

Apostle Stephanie Ike Okafor



LONDON SUMMER WORD CAMP 2026

Morning Session - Day 2

Thy Kingdom Come

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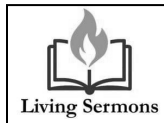
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Source: London Summer Word Camp 2026 - Morning Session - Day 2

Preacher: Apostle Stephanie Ike Okafor

Publisher: LivingSermons.com

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Foreword

There are moments when a sermon informs the mind, and there are moments when a sermon confronts the heart. This message belongs to the latter.

In a generation that often seeks more of God's power, this teaching calls us to seek something deeper: a life fully yielded to the Holy Spirit. Rather than presenting the Holy Spirit merely as a source of spiritual gifts or divine assistance, this message invites every believer to rediscover Him as the divine Person who desires complete lordship over every area of life.

Throughout these pages, you will encounter a recurring question that deserves honest reflection:

Do I merely possess the Holy Spirit, or has the Holy Spirit truly possessed me?

This question forms the heartbeat of the message. With biblical clarity, practical illustrations, and heartfelt conviction, the preacher leads us beyond religious activity into a lifestyle of surrender, obedience, intimacy, and faithfulness. The emphasis is not on outward performance but on inward transformation—a life governed by the Spirit of God in thought, affection, ambition, decisions, relationships, and daily conduct.

As editors, our assignment has been to preserve the authenticity of this live message while presenting it in a format that is clear, readable, and faithful to the preacher's voice. Every effort has been made to retain the flow, passion, and emphasis of the original delivery. Minor grammatical corrections, punctuation, paragraph structure, and formatting have been applied solely to enhance readability without altering the intended meaning.

We encourage you not to rush through this book. Read prayerfully. Pause often. Allow the Scriptures to speak, and invite the Holy Spirit to search every hidden place of your heart. Some chapters may comfort you, while others may lovingly challenge areas that have remained outside His government. Receive both with humility, for "faithful are the wounds of a friend" (Proverbs 27:6, KJV).

This is more than a transcript of a sermon. It is an invitation to consecration.

May these pages awaken a deeper love for Jesus Christ, cultivate genuine fellowship with the Holy Spirit, and produce a fresh commitment to live under His leadership every day. May we become believers who no longer ask God merely to bless our plans, but who joyfully surrender ourselves to fulfill His.

It is our prayer that this message will strengthen your walk with Christ, deepen your understanding of the Holy Spirit, and inspire you to become a faithful witness of the Kingdom wherever God has placed you.

May the Lord richly bless you as you read.

— Wisdom Epsi
Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

Watch the live sermon from which this message was transcribed on YouTube, **at** [**Pastor Poju's Official YouTube Channel**](#)

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Our commitment is excellence without dilution.

Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— ***Livingsermons.com***

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



The Kingdom Agenda From the Beginning

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we lift up Your name, Jesus. We thank You, Lord, for we have come for a moment with You. We have come for an encounter with You.

You are the Word made flesh. As we dig into Your Word, O God, would You make it come alive in the hearts and minds of Your people? Would You manifest Yourself mightily in this atmosphere, Lord God?

We thank You. We consecrate everything that we do on this day before You, that You may be revealed and glorified through it all.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Amen.

I love the theme of this conference so much: "**Thy Kingdom Come.**" Because "*Thy kingdom come*" started in the will of the Lord from the very beginning. That was the agenda of humanity—that we would advance God's Kingdom into the earthly realm.

You see, dominion was never about having dominion over people. That is what we call witchcraft.

Dominion has always been about having dominion over the systems that govern the earth so that they would reveal the standards of God and the will of God.

That was what Satan was after from the very beginning—the systems that govern this earth.

From the beginning, it was the will of God for man.

The first time this phrase appears in Scripture is when the disciples come to Jesus because they observe something about His prayer life that is so effective. They ask Him to teach them how to pray.

In that teaching, Jesus reveals:

"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done..."

(Matthew 6:10, KJV)

The intriguing thing here is that when Jesus teaches them how to pray, He is revealing a shared responsibility between God and man.

"Thy kingdom come" is not merely the assignment of the Spirit. It is not only the responsibility of the heavenly realm.

You have a responsibility for the Kingdom to come. That is why Jesus tells His disciples, "In this manner therefore pray..." because this is not something that He alone would do in secret. It is not only about the Father or the Holy Spirit. It is not merely about the Godhead.

It is about humanity's involvement in bringing God's Kingdom into the earth.

When Darkness Increases, God Looks at His Church

Whenever we see disorder and chaos in the land...

Whenever we see Christianity in places that once exported missionaries beginning to lose its fire...

Whenever evil seems to be flourishing...

The Lord is never looking first at the world. How can you look at darkness and expect darkness to be anything other than darkness?

Instead, the Lord looks at those He has called **light**. He looks at His Church. And He is not looking at a building. He is looking at you—the Body of Christ. Because you are the ones He calls **the light of the world**.

That is why Scripture does not say, *"If the people of the world would repent..."*

Rather, it says:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways..."

