



Harvest Warriors

NEWSLETTER



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Warring to Harvest

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The Fruit of the Holy Spirit

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”

Galatians 5:22-23

Are you currently in a situation that you just can't stand? Are you continually unhappy, distressed, stressed out, depressed and discouraged? You have prayed and prayed and sought God, but still nothing changes. It seems as if God no longer hears your prayers. Life has become drudgery and you are sooooo weary of it all! Does this describe your situation at this moment? If so, here is the answer. *You need a change of attitude. You need the manifestation of the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life.* However, this fruit belongs to the Holy Spirit. YOU cannot change your attitude, and YOU cannot produce this fruit in your life, no matter how hard you try.

Recently I had a dear friend come to visit me for three weeks. She does not live in the U.S. She is a physician who is in training to become a surgeon. She is just completing her fourth year of training after graduating from medical school. So you see, she has a tremendous amount of time and effort invested into her career. We spent quite some time talking. She was unhappy, and discouraged. She had no joy in her life, and was very unhappy with her training, her career, and everything else. She had been in this condition for more than a year. Nothing seemed to change in spite of all her prayers and time spent seeking

the Lord. She simply could not face the next four years of training. BUT, she feels very firmly that it is indeed God's will for her to become a surgeon. I asked her what she would do if she could do anything she wanted. Her answer was, "I don't know. I honestly don't know what I want to do." Does that sound familiar to you? Perhaps you are in the same situation in your own life. You don't like what you are doing, but you really don't know what you want to do.

Well, let me give you the same advice I gave to her. You need a change in your attitude!

"But I have tried to change my attitude," she said. "I've been trying for more than a year. I've prayed and prayed about it, but nothing changes."

"That's just the problem," I responded. "**You** have been trying to change your attitude. That is impossible. You cannot change it. The fruit of the Holy Spirit is just that – it belongs to Him. You cannot produce joy in your life, and you cannot produce peace. Only the Holy Spirit can produce those things. Your job is to simply make yourself available to the Lord to produce

His fruit in your life. *You should get onto your face and pray like this: ‘Lord, here is my whole heart and my whole mind. By my free will I give them to you and I ask you to completely change my attitude and produce the fruit of the Holy Spirit within me. I ask you for it and thank you for this in the name of Jesus.’*”

You may need pray this prayer more than once, maybe every day, or more than once a day, but God WILL answer such a prayer if it is sincere.

Sound simple? It is! Our bad attitudes toward our lives are sin. We need to confess them as such to the Lord, ask Him to forgive and cleanse us, and then ask Him to change us. My friend did this. The next day she spent several hours with the Lord asking Him to reveal to her every bad attitude she had. She wrote a whole list of bad attitudes as He showed them to her. Then she prayed through the list, confessing each one to the Lord, asking Him to forgive her. Then she prayed and asked God to change her attitudes. She freely gave her heart and mind over to Him for this purpose. I recently received an E-mail from her after she returned home. She wrote that she felt completely different! She said that she loved her work and her training, and that she was excited and looking forward to the next four years. The long hours at work and the nights on call without sleep were still difficult, but she no longer felt angry and abused because of them. Praise God, what a change!

The fruit of the Holy Spirit is produced in our lives mostly when we are in difficult circumstances. Our human emotions depend on our circumstances. If our circumstances are good, then we are happy. If they are difficult, then we are discouraged, angry and depressed. Unfortunately, our human emotions are under the control of our flesh, or sin-nature. The fruit of the Holy Spirit is not dependant on our circumstances, and it is not controlled by our circumstances. The love, joy, peace, etc. of God is produced by God in us, in spite of anything we are experiencing at the time. In fact, God frequently allows difficulties to come into our lives so that He can have the opportunity to work in us to produce His fruit. *Our job is to become available to Him so that He can perform this work in us.* We cannot do this ourselves.

When the fruits of the Holy Spirit are present in your life, then you can be contented and joyful in **any** circumstance, no matter how difficult. That’s why the Apostle Paul could write, “. . . for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be

abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:11-13)

Please note, Paul said that he “learned.” This state of contentment didn’t happen overnight. It was something that took time to grow. We have the fruit of the Holy Spirit only to the extent that God Himself lives in and through our lives. The more we have of the Holy Spirit, the more of His fruit will be manifested in our lives. Like in a garden, the seeds from the Holy Spirit must first be planted in our life. Then as He carefully tends us, the seeds grow and produce fruit. *We cannot produce the fruit ourselves, but we can help or hinder the growing process.*

