

airplanes. In my heart, I saw my actions as little faith-steps toward my goal. I also collected free literature with photos. I made a faith-poster for my office with the photos of selected airplanes. It wasn't long until I took my first flying lesson. Well, as they say, the rest is history! Through the years, we've owned several airplanes for our ministry. As an instrument-rated pilot, I've flown thousands of miles, crisscrossing the country for speaking engagements. I've also delivered medical supplies to other countries. None of it would have happened, though, if I had not known the key of "releasing my faith." The truth is, most people just sit and wait, as if faith were some type of magic wand. But faith requires ACTION, PLANNING, AND GOAL-SETTING. **Thus, if you want to connect more with heaven's power, be creative and start putting action to your faith. Get started, even if the steps seem small and insignificant. God will honor the combination of faith and works.**

KEY #5: THE HOLY SPIRIT

Before Jesus ascended, He promised that the **HOLY SPIRIT** would be given to His followers. The image that Jesus used (*the Greek term paraclete – "one called alongside"*) is that the Holy Spirit will walk alongside you to guide you and advise you every step of the way. John 16:13 says, *"When the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will show you things to come."* What an awesome thought! We are not alone! The Holy Spirit wants to help us. **If you want to connect with heaven's power, then it is imperative that you get to know the Holy Spirit more and more.** Learn to yield to the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22). The fruit of the Spirit is the character of God – *love, joy, peace, kindness, meekness, and agape love*. You should also study about the gifts of the Spirit, which are the abilities of God (1 Cor 12:7-11). For example, if you are facing a big project, then ask God for one of the gifts to function called the "word of wisdom." The Holy Spirit can give you God's strategy and plan to get the job done. Be sensitive to His guidance and promptings. Learning to walk in the Spirit is an exciting area, and one that will connect you to heaven's power.

KEY #6: GIVING & GOOD WORKS

There are many keys that we could examine, but the last one in this brief study is **GIVING AND GOOD WORKS**. It's true that we are not saved by our

good works – (we don't 'earn' God's forgiveness, it is a free gift) -- but the Bible makes it clear that we are saved unto God works (Eph 2:8-10). In other words, God wants us to take on His nature, which is to be a GIVER. John 3:16 describes God's nature -- *"For God so loved the world **THAT HE GAVE** his only begotten Son."* God will bless you when you become a "giver" and give your money and time to help others. Support your church. Support the missionaries that God directs you to. Be kind to people. **Certainly we do not "give to get" – but the Bible makes it very clear that God will bless you in return. You can count on it because it is an eternal principle.** Luke 6:38 says, *"Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over shall men give unto you."* The world puts it this way – *"what goes around comes around."* Thus, if you want to connect more with heaven's power and blessings, THEN BE A GIVER! Don't be stingy. It is also important to develop a merciful disposition, which is also a form of giving. When someone makes a mistake or fails, then help them instead of judging them. When others shun them, you be the one that reaches out to encourage them. Be the sort of person that lifts others "up" instead of pushing them down. The Bible teaches that God will bless you for your good works. 1 Timothy 6:18 says, *"[Charge them] to do good, to be rich in good works, to be liberal and generous of heart, ready to share with others."* What you sow is what you will reap.



Dear friend, my prayer is that you will learn to connect with heaven's power and be a pipeline of His blessings!
 ■ **Jason Peebles**

Key Memory Verse:

"Jesus said unto him -- If you can believe, all things are possible to him that believes."

Mark 9:23

Prayer to Connect with Heaven's Power

"Father, thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for my sins. I accept His sacrifice for me and commit my life to Him. Change me by the power of your Spirit. I want to stay connected with Heaven's power each day and be a pipeline of your blessing to others. Thank you for your great love in my life. In Jesus Name – Amen."

We hope this Study Guide helps you. Sign up online to receive our FREE studies each month. *World Outreach Ministries* is the home office for interdenominational missionaries around the world. It was founded in 1979 by Jason Peebles. Our missionaries are from all types of church backgrounds and are involved in a variety of outreaches – evangelism, schools, medical clinics, children's shelters, aviation, church planting, translation work, broadcasting, leadership training, and support roles. God's kingdom has all kinds of workers!

We are a faith ministry – that is, we look to God to impress friends like you to help. If this Study Guide encourages you, then please consider supporting our *Missionary Agency*. You can help with a One-time gift or automatic Monthly gifts with your credit or debit card via our website. Thank you for your support!

