Braman Foundation of Charities REVIVE MAGAZINE

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The Magazine of The Braman Foundation of Charities

Vol. 3 Issue 4

December 2018



The BFC Editorial

Dear Friends,

Christmas season, more than any other is a time in which our hearts are overflowed with the Love of Christ. We, of course, seek to Love Our Neighbor as Jesus has sought through us, yet this season is so special.

Therefore, open your heart to the one that has troubled you and forgive. Go deeper this season to overcome materialism and allow the spirit of God to use you. Of course, you have struggles, we all do! Yet let go of the daily grind and spend more time with Christ. Enjoy the family God has given you in and rejoice with them for they too are made in His image.

We at BFC yearn to express our Love, our gratitude and thankfulness for all your prayerful and financial support. BFC in 2018 has doubled its effectiveness in serving God's Kingdom. We have doubled our Mission Travel, Operation Blessing Bag and many of the services available through BFC. This can not be possible without your support. As we wrap up this year we are still traveling to South Sudan to partner with CEF (Children's Evangelistic Fellowship) to teach individuals how to set up Sunday Schools in 15-20 churches. Praise the Lord!

We prayerfully wish you, your congregations and your families a joyous Christmas Season. May your 2019 be ever fruitful and may the Love of Christ continue to transform you and your Kingdom building.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The Braman Foundation 2018

About Andrew Murray

In our final 2018 Revive Magazine we again feature the writings of Andrew Murray. The articles in this issue are from his book: "In Search of Spiritual Excellence", now titled: "Experience the Holy Spirit." More over our church needs a true movement of the Holy Spirit to truly move our people into deeper holiness, confession and repentence. Enjoy this edition!

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How Glorious the Blessing Is

by: Andrew Murray

"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:4).

Whenever we speak of being filled with the Holy Spirit, and desire to know what it precisely is, our thoughts always turn back to the day of Pentecost. There we see as in a mirror how glorious the blessing is that is brought from heaven by the Holy Spirit and with which He can fill the hearts of men.

There is one fact which makes the great event of the day of Pentecost doubly instructive 12 this namely, that we have learned to know very intimately the men who were then filled with the Spirit, by their fellowship for three years with the Lord Jesus. Their infirmities and defects, their sins and perversities, all stand open to our view. But the blessing of Pentecost wrought a complete transformation. They became entirely new men, so that one might say of them with truth: "Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17). Close study of them and their example helps us in more than one way. It shows us to what weak and sinful men the Spirit will come. It teaches us how they were prepared for the blessing.

It teaches us also ② and this is the principal thing ② how mighty and complete the revolution is that is brought to pass when the Holy Spirit is received in His fullness. It lets us see how glorious the grace that awaits us is if we press on to the full blessing of Pentecost.

The ever-abiding presence and indwelling of the Lord Jesus.

In this we have the first and principal blessing of the Pentecostal life. In the course of our Lord dealings with His disciples on earth He spared no pains to teach and train them, to renew and sanctify them. In most respects, however, they remained just what they were. The reason was that up to this point He was nothing more than an external Christ who stood outside of them and from without sought to work upon them by His word and His personal influence. With the advent of Pentecost this condition was entirely changed.

In the Holy Spirit He came down as the inward, indwelling Christ, to become in the very innermost recesses of their being the life of their life. This is what He Himself had promised in the words: "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you . At that day ye shall know that I am in My Father, and ye in Me, and I in you" (John 14:18,20).

This was the source of all the other blessings that came with Pentecost. Jesus Christ, the crucified, the glorified, the Lord from heaven, came in spiritual power, by the Spirit, to impart to them that ever-abiding presence of their Lord that had been promised to them. And that was in a way that was most intimate, all-powerful, and wholly divine: by the indwelling which makes Him in truth their life. Him whom they had had in the flesh, living with them on earth, they now received by the Spirit in His heavenly glory within them! Instead of an outward Jesus near them, they now obtained the inward Jesus within them.

The Spirit of Jesus came into them as the life and the power of sanctification.

This springs from the first and principal blessing. Here I shall allude at the outset to only one feature in this change. We know how often the Lord had to rebuke them for their pride and exhort them to humility. It was all of no avail. Even on the last night of His earthly life, at the table of the Holy Supper, there was a strife amongst them as to which of them should be the greatest (Luke 22:24).

The outward teaching of the outward Christ, whatever other influences it may have exercised, was not sufficient to redeem them from the power of indwelling sin. This could be achieved only by the indwelling Christ. Only when Jesus descended into them by the Holy Spirit did they undergo a complete change. They received Him in His heavenly humility and subjection to the Father, and in His self-sacrifice for others, as their life. Henceforth all was changed. From that moment onwards they were animated by the spirit of the meek and lowly Jesus.

This in very truth is still the only way to a real sanctification, to a life that actually overcomes sin. Many preachers and many Christians keep their minds occupied only with the external Christ on the cross or in heaven, and wait for the blessing of His teaching and His working without understanding that the blessing of Pentecost brings Him into us, to work Himself all in us. Because of this, they make little progress in sanctification. Christ Himself is of God made unto us sanctification: and that in no other way than by our living and being moved and existing in Him, because He lives and abides in our heart and works all there (1 Cor. 1:30).

An overflowing of the heart with the love of God.

This also is a part of the blessing of Pentecost. Next to pride, lack of love 2 or as we may put it in one word, love-

lessness 2 was the sin for which the Lord had so often to rebuke His disciples. These two sins have in truth one and the same root: the self-seeking I, the desire for self-pleasing. The new commandment that He gave them, the token whereby all men should know that they were His disciples, was love to one another (John 13:35).

How gloriously was it manifested on the day of Pentecost that the Spirit of the Lord shed abroad His love in the hearts of His own. The multitude of them that believed were as one heart, one soul. All things they possessed were held in common. No one said that anything of that which he had was his own. The kingdom of heaven with its life of love had come down to them. The spirit, the disposition, the wonderful love of Jesus, filled them, because He Himself had come into them.

