. You may be like the Sunday school teacher, teaching all those years the word, but she had no peace in her heart. When Jesus comes in, he delivers us from that fear of death.

We could go on through Hebrews, look at verse, I was thinking, I've got little crosses marked off through Hebrews. Look at 16, verse 16. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace that we might obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Anytime you have a need, you can come to Jesus and he'll help you. If you need to be saved, come to him. If you've been saved and you have a struggle in an area, come to him.

You can always come. He won't have a closed on the door. He doesn't keep his office open from nine to five.

For us that are believers, do you know what he's doing for you and me? Every moment, every hour, he is interceding and praying for us. This is what the book of Hebrews teaches. This book of Hebrews is a tremendous book.

I was over last night meditating back over in Hebrews nine and ten. Nine and ten, I got little circles around the word blood. See, it was his precious blood.

For instance, if you go to nine and verse 19, when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats with water and scarlet wool and hyssop and sprinkled both the book and all the people saying, this is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto me. And when we have a communion service, which we need to have one, we haven't had one recently. Maybe we'll have one next Sunday.

Whenever we take the juice and we drink it, that is showing the blood of Christ that his blood was shed. And he wanted us to take communion to show and to remind us that he shed his blood. We we take the bread that shows us that his body was broken for us.

He said, do this to remember it was an object lesson. That's what it was an object lesson to. He said, don't ever forget what I've done for you.

And so all through the Old Testament, they had the blood that was shed and they would sprinkle it on the altar and in different things, every aspect of it. Do you know that every aspect of the Old Testament spoke of something of Christ? And I'll take you back and show you one little thing here just a second. But let me let me show you in Hebrews 10, something in verse nine, then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will.

Oh, God, he take it the way the first that he may establish the second by the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. You see, just as Christ died on the cross for you and me on the cross once, once for all, once was all it. Took, he didn't need to keep going back once you received Jesus Christ as your savior, once is all you need.

We are cleansed by the blood of the lamb. Once you are saved, you're sealed by the Holy Spirit, the scripture says. Now, this doesn't mean we're going to be perfect, but once I became my mom and dad's son, there was nothing that could separate me from being my mom and dad's son.

It was by birth. So by spiritual birth, you become a child of God once. Now, my mom and dad had to do a lot of work on me, and my mom still thinks that she didn't get the job done good enough, especially about some of my manners.

But I had to have spankings, switchings, and the those types of things that children really enjoy growing up. We've got a rod in our house. Matter of fact, we've had to get a couple of them.

We keep one in the van even. Call it the hot rod. This is saying, listen, little old dowel rod, you need to obey mommy and daddy.

Get a little switched and a little stinging. God will do that to us, but we never do cease to be his child. And so once for all, if you notice in the ten by the which will, we were sanctified through the offering of the body

of Jesus Christ once for all.

He made that sacrifice in twelve. He says, but this man, this is Jesus, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, you know what he did? He sat down on the right hand of God. After Christ finished his work on earth, he went up and he seated at the right hand of God.

And we don't understand how this works out with him being God and the Holy Spirit being God. But it's talking about a position of authority. And there he is.

What's he doing? He's interceding for us. He's watching over in 13 from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool for by one offering. There it is.

One, one offering. He had perfected forever them that are sanctified. This may blow us away to think that Jesus Christ did on the cross what we could never do, but he perfected us by his blood.

This doesn't mean that we're perfect in this body while we're on this earth, but in Christ we are perfect. God sees us through the blood of Christ. We and once we begin to see ourself as God sees us, then it begins to alter our behavior.

If I look at myself all the time, I'll get so discouraged. I'll quit. But God says, don't look at yourself.

Keep looking at me, looking at you, look at the word and see how I look at you. Wonderful thing. And the blood was such a special thing, but just not only the blood, but everything in the Old Testament, the sacrifices spoke of Christ and his work for us.

I was looking in Exodus 27. Did you know this, that, you know, they had the candle over and we can speak about the candle over and how that spoke of Christ. You can take anything in in the Old Testament like this and you can lead somebody to Christ.

But it said thou shalt command the children of Israel that they bring the pure. They bring the pure oil olive. How would they get pure olive oil? How would they get pure olive oil? And he said, bring the pure bring it beaten for the light.

They would beat it. They would take that olive, those olives, and they would just beat them, just literally beat them. And then they would take the oil and they would strain it out.

However, they would do it. And that was the pure oil that they would put in the lamp and the oil would burn. They said, let it burn forever.

