Walking in our Inheritance as Sons of God School of the Supernatural MICHAEL VAN VLYMEN

## School of the SUPERNATURAL

#### WALKING IN OUR INHERITANCE AS SONS OF GOD

# MICHAEL VAN VLYMEN Copyright © 2017 Michael Van Vlymen MINISTRY RESOURCES

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods, without the prior written permission of the publisher, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other noncommercial uses permitted by copyright law.

#### **DEDICATION**

I would like to dedicate this book to all those who love the Lord and have a passion for Him, and the things of the Kingdom. You are a chosen generation and a royal priesthood, and God will use you mightily. Thank you all for allowing me the honor of being a part of your journey. I pray that the Lord gives you the desires of your heart and draws you ever closer to Him . I also dedicate this book to the Lord as this is His work and He will complete it. Thank you Lord for your love and faithfulness to us and your Spirit in us

### Table of Contents INTRODUCTION

- **1 CHOOSING THE SUPERNATURAL**
- 2 WE ARE A PECULIAR PEOPLE
- 3 THE OFFENSE OF THE SUPERNATURAL
- 4 PASSION FOR GOD THE LEVEL OF DESIRE
- **5 KEYS TO THE KINGDOM**
- **6 BECOMING NORMAL**
- 7 SUPERNATURAL BREAKTHROUGH
- **8 SIMPLE SUPERNATURAL**
- 9 LIVING IN BOTH REALMS
- **10 ENGAGING HEAVEN**
- Other Books by This Author
- One More Thing....

#### INTRODUCTION

This book was born out of and named for the School of the Supernatural recently held in Germany. The school was a 4 day intensive school with lots of prayer and worship, teaching and questions, activations, impartations and fellowship. One of the truly great things about doing something like this was the corporate times of engagement, or steps of faith, that we did together. I encourage you that if you have the opportunity to go through this book as a group, even a small one, it will give you someone to share the testimonies with as they happen, of your times of engaging Heaven. Judging from all the schools I have seen so far, its going to happen.

During the school, the progression looked like this; there was a time of worship, a time of teaching and a time of the steps of faith. In this book, all the teaching is up front and the steps of faith, or engagements are in the back. My suggestion is to do the same thing we did during the school. Spend some time in worship, read a chapter in the book, and then skip to the back and do one of the exercises. It is wonderful to have the knowledge and encouragement, but where breakthrough is really found is in the "doing."

I pray that there is something in this book that will inspire you, increase you and launch you deeper into the things of the Kingdom! God bless you!

#### 1 CHOOSING THE SUPERNATURAL

What a great time to be alive! God is doing some amazing things! Hasn't God always done amazing things? Yes, but now in this time we get to be a part of it. We hear it over and over that "we are here for such a time as this." Well... It's true. Everyone has a divine purpose and we can choose to embrace it. We can choose to walk in the supernatural of God and the Holy Spirit will empower us for that journey.

The Lord is making Himself real and making His presence known in such a tangible way in this hour, that it gives us the desire for Him like never before!

Every day I hear more and more testimonies of God visiting His children in amazing ways. It is a validation that seeking Him and a deeper revelation of Him and His presence, is truly His desire for us. He is answering our heart's cry.

I remember in my own journey when I really first began to not just pray, but to seek His presence in prayer. I began to have more dreams in the night about the things of God, and more visions which were very much like dreams but much more real. The Holy Spirit also began to point out the miraculous that was going on all around me in my everyday life. I was seeing the hand of God move in ways I had never noticed before.

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. (James 4:8 KJV)

As I chose to draw near to Him, He drew near to me. He was increasing my capacity to see, hear and experience the things of the Spirit and the things of the Kingdom. It is a walk in the Spirit.

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16)

This is the promise we have from God so that we can stay on track. He empowers us for the journey! We don't have to try to figure it out, or "work" harder to make it happen. As we yield to the Lord, He carries the burden and gives us the blessing!

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. )Matthew 11:30 KJV)

You Have Made a Great Choice!

Choosing the supernatural is accepting the God of the Bible. Accepting the same God that walked with Adam face to face, the same God that says "I change not."

For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. (Malachi 3:6 KJV)

There are many scriptures that describe what life in Christ looks like. If taken literally, and they should be, we know that we would have to be walking in supernatural power to be in agreement with God's Word. What an exciting thought!

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. (1John 4:17 KJV)

As He is so are we in this world! What a scripture! No wonder the Bible tells us to do the things it does.

He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

(1 John 2:6 KJV)

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. (Romans 8:2 KJV)

One of my favorite scriptures is found in Matthew. It tells us specifically to do things that most of the world considers impossible. That's' a good sign that God is with you, when you are doing the impossible.

Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. (Matthew 10:8 NIV)

This verse holds a great place in my heart because of my own deliverance. The Lord literally saved my life because he had someone who embraced and lived in the supernatural of God. I was not raised to believe that the supernatural of God or the power of God was for today. One morning the Lord showed up and proved He was still God and still did miracles and my life has never been the same.

When I think of choosing to live a supernatural life, one of the first things I think of is changing the lives and circumstances of those around us. Do you know people who have sicknesses or bondages? How about people living in lack or those who have no hope? Who you are and what you carry will literally change the world if you allow God to manifest His power in you and through you. As He is so are you in this world.

After learning about God's power and how He had never stopped intervening in the lives of people, I chose to embrace that God and His empowerment for myself. How could I not.

I remember the first person that I ever cast demons out of. It was another life or death situation and God used me to help someone just as He used someone to help me. It was thrilling to see the power of God on display.

#### **Choose You This Day**

And why stand we in jeopardy every hour? I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord. I die daily (I Corinthians 15:30-3 1)

I die daily. What does that mean to you? Of course there is the element of sacrifice that this is taking about, but I think it holds a far more reaching meaning. I die daily... I choose to die to the carnal and the flesh, those things that decay and wither and die. I choose to die to sin and corruption, I choose to die to the mundane and the ordinary, the boring and the predictable and the unimportant. We are dying to the things that are dying. We choose life, and life more abundantly! Life in Christ!

If we are going to walk in the supernatural things of God it will not be by accident. Make no mistake, there really is a choice to be made. But as you can see there really is no difficulty choosing the better things.

When my spiritual eyes first began to be opened, I would see little glimpse of heavenly realms and places. I would be caught into the spirit, sometimes just for moments as the Lord was teaching me and allowing me to adjust to life in the spirit. I was and am always in awe of the realm of the Kingdom. Stepping into that realm feels like you have been asleep your whole life and have just now suddenly woken up. The difference is that dramatic! In the spiritual realm, your senses heighten to the nth degree and you have sudden knowledge that encompasses many things. It is the life we were created to live. When you lay the two choices side by side there is no comparison.

Another favorite scripture of mine is found in the book of Joshua.

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and

my house, we will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:15)

As for me and my house... Yes! We will serve the Lord! What else can we do? What other life is there? Lord we are staying with you.

Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. (John 6:58 NIV)

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)

May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. (Ephesians 3:19-20)

Yes Lord. Thank you I receive that too.

In the book of James we read this...

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (James 1:17)

Every good gift is what the Word says. Do you enjoy sunshine? It's from Him. Do you love the rain or thunderstorms? Those things are also from Him. Do you like spending time with your family? Playing ball with your children or going to the park? Do you like having a nice meal with friends and talking about great memories? How about going for walks in the evening or going for a run in the cool of the day? Do we really understand that every good thing is from Him.? Do we really consider these things?

Jesus died so that we might live!

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. (John 10:10 KJV)

This life in Christ we have chosen is a life of joy and peace, a life of fulfillment, purpose, and adventure.

#### **Strange to be Supernatural?**

You can be a believer or go to church and still pretty much fit in with the rest of the world. But do we really have to be strange to live in the supernatural of God? Well... the answer is yes and no. We don't have to act strange as believers who live and move in the power of God. I know a few that do, and usually that goes away as we mature in Christ. But the fact is that seeing the power or presence of God is in itself way outside of people's "normal." It is a bit strange.

There is good strange and bad strange. Bad strange is the kind of strange that bears no fruit. The Bible says...

Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit )Matthew 7:17 NIV)

Good strange bears good fruit and can look like this...

I was praying for a young man one day in a closed room. All of the sudden he freaked out a little because a "wind" hit him. I quickly explained that the wind he felt was his angel bringing healing to him because God loves him. Once he had some understanding about what happened, what seemed strange a few minutes earlier was then happily accepted.

A friend of mine was in the hospital one day, sitting in the waiting room and waiting to have a test done. The Holy Spirit spoke to him and told him to go and minister to the nurse sitting at the reception desk. He approached her and told her God had spoken to him about her and he asked if he could share with her what God had said. She very hesitantly said ok.

So he started out by telling her where she was originally from, how many kids she had, the issues that both of them were facing and something her mother in law had said to her earlier in the week. By then he had her real attention and he spoke to her about God's plans for their lives. She was powerfully touched. There was another nurse observing all of this and my friend turned to her and asked if he could also share what God had told him for her. She had a "I don't believe this stuff" look on her face and responded "I don't think so." Why? She had no understanding. This supernatural occurrence was something she didn't have a place for, so she just rejected it.

The funny thing was, apparently the first nurse had told all the other nurses how this guy knew all about her and how God had wanted to connect with her because He loved her. He said it was only a few minutes later when the second nurse came to where he was sitting and asked if he would still tell her what God was saying for her. Soon, he had a line of people who were all asking if he could tell them what God was saying for them. How amazing is that!? What started out as something strange for them became accepted because of the fruit of the encounter. Lives were changes and they had understanding about what had previously seemed abnormal.

Many people are not at the place where they can handle everything God is doing. Sometimes understanding can open the door for people to choose the supernatural of God. I know that's the way it worked for me.

So we can see that all in all we don't have to be afraid that being supernatural or embracing the supernatural things of God will cause you to be strange. Be supernatural ... and be normal.

#### **Laboring for Rest**

Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. (Hebrews 4:11)

Most of you understand this idea of laboring to enter into rest. I use this verse to show that many times the things that we are seeking from God don't just happen to us. It is not an accident that God's anointing and power begin flowing through us or working in us. We know this by the scriptures but it is not such a popular idea in a lot of the church today.

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. (James 4:8)

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart (Jeremiah 29:13)

Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. (Psalm 25:5)

These scriptures as well as many others in the Word of God talk about us doing something. What we are doing is making a choice. If we are to have the kind of life in God that is more than superficial, we have to desire it and we have to choose it. It is not forced upon us neither does it happen when we want to live in both worlds. What I mean is that we cannot have it both ways either. We can't walk in the Spirit and in the flesh. We can't hunger for the things of the world and the things of God too. In the passage in James chapter four given above, we are told to draw near to God and purify our hearts and not be double minded.

In all aspects, living this life of the supernatural of God really is a choice. Do we desire to be pure and holy? Do we choose to actively pursue a relationship with God? Do we choose to spend real time in His presence? Are we willing to give

up our life to Him? Will we labor to enter into His rest?

All of these things I'm talking about here are essential to having that deep relationship with God. I know that this is important to explain because so many have a desire for the supernatural nowadays, but are frustrated when it doesn't happen or it doesn't happen at the level they were hoping for. The problem is most often in the simplest things left undone. But it all starts with making the choices before us.

#### The Choices we Make

We understand that He withholds no good thing

For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. (Psalm 84:11)

We also know that He has given us all things.

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. (2 Peter 1:3)

Positionally, we have been given all things but we don't automatically "walk" in all things. We know that this is true just from our experience alone. The Bible tells us to "earnestly desire" the gifts. If we already have everything why would we earnestly desire them?

Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. (1 Corinthians 14:1)

There is a choice. Everyone whom I know that walks in the supernatural of God has decided at some point "Yes, this is what I want." There are other choices we

make as well. Time waiting on God is one. Laying down things that we might desire so as to be with Him more could be another. Spending seasons in prayer and fasting yet another. On the road to coming into the fullness of these things that we have been given, there is a stepping toward these things by faith. These things I hesitate to call a cost or a price because it doesn't feel that way. I understand we may say it's a cost, because we say we spend, or invest our time. We know that the Lord already paid the cost so that isn't what I'm talking about. It never truly feels like a sacrifice to be in God's presence.

#### What You Gain, What You Lose

All in all, we come to the place where we realize that pursuing the things of God and a deeper walk with Him is the wise choice. His plans for us far exceed anything we could imagine for ourselves. The Bible tells us ...

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)

When you begin to experience the things of the Spirit and the Kingdom of God, you will realize that there is no conflict about what to choose. There is really nothing that compares to the life God has designed for us and the more we seek Him, the more we realize this. This life in God is the life we were created to live.

#### Discussion

What are some of the reasons that compel us to choose a supernatural life in God?

What are some reasons for not choosing to pursue the supernatural things of God?

Are there any positive things that could come from not living a supernatural life? Is there anything going on in your life that would be significantly impacted if

you were moving in, or operating in the supernatural power of God? (or doing so in a greater capacity)

#### A Prayer

Father, we ask that you give us wisdom and clarity to choose that path that you would have us take. Father give us the knowledge of your will so that we might know your will concerning these important choices that we must make. Lead us by your Spirit and let no other voice influence us as we seek to know and do your will. We yield to your plan Father. Let your kingdom come and your will be done. Let us embrace fully everything that you truly have for us. Help us to live the life that we were created to live.

In the name of Jesus, Amen.

#### A Prayer of Repentance

Father I repent of any and all wrong choices that I have made in the past either willfully or in ignorance. Father I choose your will and your plan for my life without reservation.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### 2 WE ARE A PECULIAR PEOPLE

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:.(1 Peter 2:9)

Being born again... What does that really mean? To many it means saying a "born again" prayer so that we can go to Heaven when we die. To others it means that they are trying to clean up their lives. They know that they haven't been living right and so they make a decision to change and maybe even start going to church. As absurd as this may sound to many of you, that is the "born again" experience that much of the church world has today. A natural version of something that is entirely supernatural.

#### The Truth

The truth regarding salvation and being born again is much more powerful than that. Being born again is a supernatural transformation that takes place that can in no way be lived out by natural means and ideas. From the moment we decide to follow Christ we become different beings. We literally cease to be human beings as we know it and become something very different. When we accept Christ and His salvation, we are changed.

The full scope of this is something that challenges many in the church world. The conversion is a supernatural event and so should be the life that follows.

#### The Conversion

God has placed in each person a knowledge that He exists, a knowing that this

natural world is not all there is and that they are or were created for a purpose. Then throughout our lives the Holy Spirit woos us to come into a relationship with God. He sends people across our paths to share the good news of the Gospel. He speaks to us in dreams and in our conscience to cause us to seek Him out as He is seeking to draw us in. We are constantly being drawn to a moment of decision over and over throughout our lives. If we make the decision to choose not to accept Christ, the Holy Spirit begins His work again to draw us again to that place of decision. Then finally, if we accept the salvation that He offers, we repent (or turn away) from our sins and give our lives to Him and we follow Him. When this decision is made, we become one spirit with God.

But the person who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. (1 Corinthians 6:17)

We also receive the righteousness of Christ and become heirs of God, joint heirs with Christ and sons of God.

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. (Romans 8:17)

for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. (Galatians 3:26)

#### **The Light Must Come**

So why are we talking about the very basic things of the Gospel and salvation if we are learning about the supernatural things of God? The reason is because we must have an understanding that we are talking about the very foundations of the Gospel of the Kingdom. We have to have the understanding at the most basic and foundational level that this whole thing from beginning to end is completely

supernatural in nature. This cannot be head knowledge only but has to come alive in your spirit. The scriptures we just mentioned, and others like them must be meditated upon until they come alive inside you.

A light must come on, so to speak. The tendency for as long as I can remember, is for those sharing about or explaining the Bible, to "dumb down" the scriptures so that they make more sense to our natural understanding. Many of you understand what I am talking about and others of you have not thought much about it. Let me jump right to a really big one....

Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. (John 14:12)

Most of the time that I have heard this scripture explained, it has been to tell us that we can't take this literally, that Jesus didn't really mean what He appears to mean in this verse. The natural explanation is given that Jesus is talking about leading people to the Lord. The truth, that we will do the works of the Lord and also greater works is too offensive a thought for many in the church to embrace. For those people, it does not matter what the Bible actually says, what is more important to them is that the Bible line up with what someone has already told them or what they already believe. Hence the strange explanations they provide of scripture.

This is not the only example of course, there are many, many more. Anything that has any kind of supernatural aspect is stripped of it so that it makes sense to totally natural thinking. Our human reasoning is justified and stroked a little and we can believe in God and still live a fairly normal life pretty much like anyone else.

Yes, the light must come on for those seeking to go deep into the things of God, into the depths of the Kingdom. One of the biggest hindrances that I have found to people walking in the supernatural of God is the fact that the basics are not in place. The very foundational things glossed over as people try to go deeper. I am

not saying that people are insincere. Please hear me on this. But what I have seen is many really sincere people spending time trying to grow in the things of the spirit, yet having very little or no progress. We must really know that we are not human beings any longer.

Having a supernatural understanding about who we actually are, our salvation, our position in Christ, our authority, holiness, purity, love, faith and what it means to have great faith, is the foundation from which we can be propelled to the next level. We will look at all these things and how they affect us.

#### Line Upon Line, Precept Upon Precept

If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? (John 3:12)

If we understand, or allow the Holy Spirit to give us revelation about the simple things, we will be better able to believe for the things that might stretch our faith.

If we know, really know that God's spirit dwells within us it allows everything else to make sense. This is not a "head knowledge" decision we have made therefor all the challenging things are now within our grasp. These "challenging" things are things that we also need to meditate upon and allow the Lord to give us spiritual understanding about them. There is a vast difference between being a churchgoer and being a son of God. You were created for this.

#### Your Purpose, Your Mandate

Jesus has given us instructions, a command really, to do things that normal human beings cannot do. The most concise, supernatural example is found in the Gospel of Matthew.

Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. (Matthew 10:8)

But we realize that we are not limited to those few things in this scripture. We have examples all throughout the Word of God of how we are to function as believers and children of God. When Jesus tells us that the things He does, we will do, surely we can see that there is no limit when it comes to God. Jesus said that He only does what He sees the Father do.

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, Verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. (John 5:19)

The thing then is to learn to see what the Father is doing and do it. That is the purpose of this book, or this instruction, to learn to move in the spiritual Kingdom of God, to move in the supernatural. As I mentioned, you were created to live this life. You are literally a new creation. Literally. It is a life abandoned unto God, doing things that may challenge you but will fulfill you like nothing else can.

#### Rising Up to the Task

I was speaking to church leader not too long ago about how all of us are called and equipped by God to walk in far greater power than we do. She was not happy it turns out.. She said that she had been faithfully doing the work of the Lord for many years and that was why God had blessed her to operate in the gifts of the Spirit and His power. She said it wasn't right for me to tell "regular" people that God would use them in this way. She felt that I was deceiving people by giving them false hope.

I also had a man be just a little more blunt with me about the same subject. He said "Are you kidding?! Do you really believe that you could ever be like Elijah or Moses or any of those powerful men of God?!"

Dear brothers and sisters, we have to have the basics in place. We have to really

know who we are, who we belong to and what He has invested into us. To walk in the supernatural of God means having all of these issues settled within us at least to some degree. After hearing people make comments like these many times, I began to feel a little affected by it myself. I was talking to Dr. Bruce Allen one day about feeling sometimes like I didn't quite measure up to the task, and he said "Good! That way all the glory is the Lord's!" In our weakness His strength is made perfect.

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

The fact is that God has always used imperfect people to accomplish His will. We don't need to put our heroes up on pedestals as if they were somehow perfect and that is why God used them. Anyone who believes that needs to reread the Bible and pay attention a little closer.

#### Why It Matters So Much

It is no surprise to those who know me or those who have been around me that the supernatural is an everyday part of not only my life but my family's as well. People hear about the visitations from angels or supernatural events taking place in our home or in our lives and they want that too.

I want them to have it. I want you to have it. That is the purpose for the things I write and the things I say when I speak. I desire for everyone to have what God has given us. In the past, I would give the instructions about how to engage in the supernatural, assuming that everyone had the basics covered. That has been a misstep of mine. Sometimes I forget that I am the age that I am and have had a few decades to learn these things. But once you know what you should pay attention to, the process moves along at the speed of light! Revelation always does something powerful if accepted and applied.

Please don't think that it will take you decades or even years. I heard Prophet Bobby Conner say once that "God will take you as far and as fast you are willing to go." That is a true and accurate statement.

#### This Life Belongs to You

We are in process as we work out our salvation.

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. (Philippians 2:12)

But... neither are we normal human beings, nor were we created to be such.

You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? (1 Corinthians 3:3)

In this scripture, Paul chides them for acting like "mere humans." Does anyone see the implication? No my friend, mistakes and all, you are supernatural beings who have the free choice to live a life that can scarcely be believed, a life of miracles, signs and wonders. Read the Bible, that is what our life is supposed to look like. Do not listen to the naysayers who hold up the heroes of the faith as an example as to why it could never happen to you. Listen to the Lord.

#### We're in Good Company

Whenever I hear people give me that encouraging word that I could never be like David or Joshua or Elijah, the first thing that pops into my mind is the fact that they were flawed individuals but God used them mightily.

#### **King David**

Yes, He was a man after God's own heart. David slew Goliath when no one else out of all those seasoned warriors would step out. David had a powerful anointing upon him so that when he played and sang, demons were driven out.

- 14 Now the Spirit of the Lord had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord tormented him.
- 15 Saul's attendants said to him, "See, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. 16 Let our lord command his servants here to search for someone who can play the lyre. He will play when the evil spirit from God comes on you, and you will feel better."
- 17 So Saul said to his attendants, "Find someone who plays well and bring him to me."
- 18 One of the servants answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the Lord is with him."
- 19 Then Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, "Send me your son David, who is with the sheep." 20 So Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine and a young goat and sent them with his son David to Saul.
- 21 David came to Saul and entered his service. Saul liked him very much, and David became one of his armor-bearers. 22 Then Saul sent word to Jesse, saying, "Allow David to remain in my service, for I am pleased with him."
- 23 Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him. (1 Samuel 14-23)

But we all know from reading second Samuel chapter eleven, that David fell into a sinful relationship with Bathsheba and then he had her husband Uriah killed.

#### Elijah

Elijah, God's man of faith and power called down fire from Heaven and made

the prophets of Baal a laughing stock before everyone....Then he had them all killed. Elijah was a man that walked in miracles. Elijah was a man that was caught up into glory in a chariot of fire. I honor Elijah just like I honor all of these heroes of the Bible. I don't disparage the fact that they made mistakes or fell into sin. I admire the fact that they got back up and pressed on to serve God.

Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. (James 5:17)

James makes it clear that Elijah was a man who moved in the supernatural. But even Elijah had his problems.

1 Ahab told his wife Jezebel what Elijah had done and that he had killed the prophets. 2 She sent a message to Elijah: "You killed my prophets. Now I'm going to kill you! I pray that the gods will punish me even more severely if I don't do it by this time tomorrow."

3 Elijah was afraid when he got her message, and he ran to the town of Beersheba in Judah. He left his servant there, 4 then walked another whole day into the desert. Finally, he came to a large bush and sat down in its shade. He begged the Lord, "I've had enough. Just let me die! I'm no better off than my ancestors." 5 Then he lay down in the shade and fell asleep. (1 Kings 19:1-5)

We see that even after Elijah called down fire from Heaven and killed the false prophets, he had a crisis of faith and ran to hide from Jezebel. I'm convinced God uses men and women who have issues, make mistakes or have character flaws, so that we will be encouraged that He can and will use us as well. The fact that we mess up sometimes does not disqualify us.

#### Gideon

Gideon was a mighty and brilliant soldier who was asked to be king. He refused

that honor yet he honored God with the spoils of battle. Now Gideon, a man mighty in battle was called by God to drive out the Midianites as they rose up against His people. But Gideon was laying low. He was found by the angel of the Lord thrashing wheat, (a job normally done in wide open spaces), in a small basement room of some sort. Gideon's fear had driven him underground to hide.

Now the angel of the Lord did not say "Hey what's wrong with you!? Why are you hiding!?" But rather, just as God does with us today, he called out Gideon by how God sees him. Then of course we know from scripture that even then, Gideon argues with the angel about how unqualified and unable he is to accomplish God's purpose.

11The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. 12When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior."

13"Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, 'Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."

14The Lord turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"

15"Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family." 16 The Lord answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive."

17Gideon replied, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, give me a sign that it is really you talking to me. 18Please do not go away until I come back and bring my offering and set it before you." (Joshua 6:11-18)

#### And All the Rest...

I'm not trying to disrespect the heroes of the Bible in any way. But we come from a long line of imperfect people whom God uses anyway. You have probably heard it said before that "God does not choose the qualified but He qualifies the chosen". Here are a few more encouraging examples...

Sampson – A judge of Israel who had an ongoing problem with always "going down to Egypt." The power of God evident upon him over and over and yet he wrestled with immorality.

Abraham – Tried to cause his promise from God to come to pass by figuring out how to make it happen himself.

Sarah – Encouraged her husband Abraham to take another woman to have a baby and then became bitter against him for doing so.

Aaron – Watched God do miracle after miracle on behalf of the children of Israel and then built a false idol for them to worship when Moses was gone.

There are many more such accounts in the word about God using imperfect people. But as we examine their lives we see God doing the supernatural in their lives.

#### **Qualified in Christ**

The point is that we do not have to attain or accomplish something to walk in the supernatural of God. That life, or God's power, is our inheritance should we choose to receive it. The Bible says that He (Christ) took our sin and gave us His righteousness.

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

We could never earn anything from God. Salvation and redemption are gifts. The thing is that we must look at life in Christ from a Biblical understanding. We cannot try to make the Gospel palatable and natural. It is supernatural through and through. It is also the life that you were created to live. A life as sons of God, walking in miracles, sharing the Gospel and preaching the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Anything less than that shows the influence of religion in the mix.

Just How Peculiar are We?

Peculiar. In a world (even the church world) that doesn't even believe the spiritual realm or world exists, anything that cannot be explained by natural means will either be denied as untrue or be vilified as being of the devil. The world will deny and there will be those in the church world who will attribute all signs and wonders as being from the devil. This would also include healings that bring glory to God. It's sad.

There is no limit to how peculiar things could get. That makes me very happy. There is a long list of some very exciting things to choose from... Rides in chariots of fire. (2Kings ch. 2) ...pillars of cloud and fire to lead you. (Exodus ch. 13) ... angels meeting with you face to face. (Genesis ch. 18)... boldness to preach. (Acts ch. 2)... supernatural financial provision. (Matthew ch. 17)... Animals talking to you. (Numbers ch. 22)... The instant multiplication of food. (Matthew 14)... the ability to command nature. (Joshua ch. 10) and (Matthew ch. 8)...

Everyone seems to have their favorite miracles in the bible and there are many to choose from. The Bible is not a history book as we know (hopefully) but a testament of who we are.

We must acknowledge that we are a peculiar people. If we can admit that, then

all of the "strange" becomes our normal. It is not normal for just anyone to lay hands upon someone who is sick and see them healed. But for us this is normal. It is not normal for angels to work as co-laborers with people in general, but for us it is normal. It is not normal for just anyone to call a dead body back to life, but for us it is normal.

At some point, if we are to fulfill our role as sons of God, we must accept that the supernatural is normal life for believers. We must lay down religious pride and intellectual understanding of scripture. We must walk away from man-made programs and agendas and make a decision to be who we really are in Christ. It is a life changing decision.

#### **Discussion**

What are some supernatural things of God you have experienced that could be considered strange. Such as dreams, visions, manifestations of God's power...

How could being a believer that embraces the supernatural things of God affect your relationship with others? (believers and unbelievers)

Do you know people or know of them who embrace the supernatural of god and yet still function fairly normally? Talk about how they do it.

Do you know of people who claim to walk in the supernatural of God whose behavior really makes you uncomfortable? Why?

#### 3 THE OFFENSE OF THE SUPERNATURAL

One of the major stumbling blocks that stands between those who want to walk in the supernatural of God and seeing their desire be fulfilled is the offense of the supernatural events themselves. In today's world, many look back at the times when people believed in the spiritual reality as primitive, as if those who lived years ago were not smart enough to know that all the "spirit stuff" is not real.

The world is offended by those who believe in such things. They are doubly offended if you happen to be Christian. Even the church world, or maybe I should say especially the church world is offended by the supernatural. Why? Because if the supernatural is real, then we can't ignore God anymore. If all those "stories" in the Bible turn out to be true, then I have to make a real decision. I can't play the religious tradition game anymore. If we can dismiss everything that God says is real and true by hiding behind the expert opinions of scientists and religious leaders, we can live a normal life just like everyone else and it's o.k.

Many of the seminaries today teach the Bible as folklore and superstition, with an absolute hatred and distain of those who are true believers. They teach principles found in the Bible but not the Gospel. For example I was reading today an article from a prominent mainstream minister how certain sins mentioned in the Bible are not really sins but were only a reflection of the culture at the time those scriptures were written. Hence, the message is that it's o.k. to sin.

This is all no surprise to God however as Jeremiah points out...

To whom can I speak and give warning? Who will listen to me? Their ears are

closed so they cannot hear. The word of the LORD is offensive to them; they find no pleasure in it. (Jeremiah 6:10)

In this scripture he says the word of the Lord is offensive, but in this age I believe the power of the Lord or the reality of the Lord is also offensive.

#### Offense Closes the Door

In the case of believers who have a desire to experience more of God's presence and power in their lives, offense of the supernatural can close the very door they would like to see open. It's kind of a paradox... being offended by the very thing they seek.

The problem is that because everyone comes from a different place, a different understanding and background where the supernatural is concerned, we all judge it differently. We are all offended at different levels. Even those walking in a great degree of the supernatural things of God can be offended if someone they consider less knowledgeable presents something as true they don't believe to be true.

Some believe in healing and some deliverance. Some people accept words of knowledge and discerning of spirits and other revelation. Many have very different understanding about all of these things. What means one thing to me may mean something completely different to you.

So why would being at different levels close the door to the supernatural? It is not the different level that causes the problem, it is the judgement of something not being of God. For instance... Someone is used to praying for the sick a certain way and they even have a bit of success in healing. Along comes someone, sent by God to move them to the next level. This person lays cloths on the sick person or some other thing that seems different. The Holy Spirit is just trying to pry them away from their routine so they can begin to follow His voice better. The one seeking to be used in greater ways judges this "new" thing as not of God. "Why would God do something so foolish?!" And they reject their own

promotion.

The likelihood of God doing something very different to stretch us as He leads us is very great. If we are not willing to say "Lord whatever way you lead me I will follow." We are in effect saying no to Holy Spirit.

#### The Offense of Signs and Wonders

In this section I'm going to have to tell on myself a little bit. In my own life, because our family experiences some pretty strange phenomenon, we see directly how people are offended by it. I have seen some very extreme opposition to many things God does. People declaring that this or that is of the devil. "That person was healed by the devil because God doesn't do those things." Oh yes, I have heard that. Or "There is no way that person could know those things! The Bible calls it witchcraft!" No, the Bible calls it word of knowledge. Look it up.

My own life, family and ministry is offensive on many levels. I never realized at first how much distain people, believers, and even ministers could have for the supernatural. I will pick a couple of things and show how offense works.

#### The Offense of Sight

As I encounter people from all over who have a deep desire to see the unseen, I encounter almost as many who tell me "I don't care about seeing angels, I just want the Lord." Or "I don't need that stuff, I just want to see people saved and healed." The implication is that the thing that they care about is the more important thing. And truth be told, if it was an either - or situation, then yes I would rather someone give their heart to the Lord than see an angel. But either - or is not the case.