How closely the mighty working of the Spirit and the indwelling of the Lord Jesus are bound up with a life in love appears from the prayer of Paul in behalf of the Ephesians. He asks that they might be strengthened with power by the Spirit, in order that Christ might dwell in their hearts. Then he forthwith makes this addition: "that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be strong to apprehend the love of Christ which passeth knowledge" (Eph. 3:17-19).

The filling with the Spirit and the indwelling of Christ bring of themselves a life that has its root, its joy, its power, its evidence in love, because the indwelling Christ Himself is Love. O how would the love of God fill the Church and convince the world that she has received a heavenly element into her life, if the filling with the Spirit and the indwelling of Christ in the heart were recognized as the blessing which the Father has promised us!

The coming of the Spirit changed weakness and fear into courage and power.

We all know how, from fear rising in his heart at the word of a woman, Peter denied his Lord, and how that same night all the disciples fled and forsook Him. Their hearts were really attached to Him, and they were sincerely willing to do what they had promised and go to die with Him. But when it came to the crisis, they had neither courage nor power. They had to say: "To will is present with me, but to perform that which is good I find not" (Rom. 7:18).

After the blessing of the Spirit of Pentecost, there was no more question of merely willing apart from performing. By Christ dwelling in us God works both the willing and the doing (Phil. 2:13). With what confidence of spirit did Peter on the day of Pentecost dare to preach the Crucified One to thousands of hostile Jews. With what boldness was he able in opposition to the leaders of the people, to say, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

With what courage and joy were Stephen and Paul and so many others enabled to encounter threatening and suffering and death. They did this even triumphantly. It was because the Spirit of Christ, the Victor 2 yes, the Christ Himself, who had been glorified 2 dwelt within them. It is the joy of the blessing of Pentecost that gives courage and power to speak for Jesus, because by it the whole heart is filled with Him.

The blessing of Pentecost makes the whole Word of God new.

How distinctly do we see this fact in the case of the disciples. As with all the Jews of that age, their ideas of the Messiah and the kingdom of God were utterly external and carnal. All the instruction of the Lord Jesus throughout three long years could not detach their minds from them. They were utterly unable to comprehend the doctrine of a suffering and dying Messiah or the hope of His invisible spiritual dominion. Even after His resurrection He had to rebuke them for their unbelieving spirit and their backwardness in understanding the Scriptures.

With the coming of the day of Pentecost an entire change took place. The whole of their ancient Scriptures opened up before them. The light of the Holy Spirit in them illumined the Word. In the preaching of Peter and Stephen, in the addresses of Paul and James, we see how a divine light had shone upon the Word of the Old Testament. They saw everything through the Spirit of this Jesus who had made His abode with them.

So will it be also with ourselves. It is as necessary as it is helpful that we should study the Scriptures and meditate upon them, and keep the Word of God alike in head and heart and daily walk. Let us, however, constantly remember that it is only when we are filled with the Spirit that we can rightly and fully experience the spiritual power and truth of the Word. He is "the Spirit of truth." He alone guides into all truth when He dwells in us (John 14:17; 16:13).

It is the blessing of Pentecost that gives power to bless others.

The divine power of the exalted Jesus to grant repentance and the forgiveness of sins is exercised by Him through His servants whom He sends forth to proclaim these blessings. The minister of the Gospel who desires to preach repentance and forgiveness through Jesus with success in winning souls, must do the work in the power of the Spirit of this Jesus.

The chief reason why so much preaching of conversion and pardon is fruitless lies in the fact that these elements of truth are presented only as a doctrine. Preachers endeavor to secure a way to the hearts of their audience in the power of merely human earnestness and reasoning and eloquence. But little blessing is won by these means.

It is the man that makes it his chief desire to be filled with the Spirit of God, and then by faith in the indwelling of Christ comes to be assured that the glorified Lord will speak and work in him, who will obtain blessing. It is true, indeed, that this blessing will not always be given in the very same measure or in the very same manner, but it will always certainly come, just because the preacher permits the Lord to work in and through him. Alike in preaching and in the daily life of a servant of Christ, the full blessing of Pentecost is the sure way of becoming a blessing to others. "He that believeth in Me," said Jesus, "out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38). This He said of the Holy Spirit. A heart filled with the Spirit will overflow with the Spirit.

It is the blessing of Pentecost that will make the Church of Christ what God would have her be.

We have spoken of what the Spirit will do in individual believers. We have also to think of what the blessing will be when the Church as a whole shall apprehend her calling to be filled with the Spirit, and then to exhibit the life and the power 2 yes, and the very presence 2 of her Lord to the world. We must not only seek and receive this blessing, every one for himself, but we must also remember that the full manifestation of what the blessing itself is, cannot be given until the whole body of Christ be filled with it.

"If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it" (1 Cor. 12:26). If many members of the Church of Christ are content to remain without this blessing, the whole Church will suffer. Even in individual disciples the blessing cannot come to its full manifestation. Hence it is of the utmost importance that we should not only think of what the being "filled with the Spirit" means for ourselves, but also consider what it will do for the Church, especially in our own neighborhood, and by her for all the world.

To this end, let us simply recall the morning of the day of Pentecost. At that juncture the Christian Church in Jerusalem consisted only of one hundred and twenty disciples, most of them unlearned fishermen, publicans and humble women, an insignificant and despised gathering (Acts 1:15). Yet it was just by these believers that the kingdom of God had to be proclaimed and extended, and they did it. By them, and those who were added to them, the power of Jewish prejudice and of pagan hardness of heart was overcome, and the Church of Christ won glorious triumphs.

This grand result was achieved simply and only because the first Christian Church was filled with the Spirit. The members of it gave themselves wholly to their Lord. They allowed themselves to be filled and consecrated, governed and used only by Him. They yielded themselves to Him as instruments of His power. He dwelt in them and wrought in them all His wondrous deeds.