It said for the light to cause the lamp to burn always. I was, I jotted down some notes on this. I don't know if I have them here or not.

I don't guess I do. But I had some things about this that the, the light that was put off from the oil spoke of illumination. And this was a type of the Holy Spirit, just like there were types of the blood.

This was a type of the Holy Spirit. And do you know one of the things that happens to us as we go through life? Sometimes we began to get beat. We go through.

If you're in Christ, the Holy Spirit is there. You're going to go through some beatings. You're going to draw some attacks on you because you're in Christ and God allows these things to come.

But as you're beat, it's going to show and reveal what's in there. If the Holy Spirit is in there, it's just going to be more illumination. Remember when they beat Stephen, the more they beat him, the more light came out of him, the more of the glory of God until they just couldn't stand it.

And they just gnashed on him on this. And they were just so mad at him. There he was dying.

He looked up and he saw Jesus and he prayed for him. Father, don't lay this charge just like Jesus. Don't don't lay this charge on them.

And that illumination that came through that beating, which is so bright, it affected at least one young man standing there, Paul. And he never could get away, I don't think, from the illumination that he had received that day of the Holy Spirit. So when you are beat, you go through some days where you take a beating, some weeks we take a beating.

And sometimes all we can do is just bow our head before the Lord. We don't understand. There may be some things we don't understand.

There's some confusion and and things we just keep our spirit submitted to the Lord. As you go through these beatings, the Holy Spirit will begin to shine more through your life. Now, one of the other thing is when we go through beatings, sometimes it reveals self.

Why did you hit me? Why did you say that about me? And we defend ourself. We get angry. Then the Holy Spirit is showing you I'm not the illumination self is in your life.

And I'm going to let you take a few beatings. You see, the more we are pounded, we are brought into that fine position, just like the oil of the lamp. We could take the lamp.

It was beat too. And until it had the beautiful glow, the gold, you know, that thing would probably be worth, I think, about 30, what is it? I figured up the other day, almost a million dollars, that lamp stand today by the gold standards. But they take that gold and they beat it.

Speaking of Christ and how he was broken and beat for us and it brought out the beauty of the gold, you know, gold, you go find it. It's not that really pretty out in the rough and the ore, but it goes through the process. And as we go through the process, it brings out the beauty of Christ.

You know, he's talking. I mean, last week we talked a little bit about how Jesus cares, but basically the working of the Holy Spirit and then last week on the Holy Spirit. Let me share this statement with you about the Holy Spirit.

Someone said all the weakness, weaknesses, both personal and corporate in the body of Christ, all the weaknesses in the body of Christ, corporate and personal in the church today may be traced to an incomplete understanding of and recognition of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes we think God doesn't love me. If he loved me, he wouldn't let this happen to me.

No, actually, that may be a dart of Satan coming in. And it's because God does love you that he's letting something happen. And we don't understand the Holy Spirit.

So we are not submissive. We don't have submissive spirits to the Holy Spirit. I don't like things to go wrong naturally.

Do you? I like to be in control. And it seems like things are almost on the verge of out of control. That's life, because he wants us to understand.

We think we got a hold of the steering wheel and we're driving the car of our life. But after a little while, when we're growing in Christ, we get figured out this thing ain't even hooked on to nothing. God is unhooked it underneath the hood and he's got an angel down there steering.

He is in control. The Holy Spirit is the one in control. You know, I was looking at this verse in 2 Corinthians 3, 9, how we are labors together with God.

Do you know, this has been a great illumination to me. The Spirit of God used a man, well, Mr. Gothard, one time when he said, he said, when I find out it's getting hard, I'm doing it. That has helped me a lot.

When it begins to get hard, it began to get hard yesterday. I wanted to do some things with my time that I wanted to do. I wanted to have some time to study, prepare for the day and pray.

And the Lord said, no, you stay with your family today. Oh, Lord, I don't want to go to Joplin. I don't know.

I just want to go. He says, you stay with your family. OK, Lord, I did that.

And I'm trying to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit in this area. So we're in this area. So we're labors together with God.

If I'm laboring with God, it's me and God working. In actuality, it's God working through me. And so when it gets hard, I have to look around.

Well, wait a minute. How come God isn't helping me? How come that I'm beginning to struggle? How come this thing I'm going through, this trial is hard? And I look around and say, oh, we're to be laboring together. I'm pulling against you, Lord, just like don't be unequally yoked together.

Jesus had come unto me, all of you who are weary and heavy laden. You know, he says, yoke up with me. My burden is light.