Are you in an unhappy marriage? Do you feel you no longer love your spouse, and that your spouse no longer loves you? This is not a difficult situation for God. You simply need to ask the Lord to bring about His love in your heart for your spouse, and do the same thing for your spouse. Begin to act in a loving manner toward your spouse. Put away all criticism of your spouse, ask the Lord to produce kindness, gentleness, and self-control into your life as well as love. If you behave toward your spouse with these fruits of the Holy Spirit, love will come easily to both of you. Oh, I know he/she may be VERY difficult to live with, but remember, the fruits of the Holy Spirit are not dependant on your circumstances. They operate in spite of them, not because of them. Actually, all the fruits of the Holy Spirit flow out of love. Philip Keller defines them as follows:

Love	Does not seek her own, is not selfish or self-centered.
Joy	Love does not rejoice in iniquity but rather rejoices in truth.
Peace	Love is not easily provoked, but is serene and stable.
Longsuffering	Love suffers long, perseveres, is patient.
Kindness	Love is merciful, thoughtful, and concerned it envies not.
Goodness	Love is great, gracious, and generous; it is kind and good.
Faithfulness	Love thinks no evil but has faith in God and others.
Meekness	Love is humble and gentle, does not vaunt itself.
Self-control	Love is disciplined and controlled, does not behave unbecomingly.

(*The Inspirational Writings of Philip Keller*, by Philip Keller, p. 486)

Do you have a difficult child? Maybe more than one? You need patience, longsuffering, kindness and self-control as well as love. Also, be sure to ask for wisdom!

Are you having a terrible struggle with your finances? Once again, this is an opportunity for the Lord to grow His fruits in your life. Ask for faith, self-control, and above all, peace. Peace that God is in control and knows exactly what He is doing in your life.

In all our difficulties, always remember Romans 8:28:

“For we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

The Holy Spirit provides His fruit in our lives specifically to help us through the difficult times. God does not ask us to take joy in our difficult circumstances, but He does ask us to allow Him to give us joy in Himself in the midst of difficult times. God wants us to allow Him to give us His peace in the midst of our trials. Remember, Jesus said:

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27

All these fruits are available to you, but ONLY if you are willing to allow the Lord to work in your life and change your attitudes. Remember, the Apostle Paul said that he “learned” to be content in all circumstances. It takes time for the fruits of the Holy Spirit to grow in our lives. We must be careful that we do not hinder their growth. If we do not discipline our hearts and minds, we can stop all growth of these fruits. Here are some things that we should be careful about so as not to hinder the work of the Holy Spirit in our life.



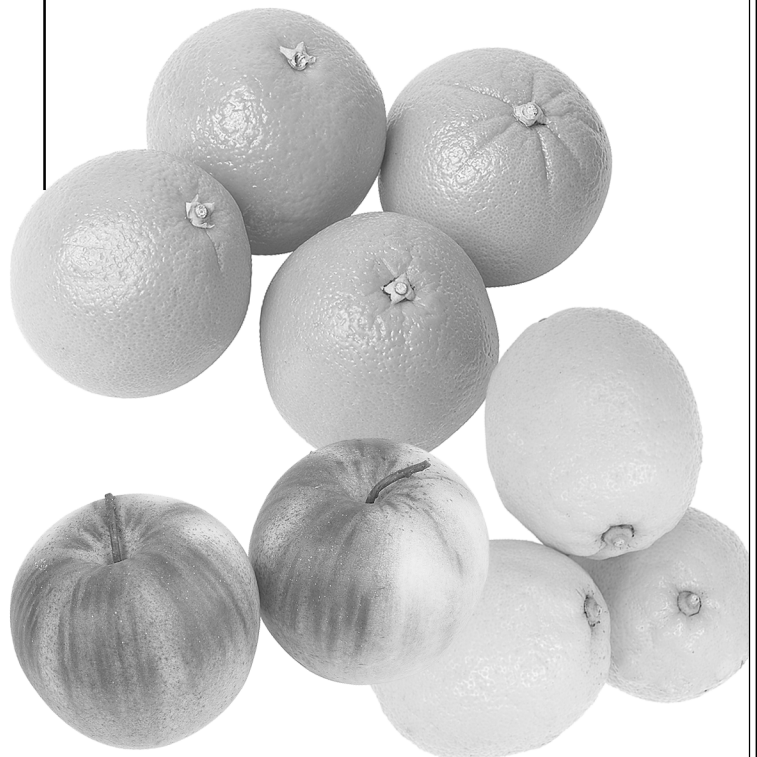
“For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.”