It is to this same experience that the Church of Christ in our age must be brought back. This is the only thing that will help her in the conflict with mere civilization or paganism, with sin or the world. She must be filled with the Spirit.

One Thing Needful

Beloved fellow Christians, this summons comes to you. "One thing is needful" (Luke 10:42). Alike for yourselves and the whole Church of the Lord, this is the one thing that is needful: we have to be filled with the Spirit. Please do not imagine that you must comprehend or understand it all before you seek and find it. For those who wait upon Him God will do even that which has not yet entered into their heart to conceive.

If you would taste the happiness, if you would know by personal experience the unutterable blessedness of having Jesus in the heart, of having in you His Spirit of holiness and humility, of love and self-sacrifice, of courage and power, as naturally and continuously as you have your own spirit; if you would have the Word of God in you as light and power, and be enabled to carry it about as a blessing for others; if you would see the Church of Christ stand forth arrayed in her first splendor 12 then separate yourselves from everything that is evil. Cast evil utterly out of your heart, and fix your desire on this one thing: to be filled with the Spirit of God. Reckon upon receiving this as your rightful heritage. Appropriate it and hold it fast by faith. It shall certainly be given you.

Missions: Homeland

BFC has begun to address the many needs of Homeland by starting with new metal beds and mattresses for the girls and boys dorms.

BFC has extended our impact into improving the facilities at the school. We purchased 40 new desks for their primary school. This allows the residents to improve their education because they can't afford to send their kids to different schools.

An additional 40 desk are needed in the school. We are looking to complete this project in 2019.







new beds





Missions: Homeland

Homeland School & Orphanage Child Sponsorship Program

Your contribution of \$20 per month will allow a student to attend the Homeland School & Orphanage.

Prayerfully consider how you can support the Mission of Homeland.

If you would like more information. Contact us at the Braman Foundation and we will put you in direct contact with Andrea.











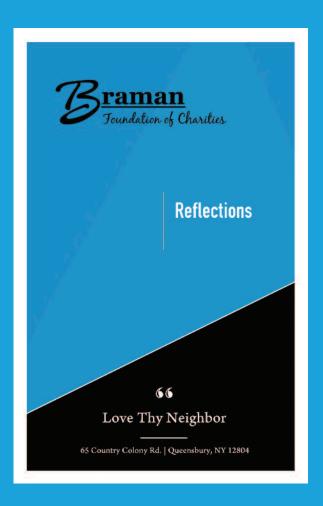
Meet Andrea Wilson

Andrea and her husband have been married for 25 years this year and have two children. They live in Knoxville, TN and both work in healthcare. The Lord impressed upon Andrea's heart Isaiah 1:17 one day while doing a bible study and shortly afterwards the Homeland sponsorship program began. God has opened many doors and orchestrated for them to work with the Braman Foundation in order to put faith in action and meet the needs of these beautiful children as we show them Christ's love.

"We are in beginning stages but hope to have all children sponsored. God has been sending us sponsors or contacts through many different opportunities and it has been amazing to watch all this while God is at work! Please pray for sponsors!"

- Andrea Wilson

BFC is pleased to offer to you a "Daily Reflection" for every day of the year. It is vital to use a strong, spiritual based, Christ centered reading to help start your devotion or to end your devotion.



365 days in a year. Use Reflections to help start your day:

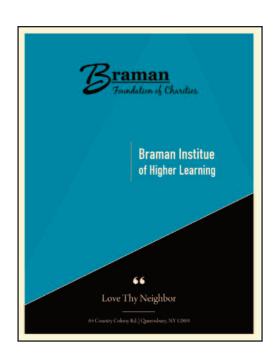
"Seek ye first the Kingdom of God" - Matt 6:33

In Addition, we offer pics of our 2017 and 2018 mission trips.

Corrections

What is B.I.H.L (Braman Institute of Higher Learning)?

It is a program designed within the BFC to lead men and women to live a life that is free from restrictive tendencies, born due to: mental illness, addictive properties, generational strong holds of sin, deeper rooted defeated thinking processes that have led their lives to live an incarcerated lifestyles, institutionalism and in bondage to sin. It will be a two year program away from the concerns of the world.







Hale Creek - Oct. 12, 2018 Re-Enter Program in Johnstown

Steve Austin was able to participate in the Annual Hale Creek Re-Entry Program. Praise the Lord. Hale Creek has recently submitted the Behind The Walls program to be used soon once a week in its facility.

Desmond Hotel Conference Oct. 25, 2018

BFC participated in the Annual CAYSA meeting for corrections in the State of NY. BFC continues to partner with facilities to grow in service in the NYS facilities. Since 1985 we have served.



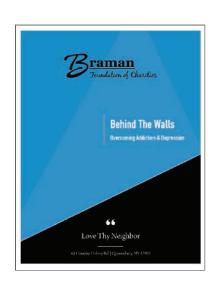
Steve Austin

I was Born In September 1955 to very Loving parents, Herman and Lillian Austin. My Dad was anAttorney and Mom was an RN. I graduated High School in 1973 and College in 1977 I also received an Honorable Discharge from the United States Air Force. I worked for Citi Bank retiring in 1995. During thetime between the Air Force and Citi Bank I had many Challenges in life while using Alcohol and Drugs. I have recovered from these challenges and began Helping others. As of now I work with the BramanFoundation with "Behind the Walls" with God's Help I have overcome all of life's Challenges.

Behind The Walls

Our Corrections, Prison Ministry, through "Behind the Walls" continues to move forward. Individuals from Albany State of Corrections are waiting on more details to be written in the Bibliography section of the program. Once approved and finalized BFC will seek individual correction facilities into which we can begin work with Behind the Walls.

BFC has been volunteering in NYS Corrections since 1995. In Matthew 2:5, Christ says:" Even as you do to the least of those you do unto me, for I was in prison and you visited me...". So as we are commanded we will continue to press into this work. Currently, on Friday night we host a N/A meeting in Washington Correctional on Friday night.