(2 Chronicles 7:14, KJV)

If evil is flourishing in the land, the Lord is asking:

"What has happened to My people who are called light?"

Yet sometimes we join in the complaints. We complain. We look to everyone else for solutions. Meanwhile, the Lord is asking,

"Where is the Church?"

The Church Was Never Meant to Stay Within Four Walls

Oftentimes, we boast about numbers. We celebrate how much we are growing and advancing. But if all that growth is happening only within four walls, there is a problem.

If we are not being sent out to bring transformation and change, then we are no different from what happened at the Tower of Babel—remaining in one comfortable place, growing and advancing without ever going into the world.

Could it be that all the confusion in the Body of Christ...

All the different denominations...

All the divisions...

Could it be that it was not really the work of Satan?

People often ask me about denominations because I'm a minister. They assume I know everything about them. I usually tell them, "I really don't know.

I just know about Jesus."

When you look at Babel, it was not Satan who confused the people's language.

It was God. He came down and saw that, rather than filling the earth as He had commanded, they wanted to remain in one comfortable place, build a tower, continue advancing there, and never spread throughout the earth. So He confused their language. Could it be that some of the confusion we see today exists because we forgot that we were called to go into the world, make a difference, and establish God's standards?

It was always the desire of Jesus that His people would be in the marketplace.

Why?

Because you were supposed to reveal the standards of God there.

Called to Be Distinct

When Scripture says:

"...come out from among them, and be ye separate..."
(2 Corinthians 6:17, KJV)

It is not teaching isolation.

It is teaching distinction.

You are to set a standard.

Something about your life should reveal that you have been set apart unto God.

This has always been God's agenda.

But somewhere, somehow, we lost our footing.

We lost our spiritual authority. We lost our sense of responsibility. And we lost the revelation of the advantage that we possess.

God Often Places the Solution Among His People

Throughout Scripture, people cry out to God for solutions. Yet what God often uses to bring deliverance is something already in their midst.

They simply cannot discern it.

Think about Israel in the wilderness.

They came to Marah, and the waters were bitter.

The people complained to Moses, saying,

"The waters are bitter. We have nothing to drink."

Moses cried unto the Lord. The Scripture says the Lord showed him a tree. It does **not** say that God caused a tree to grow. It does **not** say that the Spirit planted a tree.

God simply opened Moses' eyes to see what had already been there. Moses cast the tree into the waters, and the waters became sweet. The solution was already present.

What does this mean for the Church today?

The solution to the world's crisis is already in our midst. The solution to the problems affecting our nations is already among us. We simply need to awaken to the revelation of what that solution is. And what is that solution?

The Holy Spirit filling yielded people.

Zechariah declares:

"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."
(*Zechariah 4:6, KJV*)

Too often, we fall into the temptation of looking elsewhere for solutions.

The Hope of the Nations

I am Nigerian. Right now, what is happening in Nigeria is devastating. It is extremely difficult for me even to watch the news. Many around the world have heard about the kidnappings, the violence, the rape, and the suffering. It often appears as though nothing is happening because many of us remain in our comfortable environments where it does not directly affect us. We forget that we were always called to be our brother's and sister's keeper.

There are heartbreaking things happening across the world. Should we hold people accountable?

Absolutely.

Should we hold governments and those in authority accountable?

Absolutely.

But that is not where our hope comes from. Because if they fail you—as many often do—do you lose your hope?

The answer was never supposed to be political power. It is certainly a beautiful thing when the righteous are in authority, for Scripture says the people rejoice. But our ultimate hope has never rested there.

There was a young Welsh coal miner named **Evan Roberts**, one of the central figures in the Welsh Revival. When we speak about revival, we are not merely talking about people gathering in a room. We are talking about entire cities being transformed.

Families were restored. Crime rates dropped dramatically.

Crime became so uncommon that police officers reportedly had so little work that they formed choirs and sang during revival meetings. That is the power of one person yielded to the Holy Spirit. It even affected the animals.

The horses used by the coal miners reportedly struggled to understand their owners because the miners had stopped speaking with profanity.

That is revival.

The answer is not your talent.

The answer is not your personality. Sometimes we think, *"I don't have that person's charisma."*

But it was never about charisma. It was never about strategy. It was never about personality. It has always been about the Holy Spirit.

The Advantage We Have

There was a man named **Smith Wigglesworth**.

He was an ordinary plumber.

A plumber.

He spent his days looking at things most people don't even want to look at when they belong to them.

You'll catch that later.

Smith Wigglesworth openly testified that whatever spiritual effectiveness he possessed came because of the Holy Spirit.

Every revivalist we admire...

Every person we read about in Scripture...

They possessed the same advantage that we possess today.

Somewhere along the way, however, we lost the revelation of what we carry—and of what ought to possess us.

The Spirit of God has never lost His power.

He has never withdrawn His presence.

The question is this:

Will we, as the Church...

Will we, as the Body of Christ...

Yield to Him in the manner that He deserves?