Nowhere in scripture does it say that if you see in the spirit clearly or operate in

a high degree of discerning of spirits, that you can no longer lead people to Christ or heal the sick.

Because I spend a great deal of my time teaching people how to see the unseen, I deal with this issue a lot. One of my friends told me not long ago that God was going to give me something important to do instead of just teaching people to see angels. The implication was that seeing in the spirit is not important. However, we know from scripture that it is.

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (2 Corinthians 4:18)

Now I know that each person is given their own place in the body of Christ. I am very comfortable with the job that the Lord gave to me. I am not resentful that "all I get to do" is teach people how to open their spiritual eyes, but my friend John gets to teach people how to heal the sick. The Lord knows what brings fulfillment in every person. He blesses us all accordingly.

Yes I have heard it many times... "A serious man of God would be doing...." Fill in the blank. People that have this critical judgement of others and the tasks that God has given them can sometimes really discourage God's servants.

The examples are all over the map so to speak. "Diane is doing puppet theater for hospitals" "No serious woman of God would work with puppets!" or "Jimmy is teaching exercise classes at the retirement home." "Oh... If Jimmy were really called of God he would be doing something serious!"

You see the problem is that the judgmental person doesn't see what God sees. Yes, the stern faced man on stage looks so serious and "holy" and to compare Diane to him seems foolish, except that the Lord know that those seven kids running around the church with sock puppets on their hands are seven kids that Diane just led to the Lord. And Jimmy is catching all those people before they step into eternity by healing them and leading them to Christ.

We cannot distain the call of another or the work the Lord has given them or the signs and wonders they operate in if we want more from God. That is the point. Do not judge your work as more important. God gives grace to the humble. True humility.... I said true humility places you in a position for God to use you in extraordinary ways.

I try to have understanding and compassion for my friends that believe certain jobs are for God's real winners and the less important stuff is for the rest of us.

I had a friend who used to come over from time to time and from the moment he arrived he would tell me of all his exploits...people he had prayed for and prophesied over, healing that took place and places the Lord was opening to him. I would politely sit and listen, interjecting "Wow!" from time to time. Then after he had given the report, he would go, but before he would leave, he'd say "It's too bad you are not doing these things too. You aren't walking in your destiny."

At first my flesh would get stirred up and I wanted to say "Hey! I pray for people!" But I kept silent. I didn't want to be sucked into some work of the flesh trying to decide who was the "better" believer. And you shouldn't either. But you do need to be aware that your call from God is unique. Embrace it even if it seems strange or unimportant to others. I want you to know that the devil will try to get people to discourage you and it could very well be the people closest to you.

#### The Offense of the Weird

I used to think that the things like gold dust appearing on people, or gemstones appearing, or even angel feathers was the strangest thing ever. It is far from that. But all of those things and other things like that are a huge offense to many believers. I don't think it's because they are allergic. I believe that they are offended because they don't understand why in the world God would do something so "foolish." Why would God do something that has no value or practical purpose? How do those things have anything to do with the Kingdom of God? Why won't God do what makes sense to us?

That is the argument in a nutshell. We don't understand, so it can't be God. This is another caution. If God does something you don't understand then you should ask for understanding. Don't speak out against something you know nothing about. Don't judge on appearances. I know you won't, right? If you can't or won't believe that God can and does do strange things, you are in effect telling Him what kind of miracles that you are willing to allow Him to do. Would you really instruct God? I sure hope not.

Who can tell God what to do? He judges powerful rulers. (Job 21:22)

As my wife Gordana sat at the dining room table reading her Bible, the pages she was reading were suddenly covered with very fine and brilliant gold sparkles. She was excited! I was excited for her. I love it when God does the unusual. She showed it to someone who came over and they were not interested...at all.

Another time we were at a friend's house for a Bible study. As we studied, prayed and shared, the area around my wife got covered in silver sparkles. After the meeting I was looking at them and I mentioned to the group that they were there. Three people came to see and the rest were not interested.

While speaking at a church conference one weekend, before anyone arrived at the church, my wife Gordana and I were talking and praying over the meeting. As we did. The pew and the area around us got covered in purple and blue sparkles that kept changing colors. The pastor had told me earlier that he was really desiring to see the supernatural things of God begin in his life and ministry, I went to tell him about this little miracle so he could check it out. I thought it might just encourage his faith if he saw that God had heard the cry of his heart. But his response to me was "Oh that's nice. I think I'll go get a water."

Just to be transparent about signs and wonders, I will tell you that we have them in our lives every day. I don't apologize for it. I only gave you three examples

for a purpose. To show the reaction that people have concerning these things. God won't force it on you. But.... If we are thrown by a little gold dust, how will we react to the really over the top supernatural things when they start happening? Because they will you know. Or to put it another way... If you can't contend against men, how will you contend against horses? How? By the Spirit. It's a totally supernatural thing.

If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trusted, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan. (Jeremiah 12:5)

Once you really begin to see and experience the Kingdom of Heaven, co-labor with angels, and have understanding that you are a son of God with everything that entails, these little things will not trouble you. The things that the last days believers will be walking in are far greater than these.

I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? (John 3:21 NIV)

We can't let the easy stuff throw us. Don't be surprised by anything and don't be offended. It is coming very soon that you will walk in far greater things than you have even imagined. Accept who you are as a son of God, created for His plan and purpose, moving in miracles, signs and wonders for His Glory. You won't regret the choice!

You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel. (Matthew 23:24)

Don't listen to or be discouraged by the those whose ministry is based at the first church of the blind guides . Don't be put off by the supernatural and lose out completely. Soon, it will all be as normal as breathing. Trust God.

#### **Discussion**

What signs and wonders have you experienced and how do you feel about them? Which signs and wonders do you feel are a little strange and why?? What kinds of wonders are you willing to accept from God?Why would God do unusual things? What purpose could these types of wonders serve?

## 4 PASSION FOR GOD THE LEVEL OF DESIRE

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' (Mark 12:30)

In Mark chapter twelve, one of the teachers of the law came to Jesus to ask Him which of the commandments was the most important. The answer He gave is the verse above. There is nothing more important. If we love God more than anything and He is the center of our lives, everything else falls into place.

Passion in general is manifested all around us. We see it every day whether we realize it or not. The child who loves sports and will do anything it takes to compete in the Olympics someday, the musician who tells of the early years where they practically slept with their instruments and only stopped playing long enough to eat or sleep once in a while, the student who studies when everyone else is playing because going to college is a desire and a dream. Passion is what sets the extraordinary apart from the masses. A desire to do something that cannot be quenched and will not be denied.

When we talk about passion for God, that passion can be manifested in many ways. It's a passion to pray, to worship, to know Him, to experience His presence, to feed on His word and to seek Him. A passion to be or become who He wants us to be, to please Him and to be pleasing to Him.

Dr. Bruce Allen says that "pursuit is the proof of passion." Tell me you are passionate about something and I'll tell you how passionate from the time you spend.

# **Biblical Understanding of Passion**

There are many scriptures that give us not only instruction about passion, but give us a picture of passion to look at and learn from as well. In everyday life as well as in our spiritual walk, the Lord expects us to have a degree of passion. A level of commitment that takes us above the ordinary and glorifies our Father in heaven.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters... (Colossians 3:23)

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky. (Philippians 2:14,15)

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

Passion is an intense driving feeling or emotion. A desire so strong that it propels us toward the object of our desire. Passion of itself is not entirely useful unless it is fueling the desire for something good and worthy.

#### **Christ our Goal**

For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (Philippians 1:21)

The Apostle Paul was passionate for something very different in his earlier life as Saul. He had a desire to live out his life as a Pharisee and leader. He had passion no doubt because of the level he had attained. But it was after his conversion that his passion helped to fulfill his destiny. He became a man consumed to know God and nothing else mattered.

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death. (Philippians 3:10)

We can look at the life of Paul and understand something powerful. He was a man consumed with Jesus Christ and he was a man who moved in the power of God.

And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 So that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. (Acts 19:11,12)

A Passion for God is a foundational thing if we desire to move in the power of God. We have heard it said many times, but it is true that God cares more about developing your character than He does the work that you may do. We as human beings sometimes judge ourselves and others wrongly about such things. Sometimes we may get the idea that doing mighty exploits for God is the pinnacle of our life and ministry, when the reality is that being Christ-like is what God is working out in us. The character of Christ in us and the desire for Him will keep us through times when merely doing the works will not.

I believe that when Paul found Christ, his passion took on a radically different look. The object of our passion very obviously can set the level of passion we carry. When Paul's goal was knowledge, power, religious position and the accolades of man he was driven by a certain kind and level of passion. When his focus, or the object of his desire was Christ, his passion became ignited by the fire of the Holy Ghost.

#### **Heaven and Earth**

In my own life, the reality of the levels of passion has become so clear to me. When I was in the world, and living for the things of the world, I did have passion at times for the worldly goals that I was pursuing. When I was getting in shape I would force myself to get to the gym by five a.m. to do an intense hour

of cardio five days a week. Doing that brought great strides of improvement in my health. When I was newly married, I made a commitment to work as much as I needed to so as to provide the needs of my family. For about the first ten years I worked two full time jobs. My passion to provide for my loved ones created an energy to push myself to new levels. The same thing happened for many other goals that I desired to see come to pass. The level of passion helped me to "rise to the occasion."

What about the things of Heaven? How does having passion help us to have the things of the Kingdom? Christ already gave us all things right? We don't work for our salvation. It's grace through faith, right? After all it says in the Word that we have been given all things pertaining to life and godliness.

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. (2 Peter 1:3)

The Bible also says that we are complete in Him.

And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: (Colossians 2:10)

So how does this passion figure into the mix. If we already have been given all things, then why do we need passion to cause us to pursue those things? Good question!

I'm going to try to speak as plainly as possible on this subject. I want you to get this. I mean I really want you to get it. This is an important "key" to walking in the supernatural and my desire is to see you have it. Yes we have been given all things, but we are not "walking" in all things. I had a discussion just a day ago about this very subject. A man was telling me that he was not about to go back to the "works" model of spending time in prayer and fasting in his relationship with Christ. He said he had discovered the freedom of God's grace and that for us to do something to get close to God was offensive to him.

I used my own relationship as an example.... If I spend time with my wife, am I doing so to earn her love or do I do it because I desire to spend time with her. Does the idea of talking with her and looking at her compel me to spend time together with her? The answer is yes. She has already made a commitment to me. So should I tell her "I don't have to spend time with you. You have already committed yourself to me. I don't want that bondage of having to spend time with you." Does this make sense?

When people find first love sometimes they can't sleep or can't eat. Is this a bondage? All they want to do is spend time with the one they love. Why is it when we talk about having this kind of desire for Jesus, it should be considered abnormal? To spend time in His presence without taking thought about food or sleep is not works and it is not bondage. It is a part of what brings us into our identity in Christ.

The fact was and is, that every man has the right to pursue God the way he chooses. But, if the way we have chosen to pursue our relationship with the Lord is not bearing fruit, we should examine this at the very least. We can rest in God's promise that our salvation is secure and we can go about life enjoying the things of the world and thanking God for his salvation, but there is more... much more.

Dear friends, spend time in His presence. Seek Him early and often. Stay in His presence and behold His beauty and drink from the fountain.

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:13)

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you... (James 4:8)

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. (James 2:17)

These scriptures talk about us taking action upon our beliefs. It is right to pursue God.

#### The Fruit of Passion

The fruit of passion for God and the pursuit of God is something that will overwhelm you and overtake you. As I would spend time seeking God in the early days of learning just how real He is, He made it very obvious that this was the path that would lead me to a life in Him.

For instance when I was first pursuing spiritual sight, I would have great strides one month and a very dry time the next. It was very frustrating at times and I was really seeking God about what to do. One day I was re-reading Gary Oates' book "Open my Eyes Lord" and I just closed the book, closed my eyes and said "Lord please speak to me." I flipped through the book with my eyes closed and stuck my finger on a page. When I looked at the passage in the book that my finger had landed upon, it was the chapter where Jacob was contending with the angel for a blessing. He said "I will not let go until you bless me!" As much as I don't agree with the way I did it, I do believe that God spoke to me anyway. Pursue with a vengeance!

The Lord also brought many people across my path to validate the things He was showing me and teaching me. I would see someone like missionary to Mexico David Hogan talking about fasting and praying for weeks at a time, and I would see that the power of God works through him mightily. I heard Dr. Bruce Allen talking about spending weeks in prayer, sometimes all night long and the fruit was visitation from the Lord Jesus Himself. Prophet Bob Jones spent all day or all night laying hold of the spiritual realm for many years and the fruit? Not many walked in the kind of prophetic power and accuracy as he did. There are several such people out there. One time I asked the Lord, "Lord why don't you cover me in gold dust like you do to Joshua Mills?" The Lord said to me "Why don't you sing to me for a few hours and see what happens?" The Lord was telling me something. And do you honestly believe that Joshua considers it "work" to worship the Lord and sing to Him? I don't think so.

The Lord led me to see the lives of many people whom I admired and who I knew walked in the supernatural and in the power of God. The common denominator that they all have is a passion for God and they all spend time seeking Him. Pursuit is the proof of passion.

The attitude of our hearts is never "I have to spend more time with God" but "I get to spend more time with God."

On a practical note, if you desire to learn something, learn it from someone who actually knows the subject. Not someone who knows about the subject, but someone who knows it. Many people can share second hand knowledge and theories about many things, but I choose to learn from those who walk in the things that I desire. You should too.

## **Building Passion for God**

Some people seem to have a great passion that helps them pursue God and others need to build that passion. How can we build passion to the level where we see a breakthrough? God gives us all we need.

The first and most obvious thing that we can do is ask. We have not because we ask not.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. (Matthew 7:7)

Now I know what many of you are thinking. You have asked many times for many things and it seems that sometimes the things we ask for in prayer are very elusive. It's not that we are not willing to ask. So why did I mention this? Because we have to take our asking to another level. As a matter of fact, when talking about laying hold of the supernatural things of God we have to take

everything to a new level.

I know we all remember the parable of the unjust judge.

And he told them a parable to show that they must always pray and not be discouraged, 2 saying, "There was a certain judge in a certain town who did not fear God and did not respect people. 3 And there was a widow in that town, and she kept coming to him, saying, 'Grant me justice against my adversary!'

4 And he was not willing for a time, but after these things he said to himself, 'Even if I do not fear God or respect people, 5 yet because this widow is causing trouble for me, I will grant her justice, so that she does not wear me down in the end by her coming back!'" 6 And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unrighteous judge is saying!

7 And will not God surely see to it that justice is done to his chosen ones who cry out to him day and night, and will he delay toward them? 8 I tell you that he will see to it that justice is done[c] for them soon! Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, then will he find faith on earth?" (Luke ch. 18:1-8)

Sometimes when I talk about these things I feel kind of bad for people. I wish I could tell you that there is some easy, magical way for all the things of God to be instantaneous. But I have not found such a way and neither have I looked for it. Once the Lord began to show me that as we seek him, He will manifest Himself to us, I realized, or got the revelation we can depend on that.

When I was seeing breakthrough and also having dry seasons, and the Lord led me to that passage about Jacob contending for his blessing in Gary Oates' book, this had not been a time that I had been slacking off. It's not like I was coasting along, living life in the flesh, and the Lord showed me to press in. I had been praying five to eight hours intensely in the Spirit every day and spending about three hours in the watch of the night waiting on the Lord. I know many of you are doing the same thing and wondering where in the world is the breakthrough.

I was frustrated because I was seeking God as passionately as I thought that I could and the word from the Lord was to be like Jacob and say "I will not let you go lest you bless me!" To be honest I didn't know how I could to that. In the midst of this pressing into God, I spoke to a pastor of a church about my dilemma and he told me I was really off base in seeking God this way. He told me that God doesn't expect us to go to such extremes for Him. That I should just relax from now on and everything would work out according to God's plan. Unfortunately, my flesh really liked what he was saying and I took his advice. Taking that advice only further postponed the coming breakthrough.