Life Line

The Life-Line is a continuation of Braman Foundation of Charities. This program, when instituted, will enable any individual being released from a facility the opportunity to be united with a home church and a contact person in their home area. In addition, we will offer a mentoring program. Amen!

An inmate's most vulnerable time, whether they know this or not, is when they are released from incarceration. Months and years, depending on one's sentencing of forced incarceration are now dissolved. What can be done for the individual who wishes to change? The individual must truly have a change of heart. We can extend our hand!



How Your Blessing May Be Increased

by: Andrew Murray

He who believes in Me shall never thirst.

—John 6:35

He who believes in Me,...out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.

-John 7:38

Can the full blessing of Pentecost be still further increased? Can anything that is full become still fuller? Yes, undoubtedly. It can become so full that it always overflows, especially this blessing of Pentecost.

The above words of our blessed Lord Jesus point us to a double blessing. First, Jesus says that he who believes in Him will never thirst. He will always have the satisfaction of having his needs met. Then, He speaks of something that is grander and more glorious. Whoever believes in Him, "out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" to quench the thirst of others. It is the distinction between full and overflowing. A vessel may be full and yet have nothing left over for others. When it remains full and has something for others, there must be in it an over-brimming, ever-flowing supply. This is what our Lord promises to His believing disciples. At the outset, faith in Him gives them the blessing that they will never thirst. But as they advance and become stronger in the faith, it makes them a fountain of water out of which streams flow to others.

The Spirit who at first only fills us will overflow out of us to souls around us. The rivers of living water can be compared with many fountains on earth. When we begin to open them, the stream is weak. The more the water is used, and the more deeply the source is opened up, the stronger the water flows. In the realm of the spiritual life, let us discover what is necessary to secure the fullness of the Spirit constantly flowing from us. Several simple steps may help us in reaching this knowledge.

HOLD FAST TO WHAT YOU HAVE

First, see to it that you do not misunderstand the blessing God has given you. Be sure that you do not form any wrong ideas of what the full blessing is.

Do not imagine that the joy and power of Pentecost must be felt and seen immediately. No, the church at present is in a dead-and-alive condition, and restoration often comes slowly. At first, one receives the full blessing only as a seed. The quickened soul has longed for it; he has surrendered himself unreservedly for it; he has believed in silence that God has accepted his consecration and fulfilled His promise. In this faith he goes on his way, silent and happy, saying to himself, —The blessing of the fullness of the Spirit is for me.

But the actual experiences of the blessing did not come as he had anticipated. The result was that he began to fear that his surrender was not a reality, only a transient emotion. He feared the real blessing was something greater and more powerful than he had yet received. The result is that very soon the blessing becomes less instead of greater. Through discouragement, he moves farther back rather than forward.

The cause of this condition is simply lack of faith. We are bent on judging God and His work in us by sight and feeling. We forget that the whole process is the work of faith. Even in its highest revelations in Christians who have made the greatest progress, faith rests not on what is to be seen of the work of God or on the experiences of it, but on the work of God as spiritual, invisible, deeply hidden, and inconceivable.

Do you desire in this time of discouragement to return to the true life according to the promise? My advice is this: if you know that you have given yourself to God with a perfect heart, then rest in silence before Him and hold fast your integrity. Do this, and you will know God.

If you are sure that you have set yourself before God as an empty, purified vessel, then continue to regard yourself so and keep silent before Him. If you have believed that God has received you to fill you as a purified vessel—purified through Jesus Christ and by your entire surrender to Him—then abide in this attitude day by day. You may expect the blessing to grow and begin to flow. "Whoever believes...will not be put to shame" (Rom. 9:33).

PERSEVERE IN SELF-DENIAL

In your surrender you have said in truth and uprightness that you are prepared to sacrifice and forsake everything in order to win this pearl of the kingdom of heaven. This consecration was acceptable to God. But you have not yet fully understood the importance of the words you have used. The Lord still has much to teach you concerning what the individual self is, how deeply rooted it is in your nature, and how utterly corrupt as well as deeply hidden it is.

Be willing to make room for the Spirit by a constant, daily denial of the self-life. You may be sure that He will always

be willing to come and fill the empty place. You have forsaken and sacrificed everything as far as you know, but keep your mind open to the teaching of the Spirit. He will lead you farther on and let you see that when the sacrifice of everything becomes the rule in His church, then the blessing will again break forth like an overflowing stream.

It is surprising how sometimes a very little thing may hinder the continuance in the increase of the blessing. It may, for example, be a little disagreement between friends, where they are not willing to forgive and bear with one another at once according to the law of Christ. Or it may be some unobserved yielding to oversensitiveness or to

ambition that is not prepared to take the lowest place. Or it may be the possession or use of earthly property as if it were our own.

It may also be in connection with things that are lawful and in themselves innocent, which, however, do not harmonize with us in our claim of being led by the Spirit of God. For here, like the Lord Jesus in

His poverty, we are bound to show that the heavenly portion we possess is itself sufficient to satisfy all our desires. Or it may be in connection with questionable things, in which we give way too easily to the lust of the flesh.

Christian, do you really desire to enjoy the full measure of the blessing of the Spirit? Then, before temptation comes, train yourself to understand the fundamental law of the imitation of Jesus and of full discipleship, and forsake all. Allow yourself to be strengthened and drawn into the observance of it by the sure promise of the —hundredfold in this life. (See Matthew 19:29.) A full blessin highest honor and blessedness of any being is to give and to sacrifice.

The Holy Spirit came as the Spirit of the Father and the Son to make us partakers of this divine nature. The Spirit pours out the love of God in our hearts (Rom. 5:5) to secure the indwelling of the Son and His love to such an extent that Christ may be formed within us, and our whole inner man will bear the imprint of His likeness.

