**MAY 2016**

**DIE DAILY PART II**

We greet you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior and rejoice in the springtime of the year.

This month, we will continue with Part II of the teaching we started last month entitled **“Die Daily”**. The first scripture we will turn our attention to is **John 12:24-25** from the Message Bible: ***24-25****“Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you’ll have it forever, real and eternal.* Here we see an illustration/parable of a natural seed needing to go through the dying process so that it can live and produce fruit.

Last month, we talked about the importance of why it’s necessary to **die daily**; this month our focus will be on the results of our dying to our carnal, fleshy nature. When we **die daily** to our carnal, fleshly nature, we will produce life through the fruit of the spirit. Let me refer you to look at **Galatians 5:16-26**. Verses **19-21** gives us characteristics of what is produced when we don’t die daily and allow our carnal nature to control our lives. However, when we purpose to **die daily** with the help of the Holy Spirit we will produce these amazing fruit found in verses **22-23**. When we make a decision with the help of the Holy Spirit to **die daily**, we can do what Paul admonishes us to do in **Romans 12:1-2**.

One of the greatest fruit or characteristics of a believer is **LOVE**. So when we **die daily** this amazing fruit will begin to be manifested more and more from our lives and we will and can make a tremendous difference in the lives of many. Let’s look at the Word in regards to this amazing fruit. First I will reference one of the most familiar scriptures in the Bible often referred to as the **Love Chapter** and that is **I Corinthians 13:1-13** and we will specially look at **verses 4-8;** ***4****Love endures with patience and serenity, love is kind and thoughtful, and is not jealous or envious; love does not brag and is not proud or arrogant.****5****It is not rude; it is not self-seeking, it is not provoked [nor overly sensitive and easily angered]; it does not take into account a wrong endured.****6****It does not rejoice at injustice, but rejoices with the truth [when right and truth prevail].****7****Love bears all things [regardless of what comes], believes all things [looking for the best in each one], hopes all things [remaining steadfast during difficult times], endures all things [without weakening].* ***8****Love never fails [it never fades nor ends]. But as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for the gift of special knowledge, it will pass away.* When we **die daily** we will be able to live like these scriptures declare. Let me reference one more scripture as it relates to walking in the **Love** of God as we **die daily**, **I John 4:7**. When we **die daily** and walk in the **Love** of God and the fruit of the Spirit, we will unselfishly **love** others and see the best of them. How we need this kind of **Love** to operate in and through us.

Let’s look at another fruit that will manifest in our lives we **die daily** and that is **JOY**. Oh, how we need the Joy of the Lord in our lives. Let’s look at the later part of **Nehemiah 8:10 (AMP)** *And do not be worried, for the joy of the Lord is your strength and your stronghold.”.* I love **Proverbs 17:22** from the KJV, it declares: ***22****A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.* When we allow the fruit of **Joy** to manifest from our lives by **dying** this scripture says it will be like a medicine bringing healing to every area of our lives. Notice also that this version uses the word Merry; one of the definitions for Merry is: (1) full of cheerfulness or gaiety, joyous in disposition or spirit. (2) Festively, joyous, hilarious. **Joy** is one of our God given rights as being a Kingdom Citizen and will produce when we **die daily**.

**Romans 14:17** **(Message)** says: *God’s kingdom isn’t a matter of what you put in your stomach, for goodness’ sake. It’s what God does with your life as he sets it right, puts it together, and completes it with* ***joy***. God completes our lives with **Joy** and that **joy** can only come forth when we purpose to **die daily**. So many believers don’t walk in the **Joy** of the Lord and I believe that may be because we are not **dying daily** but living in our fleshly carnal nature and not living in the Spirit which produces **Joy**. Before we move on to the next fruit called **Peace** that should also be evident in our lives as we **die daily**, we will reference two more on **Joy** found in the book of Psalm; **Psalm 16:11(Amp) and 89:15(AMP).**

Now to close we will look at the fruit of **PEACE** which will and should be manifested as we **die daily**. In a chaotic world, how we need the **peace** of God to rule in our hearts and minds. **Psalms 4:8 (AMP)** reads like this: *In peace [and with a tranquil heart] I will both lie down and sleep, For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety and confident trust*. When we **die daily**, we will be aware of God’s **peace** and we can rest in sleep and safety. Here is another scripture that I love in **Psalm 29:11(AMP)** *The Lord will give [unyielding and impenetrable] strength to His people; The Lord will bless His people with peace.* This is letting us know that not only will we have God’s **peace** manifested in our lives, but we will have His strength.

When we **die daily**, we can do what **Psalm 34:14** declares: *Turn away from evil and do good;
Seek peace and pursue it.* **Psalm 37:37** is powerful as well, here is what it says: *Mark the blameless man [who is spiritually complete], and behold the upright [who walks in moral integrity]; There is a [good] future for the man of peace [because a life of honor blesses one’s descendants].*

I will close with these two scriptures: **I Peter 2:24(a) 24***He personally carried our sins in His body on the [*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=I+peter+2%3A24&version=AMP#fen-AMP-30424a)*]cross [willingly offering Himself on it, as on an altar of sacrifice],* ***so that we might die to sin*** *[becoming immune from the penalty and power of sin] and live for righteousness;* When we **die daily**, we are continually dying to our sinful, carnal nature. My closing scripture is **Romans 15:13** ***13****May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing [through the experience of your faith] that by the power of the Holy Spirit you will abound in hope and overflow with confidence in His promises.* My sister and brother, when we make a choice to **die daily**, we will be filled with **Joy and Peace** and we will abound in Hope and have confidence in His precious promises. Please visit our site next month for Part III, yes, part III, God is not done speaking to me about this most vital area that we as His people need to hear. May you be encouraged with the help of the Holy Spirit to **Die Daily!!!!!**