Jesus said to His disciples:

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

(John 16:7, KJV)

Before the crucifixion, the disciples did not fully understand what Jesus was saying.

All they heard was that He was leaving.

They did not like that.

They had participated in miracles, but they depended on Jesus to perform them.

They needed Him to teach them.

They needed Him to show them the way.

To them, Jesus Himself was the source of all hope.

Yet Jesus told them,

"It is to your advantage."

Those words must have echoed in their hearts when He was arrested.

How could it still be to their advantage?

His hands—the same hands that blessed a little boy's lunch and multiplied it—were now bound.

The same hands that touched the blind and brought healing were now tied.

How could it possibly be to their advantage that Jesus was no longer teaching, healing, or performing miracles because He was bound?

And when Jesus was beaten...

When He was scourged...

When He was crucified among criminals...

How could any of that possibly be to their advantage?

How could it possibly be to their advantage when the lifeless body of Jesus lay in their hands?

As they laid Him down and His body was cold, how could that be an advantage?

Jesus was not merely speaking about something that would benefit them for a season.

He was revealing the believer's greatest advantage:

The Holy Spirit.

He said:

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

(John 16:7, KJV)

Jesus was saying,

"If I don't go, He will not come."

It is not simply that His coming is to your advantage.

He is your advantage.

Today, my focus is on this question:

Who is the Holy Spirit?

Now, this is a subject that honestly cannot be exhausted, even if we taught about it every single day of the year.

How can we, as created beings, ever fully find language to describe the uncreated God?

So, in my humble attempt to speak about Him, we begin with what Scripture reveals.

The Mystery of the Trinity

The Trinity is:

- God the Father,
- God the Son,
- God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells us that these Three are One. They are distinct, yet they are One. There is nothing on earth that can fully help us understand the Trinity because nothing in creation is equal to God.

There are illustrations that carry traces of this mystery. For example, many people use water as an illustration—liquid, solid, and vapor. But even that falls short.

The same body of water cannot exist simultaneously as solid, liquid, and vapor in the same way. Yet the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit all exist eternally together.

They do not take turns revealing themselves. There is nothing in creation that can adequately describe the Trinity. And that is a beautiful thing. How can what has been created fully explain the One who is uncreated?

So, the Trinity is not a puzzle we are trying to solve. It is a divine mystery that causes us to behold the majesty of God with reverence and awe.

The Godhead Revealed at Jesus' Baptism

One of the clearest pictures of the Trinity appears at the baptism of Jesus.

"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

(Matthew 3:16-17, KJV)

Notice what happens in this one moment.

The Son is being baptized. The Holy Spirit descends upon Him. The Father speaks from heaven. All three Persons of the Godhead are revealed simultaneously. Now, the Holy Spirit is **not** a dove. The text says He descended **like** a dove.

The only language available to describe that moment was comparison. It also tells us that the Spirit of God can manifest Himself in a form. What that form fully is remains a mystery. The Apostle John later confirms this same truth:

"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one."

(1 John 5:7, KJV)

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity.

The Majesty of the Father

When we think about God the Father, we think of His majesty. One of the images that always comes to my mind is when Lucifer rebelled against Him. God never left His throne.

The same Lucifer whom many people spend their nights constantly binding and casting out...

God never even had to rise from His throne because of him.

Sometimes we forget who we are.

Satan is defeated.

Does that mean he cannot afflict people?

Certainly, he can.

But we must always see his activity from the standpoint of his defeat.

If the enemy is operating somewhere, it is not because he possesses unlimited authority.

It means there are legal grounds that have given him access.

Those legal grounds can be removed through the right revelation.

He is not someone believers are called to fear.

We do not fear witches.

Witches should fear believers.

We are not meant to live in anxiety or panic.

There have been moments when I have been somewhere and the Lord has said,

"That person is a witch.

Go and give them a hug."

Some of us would immediately think,

"No! What if they put a spell on me?"

But do you know who you are?

Now, we are led by the Holy Spirit.

That does not mean we intentionally run into the enemy's territory without God's leading.

We are not called to challenge darkness out of pride.

If the Spirit has not led you there, you may indeed be devoured.

But when He does lead you, you should know your identity.

Satan was too insignificant a threat for the Father to leave His throne.

Another angel cast him out.

That same defeated Satan was thrown down to the earth.

Sometimes we wonder,

"Lord, why would You even allow him here?"

Perhaps it tells us something about what God thinks of you.

Just as heaven cast him out, believers are expected to exercise that same authority.

Do Not Glorify the Devil

There is a difference between understanding the kingdom of darkness and glorifying Satan.

We do not glorify him.

We learn how darkness operates so that we are not ignorant of the devil's devices.

We study his strategies only to keep him in his proper place.

We do not give him unnecessary attention.

If there is torment...

If there is oppression...

If there is demonic activity...

The question is not,

"The devil is so powerful."

The question is,

"What legal ground has been given?"

How can a defeated enemy continue gaining ground in my life?

What agreement exists?

What access has been granted?