My yoke is easy. And only time the yoke gets hard when we begin to pull against it and strain, we get out of step with the Holy Spirit. We get ahead of a little bit behind to it and it gets hard.

Dr. Walter Wilson shared this story, and this is a good one for us to understand God's timing, God's timing, and the Holy Spirit is the one that directs timing in the details of our life. You wonder why you catch this train, you know, those of us that come to this part of town, we can catch a train sometimes. Or you get delayed or this or that, this happens.

In Sunday School, a young man was sharing this morning, Frank was sharing about, he thought he was going to be late, but he just went ahead and did what the Lord wanted him to do, and he came out on time anyway. But Dr. Walter Wilson had some health problems, and so he had to take some time, and he needed climate to help him out to go to California, so it was decided he would take some months and go out to California so the climate out there could help him. And he received a phone call from a friend sharing how years ago he had been helped.

And he said, now I want to help you, Dr. Wilson, if there's any way I can help you. And he says, I'll pray about it. And so the Lord said, okay, he can help you by getting you a ticket to get out there.

And so he called him back up and he says, I know a way you can help me. I need to go to California, and if you would think it would be alright, I could use a ticket, train ticket to get out there. And the man was very wealthy, no problem in that area.

And so he said, I will send you a ticket. What date do you need? I will have you a ticket there by that date. And so he got everything all set, he got ready to go.

He come up to that date, right up to the day, and he's waiting, well, the ticket, it'll be here, it'll be here today, then he said. And he came and it wasn't there. And he's wondering, well, I wonder what's going on.

And so he waited another day, waited another day, waited another day, and he waited a week, and he just waited. And every day he got heavier and he'd go down into his little prayer closet and he'd pray, well, Lord, what are you doing? You have something. And every day he'd just bring this little thing to the Lord, well, Lord, I was supposed to leave on this date.

And finally he was about ready to take matters into his own hands and just go get him a ticket. And so he proceeded to do that and then the ticket came. He was thankful for the ticket and he took it and he went.

Wondering, well, the Lord must have something in mind. He got up and I think it was Kansas City. And while he was, um, uh, was he on the train or waiting? You can't remember either, huh? I'm talking to my wife here.

But anyway, either what he was waiting for the train or on the train, I think he was on the train. He was praying, well, Lord, who do you want me to? He was always, he was a soul winner. What do you want me to talk to today? And this, uh, this lady came up to him and, and, and he noticed, um, or they sat down close to each other, something like that.

And he noticed that she was really burdened, really burdened, dressed in black morning. He knew something bad had happened. And so he says, I, uh, I sense that you, uh, you have a great burden.

Would you like to share your burden with me so I might help you out? And she gladly did. She, she, um, began to share. She shared, she just lost her sister and, um, and to make it short, he led her to Christ.

She needed Jesus. And then afterwards she shared about how she was delayed on this trip. Her sister died.

She was going to come and her sister died. So she had to stay and she shared how she was delayed and how she was wanting the Lord. And, and when she shared her delay and the timing, Dr. Wilson said that she could see the expression on his face.

He realized that the Holy Spirit had arranged this arrangement. And she said, why are you looking like that? And he was just, he was just excited that the Lord had the timing and then he shared her at the time and then they both rejoice. And she went on her way safe.

See, the Holy Spirit takes our delays. He takes our burdens as we learn to work with him. I'm a learner.

I'm a learner. And this is the thing about the Holy Spirit that God wants us to learn about him. And then the book of Acts, our, our lesson today was on the book of Acts.

And there's no way I can take you through the book of Acts in, in the time remaining. I was, every time I look in at the book of Acts, it's, it's just full of the Holy Spirit leading their lives. You know, they're sitting in jail.

It's the will of God. The Holy Spirit's done it. It's, it's exciting.

Matter of fact, they got thrown in jail. This is the first part of the book of Acts. Uh, let me take and show you this.

You see, the Holy Spirit can get you out of whatever kind of jam that you get into. The apostles, some of them got thrown in jail for preaching Christ. And, uh, last week I shared with you what they did to get thrown in jail.

They were walking into the temple. Remember Peter and John? They saw this fellow there and, uh, and they jerked him up and the Lord healed him. Well, they got into all kinds of trouble.

This went on through chapter three and chapter four because they began, they got an opportunity to preach. Pretty soon people getting saved. Pharisees didn't like that.

So they come along, we can't have this. So he threw him in jail. Holy Spirit came along or the Lord sent an angel along.