When I realized that I had made a mistake by ceasing to contend, I redoubled my efforts. I not only became that widow bothering the judge day and night, I got a bullhorn and rounded up some neighbors to help. It changed my life again.

Again, I must tell you that there are many people who do not teach this revelation of contending. Many people talk about the fact that you already have it and it will manifest in God's good timing. That is a very popular message and very widely accepted. But I have learned a truth that will launch you into those things which you desire. It's not an easy path and it's not a popular one, but it will take you where you want to go. I can only share what I have been given

"If you can live without it, you will live without it."

~ Justin Abraham

So you can live with the hope that someday soon all things will be manifest or you can contend. What does passion do? What does your passion tell you? What is the Spirit of the Lord telling you? What does scripture tell you?

So when I talk about asking for God to give you passion, I'm saying that if these things are the things that you really desire, then take your asking to the next level.

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32)

### The Power of Testimony (s)

Bill Johnson of Bethel Church in Redding, California says that the word "testimony" carries with it a seed to reproduce that thing which is being testified of. The sharing of a miracle opens the door to another miracle.

Another powerful thing that testimony does is to stir up and fuel our passion for God. We know that testimony is a powerful thing.

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. (Revelation 12:11)

The words you speak help create your world. The Bible says that life and death are in the power of the tongue.

Life and death are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (Proverbs 18:21)

One of the major catalysts for my seeking the supernatural things of God in the first place was the incredible testimonies that I heard from my friends. I would hear of miracles, signs and wonders and I would be enthralled, overwhelmed and jealous! I wanted that kind of life too! The more I heard, the more my passion was fueled to seek that kind of relationship with the Lord. Let me repeat that. The more I heard, the more my passion was fueled. Actively seek out and listen to testimonies.

In the end, I was looking for testimonies everywhere they were to be found. Hearing about the works of the Lord just made my heart glad. I found many people who minister today that share testimonies of miracles and I used their testimonies to come before the Lord. "Lord! Your Word says you are no

respecter of persons. What you did in so and so's life please do for me also!" I have received many visitations from God by praying this way.

### **A Short Testimony**

Not long ago I was speaking at a conference and teaching people on seeing in the spirit and engaging the realm of the spirit. I shared many testimonies of visitations and miracles that had come in my personal time of prayer and waiting upon the Lord. I spoke of divine revelation and visitations from angels, the Lord teaching me in the night and the Kingdom of Heaven being opened to me. Many were stirred in their faith and some were cautiously skeptical. I told everyone "Just try it tonight and see what the Lord does."

The next evening before the service started a man wanted to give a testimony. The pastor let him come up to share. He said that normally before he went to sleep at night, he would either read a chapter or two in the Bible or watch Christian television for a while. But after my encouragement about spending a little time waiting on the Lord, he decided that he would try it. After a short while of being quiet and still before God, he began to feel himself moving somewhere. He suddenly found himself standing in a room with someone he had been very worried about and passionately praying over for several months. He saw the person whom he had been praying for and he saw two huge angels with him, one on either side. He felt a sense of peace that the Lord's protection was in place and then he found himself back at home. The power of testimony.

## The Manifestation of the Kingdom

The title of my blog site is "One Revelation can Change Everything." This is one of the most powerful truths that I have found. God can change things in an instant and He will. I learned the power of this in my own life during times of waiting upon the Lord in the watch of the night. Here is the truth... If you seek after God He will manifest Himself to you. Revelation will come and you will see and understand and enter into deeper things of God. This, more than just about any other thing will fuel your passion for God.

When I am waiting upon the Lord and an angel suddenly shows up and tells me something, or instructs me to read a scripture or gives me a gift, how do you think this affects my prayer life? Do you think it causes me to pray more, or less? Friends, that is just the tip of the iceberg. God has so much more for you, but the thing to take away from this is that as you spend time seeking God, praying for greater passion and waiting upon Him, the manifestations of His presence will cause you to pursue Him in ways you never dreamed about. The presence of the Lord will increase your passion for Him. The pursuit brings greater manifestation and on it goes.

"All other passions build upon or flow from your passion for Jesus. A passion for souls grows out of a passion for Christ. A passion for missions builds upon a passion for Christ. The most crucial danger to a Christian, whatever his role, is to lack a passion of Christ. The most direct route to personal renewal and new effectiveness is a new all-consuming passion for Jesus. Lord, give us this passion, whatever the cost!"

~ Wesley L. Duewel

#### Discussion

How do you feel about contending in this way? Does it feel like works to you? Should it be so difficult?

What are the scriptures that show extreme times of prayer? What are the scriptures that talk about doing nothing but trusting God?

The people you know of who move in God's power...what does their prayer life look like?

Is it difficult to spend so much time in prayer?

What are some ways that you could increase your time seeking God? How would this fuel your passion?

## 5 KEYS TO THE KINGDOM

#### The Word of God

To learn to walk in the supernatural of God, we must stop being led by or influenced by our flesh and learn to walk in the spirit. The Word is a key, a doorway or access point into the supernatural life. A hunger for the Word is evidence that you are yielding to the spirit and not the flesh. The more we are filled with the Word of God the greater opportunity we have to walk in the spirit.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)

Being filled with God's Word, is like purposely setting a course of which direction you want to go. Which master do you desire to follow? The Word says that out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. If we are full of God there will be evidence through our lives and our conversation. We also know that the tongue is like a rudder that directs the whole person. We don't have the warfare and wrestling over sins of the flesh if we feed on God's Word.

A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. (Luke 6:45)

We as believers or children of God, sons of God, are instructed to feed on the Word of God. What we take in determines our spiritual health. Like other things such as prayer and worship, feeding on the Word of God builds up our spirit. In addition to this, the Word itself is a doorway into the supernatural. Jesus is not

only the Word made flesh, He is the door. Jesus said,

"I am the door...." (John 10:9)

Also, We are told to continue is His Word. The Word of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit are our guides to live as children of God.

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32)

If we are going to live powerfully in God, we have to be holy and consecrated vessels. God may indeed use us from time to time because of His mercy even when we are in process, but He wants us to grow up and be clean and live unto Him.

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. (Psalms 119:11)

For it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."(1 Peter 1:16)

In addition to living a consecrated and holy life, all of our instruction about moving in the supernatural of God is found in His Word. All of the testimonies of those who sat at the feet of Christ and then left instruction for us are in the Word. The examples of those whose lives we desire to emulate from the Word give us solid instruction about how God moves, how we are to live, how to get breakthrough and how to draw near to God.

We would be absolutely lost without the Word and not only is the Word so very important, understanding of the Word is crucial!

The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get

understanding. (Proverbs 4:7)

I mentioned testimonies earlier. Testimonies can launch us into spiritual adventures in God. God is no respecter of persons, so when we read of Elijah or Enoch or Moses, we know that God desires to use us just as He did them. Do I believe that you can be like them? Absolutely!

I have seen the reality of being moved into the Spirit through God's Word many times. There is a passage in the Word that talks about God being covered in darkness. It seemed kind of strange to me at first because we know that God is light and in Him is no darkness.

He made darkness His hiding place, His canopy around Him, Darkness of waters, thick clouds of the skies. (Psalm 18:11)

One night after my prayer time, I found myself moving into the heavenlies. I was in the spirit and I was traveling through clouds and stars and heavenly places, flying higher and higher, (or it seemed so anyway) when all of the sudden I saw before me a huge gathering of what appeared to be dark storm clouds. They were black and deep dark colors and they were moving and rolling, and actually looked quite ominous to me. I was being drawn into these clouds and it seemed that there was little to nothing that I could do about it.

Inside the clouds, I could see continuous lightening and bright colorful flashes of light. There were orbs or spheres of light of every imaginable color. It seemed as though the darkness of the clouds could not hide the light contained within them.

I was drawn completely into the clouds, and when I entered in, I found myself in a heavenly place. I was walking in the corridors of Heaven. Any fear had been removed and I was in awe. Can the Word of God really launch us into heavenly encounter? According to your faith be it unto you! Yes!

## **Worship the King**

When I was following hard after God (I still am) and had yet to see the kind of breakthrough I was desiring, I had an encounter. Let me give you the full picture....

I had been praying and seeking God during what seemed like a "dry" season for several months it seemed there was no breakthrough whatsoever in sight. It seemed like the harder and more passionately I prayed, the more frustrated I became. I stepped up my prayers. Instead of going for one prayer walk during the evening, I began going for two. At midnight I would walk through our neighborhood pouring my heart out to God. "Lord I want breakthrough!"

I thought it all out... How to pray, what to say, how to say it... I really thought I was yielding myself to God and I would see an answer. I would pray "God I am willing. Please move me into my destiny. I am willing. Please equip me for my purpose. Please provide for the places you send me. Please open doors for me." Etc, etc.. You see I thought I was yielding to God but in reality I was instructing Him to provide the kind of life I desired. Was I asking for bad things? No. But just the act of trying to instruct God put me on the wrong path. God doesn't approve our plans, we yield to His plans. That is the way it works! I did not consider this at the time at all. But God is awesome and merciful.

After going on my prayer walk for three nights in a row with my new well thought out prayer falling from my lips, I finally realized that I was hitting a brick wall. I was seeing not only no breakthrough but not even a hint that there might be a breakthrough. I came up with a new prayer strategy. (by the power of the Holy Spirit I am sure.)

The next night my new prayer was this...

"God I don't know how to pray. I don't have a clue. You know I want to be like those people who know you and move in your power, but I don't know what I'm supposed to be doing. I know you are speaking to me because your Word says so. But I can't hear you. Please shake me and get my attention so that I can hear what it is I am supposed to do."

I prayed this prayer over and over for my hour long prayer walk for three days. (nights) I meant it every time I prayed it and I was truly at the end of myself as to what to do. The third night something incredible happened. It was about two in the morning and I was sound asleep in my bed. I had no idea what was about to transpire. As I lay there in bed, suddenly someone stuck their hand inside my chest and began to shake me violently. I was more than afraid at that point. I was terrified! I said "God this had better be you!" Immediately, someone grabbed me by my ankles and pulled me out of the bed and onto my knees. Everything was happening so fast I did not have time to reason or react. I felt like I was in the pull of some powerful force and I could only submit.

After putting me on my knees, my hands were then raised over my head in a position of worship. Then, before I could think again, I was thrown back onto the bed and the exact same process was repeated. I was in terror the entire time and after the completion of the second experience, my terror turned to awe. It was an instant shift. I knelt there by my bed with my spiritual eyes wide open. I could see everything.

In my state of awe and wonder I blurted out "I can see!" Almost immediately a voice responded to me. "Of course you can see. Your eyes are open." It was an angel that I didn't know was there next to me until he spoke. It was all very surreal and his response almost comical in hindsight. That was the end of the encounter and the answer to my prayer! I had asked God to shake me and get my attention and He sure did! I came away from that experience knowing that to have the kind of life I was seeking, I needed to be a worshipper. The Lord made it so very clear that I will never forget it. Worship leads us into His presence and into the life He has for us.

I am very open about the things that I experience or the things that I have seen and so I have told this encounter at various churches and conferences as I travel. A couple somewhat religious people have told me "If you were terrified, then the encounter was not from God." This is my opinion about this situation. You will

find that as God gives you encounters and experiences, many times there will be an adjustment period for you. It won't always be comfortable or normal for that matter. Just as there were those in the scripture that fell down as though dead in the presence of angels, you may have the same reaction yourself.

### What is Worship?

Worship is the act of showing honor and adoration and submission to God. It isn't about singing some songs in church to God, although we can sing to God and if it is truly honest, it can be worship. The Lord knows the difference.

"This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me." (Matthew 15:8-9)

A good place to begin to have an understanding about worship is in the Word. If we look in the Psalms, we see that David was a worshipper. He gives us many pictures of worship to examine and apply in our own lives.

"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together" (Psalm 34:3)

Worship to me is acknowledging how great God is. Meditating upon His goodness and mercy and love puts our heart in the right attitude to worship God. Knowing His forgiveness towards us in sending His only Son to pay the penalty for our sins creates an acceptance of His grace that causes us to humble ourselves before Him. Worship is also an physical act of submission to God. We see in the Word that both children of God and angels will prostrate themselves before Him A position of kneeling or lifting holy hands to Him is also appropriate in worshipping God. (as the angel had revealed to me) There are many verses that tie together the act of worship with kneeling, lifting our hands to God, and prostrating ourselves before Him.

When Solomon had finished praying this entire prayer and supplication to the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread toward heaven. (1 Kings 8:54)

Seeing Jesus from a distance, he ran up and bowed down before Him... (Mark 5:6)

It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God." (Romans 14:11)

Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. (Psalm 95:6)

If we really take time and think about His goodness, we cannot help but worship Him. All the blessings, and every good and perfect gift is from above and they are all things that we give God glory for. If we spend time in God's presence, we can't help but worship Him. Here is a verse that I like...

Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. (Psalms 25:5)

David says "On Thee do I wait all the day." This is not the kind of time spent with God where we are hoping for church to be over so we can do something in the afternoon. This is not worship where we've done our duty, sang our "worship" songs and now we can get on with our lives. David's statement tells us something important. God is important enough that I will wait ALL DAY for Him.

The sad truth is that many people will spend a few minutes before the Lord in worship and in prayer, presenting their needs, and then spend most of their lives trying to figure things out on their own and do things completely from a natural perspective using natural wisdom. Time spent with God is never a waste no matter how much time it is.

# **Worship Leads to Encounters with God**

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

Spending time with God changes us. Remember those who waited on the Lord in the upper room? They spent some serious time there obeying the Word of the Lord. There were many who were told to wait for the Holy Spirit yet only one hundred and twenty went. The result was an encounter with God. They were endued with power from on high.

But you are holy, O you that inhabit the praises of Israel. (Psalms 22:3)

In the previous verse we see that God inhabits the praises of His people. If this is not a metaphor but a literal statement, which it is, we know that God manifests His presence in our midst when we praise or worship Him.

Everything that I share, I share for a reason. I am revealing the very things that the Lord has taught me and that I have learned bring encounters with God. Worship is no exception.

# **Spices and Fresh Baked Bread**

You really have to pay attention when engaging the Kingdom of Heaven. That is doubly true if you want to have real awareness about what is going on around you in the spiritual realm. For me also it has been a journey. The Lord has had to remind me many times to do the things He has told me so that I might have the manifestation of that which I am seeking.

In my own life worship takes place anywhere and at any time. I spend a lot of time worshipping God from the comfort of my prayer chair. Many times as I worship God in the watch of the night in my chair, the strong fragrance of a

beautiful sweet spice fills the room, sometimes for a long time. I don't know the fragrance, but it is the most beautiful smell I have ever experienced. I believe that this is the fragrance of Jesus. It is overwhelming to experience, and a manifestation of the supernatural of God.

One morning after a night of worship and waiting on God, I came downstairs to the kitchen and there was such a wonderful aroma of fresh baked bread in the air. I assumed that my wife Gordana had placed some rolls in the oven. When I opened the oven, there was nothing inside, but yet the aroma remained. About fifteen minutes later, my son Matthew came into the kitchen and with a look of expectation said "What are you making?" Opening the oven to also find it empty, he looked at me with a smile, knowing God had blessed our home once again with His presence.

On a practical note, these supernatural fragrances could very easily be dismissed from our thoughts because they make no sense to our natural senses. The natural mind tries to come up with a logical explanation and can't, so it dismisses these things. We walk away puzzled, thinking "That was weird" and shaking our heads when it was Heaven all along.

# **Prayer**

The subject of prayer is one of my favorites. The privilege to come before the King of Kings, the Creator of all things and have communion with Him. How wonderful!

What is prayer in its simplest meaning? Talking to God comes to mind. Communication really because there are ways to pray that don't contain words. Sometimes our words are not enough to convey what is on our heart. The Bible talks about this.