Has something opened a door in the bloodline?

These are the questions we ask—not because we magnify Satan, but because we magnify God.

Jesus Reveals the Father

When we consider God the Son, we think about the earthly ministry of Jesus.

Many people say,

"If only I could have lived in Jesus' day."

"If only I could have seen Him face to face."

"If I had encountered Jesus personally, everything in my life would have changed."

But honestly, if many of us had lived in those days, we probably would have been just like Peter.

We might even have denied Him too.

Jesus walked on water.

He defied natural laws.

He multiplied a little boy's lunch and fed thousands.

He spoke to a fig tree, and it obeyed Him.

He spoke to the wind and the waves, and they submitted.

Yet this same Jesus is described in Scripture as the visible image of the invisible God.

In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. When we study the life of Jesus, we discover the nature of the Father.

When Jesus shows compassion toward the sick, we understand how God responds to the sick. When He teaches forgiveness, patience, and mercy, we understand what the Father desires from humanity.

Everything about the life of Jesus reveals the heart of God.

Jesus Revealed the Ministry of the Holy Spirit

Even while revealing the Father, Jesus also revealed the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

He was anointed by the Holy Spirit.

His earthly ministry operated through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the One who brings the presence of God everywhere.

God is omnipresent because of the Holy Spirit.

It is because of Him that God can dwell in me and in you at the very same time.

The same Spirit of God.

Who Is the Holy Spirit?

Who is this Holy Spirit?

Jesus tells us that His ministry is always centered on Christ. He said concerning the Holy Spirit:

"He shall glorify me..."

(John 16:14, KJV)

The ministry of the Holy Spirit always glorifies Jesus. That is wonderful news. Now, as I have already said, it is impossible to exhaust the fullness of who the Holy Spirit is.

No mortal can fully describe the infinite God. But in my humble attempt, I would say this:

The Holy Spirit is the presence of God dwelling within His people. He is God's seal upon every believer, marking those who belong to Christ.

- He convicts.
- He regenerates.
- He sanctifies.

- He empowers.
- He teaches.
- He comforts.
- He guides.
- He transforms.

The Holy Spirit is not merely the power of God. He is the divine Person through whom the power of God is manifested. Before time began, He existed. Before humanity was created, He existed. Before creation itself, He existed.

He is the eternal Spirit of God. When we think of the Father, we think of the Source. Jesus is the eternal Word made flesh. The Holy Spirit is the divine Person who brings the Father's will and the Son's finished work into manifestation.

It is the ministry of the Holy Spirit to make the victory Jesus accomplished at the Cross your present reality.

Why is this such good news for every believer?

Because the Holy Spirit is the One who manifests the will of God. He brings into present reality everything Jesus accomplished on the Cross. What does that mean?

It is God's will that none should perish. It is God's will that humanity be reconciled to Him. At the Cross, Jesus secured our salvation.

He secured our healing. He secured our deliverance. He disarmed principalities and powers. He defeated sin and death. Whenever demonic systems oppress people...

Whenever territories are held captive...

Whenever sickness, disease, and infirmity prevail...

Whenever people live beneath what Christ purchased for them...

The Holy Spirit desires to reveal the finished work of Jesus. That is His ministry. This should completely change the way we think about revival.

It should change the way we think about healing. It should change the way we think about deliverance and salvation. We are not begging God for revival. Why would you beg someone for what is already His will?

- We are not begging God for healing.
- We are not begging Him for deliverance.
- We are not begging Him to save humanity.
- We are not begging Him for the systems of this world to reveal His standards.

Jesus has already accomplished the work. The Spirit of God within believers is waiting to manifest what Christ has already secured.

So then, what is the issue?

It brings us back to why Jesus taught His disciples to pray:

"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

(Matthew 6:10, KJV)

The problem is not that God is reluctant.

The problem is not that God loved previous generations more than He loves this generation.

When we talk about revival, we often spend all our time looking backward.

We talk about revivalists of old.

Yet according to God's will, His work should move **from glory to glory**.

Instead of constantly looking back, we should also be looking at what God is raising today.

I remember praying and asking the Holy Spirit,

"What changed?

Why don't You manifest Yourself today the way You did in generations past?"

Immediately, He took me into a vision.

In the vision, I saw a minister teaching about the Holy Spirit.

As he spoke, he said,

"The Holy Spirit is like a rope."

Then I saw what looked like a rope moving through his body.

He continued saying,

"The Holy Spirit is like a rope..."

In that vision, the minister continued speaking.

He said,

"The Holy Spirit is like a rope."

As he spoke, I watched what looked like a rope moving through every part of his body.

He continued,

"He should own every part of you."

The rope moved through his body until it was about to reach his feet.

Then he suddenly said,

"But you don't need the rope to touch your feet."

He continued,

"That's when people become too religious. That's when people start doing too much.

You already have the Holy Spirit. Don't wait for the Holy Spirit to tell you where to go or what to do. Just go, because you already have the Holy Spirit."

Immediately, the vision ended. I asked the Lord, "Explain this to me. What did You just show me?"