Proverbs 23:7

Our heart and mind is the ground where the seeds for the fruit of the Holy Spirit are planted. We must be careful of what influences we allow to fill our lives and our minds. We are responsible before God to control our thoughts. (2 Cor. 10:5) If we continually allow negative thoughts about people and our circumstances in our hearts and minds, the fruit of the Holy Spirit cannot grow. The following are some things that we must be careful of:

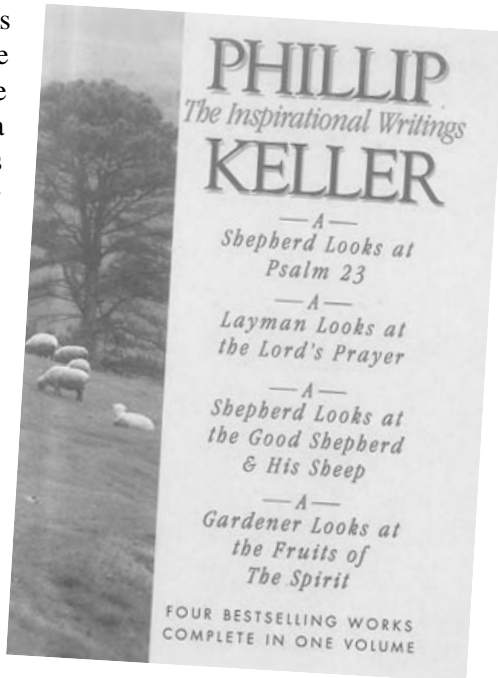
1. Our friends and associates — this is perhaps one of the most difficult of all areas for the Christian. Friends can pull you down and away from the Lord so fast. If you continually associate with negative people, you yourself will soon become negative. If you associate with people who continually doubt God, or who are chronic complainers, it won't be long and you will fall into the same pattern of thought and behavior. Be careful who you have as friends!
2. What we read and especially what we watch on TV will have a huge impact on our thoughts and attitudes. Television and movies have brought great impurity into our lives, especially in the area of sex. Sadly, God's people have come to accept all sorts of sinful activity as "normal" behavior through the continual bombardment of television. Does TV play a central role in your life? If so, then I challenge you to cut it off for a month. If you will do this, you will be amazed at how your thinking and attitudes change. "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Proverbs 14:12
3. The music we listen to. It has been well documented that the rap music kids listen to have a major impact on their behavior. If you listen to trash, then your thoughts and actions will soon reflect this influence.
4. The pursuit of pleasure. Does your life revolve around the pursuit of pleasure? I am always amazed at how many people think going to a party, and having various pleasures is the most important thing in their lives. God did not place us here on earth to have a good time! Yes, there will be times of pleasure and relaxation, but the purpose of our life is to work for God's kingdom and fellowship with God.
5. Personal ambitions. Does your personal ambition for a career, marriage, or something else, so take up your attention that you cannot hear anything else from God?
6. Your private thought life. "... bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." (2 Cor. 10:5) What goes on in your

mind? Are you constantly thinking negative thoughts? Are you constantly grumbling and complaining about your lot in life? Do you think about anything beside yourself? Many people never think about anything or anyone but themselves. Do you allow sexually impure thoughts to dwell in your mind? Are you constantly dissatisfied? You are responsible to take control of the thoughts in your mind to make sure they are pleasing to God. Remember, the Holy Spirit lives inside you. He has to put up with all your thoughts continually. Are your thoughts pleasing to Him? King David wrote: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight . . ." (Psalm 19:14) The Apostle Paul wrote: "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate on these things." (Philippians 4:8) *The thoughts you allow to dwell in your mind are the single most important thing that will help or hinder the growth of the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life.* If you have not done so, you really need to read the chapter titled *The Double Minded Man* in my book *Prepare For War*. It will show you how to take control of your thought life in a victorious way.



Materials to Help You Grow

Two books have become available which are a tremendous help for anyone who desires the fruits of the Holy Spirit in their life. They are: *The Inspirational Writings of Philip Keller*. This volume contains 4



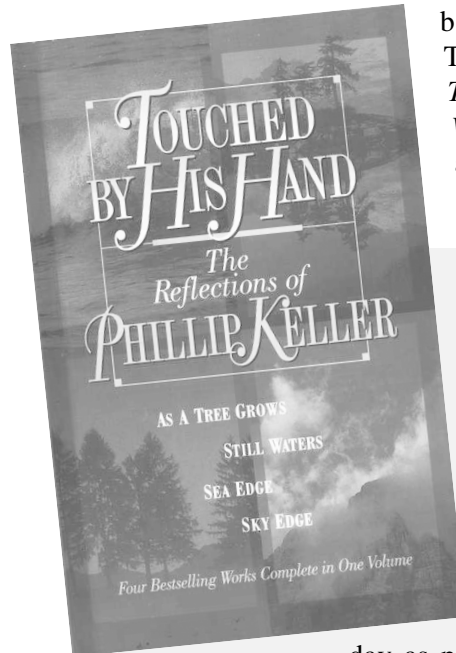
books by Keller. They are: *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*, *A Layman Looks at the Lord's Prayer*, *A Shepherd Looks at the Good Shepherd & His Sheep*, *A Gardner Looks at the Fruits of the Spirit*.