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because

the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27)

What are the reasons we pray? What is our need to communicate with God? There are many, and if we are to be completely honest with ourselves, many times the reason is entirely practical, seemingly non-spiritual stuff. Petitioning God for things like our work and finances, asking for help with our relationships and our daily lives in general.

I've asked many people about the reasons they pray and the answers are all varied. Some pray out of religious discipline, some as a habit, some pray to thank God and some to ask God for things. Some pray a combination of all these and more, drawing God into every aspect of their lives. I think that is the wisest choice. God cares about all of it.

I asked a friend of mine about his prayer life and he said "I just want to get closer to Him." That is beautiful. I cannot claim that level of spirituality myself, but I admire it in others. Sometimes I tend to think about all the pieces of my life while in prayer and I bring them up to Him. Of course I also want to get closer to Him but I pray for other things as well.

Prayer is the place where powerful things can happen. Prayer is the atmosphere of encounters with God. If you desire to have a supernatural walk with God you have to be a person of prayer. Can I just interject something here?

We are NOT seeking the supernatural in and of itself. Our prayer and worship and study of the Word is not to have supernatural experiences, but to grow in the Lord and move from glory to glory. We are growing up in the reality of God. One part of growing up is to learn about the supernatural things of God and learn to walk in it. God did not give us so much instruction and testimony about the supernatural so we could ignore it and pretend we don't want it.

This book is specific to this topic therefor it is written to convey things about this subject. Please remember that.

#### Thy Will be Done, Thy Kingdom Come

We pray "Thy will be done, Thy Kingdom come." When God answers that prayer, what does that look like? Is the Kingdom of Heaven truly manifest in our midst? I absolutely believe that it can be. What does the Kingdom consist of and what does that look like when it is brought into this physical realm? We cannot even fathom all the possibilities. The obvious things like healings and deliverances and provision come to mind but there is more...much, much more!

If you want to see the Kingdom manifested (your Kingdom come) we pray until we either see the reality of it or until the Lord directs us to pray another way. When I encourage people to really press in as they pray, many times people have asked me "Well...how do you know if it's God's will in the first place?" They don't want to spend weeks or months interceding for something and have it be a waste of time. I understand that.

First of all it is never a waste of time to pray, ever. If we stay sensitive to His voice He can instruct us as we pray and we can follow His voice. We also have the assurance the Holy Spirit will pray through us if we yield our tongue to Him. In addition, the angels around our lives can and will give us guidance if we are open to receive it. I have been encouraged by angels and rebuked by them too. The more time that we spend in prayer the more obvious Heaven appears in our lives. God's voice becomes clearer to us and we rest in that .

## **Without Ceasing**

In sharing with people how to walk in the supernatural things of God, I talk a lot about prayer. (I'll share more things later) How much should we pray? When should we pray? What should we pray about? Should we pray alone or with others? There are lots of questions people have about prayer. The answer? Yes to all of the above. Now I have gotten into a little trouble from some about being too extreme in my beliefs about prayer and all the rest. I'm just being honest

about all these things. If I don't tell you how and why the supernatural of God manifests in my life...I mean really tell you, then what is the point?

It was mainly through prayer and worship that the spiritual realm was opened to me. Encounters with God, the Lord, angels etc., began to happen during my times of prayer, mainly during the night watch. Once these encounters began to be a mainstay in my prayer life, then they also began to happen just normally throughout the day.

As I would pray in my prayer chair, many times to my left or my right there would appear glowing figures. Sometimes I could see their features, many times I could not. Sometimes as I prayed I could feel someone placing their hand upon me and I would receive strength. That was very welcome as I prayed in the night because I still had to go to work early and I needed that extra strength!

The more I spent time in prayer, the more the manifestation of Heaven appeared around me. The less I prayed, the less manifestation. I would always see light or lights around me as I prayed or worshipped. Cool breezes would blow upon my face or as I mentioned earlier, I would smell beautiful fragrances. That was the most common of visitations. Sometimes however, angels would appear to give me instruction or tell me to read a certain scripture. They have brought gifts several times or taken me places. This becomes normal everyday life if we are willing to receive it and sometimes contend for it. I am certainly biased but if you have to pick a life to live, living in Christ is the clear choice to me. I can't imagine living any other way.

"You are the body of Christ. Angelic encounters should be a normal Christian experience, not the exception.

Dr. Bruce Allen

My life was and is one of prayer, as constant as I can make it. Starting in the morning by praying over my family and praying all throughout the day. What do I pray about? It's not always a situation or issue that I am praying over. Much of the time I pray in tongues. When I have a thought that I want to express to the Lord I throw it in when it happens. Even if I'm listening to the radio when I

drive I still pray at the same time. Does that sound sacrilegious? I hope not. I try to always be aware of God's presence and pray no matter what I'm doing. When a situation comes up I don't want to have to get myself ready, I want to live ready.

When I spend time with my family or if we watch a family movie together, I will also pray during those times. No I don't pray aloud in those situations. In the evening my wife and I go on prayer walks and then I pray before going to bed, asking God to use me or instruct me as I sleep. Then I pray normally from midnight until three a.m. Now you understand why some people have an issue with me taking things too far. I have been asked "Who in their right mind prays that much?" Well... I know several.

With all this talk about prayer and praying, it may seem to some like a pretty dull, dry life with no time for fun. The reality is that you don't have to step away from God to have fun. He can be a part of it. If you have ever heard me speak or read any of my previous books you know that my life certainly is not humdrum by any stretch of the imagination.

The Word, worship and prayer are keys to a supernatural life in God. Don't neglect them.

### A Prayer

Father, give us a passion for your Word, a heart like David for worship and a desire to pray without ceasing. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **Discussion**

Is this much prayer, worship and the Word really necessary, or is this works? (of the flesh)

Is there a way to lay hold of God that is more "restful?" And if so what are some testimonies?

What does it mean to pray without ceasing and is it really possible?

What are some good resources about these topics that would be helpful in this type of journey?

Give testimonies of the fruit of your own prayer life.

What are your favorite scriptures on worship, prayer and studying the Word?

## 6 BECOMING NORMAL

The things we have talked about up to this point sound very basic to you. I know that. I did that on purpose because you want to walk in the supernatural. That's why you're reading, correct? To lay hold of the supernatural life, it is a taking hold of the "basics" and learning, experiencing and living them at another level. There is your breakthrough, plain and simple.

### Life as You Know it has Changed

Becoming normal is a whole different subject though! Once you begin to live in that place of encounter, where you are walking and seeing and living in the spiritual dimension, you will quickly learn to redefine "normal." This is because you will be living in and walking in two very different worlds or realms (hopefully at the same time). We are used to the physical dimension. It feels normal to us. It is our normal.

Many people have told me they don't want to live in that spiritual realm. It's too scary! Well... I have good news and bad news. The good news is that as believers we are seated in authority in Christ and we do not have to be afraid! God has NOT given us a spirit of fear.

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (2 Timothy 1:7 KJV)

The bad news? We are already in the spiritual realm whether we have awareness of it or not. The spirit realm does not go away just because we can't see it. I have said this many times and it may sound funny but it's true.

To think that if we can't see the spiritual realm, it can't affect us, is like a child saying "If I close my eyes you can't see me." It just doesn't work that way.

You see we are always in both realms. When you are at work, at home, playing basketball, out on a date, you, or we, are always in both realms. The differences, in how we interact with that comes from our level of awareness of the spiritual realm.

#### What is Normal?

To start with, it is normal for God to speak to you. I'm not just talking about God giving you a witness as you read a scripture, although that is very true as well. I'm saying you can expect for the communication lines to open as your awareness of that realm opens.

Increases of dreams and visions, the Lord appearing in different forms. Scrolls, yes actual scrolls being given to you that reveal what the Lord wants you to know. You see it is just like the "Bible days" isn't it. Many say this stuff is not Biblical but it all comes right out of scripture. We are learning to once again be like our forefathers of the faith.

# **Interaction with Angels**

Unlike my friends who say "I don't need angels," to walk in the supernatural means an ongoing interaction with angels. You cannot help it. God has given them charge over us and they are going to do their job whether you like it or not.

There are angels who are assigned to your life that are with you all the time. Let me give you an example.

## The Angel on my Left

For several years now, there has been an angel who normally always stands just to my left. I was not always aware of this however. In the earlier days, I would spend time in prayer and occasionally I would get a brief glimpse of what looked like some kind of fire just to the left of me. I didn't really understand it so I didn't pay much attention. As my prayer life and awareness of the spirit deepened, I began to see this fire much more. I began to pay attention.

I noticed that in very intense times of prayer, the fire would also intensify and manifest or become visible for greater lengths of time. Very soon I realized it was an angel who looked like fire.

And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. (Hebrews 1:7 KJV)

I became aware that this particular angel seems to always be with me. I have seen him as many as twenty times in a day. What is he saying to me when I see him? You see that's just the thing... This idea we have that every encounter with an angel has to be some profound word from the Lord or life altering experience is not accurate. The truth is that I just see him. The only time he seems to change his countenance is when my prayers intensify or I receive some kind of revelation from God. The fire he carries explodes almost like an amen to what is going on in my life. This, as well as other reasons causes me to believe that you(we) have angels around all the time. They constantly minister to us and protect us. We can accept it and work in agreement or reject their help which is basically rejecting God's will or plan.

I remember stepping outside to pray one night in my driveway. I was repenting to the Lord for all the wasted years. I was not getting sucked into feeling sorry for myself, but I wanted the Lord to know that I was sorry. Then, I thought about the angels around my life. How many times had they hoped for an assignment change?! Perhaps they were wishing to be able to work with someone who was actually serving God. I turned to the angel on my left, whom I could not see at

the time, and said "I'm so sorry for the wasted years, but God can redeem the days." When I said that, a waterfall of fire erupted beside me that was startling! I took that as his amen!

You have these angels around your life. They are always with you. They constantly work on your behalf. Why is it then that you can go through some very tough times and battles if God's angels are always with you? That's a good question! I believe it is a matter of choice and being raised up into maturity and Christ-likeness. The Word talks about the lives of believers and what we can expect. Does the Word talk about hard times? Yes it does. Warfare? Again yes. When we read about putting on the armor of God, wrestling not against flesh and blood, we realize there is a lot we need to grow up into.

But the Lord does not leave us defenseless or ignorant.

### Ask the Angel

Ask the angel?! I was taught never to talk to angels. Really? Who taught you that? That is not even scriptural. Daniel talked to the angel that appeared to him after his fast. Mary not only talked to Gabriel but questioned him. Abraham broke bread with them. What do you want to do?

With angels all around, why do we experience struggle and battle? As I said it is a part of growing up into our role as Kings and Priests and Sons of God.

I was attacked one night in my sleep by some demonic thing and had wrestled with him half the night. I was physically wrestling, (yes I said physically) and also spiritually by rebuking him from my position in Christ. I was not making much headway. I was tired, worn out and weary. I didn't feel like I could continue. Then I heard the Lord's voice speak to me as clear as a bell. "Ask the angel to fight for you." So I just said "Angel of the Lord, fight for me." I did not see an angel. I was not even aware that there was an angel standing there.

The moment I said that, the demon jumped off me and was suddenly, frantically

fighting with something that I could not see. He was terrified. I had complete peace at following the Lord's instruction and I went back to bed and got some much needed rest.

I learned as I began to engage with the realm of the spirit and the Kingdom, that we really have to start living from that place of our position in Christ. Taking spiritual authority and doing things in the spirit, not looking at every issue from the natural realm. I was doing what I knew, but didn't realize that I could do more. What was it He said? Ask the angel to fight for you. I have since done this many times, as often as I need to.

#### If You are Willing

Do you really want everything Christ has provided for you? Are you willing to live a supernatural life. I'm probably not expressing this in as dramatic a way as I should. If you are willing to live as Adam, or as the Lord, walking in both realms, you will see constant activity in the spirit, as much or more than you see in the natural realm.

# The Testimonies of the Prophets

I used to get very excited when I would hear some amazing testimony from Gary Oates or Bruce Allen, Bobby Conner or Bob Jones. I would think to myself "wouldn't that be great to have these encounters like they do?" What I didn't understand at the time was they never told everything that was happening. They would tell enough of a testimony to share the revelation that they were led to share, and inspire people. I realized this after my own eyes began to open. If they had mentioned it every time an angel walked through the room, people would be so busy looking around that they wouldn't be listening! Constant is the key word here.

Again, if you are willing to walk in this, you may have it. Most people are not. I'm not saying God will overwhelm you beyond your ability to handle it. God is

a good Father. He trains us and raises us up to walk in spiritual things. But there is a learning curve. If you look in the Bible you will see a lot of angels saying "fear not." There is a reason for this.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. (Luke 2:10 NIV)

"Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?" (Joshua 5:14 NIV)

Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. (Daniel 10:12 NIV)

I can only tell you from what I have heard and seen. To walk in the supernatural means adjusting to the feeling and experience. Many have told me that visitations from the Lord or His angels would be more religious in nature. So not true.

I'm sharing these things with you because I'm believing that you will really lay hold of this and make it your normal life. It's not normal until it becomes normal though.

# **Calm Down and Carry On**

You are praying in your bed or in your prayer chair. You just sense that you are entering into something. You feel different somehow...almost electric. Your eyes open and you see a face just inches away from yours! What do you do? Can that happen and you just take it in stride? Will you jump up or rebuke or cry or run away? I have done all those things. For those of you who may think you are so advanced that it will be old hat for you, let me tell you God has a surprise for you somewhere down the line.

It doesn't matter who we are, we are always being led deeper. John Paul Jackson told of a visitation he had from the Lord and he said it was so overwhelming he was terrified. He relayed that if he would have been able to crawl beneath the carpet or the floor to hide, he would have.

So I share these things to alert you and prepare you. Do not be surprised to find angels looking into your eyes as your spiritual eyes begin to open more and more. When you are praying and this happens, even if it startles you, you will soon realize what has happened and you will recover. After you calm down, it may happen again. You adjust to what that dimension feels like...what it feels like to interact in that realm.

#### Heaven Cheers us On

As we seek the Kingdom and it's righteousness, Heaven comes alongside us to encourage us and cheer us on. This is why the angels are watching you. They know you are looking for breakthrough and they are excited about it. They will do all they can and they, along with all of Heaven are pulling for you to make it! Angels, the cloud of witnesses, the living creatures, the Lord Himself, the Holy Spirit and the Father are all involved and invested. That's why anything can and will happen!

Interaction will become your normal. I started out rebuking angels as some of you may know. I would pray for the Lord to send them and then when they would show up, I would feel their presence, get scared and rebuked them! This went on for a while.

The Bible says that ...

But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. (Hebrews 5:14 NIV)

As you exercise your senses, you will discern the dark from the light, angels from demons and you will have a calm that comes from the Lord as you mature in Him.

#### The Dark

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:5 NIV)

"But I don't want it to become normal to see evil spirits." I have heard that many times. First of all, God does not try to terrify His children. But if you are going to walk in the spirit, you are going to be trained by God to deal with these things. Do you realize that with your natural eyes, you probably see bad people or people who do bad things pretty much every day? But we don't close our physical eyes because that won't help us. Neither does it help us to close our spiritual eyes just because we see things that are unpleasant.

This is yet another phase to becoming normal. When I first received my own deliverance, it did many powerful things for me. Being delivered of the Lord literally saved my life, but it also showed me that the spiritual realm is real and that we have authority over evil spirits. During my deliverance the man praying for me flowed in the word of knowledge, revealing things about my life that nobody knew, or so I thought. That showed me that it was normal to have supernatural knowledge or words of knowledge. Once I was free, and in my case this took about one week, I had a passion to confront darkness on behalf of those in torment and bondage. I wanted to see everyone get free.

However it was not my "normal" at the time to see such things, even though I was dealing with them. Now, it has just become another part of walking in the spirit and seeing in the spiritual realm. I have seen demons that look similar to pigs and rats and spiders, spirits that appeared as skeleton-like beings and also spirits of every size, small to absolutely huge. I have also had to deal with evil

spirits pretending to be angels or saints and seducing spirits that can appear very beautiful. But the Lord had to reassure me several times along the way and train me that this is normal life for those who walk in the spirit. Nothing to fear for those in Christ.