The Lord answered, "**The problem is how I am being taught.**"

He continued, "People are being taught that they possess Me, but they are not being taught that I should possess them."

The minister was comfortable with the Holy Spirit governing every other area of his life—Just not his direction.

Not his feet.

Possessing the Holy Spirit vs. Being Possessed by Him

Then the Lord began teaching me something profound. He said that when your primary mindset is simply that you possess the Holy Spirit, your thinking becomes centered on what He can do for you.

You think:

"The Holy Spirit is with me to help me."

That is true.

- He is our Teacher.
- He is our Guide.
- He is our Comforter.

But if that is the only way you think about Him, something is missing. This is where many believers unknowingly begin to live outside God's design. Remember, sin is not only about the obvious outward acts people usually mention.

Sin is missing the mark. Anytime you are out of alignment with God...

Anytime you walk in disobedience...

Anytime your emotions govern your life instead of the Holy Spirit...

You have missed the mark.

Suppose someone offends you at work.

You become hurt.

You quit your job.

Did you first bring those emotions under the government of the Holy Spirit?

Did you stop and say,

"I was offended today.

I feel hurt today.

Holy Spirit, govern my response."

Remember, the Holy Spirit came to glorify Jesus.

The Holy Spirit will never tell you something that contradicts the teachings of Jesus.

If Jesus commands us to forgive continually, how could the Holy Spirit suddenly tell you,

"They offended you. Leave.

Walk away."

That is impossible. Often, it is not the Holy Spirit speaking.

It is your own soul.

When Self Becomes Your God

Satan finds leverage whenever self becomes your god. When your feelings determine how you live, the enemy gains influence over your decisions.

When we talk about sin, we are not speaking only about fornication, adultery, or similar outward acts. One of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is **self-control**.

Do you have self-control in how you eat?

Do you have self-control in the way you speak to people?

Do you exercise self-control when you become angry?

Another fruit of the Spirit is patience.

Are you patient with your spouse?

With your children?

With your loved ones?

With your co-workers?

How is the fruit of the Spirit reflected in your daily life?

Many times, we want to make Christianity about extraordinary moments. But Jesus is looking at your ordinary life. Your everyday decisions matter. Some people live however they choose. Then, when they need a breakthrough, suddenly they begin fasting. They begin praying at midnight. They cry, "Holy Ghost!"

Expecting Him to suddenly fix everything. In that mindset, the Holy Spirit becomes an instrument for your success while you remain in complete control of your own life.

You consult God only when you need His assistance. When you believe you possess Him, you make your plans first and then ask Him to bless them. You obey only when obedience feels convenient or understandable. The Holy Spirit is certainly present. But His leadership is continually resisted. If His leadership is resisted long enough, His influence in your life diminishes.

The Lord said to me, "This is the problem. This is how My people have been taught."

From the pulpit down to the congregation, people have largely been taught to focus on possessing the Holy Spirit rather than surrendering to His possession of them.

Yielded Hands, Not Busy Hands

The Holy Spirit does not need busy hands. He needs yielded hands. He is not asking you to wake up every morning wondering, "*What can I do for God today?*"

Instead, He desires a heart that asks, "**What does God want to do through me today?**"

Everything changes when your perspective changes. When you understand that the Holy Spirit possesses you, you realize: "**My life is no longer my own.**"

This is the shift.

If God is going to clothe you with His glory...

If He is going to manifest His fullness through your life...

Then He must have all of you. There cannot be divided ownership. Pastor spoke about this last night. There is an alignment problem.

Jesus Is Not Only Savior—He Is Lord

When the Holy Spirit possesses you, Jesus is no longer only your Savior. He becomes your Lord. And Lord means Owner. You stop asking God to fit into your plans. Instead, you seek His plans. You may have brilliant ideas.

We are creative because we come from a Creator. I could sit here today and probably give you five excellent ideas. That does not automatically mean the Holy Spirit is breathing upon them.

It simply means I am creative. But creativity alone is not enough. When the Holy Spirit possesses you, your greatest question becomes:

"What is in the heart of Jesus?"

You willingly lay down your ambition. You surrender your creativity. You seek His will above your own. Obedience becomes immediate, even when it costs you something.

Sometimes the messages God gives me also convict me. I do not want to spend my life only admiring the revivalists of previous generations. We must honestly ask ourselves:

Where do I still need to die?

What areas of my life remain alive to self?

What parts of me have I not fully yielded to the Lord?

Many times, delayed obedience reveals something deeper. It shows that we still believe we possess Him instead of allowing Him to possess us. When the Holy Spirit truly possesses your life, your greatest desire is no longer success.

It becomes faithfulness.

The Vision of Giant Possessions

The night before, I had another dream. Again, the Holy Spirit was teaching me why He is not manifesting Himself in many lives the way He once did.

In the dream, I saw products everywhere. But everything was enormous. A mobile phone the size of a house. A handbag the size of a house.

A car the size of a house.

Everything was unbelievably large.