Hence, when any soul seeks and receives the fullness of the Spirit, is it not perfectly evident that he can enjoy this blessing only as he is prepared to give himself to a life in the service of love? The Spirit comes to expel the life of self and self-seeking. The fullness of the Spirit presupposes a willingness to consecrate ourselves to the blessing of others as the servants of all. The Spirit is the outflowing of the life of God. If we will only yield ourselves to Him, He will become the river of living water, flowing from the depths of our hearts.

Christian, if you want the blessing increased, begin to live only so that the love of God may work through you. Love everyone around you with the love of God that is in you through the Spirit. Love the children of God cordially, even the weakest and most perverse. Exercise and exhibit your love in every possible way. Love the unsaved. Present yourself to the Spirit to love Him. Then love will constrain

you to speak, to work, to give, and to pray.

If there is no open door for working, or if you do not have the strength for it, the door of prayer is always open, and power can be obtained at the mercy seat. Embrace the whole world in your love, because Christ, who is in your heart, belongs also to the unsaved. The Spirit is the power of Christ for

redeeming them. Like God and Jesus and the Spirit, live wholly to bless others. Then the blessing will stream forth and become overflowing.



All the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us

LET JESUS CHRIST BE EVERYTHING

You know what the Scripture says: "All the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us" (2 Cor. 1:20). When the Lord spoke of "rivers of living water," He connected the promise with faith in Himself: "He who believes in Me,...out of his heart will flow rivers." If we only understood that word "believes" rightly, we would require no other answer than this to the question as to how the blessing may be increased.

Faith is primarily a seeing by the Spirit that Jesus is nothing but a flowing fountain of divine love. The Spirit Himself always flows from Him as the Bearer of the life that this love brings and that always streams forth in love. Then it is an embracing of the promise, a taking hold of the blessing as it is provided in Christ, a resting in the certainty of it, and a thanking God for what He is yet to do.

Thereafter, faith is keeping the soul open so that Christ can come in with the blessing, take possession, and fill all. Faith becomes the most fervent and unbroken communion between the soul and Christ, who obtains His place and is enthroned in the heart.

Learn the lesson that, if you believe, you will see the glory of God. Let every doubt, every temptation find you trusting, rejoicing, and counting on Jesus always to work all in you.

A believer can encounter and strive against sin in two ways. One is to endeavor to ward it off with all his might, seeking his strength in the Word and in prayer. In this form of conflict, we use the power of the will. The other is to turn at the very moment of the temptation to the Lord Jesus in the silent exercise of faith and say to Him, —Lord, I have no strength. You are my Keeper.

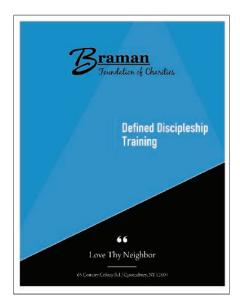
This is the method of faith. "This is the victory that has overcome the world; our faith" (1 John 5:4).

Jesus, who is in Himself the one thing needed, can maintain the work of His Spirit in us. When we exercise faith without ceasing, the blessing will flow in us without ceasing.

Christ must be all to us every moment. It is of no avail to me that I have life on earth unless that life is renewed every moment by my breathing fresh air. Similarly, God must actually renew and strengthen the divine life in me every moment. He does this for me in my union with Christ. Christ is simply the fullness of God, the life of God, and the love of God prepared for us and communicating themselves to us. The Spirit is simply the fullness of Christ, the life of Christ, and the self-communicating love of Christ surrounding us as the air surrounds the body.

Let us believe that we are in Christ, who surrounds us in His heavenly power, longing to make the rivers of His Spirit flow forth through us.

Let us endeavor to obtain hearts filled with the joyful assurance that the almighty Lord will fulfill His word with power. Our only choice is to see Him, to rejoice in Him, to sacrifice all for Him. Then His word will become true: "He who believes in Me,...out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."



What is Defined Discipleship Training

In this body of work, you are learning that scripture is one of the most vital truths of overcoming self. We emphasize recognition as a beginning point as we discuss sanctification. There is a deepening of understanding of abandoning oneself to be replaced by the Holy Spirit. Trust this is not to be a give and take, but rather we are seeking you to go all the way in a permanent presence of God.

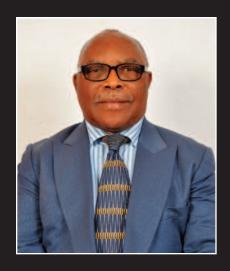


BFC Missions: Africa

South Sudan Conference Results

October 3-5 in Juba on Discipleship





Welcome Jacques Masiko

Jacques joins the Braman Foundation the Bible Conference Leader as well as an instructor. He is an integral part of expanding our efforts in Africa. The first Pastorial Conferences held in Kenya and South Sudan have gone on with great success thanks to Jacques.

BFC Missions: Africa

Light of Christ | South Sudan

Travel to South Sudan

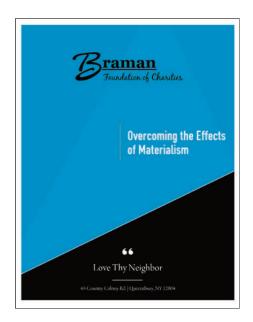
Teaming up with C.E.F. to set up Sunday Schools in Churches of Juba South Sudan.

Please pray for the trip from Nov. 30 - Dec. 7!

Who is C.E.F.? Since 1937 C.E.F. has served throughout the world setting up Sunday School Training & V.B.S.







Overcoming the Effects of Materialism

In this program we look how materialism in America has effected our lives, our finances, and how it has separated us from God. We explore the effects of pride. The idea of Covenanting our Neighbor and several other debilitating consequences of materialism in America. We use the 12 step recovery steps to admit, inventory our weaknesses and implement solutions for overcoming this difficult issue.

BFC Foreign Exchange Mission



In cooperation with SUNY ADK the Braman Foundation has announced the BFC Missions Foreign Exchange Program. This program will allow a student living and associated with one of the represented Missions of BFC to be able to attend College at the ADK SUNY campus in Queensbury, NY.

This process has proven to be difficult. We at the Braman Foundation continued to press on and are working with Congresswoman Elise Stefanik's office.