Maybe I should be more correct on that. And, uh, said jail break time and, uh, let him out of jail. They were out preaching in the temple.

They sent, the Pharisees sent to get him out of jail. They came there. They found the guard standing there guarding the door.

Everything's all right. And they opened up the door. No prisoners.

Well, they thought the guards were in cahoot on that. This is just the book of Acts. It's just like that all the way through.

Wouldn't you like your life to be that exciting? It can be. It can be. Remember I shared with you, uh, uh, Bill Angel, the guy up there in Joplin.

The Lord delayed me getting some food from a food co-op. I had to stand there for an hour at a library waiting for food that never came. So I figured, well, the Lord's got something in on this.

I'll spend some time praying. So praying and, and here's a guy standing there or sitting there eating lunch. I'd watch somebody else give him, give him some food.

And that Lord, that's good, Lord. That's nice. And I sort of, at first, I just sort of tried to stay away from him.

But then the Lord brought me right face to face with him. He's eating his food. And the Lord said, now I want you to talk to this man about Jesus.

I didn't know what his need was. And you remember he got hit by a car a little over 24 hours later, he got hit by a car in Joplin. And some of us men, we went up and prayed with him.

Week four last, I think it was. And the Lord put all that together. Now we think he might be saved, running from God.

But the Holy Spirit had me delayed. If I hadn't been delayed, I wouldn't have seen him. And so it can get exciting if we can get our, all our chill bumps and all of our want-tos under the control of the Holy Spirit.

The book of Acts is just a testimony of the Holy Spirit working through the lives of the church. And that's what the Lord wants in every church. And actually, when we come together here, when we get together, whenever we get together as Christians, we should be so full of stories and excitement.

Maybe we've got some brother here on their arm here. Oh, Jake got saved. Let me show it.

Let's let's get the story. Well, we got this wild story how he gets saved and you'll share how the Holy Spirit led you. Didn't Jake? He'll, he'll share how the Lord been working on him.

That's the book of Acts. Somehow along the line, Satan's got into our lives and into our churches to shut off the power that was in the book of Acts in our churches today. I'm telling you, I want to see that same kind of power working.

We're not here just to sit and play games. We're here to see God work. And so the book of Acts is full of the stories of the Holy Spirit working in lives.

And he's writing the chapter 1994 right now today. He's writing it now. Let me say a couple of things and then maybe we ought to be thinking about closing the Holy Spirit.

And I'm just learning. I will learn as long as I'm alive and in this body. I am a learner.

That's all I am. I'm a learner. I'm learning from you.

I'm learning from experiences all the time. It seems like I'm always learning how weak I am. And some lessons we have to learn over several times before they become a habit.

But A.W. Tozer said the heart that learns to die with Christ soon knows the blessed experience of rising with him and all the world's persecutions cannot steal the high joy that springs up in the soul that has become the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. Why could they throw those early Christians to the lions and they died joyfully? Why could they take their property? Why could they take their lives in all kinds of terrible ways and they had continual joy? It's because the Holy Spirit was dwelling in them in power and they understood the cross. The church in America, we don't understand the cross.

We don't preach the cross. Very few sermons will have the message of the cross. The ones that God has used in power, whether missionary or preacher or just whoever, have been those that have understood the power of the cross.

This is the most unpopular message there is in the churches because the flesh does not like the cross. The devil does not like the cross. Listen to what Spurgeon said.

Try to gather the sermon I gave last year on the Holy Spirit. He said, the greatest, strongest, mightiest plea of the church of God to the world is the existence of the Spirit of God in its midst and the works of the Spirit of God are the true evidences of Christianity. Is there evidence of the Holy Spirit working in your life? Is there evidence of the Holy Spirit working in your life? You have to answer that.

But that is the mark of a believer, the evidences of the Holy Spirit working in your life. The fruit of the Holy Spirit is love. In our character, love, one fruit, the fruit of the Spirit is love.

And all those other things, joy, peace, long-suffering, all that comes out of love and the structure of the Spirit of God. And so if you have trouble loving people, and by the way, personally, if I could have my ways, Lord let me go up in the mountains and live in a cabin and stay away from people. They bug me.

They give me bills. They run into my cars. And the Spirit of God comes back and says, uh-uh, I saved you to reach out to people.

You see, that's the flesh, that's self. We want to curl up and stay away. We're talking about requirements for elders.

Requirement for elders is actually sometimes to be a doormat, to be a servant. That is it. To be a servant to people.