#### **Intense Prayer or Warfare**

This part of becoming normal was in large part due to the Lord speaking to me after a frightening experience. During this period of my life, I had been spending many hours in prayer and intercession for those in bondage. Even though I was not seeing in the spirit at the time, I knew that things were changing for the people I prayed for because of my own experience.

One night I awoke to the voices of what sounded like a hundred demons yelling and fighting with each other. It was overwhelming to come out of a deep sleep to encounter that. I prayed. You know at this point you begin to wonder if this warfare thing is such a good idea! The Lord immediately answered me and spoke to me as clearly as I have ever heard Him. He said, "If they could harm you or kill you, they would, but they cannot because I am always with you."

That statement from the Lord gave me a peace that caused me to just rest in His promise. Now, no matter what things look like, even when I have wrestled with evil spirits, I do not have a fear of being harmed. I know the Lord is with me. But... there is still an adjustment as you go.

We learn about warfare and intercession and darkness, just like any good soldier would. The Bible tells us not to be ignorant. You know this.

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices. (2 Corinthians 2:11 KJV)

So that we would not be outwitted by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his designs. (2 Corinthians 2:14 KJV)

Many people do not like this topic and do not like thinking about such things. I understand that. If we desire to be obedient to the Word, then we have a duty and a responsibility to free people from the work of the enemy.

Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. (Matthew 10:8 NIV)

If you want to see how quickly the Lord can help you adjust, pray for others. That is huge in being launched into the things of the spirit. I was asking the Lord one day about seeing an increase in the supernatural in my life. All of the sudden I heard a voice say...

"If you want to see the supernatural, jam your foot into the mouth of the snake."

Then immediately after that I heard another voice say ...

"You'd better not!"

So let me ask you a question. Which voice was which? Who do you believe told me to jam my foot into the mouth of the snake and who told me not to?

If we look at this scenario using natural reasoning, we might say that the devil was trying to deceive us to harm us in some way and the Lord said "You'd better not" to protect us. But of course, we don't make our decisions based on the natural mind or thought processes. We follow the voice of the Spirit and look for confirmation in the Word. What does the Word say?

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8 KJV)

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. (John 14:12 NIV)

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. (Mark 16:17,18 KJV)

What was the Lord telling me in that small encounter? If you want to see the power of God manifested, or the supernatural of God manifested in your life, then start taking steps of faith and doing the things we are supposed to do. Once we take that step, Heaven opens to us in response.

The Lord has shown me the truth of this principle many, many times. You can spend all day long praying "Lord! Let me see an angel!!!" and then go to bed disappointed. But you spend an hour interceding for someone in need and suddenly Heaven opens before you. You spend a day praying for someone who needs a miracles and suddenly angels show up to give you a Word from the Lord, or some gift of empowerment like a sword or something to eat. This has been my journey and I share it so that you may have it also.

I have had many people tell me, "Mike, we don't have to spend hours in prayer. God has already given us all things!" My answer is great! Enjoy what you have then! I'm not trying to force you to live this life. You see, I enjoy praying for people. I love waiting on the Lord. I am passionate to spend time with him. This life for me is not about what He has or has not given, it's about walking, actually walking, in it and not just claiming it has been given. Do you see the difference?

Becoming normal to me, is not about seeing something spectacular once a year, or once a month, or once a week. It is living everyday with the manifestations of Heaven in my life and family and home. This is the normal that I desire for you to have.

#### The Door is Open

One of the things that many people wrestle with is signs and wonders that make no sense to them. I have talked about this in a previous chapter. I want to make you aware that if you say yes to everything God desires to give you, your life will not look normal to most of the world, the "church" included. Just like with spiritual sight, once the door is opened, it just seems to flow in your life. One of the most offensive things to many people I know, is the manifestation of gold dust (of various colors). In our home, this is a daily occurrence. To some of the people that come to our house, I don't even point it out to them anymore because I know they don't want it or value it. I have already spoken of the problem that comes from dictating to the Holy Spirit what He can or can't do.

The most recent manifestations of normal in our home, was that just before a visiting relative left our house yesterday, her head got covered with gold dust on one side, 2 of my wife's clients had gold dust appear on their faces, many random sprinklings of it appeared through the house and one, just one "sparkle," appeared on my thumb as I was typing. Why am I even telling you this? (Yes I hear many of you saying that) The reason is because when I speak to you of becoming normal, I want you to know what that means to me. To me, it means the constant, continuous and ongoing engagement the with Lord, Heaven and the things of Heaven.

But Mike, what about healing? Isn't that where the focus should be? OK.... If that is your question, go back again and read from the beginning. This time pay attention to where I have said our focus should be.

\*Another powerful example of normal from yesterday was that someone got a powerful deliverance right over the phone. God is so good!

## **Expecting the Unexpected**

When you allow the unusual and miraculous to become your normal, there eventually comes a shift to where you begin to expect it every day. You ask for it and you expect it. You expect the unexpected!

At the end of the day, most days, my wife Gordana and I compare notes about what unusual things God has done throughout the day. We are both expecting God to do things. When we go places we ask each other "Where are the angels you can see in the room?" We are not being flippant about these things but we have an expectation that we will actually see them. (or at least some of them) Expectation itself is a step, or statement of faith. Expectation is a prayer to God.

### **Normal Sleep**

Something else to consider is the fact that your sleep and rest time may change as you engage the things of the Kingdom more. For both my wife and I, when most people are getting ready to go to sleep, we are starting to pray and engage with Heaven. I initially chose that late evening hour to pray so that I could have quiet and solitude as I prayed. It has worked very well in spite of being tired some days. Gordana didn't really choose this time but there were two angels that began showing up about bedtime, and when my wife is in the presence of a strong anointing or powerful angelic presence, she gets pulled into the spirit. So... if you're in the Spirit anyway you might as well pray.

How is it possible to function on little or no sleep many ask. There is a scripture that covers this found in Isaiah.

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31 KJV)

The promise of this verse did not immediately happen for me. But after some time, I realized that even though I had been up all night, I was not tired. That began to happen more and more. This is just another thing in the long line of

promises that are available to us.

If you need to get sleep, do not be condemned about it. My day job did not require me to be real alert nor was I responsible for someone's safety. Get as much sleep as you need but let your passion for God soar.

### In the Spirit

For those who want to walk in the supernatural, you have probably figured out by now that you will be pretty much laying down your previous life. It is a choice but it is an easy choice once you have experienced the things of Heaven. Normal is being aware of and walking in the Spirit twenty-four, seven. If you have had any doubt about pursuing this life with God, one experience solves the question.

## A Prayer

Father, Change our minds and break off the thought process of the enemy from our minds. Let the mind of Christ be in us and let it be natural and normal to us to experience your presence and your Kingdom every day. Give us the desires to pursue our relationship with you and let your angels come around our lives to bless us and encourage us in the things that you have for us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

#### **Discussion**

Do we really believe it is or should be normal to see in and interact in both the spiritual and physical realms?

Can it ever be normal to see angels every day?

Is this level of relationship with God really necessary and does God want us to live this way?

### 7 SUPERNATURAL BREAKTHROUGH

This is a topic that is very important on many levels, in the supernatural and in life in general. We need breakthrough in every area of our lives. Finances, health, jobs and ministries are just a few of the areas that we are concerned about.

I have to admit something to you. I don't have the easy fix when it comes to breakthrough. I know what works and I know why it works, and that is what I teach. I teach from the personal revelation that God has given me not only on this subject, but on everything really.

The principles of breakthrough that I talk about are really universal, across the board. The reason being is that they are based on the same scriptures. But, it is not a popular message to much of the church today. You see I have heard many ways that people talk about getting your prayer answered and many of them sound so amazing. And many of them are based on scriptures. The problem I see with the way many pursue breakthrough is that twenty years later, they are still have not broken through.

## **Seeing the Opposition**

One of the benefits of seeing the unseen realm, is that sometimes you actually get to see how your prayers work or don't work. It gives you a better understanding about what is going on in the spirit. When you have revelation to go on it increases your faith and points you in the right direction. Many people have good ideas or ideas that sound good. When God gives you a revelation however, you know how to move forward. There is no guesswork and therefore you can sometimes see the victory sooner.

A friend of mine was disagreeing with me one day about what I said was

someone's sin. They explained to me that I was just giving my opinion, and that they believed the person in question was just fine and the choices they had made were fine also. So as someone who sees the spiritual realm, I just told him point blank, I have seen the demons that are causing him to do that. He did not believe me. But the truth was that he did not want to believe me. He still rejected what I was saying and my advice on praying for him. I let it go. The Lord was going to have to give him the wake-up call because I sure wasn't getting through.

Fast forward eight years. I get a frantic phone call from my friend who tells me... Mike! A demon just spoke to me through so and so. This is all demonic! We have to pray differently! I remember that very sad phone call and I just wonder how many people live in unnecessary bondage because some well-meaning minister or religious figure gives someone bad advice.

#### **Speak and it is Done**

This is a very popular belief in many circles Now don't get me wrong... I believe in this if you are actually walking in it. Meaning that you speak, or say something and it happens. If that is what you have, that is fantastic! I love it and I have seen it! That is where we are heading in my opinion.

The problem is that for most people this is not the reality. It has been taught as a method or doctrine and it really sounds good because it sounds like faith.... and it's easy. Speak, and it is done. Simple! Presumption is not faith however. If you pronounce something done by faith, that is good, but if it does not manifest, then you had better re-examine your plan.

What I am trying to say from my example is to pray fervent and effective prayers while clothed in the righteousness of Christ!

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (James 5:16 KJV)

I have looked at the lives of many men and women of God who had incredible, miracle filled ministries and the common theme with all of them is that they prayed until they had breakthrough. Do you want supernatural results when you pray? Then purpose within yourself that you will not stop until victory. Decide that you will continue to declare the power of God over a situation until it bows it's knee in submission to the name of Christ.

This is scripture. The Word gives us these assurances. This is not just some good idea I had, I have seen the power of God change situations over and over, especially these last ten years or so. Let me share a couple lessons...

I was led to pray for someone who had a life threatening illness a few years ago. The Lord told me to fast and pray for two weeks, and so I did. At the end of that two weeks, I was taken into the spirit realm to deal directly with the evil spirit who was afflicting them. I simply commanded him to leave and although he was not happy about it, he left. The person was healed right then. Praise God.

Not very long ago the Lord spoke to me to intercede for someone for two hours. I was very tired at the time and I asked the Lord to find someone else (respectfully) to do it. I then went to bed. At two in the morning, I was awakened by a phone call to go to the hospital on this person's behalf, and stayed there until morning. If I had simply obeyed the Lord, it would not have been an issue.

Prayer is powerful. To move in the supernatural you have to be a person of prayer. To see breakthrough you have to be a person of prayer. Jesus was always going away to pray.

After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone. (Matthew 14:23 NIV)

After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. (Mark 6:46 NIV)

And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. (Luke 6:12 KJV)

### **Powerful Prayers**

Not long ago, a man was telling me of a serious problem in his life. He spoke to me passionately about his broken heart and all the pain he was going through at the time. I was heart-broken for him. I told him that even though he had been praying over this situation for a couple of years, that God would honor our prayer of agreement. I asked him to spend a few hours in prayer with me for his situation. I knew that it might take a little bit of time to deal with both the situation and with his pain and brokenness over it.

It was very sad how quickly his demeanor changed. He said he didn't really have that kind of time and soon made an excuse to leave. Why did this happen. Was he insincere? No, I don't believe so. I think he suffers what many in the church suffer from, seeing little or no results when people pray.

If he had some experience that told him our prayer would change things, I believe he would have prayed with me. But that was not his reality. To him it was a waste of time.

# Seeing your Prayers and Authority at Work

Why am I so adamant that your prayer and the words you speak in agreement with the Word can change things? If you had asked me before I had any understanding of the spiritual realm, I wouldn't have been able to give you much encouragement about the power of prayer. I believed in prayer and I knew that God was powerful but I honestly would have never told someone, yes, God will do this or that. I had no expectation and no real knowledge or revelation.

And "knowing" the verses is not enough is it? How many people do you know,

that know and claim the verses of financial abundance yet still walk in lack? There is a deeper "knowing" and I'm going to share it.

The reason I am so certain about this topic is that I have seen it work. To me this is not a theory that I can debate with people over.

### **The Progression**

From learning through the testimonies of others and then seeing this manifested in my own life, I believe that praying powerful prayers and seeing things change by declaration under spiritual authority, looks like this...

The first time we deal with a particular issue, we may need breakthrough, especially if it is something long-standing. So being led of the Spirit we may pray for several hours, or however the Lord instructs us. But time may play a factor. The second time we come up against a similar issue, we may pray for a half hour and see a breakthrough. The third time we may make a declaration or issue a rebuke and the situation is resolved. The fourth time, you just enter the room and the spirit leaves.

I noticed this pattern in the lives of many people like John G. Lake and T. L. Osborn and others. The more we exercise our authority in Christ, the more effective we seem to be. This is not at all unusual because as we exercise our faith, our faith grows and grows stronger.

The faith and relationship with God that allows some people to see instantaneous results in prayer does not come by accident or without reason. It's not that we are earning anything. This is not about us doing something that gets us a reward, as much as it is a choosing of something. We are choosing a life of miracles. Nothing more. We make ourselves available to God as a vessel and He uses us. Is that the desire of your heart?

A few years ago, my wife and daughter were not getting along too well. Any time that they tried to spend time together going out, shopping etc., they would end up in an argument and their time would be over. Sometimes this would even happen within fifteen or twenty minutes. My daughter would be upset and my wife would be disappointed.

One day they were again trying to go out and spend time together, and about twenty minutes after they left the house my wife called me. She said "It looks like we'll be coming back home." Her voice told of her disappointment. After having seen this scenario between them several times, I suddenly realized this is not normal. Something rose up in me and I began to rebuke the work of the enemy. I went down into the basement where I can get loud and have lots of floor space to pace while I pray. I went after this spirit of division and contention and strife for all I was worth. My warfare session lasted about two hours, and after two hours, I felt I was done. You know how it feels sometimes when the burden lifts. It's like a weight comes off of you.

At that time I went upstairs and continued my day. A couple of hours later, my wife and daughter came through the door laughing and joking and obviously having a great time together. I asked "what happened?" My wife said "I don't know. All of the sudden we started getting along and so we just stayed out enjoying each other's company!"

This testimony is a key. There were many other things that I would have liked to have been doing that day besides praying in the basement. (as much as I love prayer) I had work to do, I had projects in the office I wanted to work on. But... The Lord gave me a revelation that as subtle as it was, my family was being attacked. Many would say this is foolish. Really? You prayed for two hours just because your wife and daughter didn't want to shop together? The Lord spoke to me in this situation. Why do we wait until our lives are out of control and going to Hell in a handbasket before we rise up and take authority and correct the situation? How bad does something have to stink in our home before we locate it and throw it out? How much of the enemy's presence and influence is OK with us?

Walking in the supernatural is so very amazing. I have to tell you it is! But if you

are going to do this, keep your sword in your hand. Yes, you can do that. And keep His praises in your mouth.

Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand. (Psalm 149:6 KJV)

What was I saying or praying many have asked. Being led of the Spirit, I was saying....

"I rebuke you in Jesus name! I take authority over you! I loose my family from your influence! I speak destruction upon you! I bind your evil work! I command the destruction of the plans of the enemy over my wife and daughter! I command you to go!" Etc.

You are in effect doing warfare by royal decree based on your position in Christ at God's own right hand. Pursuing the supernatural, I'm going to say that you probably know the scriptures about our authority in Christ. If you don't, you need to get a book that talks about the believer's authority and study it along with your Bible.

#### What it Looks Like

Why would I believe that doing this would have any positive effect at all? Having had my initial education about the supernatural in the area of deliverance and warfare, I have seen the effects of such decrees or commands many times. To many, it just looks like foolishness. But in the spirit it looks totally different.

