

Ingredients for a Spiritual Explosion

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Christian people say a lot of things, after they have been saved. One of the most repeated statements that I hear is, “I am trying to find God’s will for my life” or “what is God’s will for my life.” To many times we look for the futuristic instead of the immediate. What does God want you to do right now?

Instead of trying to find out if your going to be a preacher, or teacher, or evangelist, or something special, try just being a Christian first. God has given us His word. I am amazed at how many people seek to be a preacher before they even know the Bible.

The important steps of being Christian are daily Bible reading and study, prayer and meditation, fasting and prayer, witnessing to others, communicating God’s word to the needy. If all Christians were faithful to God and did these things that have been commanded, we would have a spiritual explosion.

g National Geographic ran an article about the Alaskan Bull Moose. The males of the species battle for dominance during the fall breeding season, literally going head-to-head with antlers crunching together as they collide. Often the antlers, their only weapon, are broken, which ensures defeat.

The heftiest moose, with the largest and strongest antlers, triumphs. Therefore, the battle fought in the fall is really won during the summer, when the moose eat continually. The one that consumes the best diet for growing antlers and gaining weight will be the heavyweight in the fight. Those that eat inadequately sport weaker antlers and less bulk.

There is a lesson here for us. Spiritual battles await. Satan will choose a season to attack. Will we be victorious, or will we fall? Much depends on what we do now—before the wars begin. The bull-moose principle: Enduring faith, strength, and wisdom for trials are best developed before they’re needed.

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Today, let’s look at some “ingredients” that, if used, will create a spiritual explosion.

I. Build up your most holy faith.

- A. Build up your faith through the word. Faith comes by hearing the word of God (Rm.10:17) Reading, studying, and hearing the preached word are all ways of building up your faith.
- B. Prayer also builds up your faith in God. We are to ask what we will, believing, and it shall be done. If we practice asking for Godly things and needs that we have, then, if we will give God praise in advance until He blesses us with a fulfillment to our prayers, our faith will grow.
- C. Our faith should be shown, not told. James said, "show me your faith without your works, and I'll show you my works by my faith. Like the story of the man, the wheelbarrow, and the highwire. He asked if anyone believed he could push it across, the one who said yes, he would ask them to come up and get in the wheelbarrow.

II. Pray in the Holy Ghost.

- A. We need to pray in the Holy Ghost because scripture teaches us that we don't know how to pray, as we ought.
- B. We need to pray in the Holy Ghost because the Spirit knows the mind and will of God.
- C. Praying in the Holy Ghost includes:
 - Praying in one's own language. Romans 8:15- For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

The Spirit identifies with our spirit that we are the sons of God. This gives us the confidence as children of God to ask, through His Spirit, the desires of our heart.

- Praying in the Holy Ghost through groanings. Romans, 8:26- Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

This does not mean that the Spirit prays instead of us. He helps us; the groanings refer to one's inability to put feelings or problems into words.

- Praying in an unknown tongue. What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

Paul reveals that praying in an unknown tongue is praying from the spirit and not the intellect. I pray in my own intellect for awhile and then I pray in the Spirit, through tongues, for awhile.

III. Keep yourselves in the Love of God.

A. Allow God's love to flow through you. Paul called it charity, which was the greatest. John said, "He that loveth not knoweth not God for God is love. God's love is exemplified, not just spoken.

B. God's love demonstrates. Jesus exemplified His love to the world, as well as the Father. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son..." He demonstrated the depth of God's love.

C. God's love demonstrates mercy and grace. His mercy is full of compassion; he rescues us from overwhelming situations.

- Mercy helps people. Mercy developed the Red Cross in humanity, it cares.
- Grace is unmerited favor; we must show grace to the world, freely we have received, freely we must give.

IV. Be a soul winner.

- A. Win souls through your testimony. We overcome satan by the blood and by the word of or testimony. So understand how important that it is for you to share your testimony.
- B. Win souls by your example. Let them see Jesus in you. Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, pray for them that spiteful use you.
- C. Save some through fear. Reveal facts about hell, tribulation, and Second Coming. Scare the devil out of them.

Conclusion:

In order to have a spiritual explosion; we must have a hunger for God. We must begin to add these “ingredients” to our lives. You must build up you faith, no one else is going to do it. Keep yourself in the love of God; if you don’t you will become bitter like the world, with a root of bitterness continually growing.

Pray in the Holy Ghost, get spiritual, for they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth. Be a soul winner; wise men win souls. Don’t let the devil blind you or cause you to sleep and miss what God is doing, or wanting to do in these last hours of time. Don’t let the devil put out your eyes.

g There is a hunting photo by Alain Keler in the October 1993 issue of *Life* magazine. It is of a boy playing a flute. The boy, named Jensen, is only ten years old, but he probably can play some very sad songs. For when you look at his eyes or where his eyes should be beneath his long, dark bangs, you see only redness, empty sockets. Jensen lives in a charitable institution in Bogota, Colombia.

Blindness is always tragic, but the cause of blindness in this case only multiplies the sorrow. In the caption next to the photo, Robert Sullivan explains that the boy was likely the victim of “organ nappers.” Eye thieves.

He answered harshly, “Can’t you see your child is dying?” and dismissed her.

She rushed Jensen to another hospital in Bogota. After examining him, the doctor gave chilling news: “They’ve stolen his eyes.”

Jensen is somewhat fortunate. He is alive. The organ traffickers usually kill their victims, excise body parts, and broker them to those willing to pay for healthy kidney or cornea transplants.

Organ thieves in Bogota, Colombia, are not the only ones staling eyes. There is someone who steals a person’s ability to see in an even more tragic way: Satan.

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References

Larson, Craig Brian (1996) *Contemporary Illustrations for Preaching and Teaching*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books