Charmaine has also connected with SUNY ADK to send Rejoice E. Rymbai, our first student in our Foreign Exchange Program from Asapalli, a new I-20 which will allow him to make an appointment for an interview for his Visa.

We are excited to announce the new BFC Scholarship Program! More details to follow.

BFC Travel Mission Program



The Exclusive BFC Mission Travel Program Bungalow was dedicated at the Asapali School for the volunteers who visit as part of the BFC Mission Programs.

Volunteers who visit the school are invited to stay in the bungalow, which includes a Built-in Kitchen, 2 comfortable bedrooms, private bathroom with running water, common room for relaxing, all centrally located on the exlusive private 11 acre Village of Hope Property.

More will be revealed. Come and join us!



BFC Missions: India

Asapalli | Assam, India

Above is a construction pic of the third school building on the Asapalli property. As you recall, Asapalli, since 1988 has been an Approved Indian School. Children graduate with a Indian High School Diploma. The 55 teachers are Christian, Muslim and Hindi. They come together for the common good of the children. Christian Bible is taught as well. This new building will allow for 1250 students to be taught daily!

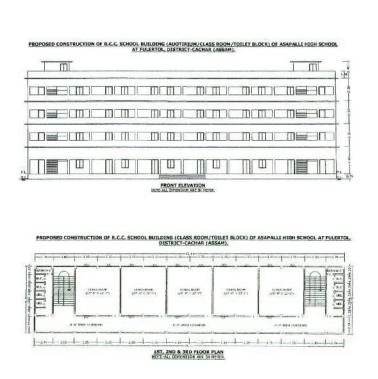
Praise the Lord!



BFC Missions: India

Child Sponsorship Program

Your contribution will allow a student to attend the Asapalli School and Hostel. Prayerfully consider how you can support the Mission of Asapalli.





Teachers Needed

Growing the Love of Christ, educating our children in the Love of Jesus.

Contact the Braman Foundation at info@bramanenterprises.com for more information on how you can help with our efforts in Assam, India.

Finding the Blessing

by: Andrew Murray

Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will...put a new spirit within you....I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

-Ezekiel 36:25-27

The full Pentecostal blessing is for all the children of God. "As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God" (Rom. 8:14). God does not give a half portion to any one of His children. To every one He says, "Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours" (Luke 15:31). Christ is not divided (see 1 Corinthians 1:13); he who receives Him receives Him in all His fullness. Every Christian is destined by God and is actually called to be filled with the Spirit.

In the preceding chapters I have had in view especially those who are to some extent acquainted with these things and have been already in search of the truth. They have already been led, after conversion, to make a more complete renunciation of sin and to yield themselves wholly to the Lord. But it is quite conceivable that among those who read this book, there may be Christians who have heard little of the full Pentecostal blessing and in whose hearts the desire has arisen to obtain a share in it. They do not, however, understand that they are willing to have pointed out to them where they are to begin and what they have to do in order to succeed in their desire. They are prepared to acknowledge that their lives are full of sin and that it seems to them as if they will have to strive long and earnestly before they can become full of the Spirit.

I would like to inspire them with fresh courage and to direct them to the God who has said, "I, the LORD, will hasten it in its time" (Isa. 60:22). I would like to take them and guide them to the place where God will bless them and to point to them out of His Word what the attitude must be in which they can receive this blessing.

PUTTING AWAY SIN

In the message of Ezekiel, God first promised, "I will cleanse you," and then, "I will put My Spirit within you." A vessel into which anything precious is to be poured must always first be cleansed. So, if the Lord is to give you a new and full blessing, a new cleansing must also take

place. Your conversion was a confession and putting away of sin. After conversion you endeavored to overcome sin, but the effort did not succeed because you did not know the purity and holiness the Lord desired.

This new cleansing must come through new confession and discovery of sin. The old leaven cannot be purged unless it is first searched for and found. Do not say that you already know sufficiently well that your Christian life is full of sin. Sit down in silent meditation with the specific purpose of seeing what your life as a Christian has been. How much pride, self-seeking, worldliness, self-will, and impurity has been in it? Can such a heart receive the fullness of the Spirit? It is impossible.

Look into your home life. Do hastiness of temper, anxiety about yourself, bitterness, harsh or unbecoming words testify to how little you have been cleansed?

Look into the current life of the church. How much religion is there that is merely intellectual, formal, and pleasing to men, without real humiliation of spirit? It lacks real desire for the living God, real love for Jesus, and real subjection to the Word—things that constitute worship in spirit and in truth.

Look into your general course of conduct. Consider whether the people around you can testify that they have observed, by your honorable spirit and freedom from worldly-mindedness, that you are one who has been cleansed from sin by God. Contemplate all this in the light of what God expects from you and has offered to work in you, and take your place as a guilty, helpless soul that must be cleansed before God can bestow the full blessing on you.

NOT IN OUR OWN STRENGTH

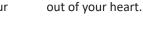
Following this discovery is the actual putting away and casting out of what is impure. This is something that you are simply bound to do. You must come with these sins, especially with those that are most strictly your own troublesome sins. You must acknowledge them before God in confession and make renunciation of them.

You must be brought to the conviction that your life is a guilty and shameful life. You are not at liberty to take comfort in the consideration that you are so weak or that the majority of Christians live no higher life than you. It must become a matter of earnest resolution with you that your life is to undergo a complete transformation. The sins that still cleave to you are to be cast off and done away with.

Perhaps you may say in reply that you find yourself unable to do away with them or cast them off. I tell you that you are quite able to do this. You can give these sins up to God. If there happens to be anything in my house that I wish to have taken away and I am unable to carry, I call for men who will do it for me. I give it over into their hands, saying, —Look here, take that away,|| and they do it. So I am able to say that I have put the thing out of my house.

In like manner, you can give up to God those sins of yours against which you feel yourself utterly powerless. You can give them up to Him to be dealt with as He desires, and He will fulfill His promise: "I will cleanse you from all your filthiness."

