

Viewpoint

June 26, 2016

Dear Church...

Today, I want to challenge you to accept the invitation of the Holy Spirit and enter in to a lifestyle of Spiritual Disciplines:

First, get rid of anything, big or small, that keeps you from being sold out and set apart for God—throw it away, shut it down, or make the call and end your involvement immediately. Don't wait for a better time or day.

Next, get on your knees in prayer for just a few minutes every day and pour your heart out to God.

In addition, schedule a daily, non-negotiable appointment on your calendar, one day in advance, to pray and read a planned portion of the Bible. Daily admit to God any known sin or struggle in your life—and forgive others as God forgives you.

Then, when your heart is right before God, intercede on behalf of others. ***Persevere in prayer until God intervenes.***

Fast one meal or 24 hours each week for breakthrough—for you, your family and our nation.

Commit *today* to use your spiritual gifts in our church—we need you.

Without hesitation, regularly respond to the Holy Spirit's promptings to...

share your testimony to students or prisoners,
visit the sick in the hospital,
call on those who are lonely,
offer someone a ride to church, and
meet a specific need of someone who is hurting.

But don't stop there.

Attend or start at least one prayer meeting each week (at your office, church or in your neighborhood).

Of course, love your spouse and kids by treating them with kindness and be sure to control your temper—always.

Then, scale back on your recreation and spending *to the degree* it allows you a bit more margin or leverage to increase your giving and serving.

Finally, pray daily for each of your unbelieving family members and friends to give their lives to Christ—and don't be ashamed to plead with them, if necessary. Don't ever give up on people—remain full of the hope you have in Christ.

Most importantly, passionately and joyfully model all of this for your family, friends, and coworkers. They will soon follow you—eventually they will do what you do and love Who and what you love. (At a minimum, they will acknowledge and admire your changed, revived, FULL life and ask you for prayer.)

What if you surrendered your life, along with your closest family and friends, to **accept the invitation of the Holy Spirit of God right now**—in this way—today?

Be encouraged,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, thin tail on the final letter.