

The 4 Pillars of the Christian Life

▶ The Word • Faith • The Holy Spirit • Prayer

▶ Acts 2:42

▶ Presented by *Henry Hillary Hove*

Introduction

- ▶ The Christian life is built on spiritual pillars that sustain growth, power, and maturity.
- ▶ Without these pillars, there is no christianity, there is ***mahumbwe*** & ***pada*** in church.
- ▶ These pillars are not for leaders only but every child of God

Pillar 1: The Word of God

- ▶ What is the word God?
- ▶ BIBLE – Basic Instructions before leaving earth
- ▶ 2 Timothy 3:16–17 – Inspired word by God, profiting for doctrine, reproof, instruction...
- ▶ God's revealed truth and foundation.
- ▶ Joshua 1:8 – this book of the law.
- ▶ 1 Peter 2:2 – Desire the word that you may grow.
- ▶ John 1:1 – in the beginning there was the word.

Pillar 1: The Word of God

- ▶ Hebrews 4:12 – The Word is living and powerful.
- ▶ Isaiah 55:11 – God's Word accomplishes its purpose.
- ▶ Psalm 119:89 – Forever settled in heaven.

- ▶ Biblical Examples:
- ▶ Jesus defeated Satan using Scripture (Matthew 4:1–11).
- ▶ Bereans searched Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11).
- ▶ King Josiah restored Israel through the Book of the Law (2 Kings 22–23).

Importance of the Word

- ▶ Growth
- ▶ Guidance
- ▶ Victory
- ▶ Psalm 119:105
- ▶ Matthew 4:4

Our Response to the Word

- ▶ Read • Meditate • Speak • Obey
- ▶ Joshua 1:8
- ▶ James 1:22

Pillar 2: Faith

- ▶ Believing and acting on God's Word.
- ▶ Hebrews 11:1
- ▶ Hebrews 11:3
- ▶ Habakkuk 2:4 ; Romans 1:17 ; Galatians 3:11 ;
Hebrews 10:38
- ▶ Daniel 3:16-18

Pillar 2: Faith

- ▶ Romans 10:17 – Faith comes by hearing the Word.
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 5:7 – Walk by faith, not by sight.
- ▶ Mark 11:22–24 – Have faith in God.

- ▶ Biblical Examples:
 - ▶ • Woman with the issue of blood (Mark 5:25–34).
 - ▶ • David defeated Goliath (1 Samuel 17).
 - ▶ • Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego trusted God in fire (Daniel 3).

Why Faith Matters

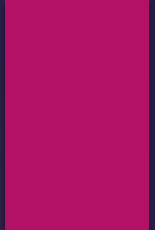
- ▶ Pleases God
- ▶ Releases power
- ▶ Overcomes
- ▶ Hebrews 11:6
- ▶ 1 John 5:4

Pillar 3: The Holy Spirit

- ▶ God's presence and power in the believer.
- ▶ Joel 2: 28 – the promise. All flesh means every human being, not leaders only, but every believer.
- ▶ Acts 1:8
- ▶ Acts 2:1-4
- ▶ John 14:16–17

Pillar 3: The Holy Spirit

- ▶ Romans 8:14 – Led by the Spirit of God.
 - ▶ 1 Corinthians 3:16 – Temple of the Holy Spirit.
 - ▶ Acts 4:31 – Filled with boldness.
 - ▶ Acts 10:38 – How God anointed Jesus Christ
-
- ▶ Biblical Examples:
 - ▶ Peter transformed at Pentecost (Acts 2).
 - ▶ Philip led to Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:29).
 - ▶ Early church operated in spiritual gifts (Acts 5:12–16).