There should be a definite understanding between you and the Lord. You on your part must confess your sin and bid it everlasting farewell. Wait on Him until He assures you that He has taken your heart and life into His own hands to give you complete victory.



I will cleanse you. I will put My Spirit within you.

Although the flesh may tempt you, the choice and the joy of your heart must abide in Him and in His obedience to God's will. Yes, you may indeed become more than a conqueror through Him who loves you. (See Romans 8:37.) As the indwelling Christ, He will overcome

sin in you.

EXPERIENCING CHRIST

If the knowledge of sin at conversion is superficial, so also is the faith in Jesus. Our faith, our reception of Jesus, never goes further or deeper than our insight into sin. If since your conversion you have learned to know the inward, invincible power of sin in your life, you are now prepared to receive from God a discovery of the inward, invincible power of the Lord Jesus in your heart as you have never known it before.

If you really long for a complete deliverance from sin, to be able to live in obedience to God, God will reveal the Lord Jesus to you as a complete Savior. He will make you know that although the flesh, with its inclination to evil, always remains in you, the Lord Jesus will so dwell in your heart so that the power of the flesh will be kept in subjection by Him. Then you will no longer do the will of the flesh.

Through Jesus Christ, God will cleanse you from all unrighteousness so that, day by day, you may walk before God with a pure heart. What you really need is the discovery that He is prepared to work this change in you. You may receive it by faith here and now.

This is what Jesus Christ desires to work in you by the Holy Spirit. He came to put away sin—not the guilt and punishment of it only, but sin itself. He has not only mastered the power and dominion of the law and its curse over you, but He has also completely broken and taken away the

What, then, is required on our side? When the soul sees it to be true that Jesus will carry out this work, it will then open the door before Him and receive Him into the heart as Lord and King. Yes, this can be done at once. A house that has remained closely shut for twenty years can be penetrated by the light in a moment if the doors and windows are thrown open. In like manner, a heart that has remained enveloped in darkness and powerlessness for twenty years, because it did not know that Jesus was willing to take the victory over sin into His own hands, can have its whole experience changed in a moment.

power and dominion of sin. He has completely rescued

you as a newborn soul from beneath the power of sin. He

lives in His heavenly authority and all-pervading presence

In this power, He will live in you and carry out His work in you. As the indwelling Christ, He is bent on maintaining and manifesting His redemption in you. The sins that you

have confessed—the pride, the lovelessness, the worldly-

mindedness, and uncleanness—He will by His power take

in order to work out this deliverance in you.

When I acknowledge my sinful condition, yield myself to God, and trust the Lord to do this work, then I may firmly believe that it is done and that Jesus takes all that is in me into His own hands. This is an act of faith that must be held fast. When doors and windows are thrown open and the light streaming in drives out the darkness, we discover at once how much dust and impurity there is in the house. But the light shines in order that we may see how to take it away.

When we receive Christ into the heart, everything is not yet perfected. Light and gladness are not seen and experienced at once, but by faith the soul knows that He who is faithful will keep His Word and will surely do His work. The faith that has, up to this moment, only sought and wrestled, now rests in the Lord and His Word.

It knows that what was begun by faith must be carried

forward only by faith. It says, —I abide in Jesus; I know that He abides in me and that He will manifest Himself to me. As Jesus cleansed the lepers with a word, so He cleanses us by His Word. He who firmly holds to this fact in faith will see the proof of it.

PREPARING YOUR SOUL

The Lord gave the promise, "I will cleanse you." Then He gave the second promise, "I will put My Spirit within you." The Holy Spirit cannot come with power or fill the heart and continue to dwell in it, unless a special and complete cleansing first takes place within it.

The Spirit and sin are engaged in mortal combat. The only reason why the Spirit works so feebly in the church is sin, which is all too little known or dreaded or cast out. Men do not believe in the power of Christ to cleanse; therefore, He cannot do His work of baptizing with the Spirit.

It is from Christ that the Spirit comes and to Christ the Spirit returns again. The heart that gives Christ liberty to exercise dominion in it will inherit the full blessing.

Reader, if you have done what has been suggested, if you have believed in Jesus as the Lord who cleanses you, be assured that God will certainly fulfill His Word: "I will cleanse you...[and] put My Spirit within you." Cling to Jesus, who cleanses you. Let Him be all within you. God will see to it that you are filled with the Spirit.

Do not be surprised if your heart does not at once feel as you would like it to feel immediately after your act of surrender. Rest assured that if you present yourself to God as a pure vessel, cleansed by Christ, to be filled with the Spirit, God will take you at your word and say to you, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:22). He will manifest it to you more gloriously than ever before.

Keep in mind the purpose for which the Spirit is given. God said He would put His Spirit within you and cause you to walk in His statutes and keep His judgments and do them. The fullness of the Spirit must be sought and received with the direct aim that you will now simply and wholly live to do God's will and work on the earth. Yes, you will be able to live like the Lord Jesus and to say with Him, "Behold, I have come...to do Your will, O God" (Heb. 10:7).

If you cherish this disposition, the fullness of the Spirit may be positively expected. Be full of courage and yield yourself to walk in God's statutes and to keep His judgments and do them, and you may trust God to keep His Word that He will cause you to keep and do them. He, the living God, will work in you. Even before you are aware how the Spirit is in you, He will enable you to experience

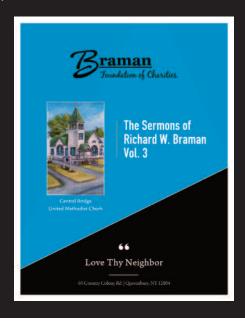
the full blessing.

Have you been seeking for a long while without finding the fullness of the Spirit? Here you have at last the sure method of winning it. Acknowledge the sinfulness of your condition as a Christian, and make renunciation of it once and for all by yielding it up to God. Acknowledge that the Lord Jesus is ready and able to cleanse your heart from its sin, to conquer these sins by His entrance into it, and to set you free.