I asked the Lord,

"Why are these things so enormous?"

He answered,

"A believer who lives as a consumer can never give Me everything."

When your heart is consumed with what you can acquire...

The next house...

The newest phone...

The latest car...

The next luxury item...

Your heart becomes divided.

You cannot fully surrender yourself to God while serving mammon.

There will always be areas where His voice becomes difficult to hear because your loyalties are divided.

You are trying to pursue your ambitions while simultaneously following the Lord.

The Rich Young Ruler

This is one of the enemy's greatest deceptions.

You may still genuinely desire God.

The rich young ruler certainly did.

He came running to Jesus.

He sincerely wanted to know what else he needed to do.

Jesus first mentioned all the commandments He knew the young man would confidently say he had kept.

Then Jesus revealed the true issue.

He exposed the divided heart.

Jesus said:

"...go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor... and come, take up the cross, and follow me."

(Mark 10:21, KJV)

Jesus was not glorifying poverty.

He was confronting the thing that had a stronghold upon that man's heart.

His wealth possessed him.

The young man walked away sorrowful.

Notice something.

Why was he grieved?

Because he truly desired Jesus.

The sorrow proved the desire was real.

God is not saying you will not desire Him.

You will.

But if your heart is equally attached to the pursuit of possessions...

If the lust of the eyes continually governs your heart...

You will never wholeheartedly surrender yourself to Christ.

Scripture reminds us:

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world..."

(1 John 2:15, KJV)

The one who has truly surrendered to the Holy Spirit pursues faithfulness—not success.

- Their thoughts...
- Their emotions...
- Their ambitions...
- Their relationships...
- Their decisions...

Everything comes under His authority.

Occupancy or Ownership?

Let me make this practical. This is the difference between **occupancy** and **ownership**.

Suppose you rent an Airbnb.

You have paid to occupy the property.

But depending on the house, there are often rooms or closets that remain locked because the owner keeps personal belongings there.

My family and I were in Greece not long ago.

The home we rented had several locked areas.

We could not question the owner.

Why?

Because we only paid for the listed bedrooms, bathrooms, kitchen, laundry room, and living spaces. The owner retained authority over the locked rooms. We did not own the house. We merely occupied it for a time.

Now imagine purchasing that same house. Once you possess the title deed, every room belongs to you. You can renovate. You can remove walls. You can redesign anything.

Why?

Because you are now the owner.

Many believers have never given the Holy Spirit the title deed to their lives.

He is an occupant.

He is not the Owner.

So there are areas where you gladly allow Him access.

Other areas remain off-limits. Your emotions are not under His government. The way you speak to people is not consistently under His authority. Your daily routines are not under His authority. The way you spend your money is not under His authority.

The decisions you make are not always under His authority. The reason you keep returning to relationships God has told you to leave...

The reason you continue desiring things you know you should not desire...

The reason you immediately seize certain opportunities simply because they become available...

Is because, although you are a believer, there are still areas where the Holy Spirit has not been given ownership. Have you ever heard of a functional alcoholic?

From the outside, everything appears normal. They have a job.

They carry on with daily life.

But privately, something controls them.

In the same way, a believer may appear spiritually healthy while certain areas of life remain under significant demonic influence because they have never been surrendered to God.

What God truly desires is our total surrender.

A Life Led by the Spirit

Scripture declares:

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

(Romans 8:14, KJV)

If you are going to live as a believer, your life must continually be shaped by the instructions of the Holy Spirit. When was the last time you received an instruction from Him?

Or are you simply living life according to your own preferences?

Because this is what intimacy looks like.

The Fellowship of the Holy Spirit

When there is intimacy with someone, you come to know what they desire. You know what they like. You know what they dislike.

You know whether they would be pleased with the choices you made throughout your day. I've learned this in marriage. When you're single, you simply wake up and do as you

please. If you want to eat at three o'clock in the afternoon, you eat at three o'clock. But marriage changes your perspective. Suddenly breakfast, lunch, and dinner become real conversations.

Thank God, when you live a fasted life, sometimes you simply say, "Let's just break at lunch."

These are the kinds of things people actually laugh about and even argue about in marriage.

Food.

But beneath those ordinary conversations is something much deeper. In marriage, you begin to know the desires of your spouse. You know whether they appreciated how you spent your day.

Where were you?

Where did you go?

What happened while you were there?

Sometimes those questions are not asked because someone is suspicious. Sometimes they are asked simply because they love you.

Jesus often spent entire nights in prayer. He would rise early in the morning to be alone with the Father. Have you ever wondered if, during those moments, Jesus simply talked to the Father about His day?

Perhaps He shared every conversation...

Every encounter...

Every burden.

If you desire to grow in the things of the Spirit, spend time with God talking about your ordinary day.

Talk to Him about your meeting.

Then invite Him to show you a better way.

Talk to Him about that difficult conversation you had with a friend.

Talk to Him about the burden you are carrying that you do not know how to express.

He will teach you.

He will give you wisdom.

That is the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

It is not reserved only for moments of crisis.