The Works of the Holy Spirit

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Empowering Leaders & Deliverers

- ▶ Judges 6:34 – Gideon empowered
- ▶ 1 Samuel 16:13 – David anointed
- ▶ Judges 14:6 – Samson strengthened
- ▶ Impact: Courage, victory, deliverance

Old Testament: Creation & Life

- ▶ Genesis 1:2 – Spirit hovering over the waters
- ▶ Job 33:4 – Spirit gives life

Old Testament: Empowering Leaders

- ▶ Judges 6:34 – Spirit upon Gideon
 - ▶ 1 Samuel 16:13 – Spirit upon David
 - ▶ Judges 14:6 – Samson Strengthened
 - ▶ Exodus 31:3 – Bezalel filled with skill
-
- ▶ Work: Strength, wisdom, governance, craftsmanship
 - ▶ Nature: Selective & assignment-based

Old Testament: Prophecy & Promise

- ▶ 2 Samuel 23:2 – Spirit spoke through David
- ▶ Ezekiel 36:26–27 – Promise of new heart & Spirit
- ▶ Joel 2:28 – Future outpouring on all flesh

- ▶ Work: Revelation, conviction, future covenant promise

Transition: Promise to Fulfillment

- ▶ Old Covenant: External empowerment
- ▶ New Covenant: Internal transformation
- ▶ Prophetic Promise → Pentecost Fulfillment

New Testament: In the Life of Christ

- ▶ Luke 1:35 – Conceived by the Spirit
- ▶ Matthew 3:16 – Spirit descended at baptism
- ▶ Acts 10:38 – Anointed with power
- ▶ Work: Anointing, empowerment, divine authentication

New Testament: Salvation & Indwelling

- ▶ John 3:5–6 – Born of the Spirit
- ▶ John 16:8 – Convicts of sin
- ▶ Romans 8:9 – Spirit dwells in believers
- ▶ Ephesians 1:13 – Sealed by the Spirit

- ▶ Work: Regeneration, indwelling, assurance

New Testament: Power & Spiritual Gifts

- ▶ Acts 1:8 – Power for witness
- ▶ Acts 2:4 – Filled at Pentecost
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 12:4–11 – Gifts of the Spirit
- ▶ Galatians 5:22–23 – Fruit of the Spirit

- ▶ Work: Church formation, unity, transformation

Executive Comparison Summary

- ▶ OLD TESTAMENT:
 - ▶ Selective empowerment
 - ▶ External & temporary
 - ▶ •Leadership & national focus
- ▶ NEW TESTAMENT:
 - ▶ Universal for believers
 - ▶ Permanent indwelling
 - ▶ Global Church empowerment
- ▶ Creation → Promise → Fulfillment → Indwelling

Gifting Skill & Wisdom

- ▶ Exodus 31:2–5 – Bezalel filled with skill
- ▶ Exodus 35:31 – Wisdom & craftsmanship
- ▶ Impact: Excellence in building God's work

Role of the Holy Spirit

- ▶ Teacher • Helper • Empowerer
- ▶ John 16:13
- ▶ Galatians 5:22–23

Pillar 4: Prayer

- ▶ Communion and communication with God.
- ▶ Jeremiah 33:3
- ▶ Matthew 6:6

Pillar 4: Prayer

- ▶ 1 Thessalonians 5:17 – Pray without ceasing.
- ▶ Philippians 4:6–7 – Prayer brings peace.
- ▶ James 5:16 – Effective fervent prayer avails much.
- ▶ Biblical Examples:
 - ▶ Elijah prayed and rain stopped/returned (James 5:17–18).
 - ▶ Peter released from prison (Acts 12:5–11).
 - ▶ Jesus prayed in Gethsemane (Luke 22:41–44).

Importance of Prayer

- ▶ Builds relationship
- ▶ Releases God's will
- ▶ Brings peace and strength
- ▶ James 5:16

Types of Prayer

- ▶ Worship
- ▶ Supplication
- ▶ Petitions
- ▶ Requests
- ▶ Intercession
- ▶ Prayer in the Spirit
- ▶ Fasting & Prayer
- ▶ Some of these names can be used interchangeably.

Power of Prayer

- ▶ Opens doors
- ▶ Breaks strongholds
- ▶ Produces miracles
- ▶ Activates the supernatural [ground rules forgone]
- ▶ Acts 12:5–11

The Four Pillars Together

- ▶ Word directs • Faith believes • Spirit empowers •
Prayer activates

Conclusion & Challenge

- ▶ Be Word-rooted, Faith-filled, Spirit-empowered, and Prayer-driven
- ▶ Zechariah 4:6