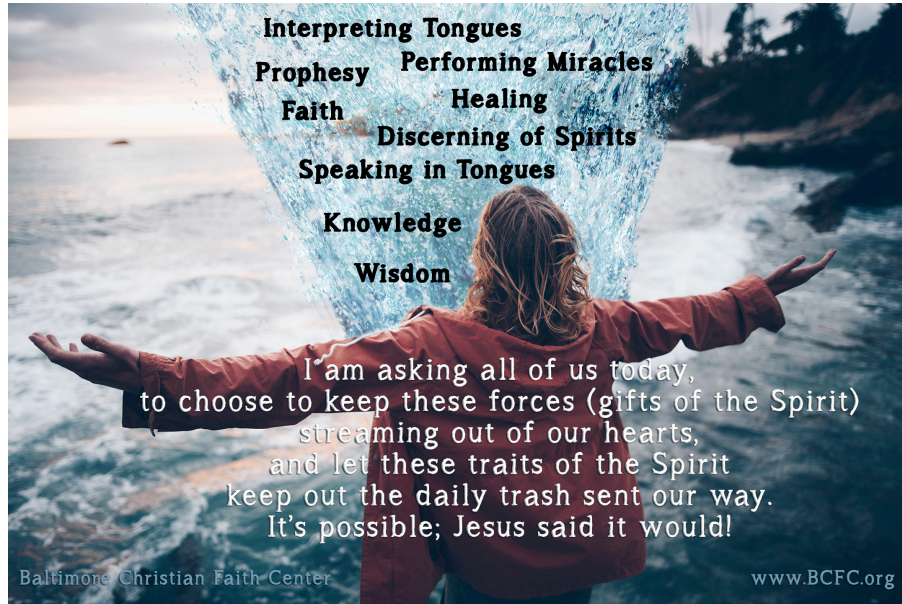


Flowing from Within!

Pastor's Desk – March 25, 2018



A couple of years ago I was on a trip to another country and on a rainy day we decided we wanted to ride local transportation. Right in front of our eyes a main water pipe busted at the bus stop and there was water all over the place. The water was bursting up with intensity, and the remarkable thing to behold was, while the water was flowing from within the ground, the street trash could not get in the hole, due to the strength of the flowing water! While it was shooting the water up and out, the power of it's own outflow protected it and kept it clear of any impurity from the outside.

My mind was taken to the Words of our Lord Jesus Christ when he said in John 4:14, "Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst - not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life" (MSG). When I think about this verse, my mind took me back to Galatians 5:22-23: "But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard - things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing

to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely. Legalism is helpless in bringing this about; it only gets in the way.” (MSG)

I believe that the water Jesus was talking about are the character traits of the Holy Spirit that dwell in us. These fruits of the Spirit are designed to bubble inside of us, to gush forth like a powerful stream, constantly clearing and protecting us from the daily trash in our lives! How do we do that one may ask? Pumping our hearts full with the “Word” of God, that will force eternal life to start bubbling out as Jesus said!

I am asking all of us today, to choose to keep these forces (gifts of the Spirit) streaming out of our hearts, and let these traits of the Spirit keep out the daily trash sent our way. It’s possible; Jesus said it would! Let it flow from within our hearts, shall we?

In His Service,
Pr. Paul Santos