I have had many occasions to see the spirits that I have been rebuking. Yes, actually see them, what they look like and how they react to the things we say. One thing I have seen is that your words, based in the authority of Christ move them out of your home, circumstances or life. I have literally watched them leave. Other times, I have seen certain spirits stand and stare at me without

reaction whatsoever. It looks almost like they are very unconcerned about the fact that you are rebuking them. This has happened several times.

The Lord gave me instruction about this. The reason these spirits stand and stare seemingly unaffected is because they want you to believe that your words have no power against them and no authority over them. They want you to believe that. It is not true, it is a trick. How does this work with those who don't currently see in the spirit, or don't see in that instance? If you are commanding someone's healing and they are not healed, or the healing has not manifested, it just wants you to believe that your words or prayers have no effect. The sickness must bow it's knee to the authority of Jesus Christ. Must is the key word here.

Evil spirits will hang on as long as they possibly can, resisting you, because they know from past experience that most believers will grow weary and give up. Not realizing that the victory was in reach, many will say it's not God's time, or the person didn't have faith or any other number of reasons.

This is it in a nutshell... If you want to be someone who moves in extraordinary power, be a person of extraordinary prayer. I don't care if you have been saved for only five minutes, believe the word and stand on it and don't back down and you will see miracles. If you are willing to go to the finish line you will stand out from the pack. By virtue of the fact that you are reading this book. This is YOU!

## **Another Word About Breakthrough**

Breakthrough covers every area of your life. Regardless if you are talking about health, the kids, family, finances, job, spiritual walk, gifts of the spirit, desires of your heart, school, marriage, relationships, success, ministry or anything else, you can have breakthrough in all these areas.

You're not sure what to say? It's not always what you say, it's more who you are. Whether you are taking authority over family issues or money issues, sometimes "Get out! May be the only prayer you need to pray. (or decree)

\*It's OK if you don't agree with me. If God has given you a strategy or instruction that works, then go with it. This is the revelation that the Lord has given me.

### A Prayer

Father, As we seek you and the call on our lives, let those things that would hinder us be stripped away so that we might burn brightly for you. Father give us Breakthrough to give us victory and increase. In Jesus' name. Amen

#### **Discussion**

In coming to an understanding about breakthrough, what testimonies have you heard from other about breakthrough and what do they, and you believe was the key?

What role does passion play in getting breakthrough? Wat role does repentance play and forgiveness?

What are some scriptures that talk about breakthrough and how might you apply them I your own lives or situations?

## 8 SIMPLE SUPERNATURAL

And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 18:3 NIV)

For all who really desire to walk in the deepest things of God, I have good news! It's yours! We hear testimonies from people about angels and trips to Heaven, supernatural signs and wonders, extraordinary healings, deliverances, favor and blessings. The natural response for many is "I need to learn how to do this." And to be fair, that is a part of it. A map or a direction so to speak to set you on the right course. But we can't over-complicate things. Jesus didn't make this difficult.

In the schools that I have been so excited to be a part of with Bruce Allen, we have seen spectacular visitations and revelation and Heavenly encounters by the children.

The children don't know theology, and they don't know a ton of scripture. They don't know the names of angels or the hierarchy of the Host. Yet they are experiencing and learning to walk in the supernatural. For them it's as natural as breathing. "We can see angels?! Yes? OK thanks!"

## Jesus Didn't Make this Complicated

If we look in the scriptures, Jesus gave very simple instructions to people to receive their miracles or answers. We learn sometimes through very simple stories about compassion, forgiveness, repentance, healing etc..

The scriptures give us direction that any and all can follow. Do you need mercy?

Be merciful. (Matthew 5:7) Do you want to be saved? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. (acts 16:31) (Romans 10:9) Do you need something from God? (Luke 11:9) Of course I am not saying that we stay in a place of "milk" and never move to "strong meat."

I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. (! Corinthians 3:2 NIV)

The scriptures tell us to study to show ourselves approved and we must do this.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15 NIV)

Think about some of the Lord's instructions... merely simple steps or acts of faith in him or on His word. Such as "stretch out your hand" (Matthew 12:13) or "pick up your mat and walk." (John 5:8)

I have found it to be also so about entering into the things of the Kingdom. Desire plus a simple act of faith will launch you into a new dimension in your walk with God.

## **Expert Advice**

I felt that this little teaching or encouragement was very necessary because of all the conflicting messages I have heard about experiencing the things of Heaven.

One day I received a message from someone who I had been talking to for about a year on the topic of seeing in the spirit and also on the supernatural in general. He said "Mike, I have to share this with you! All the stuff you talk about to get a breakthrough... we don't have to do that! I was talking to a lady, she is New Age, but she knows so much! She can really share some easy ways to see in the

spirit and other things. And as long as we do this for Jesus, what difference does it make where we learn it?"

The problem that this brother had, was not that there was some difficult task to perform, but he didn't want to spend time in prayer and worship and Bible study to have the supernatural. Therefore, he found another way. As I said, it isn't something difficult, but it is a choice we have to make.

At a conference once during questions and answers, a young woman asked if God really wants us to waste so much time on prayer. Yes, He likes it when we come to Him.

Lately, more and more people who have been desiring and seeking breakthrough, be it in spiritual sight or other things supernatural have decided that the reason they are not seeing the breakthrough they would like, is because they are missing something. They feel that they don't know enough. Many teachings (some very good) talk about learning about Heaven, and angels names and the government of Heaven and other things I won't name, but are things that I also enjoy knowing about. But do we really have to know these things to get breakthrough into the supernatural. The short answer is no. But... If learning all these things inspires you and causes you to joyfully seek after God with greater passion, then it's fine. If you get the idea that you will get a breakthrough simply because you have memorized a bunch of things about Heaven and the spirit realm, you would be mistaken. Jesus did not make this complicated. Let me tell you how uncomplicated He makes it.

## You Have an Assignment

At the schools that Bruce and Reshma Allen conduct across the world, they always have times where the people who are doing the "exercises" and steps of faith are called upon to give testimony. One of the requirements is that it doesn't matter what happens, you must have something written in your notebook. (even if it is "nothing happened")

In the Philippines, one morning I began choosing people to come and give testimonies. The people there were very engaged and I knew that everyone would fulfill their assignments. After hearing several amazing testimonies of translations and Heavenly encounters, I called on a young woman to come and share. She was shaking a little, so I thought she must either be nervous to speak in front of people or she didn't do the assignment.

When she first came up on the stage, she couldn't hardly speak, but after she calmed a little she told her story. She said "When my daughter and I got home, we decided to spend the time in waiting on the Lord as we were asked to do. We were expecting God to show us something but neither one of us was seeing or experiencing anything. It was getting close to midnight and I kept telling the Lord, Lord you have to show us something because we have an assignment! Still there was nothing so we continued to pray. Hour after hour I kept saying Lord we have an assignment! You have to do something! I was disappointed but I continued. It was six in the morning and I was still telling the Lord that He had to do something so I could complete my assignment. Then, suddenly Jesus walked into the room. He laid His hand on my back and I just felt His love flow into me." As this woman told this account, I understood why she was shaking so much. She was completely undone by the visitation of the Lord Jesus. He honored her request and visited her in a way she will never, ever forget. Moments such as those are life changing. This is what God is doing in this hour for those who desire it.

The instruction she followed was simple. Her passion for God and a simple step of faith, and the Heavens opened.

At a conference I conducted in Germany last year, on the very first night, I also gave everyone a simple exercise to do, even before I shared much at all about stepping into the supernatural. I wanted them to get a good start, instead of waiting until I had taught and then had to leave. I didn't know what kind of response I would get but I wanted to make sure they could start right away.

The following morning after the morning session, a woman came to me and said she "I took those simple steps of faith last night. I always knew that there was an angel close to me but last night I got to see him for the first time." She was so excited! I was just so happy for her!

Do you really desire to see the things of Heaven and walk in the spirit, literally? I have said this many times but I will repeat it for you. You could pray all day, "lord let me see an angel!" and come away very disappointed thinking maybe this isn't for everybody after all. But take steps of engaging with Heaven by faith and see what happens!

The Word says if we draw near to Him...

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. (James 4:8 KJV)

It's the Holy Spirit's job to lead us into all truth. Don't be afraid of taking those simple steps of faith and don't be afraid of making mistakes. Anything that we learn, there is a learning process. We learn, sometimes fall, but we grow. In my own journey I have made many mistakes in the things of the spirit. I trust the Lord to keep me safe and His angels to protect me. Why? Because His Word gives that assurance. No matter what things look like, we can count on Him.

The more we take simple steps of faith, the more our eyes and our understanding becomes enlightened, and the more we actually SEE His faithfulness!

## Is it Really That Simple?

One of the challenges that I face is to show people truly how simple it is to make giant strides in the things of the spirit, when it goes against all natural reasoning. Many people want something difficult to do or difficult to learn to be their key. That can never be the answer however, because we are not earning this.

There was a Bishop who was really offended by my simple teaching, and said that it was not helpful. I got the strong impression that he was insulted because the instruction I gave did not in some way acknowledge his high position and separate him from those of us on a lower rung of the ladder, so to speak.

It was the story of the Ethiopian Eunuch all over again. If I had given him something hard to do, he probably wouldn't have been angry at me. His pride was blinding him.

Be humble, be teachable and soar!

#### A Prayer

Father, Help us to come to you with child-like faith. Let these things of the kingdom be so normal and natural and simple for us Lord. Make it as easy and satisfying as taking a cool drink of water on a hot day. Father cause this to be normal everyday life for us. We yield to your will and your plan, whatever it may be. In Jesus' name. Amen

#### **Discussion**

Why doesn't God give a set of specific instructions in the Word that we can follow of this subject?

Do people who do more work for the Kingdom walk in greater than others?

Do the scriptures support simple acts of faith, or is there something more that we are missing? What scriptures come to mind?

## 9 LIVING IN BOTH REALMS

Living in the supernatural means living life in the Spirit. It is only "supernatural" because it is beyond the natural. When you live life in the Spirit, the unusual becomes the usual and the supernatural becomes the natural. Things that seem abnormal quickly become normal when it becomes everyday life.

A friend of mine who moves powerfully in the things of the Spirit, was talking to his angel one day as he was working out in the yard. In conversation, my friend referenced something by saying "it's supernatural." The angel responded "You mean natural." My friend told the angel twice more "No, I mean supernatural." Again the angel corrected him and said "you mean natural."

Suddenly my friend got the revelation. This is supposed to be our normal. It is natural. It is our nature for those in Christ.

There are many scriptures that give us instruction about living, walking and moving in the Spirit. Just like Adam, because of Christ, we have access to the Kingdom. We have access to the spiritual realm. We, as believers are supposed to be more than human.

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. (Galatians 5:16, 17 NIV)

This verse is so good! We have to put the flesh under, or in its proper place to live the life we are supposed to live. How do we do that? By the power of the Holy Spirit. We walk in the Spirit. The flesh will not take you into the things of God. It just won't.

And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. (Galatians 5:24 NIV)

When Paul talks about this he says...

I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. (1 Corinthians 15:31 KJV)

#### The Natural Realm

We have lived in the natural all of our lives. We are acclimated to this realm. We know how to walk and talk and see in the natural realm. Does that sound funny that I said we know how to see? We didn't know how when we were born. We had to learn. Watch a toddler in their interaction with the world and you can easily see that they miss most of it. A red corvette with a convertible top could go by a toddler and the only thing they might do is point and say "red!" Their eyes have to adjust and learn. Ours did too. Another year goes by and they may say "red car." We have to learn to navigate the natural realm. We are trained to from birth.

# The Spiritual Realm

The spiritual realm we know little to nothing about even if we attend church. Maybe especially if we attend church. To most, the spirit realm is either a fantasy where fables and fiction are born, or it is the place of the enemy, our adversary the devil. In the church I grew up in the spirit realm was not a heavenly place but a spooky place.

After my book "How to See in the Spirit" came out, I can't tell you how many people contacted me to tell me that Christians shouldn't "mess" with the spirit realm, or shouldn't "mess" with the supernatural. In my opinion, if anybody should be supernatural it's believers. But still... how many people are teaching

about the spiritual dimension or the things of the Spirit? There are very few and even fewer still that I would listen to. I have heard the craziest things from people who claim to be experts.

I have encountered the wildest ideas across the planet and somebody somewhere had to teach them those things. Once at a school a man shared his advice on spiritual warfare with myself and the class. He presented his "instruction" very sure of himself and expert-like. I told him that what he had suggested was not scriptural and he said it didn't matter because it worked for him. We can read about the spirit realm all throughout the Word, and get a very solid idea about it. We know it is real because the Word says that the physical was created out of the spiritual, and we see this in Genesis as well with God speaking things into existence.

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. (2 Corinthians 4:18 NIV)

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. (Hebrews 11:3 NIV)

So we know that the unseen realm is the superior and more "solid" realm. While the natural realm fades into decay, the unseen realm stands forever. Even though we know these verses, we still don't get much meat on the subject.

When we live all day every day in the natural realm and then have no teaching on the spiritual realm, is it any wonder that it's a bit difficult to make the leap from natural to spiritual or seen to unseen? When we finally find out about the reality of the spiritual realm we have we are at a loss of how to get there.

# **Shifting our Focus**

Just as it is with learning anything, we have to really put our attention on what

we are desiring to learn. Yes, this is very much a learned thing. I know people who have had sovereign experience in God where an angel came and touched their eyes and suddenly it was all opened to them, but those people are few and far between. The dynamic that most people have is found in a scripture that I have already mentioned. "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."

Our focus has always been natural and even when thinking about spiritual things, most of the time our focus is natural in our thinking about that. An example would be if we were to read a passage about John being in the Spirit on the Lord's day.

"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are...." (Revelation 1:10, 11 KJV)

Most reading passages like this, passages describing spiritual events, try to put them in a physical grid to understand them. Most would describe this as a dream or vision and focus more on the thing that he was told to do. I don't think I have ever heard a sermon where this verse was used that explained what was really meant by "being in the spirit" on the Lord's day.

Even during times of intense worse at church when the presence of the Lord can be tangibly real, people get used to the fact that it happened and now it's fading because it's time for the announcements or whatever. Most not realizing there are hosts of angels still standing around and willing to be engaged with them.

And of course there is always the view that these "strange" things were for days of long ago. There is a part of many people that says "I don't want to know about that stuff." I want the comfort of understanding the world around me. I want what feels normal to me. Just tell me the Bible stories as a history lesson and I'm OK with that, but let me live my own life and still love God. That is 95% of the church world.

So understand that when you share what God is doing in your life, many will have no desire to even hear about it. It causes their whole life to have to be reexamined. It is uncomfortable for them to say the least. I share this because I know that many of you are having extraordinary things happen in your life and you desire to share it and see others have it too. It's hard not to share sometimes.

#### **How Do We Shift Our Focus?**

We have responsibilities. We have jobs and family, and also other natural realm things that capture our attention pretty much all day long, from the time we get up until we retire at the end of the day. It's not like we can not be engaged fully in the natural realm. We don't have much choice in that.

The answer is that we purposefully do things that take us in the direction of the spirit realm, or the Kingdom realm, all day long and every day. We acknowledge our spirit as being real and we make a conscious effort to develop our spirit man. Just like when we finally decide to get in shape, it may not be easy, but we decide to get up early to walk or go to the gym and we are conscious about what we eat all day long. We look for little things to do throughout the day to help us on our journey, like taking the stairs instead of the elevator or taking the far parking spot instead of the close one. We actively look for ways to help us reach our goal.

We can do this also in the things of the Spirit, and although the things we may do don't necessarily sound spiritual, they can help us in our quest. This has been a key to breakthrough in the things of the spirit in my own life and in my family. Making the spiritual every-day living.

# Let's Go Over the Top

Do you want to be a champion athlete? What would it take to see that happen? Are you trying to win a full scholarship? What kind of dedication to your studies

would that take?

