

Increasing Your Anointing: How to Grow in the Power and Presence of God

(STUDY GUIDE)

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"It shall come to pass in that day that his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, and his yoke from your neck, and the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil." (Isaiah 10:27, NKJV)

I. What Is the Anointing?

A. Key Statements for a Clear Definition

1. Definitions by James W. Goll:

- a. The anointing is the presence and the power of God made manifest. It comes upon the consecrated ones of the Lord.
- b. Consecration means that something or someone is set apart to God. Man sets himself apart to be available to the Lord and to the Lord's supernatural enablement. Consecration may also originate with the Lord as He sets someone or something apart by God for His distinct purposes.
- c. It is the power and presence of the Holy Spirit attesting to the work of consecration.

2. A clear word from Rodney Howard-Browne:

"The great men and women of God that I am using in the earth today are not being used because they are something special. I am using them for one reason and one reason alone. It's because they've touched Me and I have touched them."

B. From Word Studies:

1. In the Hebrew—the “anointing” and “Messiah” come from the same root word.
2. In the Greek—the word for Christ, *crustos*, means “the anointed one.”

C. Additional Key Scriptures:

1. From Luke 4:14–19:

“And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit; and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district. And He began teaching in their synagogues and was praised by all. And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are downtrodden, to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.’”

2. From Luke 5:15–17:

“Yet the news about Him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. One day as He was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for Him to heal the sick.” (NIV)

3. From 1 John 2:20:

“But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.”

4. From 1 John 2:27:

“And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you, but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.”

II. The Anointing and Christ Jesus

A. From Matthew 3:17:

“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

Jesus performed His first miracle at the wedding of Cana of Galilee (see John 2:11). This was followed by His water baptism and anointing of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove coming upon Him. Note that God the Father was pleased with Jesus as His Son at age 12, 16, 21, 28, and 30. It is relationship, not performance, that so pleases our Father God.

B. From Philippians 2:5–11:

“Have this attitude in yourselves, which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Here we find the seven steps of humiliation followed by the seven steps of exaltation. The way up is the way down.

C. From 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.”

As it was with Jesus, the anointing is God being with and upon us.

D. From John 3:27–36:

“John answered and said, ‘A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but ‘I have been sent before Him.’ He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him,

rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. And so this joy of mine has been made full. He must increase, but I must decrease.

“ He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is from the earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. What He has seen and heard, of that He bears witness; and no man receives His witness. He who has received His witness has set his seal to this, that God is true. For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

Note especially verse 34, *“For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for He gives the Spirit without measure.”*

This is a word to the Body, not just to one individual and not just to one stream.

E. From Ephesians 4:11–12:

Jesus and the Five-Fold ministry gifts:

1. Apostle

“Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus.”
(Hebrews 3:1, KJV)

2. Prophet

(Spoken by the woman at the well) *“Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet.”*
(John 4:19, KJV)

3. Evangelist

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor.” (Luke 4:18a, KJV)

4. Pastor

a. *“And when the chief Shepherd shall appear ...”* (1 Peter 5:4a, KJV)

b. *"I am the Good Shepherd ..."* (John 10:14a, KJV)

5. Teacher

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues." (Matthew 9:35a, KJV)

Jesus, obviously, functioned in all five of these anointed ministries as the Chief Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, and Teacher. Virtue and power came forth from Jesus to the people. Jesus flowed in the fulness of the anointing.

III. What Is the Anointing of Christ?

A. It Is the Measure of the Gift of Christ

"But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift ... And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers ..." (Ephesians 4:7,11)

B. It is God's Supernatural Ability Upon Man

It can be both a residential grace gift of the Holy Spirit given from God now within the person or it can be a circumstantial gifting occasionally coming upon a person.

C. It Is Like the Wind

John 3:8 states, *"The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it is coming from and where it is going; so is everyone who has been born of the Spirit."*

You cannot see the anointing, or the manifested presence of Christ, but you can see its results. In that manner, it is like a wind. You don't know where it comes from or, in some dimensions, where it is going, but you can watch its effects as it passes by.

D. It Is God's Electricity

Thomas Edison experimented on how to tap into a natural power source. We likewise, through trial and error, come to learn how to tap into that which is freely available, and how to channel it into a useful purpose.

E. It Is a Person—It is Christ Himself!

It is not as much “what” is the anointing, as it is “Who” is the anointing! The anointing is the person of Jesus Christ manifesting Himself by grace. (See my book, **Living the Supernatural Life**, for more on this subject.)

IV. Moving in the Anointing

A. Three Divergent Ways of Ministering

1. Ministering by faith

You pray for people because the Bible tells us/you to do it! Though you may not feel or sense anything special, you act in raw obedience to the Scriptures. Here you have to risk and step out.

2. Ministering by the gifts of the Spirit

In this level, we operate in the various supernatural gifts of the Spirit by the grace of God. See my book and class on *Releasing Spiritual Gifts Today* for a detailed study on this subject.

3. Ministering in the Glory Realm

In this realm, the tangible manifested Presence is poured out and we are operating under an actual “Open Heaven” where all things are possible. (See my resources on *The Feeler* for teaching in this arena.)

B. Options to Moving in the Anointing

At times there appear to be options we choose from to move in the anointing: Knowing where to jump in and flow and at other times pull back and wait on Him. In this we must learn dependency and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit.

