

KEY 9: CHARACTER OF A STRONG, APOSTOLIC SPIRIT FILLED LOCAL CHURCH

THE PRESENCE PURPOSED CHURCH

Matt. 16:17-19

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

MANIFEST PRESENCE OF GOD

1. The defining characteristic of God's people

Exodus 33:15-16

*" **15** Then he said to Him, "If Your presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here. **16** For how then can it be known that I have found favor in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not by Your going with us, so that we, I and Your people, may be distinguished from all the other people who are upon the face of the [g]earth?"*

Numbers 9:15-23

***15** Now on the day that the tabernacle was erected the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the testimony, and in the evening it was like the appearance of fire over the tabernacle, until morning. **16** So it was continuously; the cloud would cover it by day, and the appearance of fire by night. **17** Whenever the cloud was lifted from over the tent, afterward the sons of Israel would then set out; and in the place where the cloud settled down, there the sons of Israel would camp. **18** At the [j]command of the Lord the sons of Israel would set out, and at the [k]command of the Lord they would camp; as long as the cloud settled over the tabernacle, they remained camped. **19** Even when the cloud lingered over the tabernacle for many days, [l]the sons of Israel would keep the Lord's charge and not set out. **20** If [m]sometimes the cloud remained a few days over the tabernacle, according to the [n]command of the Lord they remained camped. Then according to the [o]command of the Lord they set out. **21** If [p]sometimes the cloud [q]remained from evening until morning, when the cloud was lifted in the morning, they would move out; or if it remained in the daytime and at night, whenever the cloud was lifted, they would set out. **22** Whether it was two days or a month or a year that the cloud*

lingered over the tabernacle, staying above it, the sons of Israel remained camped and did not set out; but when it was lifted, they did set out. **23** At the [r]command of the Lord they camped, and at the [s]command of the Lord they set out; they kept the Lord's charge, according to the [t]command of the Lord through Moses.

1 kings 8:1-11 Bible (NASB)

The Ark Brought into the Temple

8 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the fathers' households of the sons of Israel, to King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord from the city of David, which is Zion. **2** All the men of Israel assembled themselves to King Solomon at the feast, in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. **3** Then all the elders of Israel came, and the priests took up the ark. **4** They brought up the ark of the Lord and the tent of meeting and all the holy utensils, which were in the tent, and the priests and the Levites brought them up. **5** And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who were assembled to him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing [a]so many sheep and oxen they could not be counted or numbered. **6** Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the house, to the most holy place, under the wings of the cherubim. **7** For the cherubim spread their wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim made a covering over the ark and its poles from above. **8** But the poles were so long that the ends of the poles could be seen from the holy place before the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen outside; they are there to this day. **9** There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone which Moses put there at Horeb, where the Lord made a covenant with the sons of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. **10** It happened that when the priests came from the holy place, the cloud filled the house of the Lord, **11** so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord

2. Congregational worship (house was filled)

2 Chron 5:2-14

2 Then Solomon assembled to Jerusalem the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the fathers' households of the sons of Israel, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. **3** All the men of Israel assembled themselves to the king at the feast, that is in the seventh month. **4** Then all the elders of Israel came, and the Levites took up the ark. **5** They brought up the ark and the tent of meeting and all the holy utensils which were in the tent; the Levitical priests brought them up. **6** And King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel who were assembled with him before the ark, were sacrificing [b]so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. **7** Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the house, to the holy of holies, under the wings

of the cherubim. **8** For the cherubim spread their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering over the ark and its [c]poles. **9** The poles were so long that the ends of the poles of the ark could be seen in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen outside; and [d]they are there to this day. **10** There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets which Moses put *there* at Horeb, where the Lord made a covenant with the sons of Israel, when they came out of Egypt. The Glory of God Fills the Temple **11** When the priests came forth from the holy place (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without regard to divisions), **12** and all the Levitical singers, Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun, and their sons and kinsmen, clothed in fine linen, with cymbals, harps and lyres, standing east of the altar, and with them one hundred and twenty priests blowing trumpets **13** in unison when the trumpeters and the singers were to make themselves heard with one voice to praise and to glorify the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice accompanied by trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and when they praised the Lord saying, "He indeed is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting," then the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud, **14** so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God.

MANIFESTED POWER OF GOD

1. Preaching and demonstration

1 cor. 2:3-5

3 *I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, 4 and my [a]message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith would not [b]rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.*

Romans 10:8-16

8 *But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, 9 [e]that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; 10 for with the heart a person believes, [f]resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, [g]resulting in salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes in Him will not be [h]disappointed." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; 13 for "Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved." 14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? 15 How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who [i]bring good news of good things!" 16 However, they did not all heed the [j]good news; for Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our report?" 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word [k]of Christ.*

Romans 15:18-19

18 For I will not presume to speak of anything [a]except what Christ has accomplished through me, [b]resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed, 19 in the power of [c]signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have [d]fully preached the gospel of Christ.

Acts 10:38

You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

2. Preaching and demonstration

Matt. 17:20

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

MANIFESTED AUTHORITY OF GOD

Authority - (exousia)

- *Jurisdiction because of a judicial verdict
- *right to rule under delegated authority
- *the privilege of influence

Luke 9:1-2

Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

Luke 7:7-9

Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

Romans 8:14-16

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

KEY ELEMENTS TO BUILD

1. Prepared atmospheres

Luke 1:17

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Matthew 9:18-25

While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, † My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live. And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples. And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour. And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise, He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn. But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose

Acts 4:23,31

23 And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord 31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Acts 1:1-5, 14

The former † treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them † forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many † days hence. 14 These all continued † with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

2 cor 3:17

Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

John 8:32

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

2. UNIFIED LEADERSHIP CORE

Eph 4:1-3

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

- A. Equipping, training, mentoring
- B. Relationship-sharing lives, not just projects
- C. Onboarding path to raise up new leaders

3. A DEFINED CULTURE WITH CLEAR CORE VALUES

- A. Consistent corporate Prayer w/emphasis on personal prayer
- B. Throne room worship
- C. Clearly defined discipleship strategy and opportunities
- D. Relational and intentional connection strategy
- E. Missional burden, community and foreign
- F. Spirit of generosity modeled and taught

4. A LEGITIMATE 5-FOLD, APOSTOLIC RELATIONSHIP

Eph 4:

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, † whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, † maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.