



**“ALIGNING WITH THE NINE”**  
***CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL GROWTH AND  
DEVELOPMENT ON THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE HOLY GHOST***  
***CORPORATE FOCUS ON TEMPERANCE***  
***Session Four***

Vessels of Honour Church, Inc.

2020 – 2021

# THE NECESSITY FOR LEADERSHIP ON TEMPERANCE

- **Necessary for Leadership**
- Titus 1:8 “But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;”
- A Christian leader must be temperate. You must lead yourself before you can lead others. If you don’t have victory in your own life, how can you lead others to it?
- **Necessary for Christian Growth**
- 2 Peter 1:6 “And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;”
- To grow a healthy garden, you must pull the weeds! Sin will hinder your spiritual walk. Temperance gives you the power to say “no” to sin so you can say “yes” to God.
- **Necessary for Following Jesus**
- Matthew 16:24 “Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”
- Your flesh will lead you far away from the Saviour’s teaching and example. You must deny your sinful appetites to follow Christ.
- **Temperance is a MUST as a priority in the Believer’s life!**

# PEOPLE OF TEMPERANCE

- The word temperance only occurs in the New Testament, but the concept is consistent throughout the Bible. Great people of the Bible exercised control of their appetites, emotions, and attitudes:
- Job would not let his eyes wander in lust.
- Job 31:1  
I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?
- **Sexual sin is rampant. Lust begins with the eyes. Achan saw then coveted then took. Sin will follow the same pattern in your life. Control your eyes and save yourself a world of hurt.**
- Esther controlled her desire for self-preservation and risked her life to save others.
- Esther 4:16  
Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.
- **Self-preservation is a God-given protection, but selfishness is sinful. Don't get them confused. Our Saviour sacrificed Himself for others. God expects you to sacrifice for Him. It may not cost your life to follow Christ today, but it will cost you.**
- Saul did not punish those who opposed his coronation.
- 1 Samuel 10:27  
But the children of Belial said, How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.
- **It is human nature to fight against our enemies and to punish those who oppose us. Temperance will help you control the sinful tendencies of anger, jealousy, covetousness, greed, and revenge.**
- David did not kill King Saul when the opportunity arose.
- 1 Samuel 24:6  
And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD.
- **It's not a good idea to kill people. You will want to sometimes, but it's usually not worth it. Temperance might keep you off Death Row.**

# PEOPLE OF INTEMPERANCE

- **Examples of Intemperance Abound in Scripture Also.**
- **The memorable sins of the great men of the Bible, like Moses striking the rock or David's sin with Bathsheba, were because of moments of intemperance.**
- **The worst days of your life will be days of incontinence. Stay on the path of righteousness through temperance!**
- **What other examples can you reference in the Word of God that demonstrate persons of intemperance? List some in your grid for this week.**

# TEMPERANCE IS A MATTER OF DECISION

- WE MUST **DECIDE** TO BE **TEMPERATE** AND DEVELOP THIS ATTRIBUTE OF THE HOLY GHOST
- I BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO US AND TELLING US THIS IS AN UNDERDEVELOPED VIRTUE OF THE NINE – THUS CORPORATELY, **WE ALL** NEED TO FOCUS ON TEMPERANCE!
- Daniel 1:8 “But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.”
- You must decide to live a holy life. Choose to be like Jesus in your appetites, emotions, and attitudes. Decide now what is acceptable and unacceptable. You are in control of your mind and body. Think through temptations that will come and decide ahead of time how you will overcome.
- The decision to live according to God’s Word is vital. The Bible is your manual for life. It contains everything that you need to know pertaining to life and godliness.
- 2 Peter 1:2–4 “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

## **AFTER DECIDING – LET GOD DEVELOP TEMPERANCE IN YOU**

- **God's Word is our guide to godliness. Decide today that you will obey the Bible in every area of your life. If God says it, do it.**
- **That means that you will have to stop some things that you have been doing and start some things that you haven't been doing. That's Christian growth. Don't fear positive change. Yield to God as He moves you out of your comfort zone into greater victory.**
- **Where do **WE** start? Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you as you read the Bible daily and listen to strong preaching. He knows what **WE** need.**

# REMEMBER – WE ARE ALIGNING WITH THE **NINE!**

- Galatians 5:22–23  
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, **temperance**: against such there is no law.
- This is great news! Number 9 of the 9 can and WILL get in LINE!!!
- We know that our best intentions and greatest spiritual efforts often fail in the face of adversity and temptation.
- Our ability to control our appetites, emotions, and attitudes is not based on our strength or will. It is rooted in God's power!
- Ephesians 5:18 “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;”
- When we surrender to the Holy Ghost, He fills us the power and character of Christ.
- The power of the Holy Spirit increases our capacity to resist sin and strengthens our resolve.
- Holy living is not about “trying harder.”
- We can't live like Jesus in our own power.
- We will crash and burn in failure if we try to fight sin in our own strength.
- The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.
- Don't live in the power of the flesh when God's power is available and abundant!
- Temperance **is not a skill we learn**. It is a by-product of the Spirit-filled life.

# ASSESSING YOUR BAROMETER ON TEMERANCE

<b>TEMPERANCE</b>	<b>I WILL STOP DOING</b>	<b>I WILL KEEP DOING</b>	<b>I WILL START DOING</b>
<b>FOR MYSELF</b>			
<b>FOR VOH</b>			
<b>BROAD BODY OF CHRIST</b>			
<b>AS BEING "IN" THIS WORLD BUT NOT "OF" THIS WORLD</b>			