Take Him now as your Lord, at once and forever. Be assured that He will do it. Permit Him to begin, and let Him do it in you now.

The Sermons of Richard W. Braman Now featuring Vol. 3

As you read these sermons may the Holy Spirit continue to guide your path and may the Grace of our Lord continue to bless your life and your families' lives. If you have never had the experience of realizing Jesus as your personal Savior just ask him to come in your heart and He will.



BFC Missions: Africa

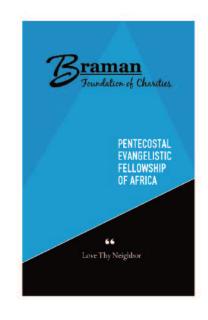
PEFA | Kenya

The Pentecostal Evangelistic Fellowship of Africa (PEFA) is a large Pentecostal Church in Kenya and lead by bishop Peter Midodo.

Here, Peter is in charge of the Lake Region with 184 churches along the Lake Victoria dry land and islands. Under his leadership are 204 pastors and 15 bishops.

Besides starting the Sowers School of Ministry which is where Peter trains his pastors and gospel ministers, they still have a big challenge in building churches.

Some of their congregations still meet under a tree for church service. Most of them have tin metal shade for church building. They are continuing to work towards having better places to worship.



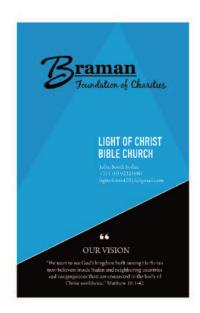




Light of Christ | South Sudan

The Light of Christ is an indigenous church started among the Darfurian people of Sudan. The Light of Christ Church is represented not only in South Sudan, but in Chad, Egypt, Uganda and Kenya.

BFC has been asked to provide and design literature for The Light of Christ Church and to provide Arabic speaking bibles, more teaching conferences in South Juba. Bible samples have been priced out and bibles are getting delivered now. BFC plans on having another conference in South Juba by the end of 2018.





BFC Community Programs

Operation Blessing Bag and COGIC (Church of God in Christ)

Working with Grace & Mercy Schenectady COGIC Church - Blessing Bags are reusable.

BFC has, through the movement of the Holy Spirit, announced in May of 2018 that it will work within the churches of: Church of God in Christ, the N.Y. District, New York City, and Schenectady. BFC will provide Operation Blessing Bag for those churches that wish to utilize the nap sack for Evangelism. In addition, BFC will help financially to begin food pantries.

Recently, we were able to drop off several cases of Blessing Bags at Arbor Hill COGIC in Albany. Praise the Lord!

BFC extends its serving through Operation Blessing Bag to "Love Our Neighbor".

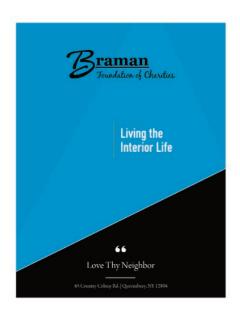


Our Blessing Bags contain:

A Large Print Bible, a brochure from the Church, and 15 various toiletries.



BFC Community Programs

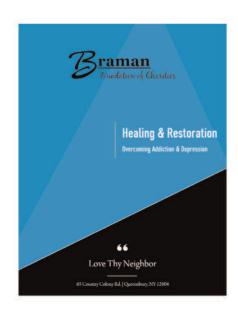


Living the Interior Life

BFC programs will also be utilized to work with women's issues stemming for abortion, depression, substance abuse, and domestic violence. The program, Living the Interior Life will be used. Other programs will be announced as we move forward in serving together.

What is Healing & Restoration

Millions of us suffer needlessly from addiction and depression. The reasons for this are many. In this program we emphasize the 12 Step Method of Recovery, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Meditation techniques to overcome difficulties. We also rely on God's grace to help you be lifted from your dilemma.





Eve Otieno Prayer Department Leader

Eve is originally from Kenya. She is a committed Christian with deep rooted foundation on biblical principles. We believe that she is an intergrral part of BFC and in particular the prayer department.

Prayer Requests

By requesting prayer, others have committed to pray with you, and God has already heard your prayer. When submitting a prayer please only use first names, DO NOT give last names or other identifying information.

Submitting your request is easy!

- 1. You may call our **Prayer Line at 518-636-5930**
- 2. Email your prayer request to pray@bramanenterprises.com
- 3. Submit your prayer request online at bramanenterprises.com/prayer-line

Prayer Points

Pray for BFC programs being used in Pointe Church in Kingston (a COGIC church).

Pray for the operation blessings bags in Schenectady and in Albany at Arbor Hill (both COGIC churches).

Pray for children at Asapalli in India. We need more friends to sponsor more children and for funding for new school building.

Pray for the upcoming Uganda conference in January.

Pray for Auburn Churches to work for God through behind the Walls in Auburn Correctional facility.

Pray for upcoming Behind the walls program in Hudson and Hale Creek Correctional facility. The program directors have submitted our program for approval. We hope to kick off in 90 days, in both facilities.



Jan. 25, 2019 10-1

2019 Annual Board Meeting

Will be taking place at the Queensbury Hotel in late January.

Here is our 2019 Mission Travel Schedule thus far:

1 Uganda, Homeland: Jan 18 - Jan 25

2 Kenya, Discipleship Conference: Feb 23 - Feb 27

3 (New) Khartoum, Sudan: Mar 22 - Mar 28

4 Annual BFC Retreat at Holy Cross: May 28 - June 1

5 Assam, India: CEF VBS Asapalli July 2- July 5

6 South Sudan CEF VBS: August 30 - Sept 5

7 Kenya CEF Sunday School Training: Oct 28 - Nov 1

8 Asapalli Golden Jubilee: Nov TBA

9 Uganda, Homeland Bible Conference: Dec 6 - Dec 13

2019 Bible Verse

Commit your plan/works to the Lord and your plan will be established

-Proverbs 16:3