He desires fellowship with the entirety of your life.

Bring everything before Him.

As intimacy grows, you begin to know His desires.

You begin to know His heart.

You discover where He wants you to go.

How He wants you to live.

Perhaps He is leading you back to school—not simply for another degree—but because there is a place He intends to position you so that His standards can be revealed in that sphere of influence.

That is fellowship.

The Holy Spirit is not merely your emergency hotline.

When problems arise, many people suddenly call upon God.

But intimacy is different.

Do you have intimacy with an emergency number?

Of course not.

You do not even know the name of the person answering the call.

The Holy Spirit desires something far deeper.

As fellowship grows, you begin to know His heart.

And when you yield yourself completely to Him, He begins to manifest Himself through your life in remarkable ways.

"It Is No Longer I Who Live"

The Apostle Paul understood this.

He writes:

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..."

(Galatians 2:20, KJV)

This was the posture from which Paul's ministry flowed.

Later, when Scripture tells us that God performed extraordinary miracles through Paul, it was because Paul had already surrendered himself completely to Christ.

God is looking for people who will yield fully. So ask yourself:

What area of my life has kept me in sinking sand?

Anything in your life that does not reveal the glory of God is being influenced by something else. How long will you continue agreeing with an influence that opposes God's will?

You may even have grown comfortable with it.

That does not change what it is.

You can become comfortable sleeping beside your enemy.

It does not stop them from being your enemy.

How long will you continue agreeing with ways that are not pleasing to the Lord?

How long will you delay obedience?

Sometimes we disguise disobedience as humility.

But false humility does not impress God.

Imagine God saying,

"After I gave My Son...

After He was beaten...

After He was crucified...

You still insist on calling yourself unworthy?"

That is not the posture that pleases Him.

Remember Moses.

When God revealed who Moses was called to be, Moses kept arguing.

Eventually, God became angry.

Why?

Because Moses was arguing with the One who created him.

The Call to Repentance

I sense repentance in this room. Repentance is not always about the obvious sins. Sometimes it is about the little things.

The way we see ourselves. The places we refuse to surrender. The areas where we delay obedience. If the Holy Spirit is going to manifest Himself powerfully in this generation, then we must yield ourselves fully to Him—regardless of the cost.

Because, ultimately, what is there that we cannot give to the One who has already given us everything?

There are seasons when God allows tests.

Not because He wants to destroy you.

But because He is asking,

"Can you remain faithful?"

I sense this strongly.

There are things the Lord will require of some of you. From your perspective, it may feel as though the test is lasting much longer than it should. You may even think, "Lord, surely this should have ended by now."

But keep enduring. The answer is coming. Stay faithful. Do not chase success. Do not lose patience. Remain faithful.

The Lesson From Joseph

Last night I went for a walk because I sensed the Lord wanted to show me something. As I walked, I noticed a homeless man. To be honest, I do not remember seeing many homeless people here in London. Some of you may say they are everywhere, but I am simply sharing my experience.

Everyone was walking past him.

People were enjoying the sunshine.

The atmosphere was full of joy.

People were skateboarding.

People were smiling.

I even noticed something unusual.

Normally, someone might bump into you without saying anything.

But yesterday people were greeting one another before they even reached each other.

I thought,

"The sunshine is doing something to the British people."

Yet there sat this man.

No one stopped.

No one acknowledged him.

So I walked over.

I asked his name.

He said,

"My name is Joseph."

He began telling me about his life.

He told me about his mother.

He told me about his daughter.

After listening, I said,

"Joseph, I only came out for a walk, but may I pray for you?"

I prayed that God would connect him with the right people and the right resources.

Then I told him,

"I don't have any money with me right now.

But if you wait here, I'll go back to my hotel, get some money, and come right back."

He replied,

"You're probably not coming back."

I smiled and said,

"Joseph, my hotel is right there.

I'll come back.

Just wait."

He said, "I might be gone before you return."

I laughed and said,

"Joseph, we're in England.

I think 'wait' still means 'wait' in the dictionary.

Just stay right here." I hurried back to the hotel.

I told my husband what had happened. I grabbed the money and rushed back. Joseph was gone. I looked around and thought, "I know he wasn't an angel because he was smoking. I don't think angels appear with cigarettes."

So I searched the nearby streets. I looked around every corner. He was nowhere to be found. As I prayed, I asked the Lord, "What was that encounter about?"

The Lord spoke to my heart. There are things He will ask you to do simply to reveal whether He truly governs your life. Does He rule over you?

Sometimes God gives an instruction without attaching a deadline. Sometimes He asks you to wait without giving a timeline. Can you remain faithful?

Can you choose faithfulness over instant gratification?

Some of you are thinking, "It hasn't been a day. It hasn't been a week. It's been ten years."

Even then...

Can you remain faithful?

Because it is in faithfulness that God can place His weight upon your life.

Faithfulness Builds Capacity

Yielding yourself to God is not proven in one emotional moment at an altar.

It must be tested.

The Lord already knew Abraham would offer Isaac.