Online Donations & Info:

www.WorldOutreach.org

Mail Support to:

World Outreach Ministries
 P.O. Box B
 Marietta, GA 30061

These Study Guides are available in packs of 20.
 Call to order by Credit Card: 1 (800) 832-WORD

Connecting With Heaven's Power

by Jason Peebles

Even a casual reading of the Bible makes it clear there are powers beyond this natural realm. The Bible contains reports of miracles, divine guidance, and amazing events. There are accounts of angels, visions, healings, financial windfalls, and winning battles against all odds. One may choose not to believe the reports, but the stories are there. As followers of Christ, though, we believe what the Bible says. **Furthermore, the New Testament tells us that we can learn how to "connect" with heaven's power and be a pipeline of His blessings to others.**

Wisdom: God's Success Keys

Ephesians 3:20 is one of my favorite verses in the Bible. It says, *"Now unto Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly **ABOVE all that we ask or think, according to the POWER that works in us.**"* What a fantastic promise! God wants to do MORE FOR US than our limited minds tend to think. In order to connect with God's power, though, we must use His keys for success -- what the Bible calls "wisdom." The Bible contains success keys for virtually every area of life: relationships, finances, how to deal with stress, and on and on. **Proverbs 4:7 says, "Wisdom is the principle thing; therefore get wisdom (God's keys) and with all thy getting get understanding (how to use them)."** Thus, start thinking of God's Word as it truly is -- God's success manual for your life.

As we begin our study, let's look at what seems to be the foundational key to heaven's power – FAITH. You can say it any number of ways – faith,

trust, dependency – but the foundational key is a reliance on God and what He says. For example, Abraham knew that God “could” lead him, but at some point he had to trust God, step out in faith, and go. Hebrews 11:8 says, “By faith, Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, **obeyed and he went out, not knowing where he went.**” In other words, He stepped out in faith trusting God. It is important to note that when Abraham started his journey, he did not have all the answers, for it says -- “he went out not knowing where he went.” If you think that you need all the answers before you start, then you will block God’s power. **Abraham had the foundational key of faith. He found out that God’s power flows towards those who trust Him and rely on His Word.** This same key can be found throughout the Bible. David knew that God “could” use him to defeat Goliath, but at some point he had to take his sling and face the giant in faith. Against all odds, he won! All the heroes of the Bible had this same underlying foundation of faith. Hebrews 11:32-34 says, “And what shall I say more? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae, David, Samuel, and all the prophets; **WHO THROUGH FAITH** subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, and turned the armies of the aliens.”

If you want to “connect” with heaven’s power and see results, then you must learn to abide in the vine and depend on Christ (John 15). You must learn to be led by His Spirit. So, as we briefly examine six keys, keep in mind that the foundational element is FAITH AND TRUST in God’s ability.

KEY #1: SALVATION

OK, the first step for connecting with heaven’s power is **SALVATION**. When we refer to “salvation” we are not talking about church attendance or acting religious. No, we are referring to your personal decision to accept Jesus Christ in your mind and heart as your Lord and Savior. Your heavenly Father wants you to trust in the Messiah (Jesus Christ) who was prophesied to take the sins of the whole world (Isa 53). The good news is that Christ paid the price for your sins and to give you eternal life (Rom 6:23)! He died in my place and in your place to connect us with heaven. He was also raised from the dead and is alive today! Until you make a decision to follow Christ, you may know “about” God but you really can’t “know” Him the way He

desires. It’s the difference between having an acquaintance and a best friend. **Jesus Christ is the way to connect with your heavenly Father (Eph 2:18). In John 14:6 Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man comes to the Father but by Me.”** 1 John 5:11-13 puts it this way: “And this is the record that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. **He that has the Son HAS LIFE; but he that has not the Son of God has not life.** These things have I written to you that believe on the name of the Son of God, **that you may KNOW that you have eternal life.**” Can it be any clearer? **The apostle John makes it crystal clear that the way to connect with heaven’s power is to have Jesus Christ in your life.** If you are unsure of your salvation, then I encourage you to pause right now and pray the simple prayer that we have at the end of this study. Let this short prayer become the sincere expression of your heart. Make sure that you take this first step to connect with heaven’s power.