Love Offerings

I want to thank everyone who sent help to us in answer to my plea in the last newsletter. You have been a great help and encouragement to us. Daniel and I pray earnestly that our Lord will reach into your lives with His rich blessings in return. We continue to need your help financially to complete the work God has given us to do. We pray over each offering as it comes in, thanking God for you and asking Him to bless you. Please know that we deeply appreciate your support.

Please send your offering in the envelope enclosed.

The second book is *Touched by His Hand*, by Phillip Keller. This volume contains 4



books by Keller. They are: *As A Tree Grows*, *Still Waters*, *Sea Edge*, and *Sky Edge*.

These two volumes will do much to help you grow in the Lord, and if you are in difficult times, they will bring you much comfort. I suggest you read at least two chapters each

day as part of your quiet time. Of all the many authors I have read, Philip Keller is my all time favorite. When I am going through very difficult times, I always pull out his books and re-read them. Psalm 91 tells us:

**“He shall cover you with His feathers,
And under His wings you shall take refuge” Psalm 91:4**

How, exactly, can we take “refuge under His wings” when God is neither physical nor visible? The answer is through His word. I have found that when I am hurting, my shelter and comfort comes through spending time in God’s Word, and in books such as these two. Try it – you will find what I am saying is true.

You can obtain the books from us if you like, simply go to the order form at the end of this newsletter, or go to our web site and order through our on-line bookstore.

Copies

You are welcome to make copies of our newsletters to give to other people. If you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list, send his or her name and address to us. We will be glad to add them to our list.

Order Form

_____ *The Inspirational Writings of Phillip Keller*, by Philip Keller (\$15.50 per copy – it is in hardback)

_____ *Touched by His Hand*, by Philip Keller (\$17 per copy – it is in hardback)

Note: Postage for each of these books is \$10, or, we can send both books in one package for \$10. This is different from the postage listed below.

_____ *The Radical Cross*, by A.W. Tozer (\$13.50 per copy)

_____ *How To Be Filled With The Holy Spirit*, by A.W Tozer (\$11 per copy)

_____ *Praying Your Prodigal Home*, by Richard A. Burr (\$12.50 per copy)

_____ *Why Say No When My Hormones Say Go?*, by Emily Chase (\$13 per copy)

_____ copies of *Power, Passion, & Prayer*, by Charles Finney (\$15 per copy)

_____ copies of *Prayer and Faith*, by R.A. Torrey (\$19.50 per copy)

_____ copies of *How to Pray*, by R.A. Torrey (\$7.50 per copy)

_____ copies of *Smith Wigglesworth on Spiritual Gifts*, by Smith Wigglesworth (\$14.50 per copy)

_____ copies of *The Power of Faith*, by Smith Wigglesworth, (\$19.50 per copy)

_____ copies of *The Blessings of Obedience*, by Andrew Murray (\$9.50 per copy)

_____ copies of *Unveiling Islam*, by Ergun M. Caner (\$13 per copy)

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\$10.00 postage for 3 or 4 books
\$20.00 postage for 5 or more unless otherwise noted

_____ copies of *The Islamic Invasion*, by Robert Morey (\$13)

_____ copies of *Fasting*, by Derek Prince. (\$6.00 per copy)

_____ copies of *Thus Saith The Lord*, by John Bevere (\$15.00)

_____ copies of *Standing On The Rock* (\$14.00)

_____ copies of *Becoming A Vessel of Honor* (\$15.00)

_____ copies of *Unbroken Curses* (\$15.00)

_____ copies of *He Came To Set the Captives Free* (\$15.00)

_____ copies of *Prepare For War* (\$15.00)

_____ copies of *Experiencing The Presence of God*, by Charles Finney (\$19.50)

_____ copies of *The Counselor*, by A.W. Tozer, (\$13.00)

_____ copies of *The Pursuit of God*, by A.W. Tozer – (\$15.00)

_____ copies of *A Shepherd Looks At Psalm 23 and Lessons From a Sheep Dog*, by Phillip Keller (\$16 and \$10, both can ship together for \$6)

_____ copies of *Masonry, Beyond the Light*, by William Schnoebelen (\$13.00)

_____ *Destined For the Throne*, by Pual E. Billheimer (\$12 per copy)

_____ *Heaven*, by Randy Alcorn (\$25 per book, hardback)

_____ bottles of the Holy Anointing Oil, (\$45 per bottle plus \$6.00 postage).



Spiritual Warfare Course on CD

Two years ago I was asked to teach a graduate course on spiritual warfare at Zoe University in Jacksonville, FL. The course was recorded and we have now reproduced it on CDs. There are a total of 18 CDs in the set, nearly 20 hours of lecture. It is the most comprehensive course on spiritual warfare you are likely to find anywhere. The cost of the set is \$100 plus \$20 for postage and handling. This may sound like a lot, but remember, there are 18 CDs in the set. That comes to about \$5 per CD.

Price \$100.00 plus \$20.00 shipping & handling.

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We are warring to harvest!