Why did Jesus save us? Just so we can come in here and sit on these pews like a knot on a log. No. He saved us so we could go out and tell others that Jesus saved us.

Help them get saved so they can turn. And what do you say? Go and make disciples. This is a disciple-making machine.

The church is to be a disciple-making machine. And we're to exhort one another. And so we're asking the Lord to teach us about the Holy Spirit.

And I've learned several different little things about the Holy Spirit that you wouldn't have ever thought of. I had one man who was a real soul winner. I mean, anything that moved, he was going to witness to it.

J.O. Grooms, Jerry Falwell's soul winning pastor. He used to be. And he came out a couple of times.

Tremendous man to be with. But he said this. He said, watch out for those that write books and don't win souls.

I thought, well, that's a strange statement. A lot of people write books. And here's what he said, because those that write books, he said, many times they'll go astray if they're not winning souls, because he says a soul winner is used to being checked by the Holy Spirit.

He's used to being checked by the Holy Spirit. Leave this guy alone. Share Christ with this one.

Go over here. Turn right. Turn left.

Knock on that door. That directly you can be impressed with your spirit. So that's what he said.

And here's something that God has just sort of taught me about the Holy Spirit myself, that the most dangerous place in all the world to be is where? The most dangerous place to be is in a church where the Holy Spirit is working. You understand that? Because wherever the Holy Spirit is working, the enemy is going to move in and start throwing darts in there, too. And so just warning.

But also the most blessed place to be is a place where the Holy Spirit is. And this is why we open up the Scriptures and we preach Christ. And we haven't really got into the Scriptures a lot this morning, but I'm just sharing my heart with you.

The devil doesn't like it. And I do this many times. When things get peaceful, not too many problems rolling around, I look around and say, Lord, what am I doing wrong? Where am I? What's wrong? And I don't like problems.

You don't either. But like Paul said, great and effectual doors open unto me, but there are many adversaries. And so as you and I learn to be filled with the Holy Spirit, now you read the book of Acts.

This is, I'm not going to take off on it. We're going to close down. But this is so full of exciting things.

You know, Acts 13, 52 says the disciples were continually filled with joy in the Holy Spirit. That takes you right back to Numbers 27. How they were to be, the lamp was to burn continually.

Maybe sometime I'll give you an illustration on that from a lamp and show you something from that. I was going to do it this morning, but I didn't have the lamp. I couldn't get one rounded up.

Let's pray. Now, Father, I thank you for struggles. Thank you that you lead and guide us.

And now, Lord, the message of today is in us as the Holy Spirit goes through our bodies out to wherever we go today. And we pray that we'd be like the early disciples. They were continually filled with joy in the Holy Spirit because they were filled with your Spirit.

And they weren't filled with self. So they weren't sitting over in a corner having a pity party. Father, I pray that you would help us to keep our eyes on your Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, we thank you for your presence and the power that you manifested in the book of Acts. You want to manifest through our lives today. And you've been bringing us together.

You've been bringing us out of different places and building a church. And we pray that it would not just be a non-functioning church, but it would be a church where you are working in all our lives. And you rub us against each other.

And we have little differences in things. And we learn from these things. And we make mistakes.

And we learn from our mistakes. And we learn through all of this how to love one another more, how to sacrifice one another more. And we learn how weak we all are.

We have no confidence in the flesh, as Paul said. And all our sufficiency is of you. You said you shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost come upon you.

We pray by faith, Father, that you would give us the power. You'd fill us, Holy Spirit. You commanded us to be filled.

And be not drunk with wine, where is the excess, but be filled, continually filled with the Holy Spirit. This is your word you've told us. And I pray for your mighty anointing power on us as we go out this week and we touch live.

And Father, that we forget ourselves and we forget what people look like. And that we'd remember you. And that we'd be like the Apostle Paul said, that the love of Christ constrains, compels us, controls us.

It'd be that we love Jesus that we endure. It'd be that we love Jesus that we give. It'd be that we love Jesus that we take the beating that we might have to take.

And that through all of this, there'd be more of the illumination of the Holy Spirit. Lord, I pray for each one here, how precious everyone is to me. Oh Lord, what a burden sometimes it is to me to think, and the other men that we're working together as elders, that we have the responsibility of guarding, keeping, shepherding the flock.

But thank you that you are working it out. We pray now for your blessing and thank you for the young folks here today. What a blessing to see how you're using the older young folks to work with the younger ones and teaching them the word.

What an encouragement. And here we're all working together. We're working to build up.

Now we pray that we go in the power of the Spirit of God this week. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

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