You may minister in the following ways:

1. Out of a word you have heard without any feelings or special emotions.
2. Out of a special anointing such as for healing.
3. Out of reading the Scriptures and then simply doing it.
4. Out of dimension of compassion—where we are flowing in the mercy of God.
5. Out of worship and creating a special realm of the Presence or glory.

All are effective and all have their place. The Lord may use any or all of these ways. The key to understand is this: There is no one way that is correct. You have to remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit.

C. **Trying on Many Shoes or Hats**

Try on many different shoes or hats in the anointing as you learn to flow with Him. Eventually you will discover your best fit in the anointing to employ and “serve up” to the Body of Christ.

According to 1 Peter 4:11–12, “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.”

You will learn which hat (special gifting) best fits you. This will be the place where the grace or anointing of the Holy Spirit will flow in the deepest manner in and through your life.

D. **Wisdom Ways to Moving in the Anointing**

1. The main thing to learn is that the anointing isn’t you. Healing evangelist Mahesh Chavda likens the anointing to getting a scuba diving suit, a second skin, and put it on you. You realize it is not about you, but about Jesus Christ. We are to step into Him and Him into us (see John 15).
2. The anointing is simple. It is a relationship. It’s asking the Holy Spirit questions: What is this? Do I say it? What now? Where from here? Ask questions, et cetera.

3. When the anointing seems to be lifting, humility is a key to receiving back His Presence and His anointing. Humble yourself before God and receive fresh grace.
4. Faithfulness is a major key to walking out the desire to see healing, deliverance, and salvation take place. Be faithful in the little, and more will come.

E. How Does the Anointing Increase?

1. By hanging out with those who love the anointing. Watch, observe, and learn from those who know these ways of the Lord.
2. By being in the right environment—in atmospheres of faith.
3. By your hunger and thirst after His Presence. Hunger is a magnet that draws the Lord's Presence.
4. By studying the Word and then praying the promises back to the Father.
5. By persistence. The more you practice, the more successful you will be.
6. By faithfulness. Faithfulness brings increase.
7. By worship. God searches for those who will worship Him with a whole heart!

V. A Summary Concerning the Anointing

I was given a short testimony of a vision of a crystal pitcher with 9 to the second power etched on it. The words came, "*We are going for the double.*" What does it mean to go for the double?

A. The Fullness of Power

The nine gifts of the Holy Spirit represent the fullness of the power of God. Ask and keep on asking. Seek and keep on seeking. Knock and keep on knocking for "More, Lord!" (See the book **Releasing Spiritual Gifts Today** for more on this subject.)

B. The Fullness of Character

The nine fruits of the Holy Spirit represent the character of Christ we desire to bear. Let us be a people of the cross of Christ and bear His character.

C. **Our Goal—Gifts that Bear Fruit**

Our goal is to let love be our aim (character) and yet earnestly desire the spiritual gifts (power—1 Corinthians 14:1)—going for the double. We want character that can carry the gift and the gifts that bear fruit.

D. **Prophecy Given to Kenneth Hagin**

This prophetic word was taken from the book, **Understanding the Anointing**, by Kenneth E. Hagin:

“We’re moving up now into the things of God. And I heard the Spirit say, ‘There will come further revelation along these lines, but it has to come line upon line, precept upon precept. And as it comes, men and women will flow with the Spirit, and there will be such a manifestation of My power and My glory and My Spirit and My anointing in these days—in this decade in which you live—that it will startle men.

“Now, many who are on the fringes of the move of God will draw back and say, ‘Ahhh, that’s fanaticism. No, we can’t go with that. We believe in doing things in a nice, sedate manner.’

“Never, never, never feel resentment toward others who may criticize you, or who may speak against you. Never allow the least bit of resentment or ill will, or bad feelings, but walk on. Walk on in love. Walk on in power. Walk on in the Spirit. Walk on with the Lord, and He’ll come unto thee and manifest Himself unto thee.

“And it is even written in the Holy Scriptures that His coming unto us shall be as the rain. And so the Holy Ghost will fall, and the power of God will be in manifestation, and great shall be the reward thereof. And many shall be blessed, and great and good days stand just ahead. Walk on. Yea, ye shall see, for the glory of the Lord shall appear unto thee. But most will move with the Spirit, and all will acknowledge, ‘There are miracles happening over there. Guess God just saw fit to have mercy on them.’ But no, they saw fit to flow with God. And they saw fit to go with God, for He is at work in the earth tonight and He indwells His Body, which is the Church, which is the house of God. And His glory will fill that temple.

“Many will say, ‘I just don’t go along with those things. We have a pretty good

church here. God has put His approval upon us.'

“‘But yea,’ saith the Lord of Hosts, ‘I only put my approval upon that which lines up with My Word. Get into the Word and let the Spirit open the Word to you. Not only unto your mind, but get the revelation of it in your spirit. And your spirit will be more alive unto the things of God. And He—through your spirit—will be able to teach you, and admonish you, and direct you.’”

VI. Prayer for the Increase of the Anointing

Heavenly Father, we admit that we cannot do anything without You. But we also declare that in Christ Jesus, we can do all things through Him who strengthens us. We welcome the anointing of the Holy Spirit's Presence, gifts, and power. Move in, upon, and through us with greater effectiveness and impact. We hunger to do the greater works so that Jesus Christ could receive the rewards of His suffering. We hunger for more of Your touch upon our lives. Send more, Lord! Amen and amen!