God is all-knowing.

He did not need the test for His own information.

Abraham needed the test.

Abraham needed to discover the kind of man he had become.

He needed to know that he possessed the faith to rise early in the morning and obey God, even when obedience required the son he loved. There is something powerful about walking out obedience.

Faithfulness transforms the soul. As your soul is transformed, capacity is formed within you. It creates room for what God desires to build both in you and through you. Abraham needed to experience that moment personally. It would mark him for the rest of his life. He would forever know, *"Lord, there is nothing that can separate me from You.

Whatever You ask of me, I will do."*

As he experienced God's faithfulness, his revelation of God's character deepened.

There are certain experiences you must walk through because of the capacity they produce. They prepare you for the greater manifestation of the Holy Spirit.

There is someone God is forming you to become.

And you can only become that person through faithful surrender to the Holy Spirit.

A Call to Complete Surrender

Spirit of the Lord, I want to give myself to You.

If that is your prayer this morning, would you just lift up your hands?

Thank You, Jesus.

Thank You, Jesus.

There are some of you—I sense it—and the Lord is saying,

"Stop living a double life."

People may not know it, but the Lord sees everything.

Stop living a double life.

Just begin to release your own sound to the Lord in prayer.

Tell Him,

"Here I am, Lord. Would You help me? I give myself to You. Will You help me?"

Thank You, Jesus.

Stop being the puppet of Satan.

You may be doing something that feels pleasurable, but it is killing you at the same time.

If it doesn't glorify Jesus, it is killing you.

If it doesn't reveal Jesus, it is destroying you.

He is **the Way, the Truth, and the Life.**

The Scripture says,

"Choose life."

Choose Him.

When we become a people who are ready to yield completely—not coming to God with our routines, how many years we've known Him, or all our spiritual credentials—but simply asking,

"Am I yielded to Him?"

"Am I fully His?"

Everything changes.

Don't confuse little miracles happening in a room as proof that God is validating a minister.

This is why you don't fix your eyes on any minister.

You look to Jesus.

Sometimes what the Lord is responding to is the faith of the people.

Remain in the place of humility before Him.

Remain in the place of yieldedness before Him.

Because there are things the Lord desires to do through you.

Those things can only happen when the Holy Spirit can fully inhabit your life—when He fills every part of you and expresses Himself through every area of your life.

There are things the Lord desires to accomplish.

And it is not merely the faith of the people that will draw them into the room.

It is the ability of men and women who are completely yielded to God—people who can host His presence—so that when they walk into a room, the presence of God is unmistakable.

Their presence in a nation can begin to shake that nation.

There are dimensions of God's work that are not simply about the faith of the people.

They are about **what you carry in God.**

Not My Will, But Yours

It was not the faith of the people that caused Jesus to go to the cross.

It was what He chose between Himself and the Father.

There came a moment when He prayed,

"Not My will, but Yours be done."

When the will of God becomes the governing principle of your life, that is the realm where principalities and powers come down. Jesus disarmed them—not because of the faith of the people—but because He could say,

"Not My will, but Yours be done."

There is a realm where it is about what you carry in God that brings solutions. It is about what you carry in Him. So, will you share the responsibility?

Will you be like the disciples to whom Jesus said,

"In this manner, therefore pray: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:9–10, KJV)

Because you have a role in it. From the realm of the Spirit, God's part is already settled. It is finished. But in the realm of men, we must be yielded.

Closing Prayer

Spirit of the living God, I thank You. I thank You that Your Word is bringing conviction into the hearts of Your people. The entrance of Your Word gives light.

Let that light confront every area of darkness within us, so that we may become light that confronts the darkness in the world. Because darkness cannot confront darkness. Sometimes we do not want to recognize that our inadequacy as the Church is because we are showing up looking just like the world.

But we can only become light when You have fully transformed the inner parts of our lives. Spirit of the living God, it is always Your desire to glorify Jesus. As Your sons and daughters lift up their hands before You today, Give them instructions. Reveal the areas of their lives where You are calling them higher.

*Reveal the places where they must yield before You. Let this not become just another conference. Let it become an equipping center that sends forth men and women who move in the power of the Holy Ghost. Because it is only by the power of the Holy Ghost that **Your Kingdom comes**. So, Lord, we wait on You. Have Your way.*

*In Jesus' name, **Amen**.*



About The Speaker

Stephanie Ike Okafor is an ambassador for Jesus Christ who has dedicated her life to raising disciples for His Kingdom. She is a leader, national bestselling author, and podcast host. Called and commissioned as an apostle, she carries a deep burden for people across the world to truly know Jesus. Her profound and revelatory teachings have transformed lives globally.

Stephanie faithfully served as a pastor under the leadership of Pastors Touré Roberts and Sarah Jakes Roberts for ten years. She now stewards a ministry called [Plug International](#), with a mission to connect people to Jesus. Through this ministry, she and her team host gatherings in different regions of the world, preaching the gospel of the Kingdom and witnessing people saved, healed, and delivered.

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