KEY #2: PRAYER

Let’s look at a second vital key for connecting with heaven’s power – **PRAYER**. For a moment, let’s forget the typical religious notions about prayer. **Prayer is not long, boring, religious jargon meant to impress God or others!** **Authentic prayer IS the exciting privilege that we have to talk with God, fellowship with Him, and extend His influence in the earth!** There are many wonderful aspects to prayer that we could discuss, but it all starts by just talking to God. Your heavenly Father invites you pray about your

family, friends, job, goals, problems, needs – in fact, everything! Why? Well, think about it. The way that you develop any relationship is through communication. **Thus, when you pray (talk with God) you are opening the lines of communication with your heavenly Father. You are opening the door for Him to respond to you and help you.** Philippians 4:6 instructs us to pray about everything: “Be anxious for nothing, but in **EVERYTHING** by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, **let your requests be made known to God.**” I’ve heard some people use this excuse – “Oh, I don’t want to bother God with all my problems.” **Dear friend, God is not a computer in the sky with limited disk space that can be overloaded!** No, He is your unlimited heavenly Father who wants you to ask Him for help. Hebrews 4:16 says, “Let us therefore **COME boldly unto the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.**” Pray when you drive. Pray when you work. Pray when you walk. **Let prayer become as natural as breathing. In time, you will learn to lace your prayers with the promises in God’s Word. Doing so will give your prayers substance and authority.** Additionally, as you pray, start expecting God to lead you. He might remind you of a scripture, give you an idea, or impress you with a plan. There are many ways that God’s Spirit can prompt you. Thus, if you want to connect more with heaven’s power, start praying more!

KEY #3: GOD’S WORD

Another huge key for connecting with heaven’s power is **GOD’S WORD**. We mentioned the need to lace your prayers with the promises in God’s Word. John 15:7 says, “If you abide in Me and **MY WORDS** abide in you, you shall ask what you will and it shall be done unto you.” The promises in the Bible should become the “hooks” on which you hang your prayers. It is also important that you start reading and studying your Bible on a regular basis. **Over and over again we are told that God’s Word is our ticket to God’s blessing, power, and success.** Look at what God told Joshua (paraphrasing): “**Joshua, I want you to study My Word, speak My Word, and do what it says. My Word will make you strong and give you success in all that you do**” (Josh 1:8,9). Joshua was given the secret to defeating all his enemies – **GOD’S WORD!** Psalm 1 is another passage that links God’s Word to heaven’s blessings. It says that God’s Word will make you “like a fruitful and prosperous tree planted by rivers of water.” Let me encourage you to also mark Psalm 119 and bask in all the awesome promises it gives

regarding God’s Word. For example, it says that God’s Word will help you overcome sin (vs. 11), guide you (vs. 105), give you wisdom (vs. 97-100), and strengthen you during hard times (vs. 92). Jesus said, “*Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God*” (Mt 4:4). You need God’s Word every bit as much as you need natural food and drink. **Dear friend, if you are serious about staying connected with heaven’s power, then start reading your Bible more – especially the New Testament.** A great place to start is the book of **Ephesians**. It will give you a wealth of insights about your victorious position in Christ. Every time you see the phrase “in Him” be sure to mark it (or some form of it – in Him, in Christ, in Whom, etc.). Those are the verses that tell you about your new life “in Christ.” In Christ, you are seated above all enemies and problems (Eph 2:21 / 3:6). God’s Word will connect you with heaven’s power.

KEY #4: RELEASE YOUR FAITH

Another important key for connecting with heaven’s power is learning to **RELEASE YOUR FAITH**. Looking back, I wish I had learned this key earlier in my Christian walk. It’s not enough just to “believe.” **I eventually discovered that my faith must be “released” through some type of outward action. It’s vital that you put action to your faith.** The faith that you feel in your heart about something must ALWAYS be “released” through what I call faith-actions. James 1:7,8 says, “*Even so faith, if it has not works, is dead, being alone. Yes, a man may say, ‘You have faith and I have works’ – but show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works.*”

Here’s an example from many years ago to illustrate this key. I remember when we were praying and believing for our first airplane. I knew that an airplane would open up the entire USA for my teaching ministry. It would make it much easier for me to get to meetings and conferences in small towns and out-of-the-way places. But, at the time, we had no money for an airplane. I soon discovered, though, that there are ways to “release faith” even if I don’t have money. **When we talk about “releasing” faith, we are talking about expressing it through some type of specific, outward action. In other words, it’s not enough to just sit around and dream about things. Like Abraham, you must eventually “go.”** Thus, I started talking to pilots at a local airport. When they permitted me, I looked inside their airplanes and asked tons of questions. Some of them even let me sit in their