One of the things that I have wrestled with is that when I share about this, I sometimes feel that I have to convince people to go the extra mile, that perhaps I'm talking to people that are still just hoping God will do it all sovereignly. The group in Germany responded "No! We want this! This is what we live for! Tell it all and don't hold back!" That was very encouraging to me.

I have said this many times so I know that I'm repeating myself. To walk in both realms, you must walk in both realms. If we are going to do it, let's do it.

To cultivate an awareness of the spiritual realm that is helpful to the point of breakthrough, it has to be a serious effort just like anything else you have a desire for. Yes, the Holy Spirit empowers us and gives gifts. Yes, the Lord paid for all this with His blood and yes, it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom, but we still have a role.

It's just like healing the sick. If you desire to do that you have to speak the Word or lay your hand or do something, whatever the Lord tells you to do. It's the same with prophecy. You have to open your mouth by faith. If you wanted to heal a lot of people you would go out and pray for a lot of people throughout the day.

With engaging the supernatural realm, we do the same thing.

# My Day in the Spirit

I could give you examples or what if scenarios but it would be more real if I just told you about my day. You can decide for yourself what would work best for you.

When I wake in the morning I lay still and look purposefully to see what I can see in the spiritual realm. I normally do this from five to fifteen minutes,

depending on the level of success I am having. Even before I was seeing very much, I did this because it was a time I realized that I was seeing something in the spirit. When those few minutes are over I try to remember any dreams or visions from the night as I get ready for my day, shave, shower, etc..

Before speaking any word in English, my native tongue, I try to speak in tongues first, even if it is only a few words. The reason I do this, as inconsequential as it sounds, is because I want my voice to be engaged in the spirit realm before it is engaged in the natural realm. It's a decision about which realm is more important to me.

As I continue to get ready for my day, I pray in tongues and make decrees and pray over my family. I declare the life I want my family to have with an awareness of my position in Christ. I also make a declaration of who I am in Christ. I have comprised my decree from many scriptures that talk about who we are in Christ and when I say this decree, it is a strong reminder to me of who I am and whose I am, plus, I am putting the spirit realm on notice. I know who I am.

As I drive to work, I worship or pray, or pray in tongues, as the Holy Spirit leads me. When I pray in tongues, I will normally also pray another prayer from my spirit at the same time in English, but of course, not out loud. As I drive, I look around. The sky is usually still dark in the morning and if I look in the right way, I can see a lot of activity in the sky. Many beams of light coming down in various places. One thing I learned as I drove, was that if I cause myself to see in my inner vision, or imagination, it causes my "open eyed" vision in the spirit to increase at the same time.

A disclaimer here\*\*\* If you are not used to seeing inner visions and still interacting in the natural, I don't suggest you do it while driving, to learn.

When I arrive at work, as I set my feet on the property, I release the rule of Heaven over the place and apply the blood of Jesus over the place, property and people. As I enter the building I do the same thing. When I enter any new area, I look around in the spirit to see if I notice anything going on. Many times I see

the angels walking around, occasionally I see demons. It is never a problem to see demons. We have authority over them. Most of the time they will try to hide from you so you will leave them alone. I remember walking through our machine storage area one day, and seeing a rather large dark spirit tailing me from about twenty feet away. I just said to him, very matter-of-factly, you are not welcome here.

As I walk around my work area, I release from my spirit, love to all the other employees (6 of them) in my area. I also try to engage them in conversation about the Lord and pray for their health issues. Sometimes they are up for it, and other times not.

As I walk through doorways, I consciously make a decision to move from the natural to the spiritual (in awareness) Kind of like... I step through this physical doorway, but in the spirit, I also step through a door into the spirit with awareness of that realm. And the next doorway I happen to go through, I step "back" again.

Anything that I touch, if it's something that is a common thing that other people will touch also, like a doorknob, I release the anointing into it to affect those who will come behind me.

I am constantly looking. Even if I have a day where I see nothing, I always keep looking. My reasoning is this... Do we ever walk around with our physical eyes closed? No, we don't. So I don't want to do that with my spiritual eyes either.

Continually looking will cause you to see. As I look, I have also kind of trained myself to have a greater awareness of my peripheral vision. Many times you can see in the spirit if you pay attention to the things just outside of your area of focused natural vision.

The drive home is usually also a time of prayer, or worship. Sometimes I will pray for people who have sent me messages during the day, during that time. Still looking... always looking, because I want to keep my vision sharp

regardless of the time of day or night. Also, I should mention that it isn't just looking but also listening, sensing, smelling or feeling anything that seems to be at all out of the ordinary.

When I get home, I continue to be aware of the presence of the Lord and of Heaven. We sit down to dinner and share testimonies of miraculous events that have happened during the day. I share with my wife Gordana that an angel kept looking over my shoulder while I was checking my phone messages and startling me, and she tells me of all of her clients that day who got covered in gold dust or touched by the power of God as she prayed for them. Many don't have any kind of a grid for the power of God. Gordana was praying for a woman with a life-threatening disease once and as she prayed silently, the woman began to vibrate and shake. "What's happening to me?" She asked. It's the power of God touching you Gordana responded. It's OK.

In the evening, we have responsibilities of home and chores etc., but we are still engaged in the spiritual realm. We also like to watch some encouraging teaching from some anointed speakers. Many times, depending on who we are watching, angels will come into the room and stay with us. Many times they will minister to us as we listen to the teaching or pray and worship along with the video. While watching a David Hogan service, during the worship segment we were all worshipping too and my daughter's hands got covered with oil. Normal everyday life.

As we move into night, my wife Gordana goes into intercessory prayer for two to three hours and I work in the office and eventually make it over to my favorite chair... my prayer chair. There I engage with the Lord, worship, wait in stillness and wait for the revelation to come. My normal prayer time is midnight until three a.m. I cannot tell you how many experiences, and visitations have occurred, in the stillness of the night during those times. Then, I go to bed. I ask the Lord to give me greater revelation as I sleep and He does. If I wake up in the night, or early morning, I always look to see what's around me, or roll out of bed onto my knees to pray more.

Then, in the morning we do it all again.

Please notice something here. This is not unusual or abnormal. This is not over the top. This is just being always aware of the spirit realm and acting as a son of the Most High. I'm just doing what I feel led to do. As I do these things, Heaven opens before me.

To those who may say that this seems just a little over the top, let me put it into perspective for you. If I told you, I get up in the morning and I open my physical eyes... I keep them open all morning. When I approach a door I turn the handle and step through the opening. I pay attention to sounds as I drive, like maybe an ambulance or someone blowing the horn.... Do you see? It is not unusual to be aware.

The thing we have to remember is we are learning to be aware in both realms at the same time. At first, a series of "I will do this then that" may be necessary to remind ourselves of what we are doing because this is usually new to most people at this level. But after a very short time, it becomes as natural as breathing. It requires no conscious effort on our part, we are just living normal life in the spirit..

I have many friends who really desire to see the unseen. They keep hoping that God will sovereignly give this to them. They question if this is something we should pursue. The Bible gives us a clear word on this.

I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. (Revelation 3:18 NIV)

## A Prayer

Father, Let us be led of the Spirit. Let us be in the Spirit and walk in the Spirit. Let our life be one of yielded-ness and we pray that we always come into greater and greater awareness of your presence and your love. Let the things of Heaven

be open to us and Lord please meet us face to face so that we may be changed into your likeness. Use us for your Glory.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### **Discussion**

What are some of the difficulties that could arise from constantly trying to be aware of the spiritual dimension?

What are some simple things that we can do to be aware apart from the things that I have already mentioned?

How do we pray continually when we have to deal with people and have conversations such as at work etc.? Does the Bible give us any clues?

Does God really want us to live at this level of spiritual function and awareness when it seems that 99% of the church world does not? Scriptural validation?

### 10 ENGAGING HEAVEN

This is where breakthrough is found. In taking the little steps of faith on an ongoing basis, you will see the supernatural realm unfold before you. I am quite confident of that. I have heard many, many testimonies and more come every day.

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:30, 31 NIV)

Here we see Peter stepping out in faith onto the water. He did something! That could not have been easy considering the magnitude of the miracle. What he saw, pulled him back out of faith. Fear overcame his desire to walk on the water. This reminds me a bit of the journey we have into the supernatural of God today. We have a desire, but experiencing that realm is an adjustment for most.

Don't be afraid to step out of the boat at the direction of the Lord. Many of you who know me, know that as I began to experience the presence of angels, I would at times be fearful and I would rebuke them, and command them to leave! Just be aware that the Lord is always with you and He will protect you. He has given His angels charge over you.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." (Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV)

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (Hebrews 13:5 KJV)

Put action to your faith and your desire. God won't disappoint you.

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. (James 2:17 NIV)

#### 1. WAITING ON THE LORD

Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. (Psalm 25:5 KJV)

Waiting on the Lord with expectation was the first real instruction I ever received and was the catalyst for launching me into the heavenly realms, an encounter with the Lord Jesus and the supernatural things of God. If you take nothing else from this book, this one thing will give you breakthrough if you are diligent in it.

We read that scripture in the Psalms and it can make you wonder... did David really wait all the day? No brother, that's just a metaphor. Who in their right mind would wait all day? Who in today's world has time for that. I have actually been told that by ministers of the Gospel. Learning to move in the spirit realm and the supernatural of God means spending time in the spirit realm. Waiting on the Lord is one way we do that. This is a foundational thing for me. Any time I share on the supernatural or the spiritual realms, I share this. If I don't give you this key I am doing a disservice to you.

When I first shared about waiting on the Lord, I think I may have devoted a paragraph or two explaining the process, thinking that people would know the rest. After having had literally hundreds of questions... What do you mean by this or that, I have expanded my teaching on this a bit.

## Waiting

Waiting on the Lord is setting aside time to be still and quiet before Him and wait for Him to show or tell you something. He could also minister to you in other ways, so we don't leave anything out, we just go where the Lord takes us. How long do we wait? We wait as long as it takes or as long as we are able. Myself, I have already told you that I wait on the Lord from Midnight until 3am. There are no distractions at that time and I can hear God's voice much better and see much better at that time.

But isn't God always with us? Why does it take time? It takes time because we are distracted by the clutter of the day and of the natural realm. When we wait, it's not to give God time to show up but rather to give us time to let go of those things that hinder us, and come to a place of rest where we can better hear His voice, or see what He is doing.

As it gets close to midnight, I start thinking about my upcoming prayer time. I think about miracles I have heard recently or visitations from the past, allowing myself to feel an expectation that my time with the Lord will be fruitful. If anyone is still up and about, I will wait until they lay down for the night before I begin to pray, worship or wait on the Lord. I learned this through many nights of experience that a fully quiet house will make things much easier. I go and sit in my prayer chair and get as comfortable as I can. I make sure that even the clothes that I'm wearing will not be a problem for me later by being at all uncomfortable.

I begin by asking forgiveness if I have not done that previously, but I usually have. Because I know I am about to engage the spiritual realm, I apply the blood of Jesus to myself, family and home. How do I do this? By decree.

A Prayer "I cover myself, my family and our home with the blood of Jesus and I invoke the power of His blood and His name as a covering and protection as an heir of Christ. I apply the blood in every way, body, soul and spirit, in every realm and dimension."

I also call upon the resources of Heaven. As an heir, Jesus has made all thing available to us. Everything pertaining to life and godliness.

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. (2 Peter 1:3 KJV)

A Prayer "Father send your angels to minister, help, encourage and protect according to the provision of your Word. I receive that now."

Now that I'm in my chair and waiting upon the Lord, I get as comfortable as possible. I don't move around at all. It's not that I don't move much... I don't move period. If someone were to walk past me they might be inclined to check my pulse. That's how much I don't move. If your body is uncomfortable or tense, it can be a distraction to moving into the spirit.

In essence, we are setting aside the physical realm and putting all of our attention on the spiritual.

The very first instruction I had like this came from Bruce Allen, the man who wrote "Gazing into Glory." He said as you wait, look to see any kind of light at all no matter how faint it might seem. It's kind of like being in a dense forest and getting closer and closer to the edge of the forest where the light begins to come through the trees.

As I gave this instruction once, a young woman asked "shouldn't we turn our focus and attention to Jesus?" It was a good question because we are not trying to do some "new age" practice here. The truth is the if you really desire to walk in the supernatural, and walk in the Spirit, your focus and attention should always be on the Lord. It's not like we are doing this, that, and the other, and then suddenly "Ok now, let's turn our attention to the Lord." No, that is a given.

So... I am in stillness. I am at rest. I am sitting in my prayer-chair waiting. Many people, myself included have many random thoughts that try to surface during

this quiet time. That is also a distraction. The Word says that we should cast down imaginations... Taking every thought captive.

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; (2 Corinthians 10:5 KJV)

If thoughts of any kind try to take away your focus, cast them down. "I cast you down distraction!" I command you will not intrude on my prayer time." With me, this has not been such a problem because I learned early on from the Lord that I needed to give my mind something to do. When I wait on the Lord, although my eyes are closed, I actively look to see what I can see. I try to have the same measure of focus and intention as if I were a sentry standing guard on a dark night. That I must be very alert and look and keep looking, being ever alert and aware.

The same thing can be said for what we hear. We actively listen to notice any sound no matter how faint or far away it may seem. Now in this place of stillness and quiet and desire, we wait with an expectation that the Lord will show us something. In the Psalms, you know that when David talks about waiting on the Lord, that word wait means to wait with expectation. Plus God honors your passion and desire for Him and your step of faith.

As you wait, as you actively look and listen with the intention of seeing something, a shift happens. Every part of you knows that you are intently looking when there is absolutely nothing physical for you to see. As you continue to look, your spiritual eyes begin to open more and very soon you see the spiritual realm. The more you do this, the easier and faster it happens. It finally gets to the point where you don't even have to set aside quiet time for this, the shift comes anyway. You are training your spiritual eyes to open and see, and allowing yourself to have a conscious awareness of it. When that door opens, you just begin to see more and more naturally.

This practice, as simple and unreligious as it seems will give you breakthrough.

In the School of the Supernatural, we did this as an exercise for forty-five minutes every day during the school. Every day we heard amazing testimonies from the fruit that came from doing this.

As you begin, it may be difficult to maintain this stillness for any length of time. That's ok. It gets easier and will become natural to you and a joy to engage with Heaven in this way.

#### 2. DISCERNING YOUR OWN SPIRIT

Many times the difficulty in moving in the spirit is greater because the feeling of the spiritual dimension is so foreign to us. Most of us don't know what our spirit man even "feels" like as we begin this kind of journey. We may feel or sense things during an anointed worship service or sitting under the ministry of someone who carries the tangible power and presence of God. We feel that electricity or vibration come upon us or perhaps a heaviness like someone just covered you in a blanket. (yes, you have felt that! Awesome!) Many times during these times you sense that someone has placed their hand upon your head, or you feel winds or breezes on your face. This is all a manifestation of experiencing things in the spirit. Your spirit-man is feeling all of this and because you are not distracted you have the awareness of it.

When we have those occasion where we get "goosebumps" sometimes that can be a physical response to a spiritual sensing or feeling. Also when you go to places where something doesn't quite feel right, it's often your spirit-man who knows something and you have a degree of awareness.

How do we get a better sense of how our spirit feels or operates? If we wait and hope for those worship services once a week, or the goosebumps once in a great while, it would take forever to see any kind of increase of discerning. We don't want it to take forever to better discern our own spirit, at least not if we don't have to.

#### **Exercise Your Spirit**

First we get into a place of stillness and rest. When you have been in that place of rest for a little while, maybe five or ten minutes, we begin to engage through steps of faith and prayer and decree, in the spiritual realm. As we do this, you will feel or discern certain things. As you do this more and more, you grow in your ability to discern things of the spirit.

As an exercise during the school, we came into a place of rest and then I prayed and decreed and blessed those in attendance. They then were told to stay aware of any sensation at all that occurred during these prayers and decrees.

For you, what I would like you to do is make these decrees and prayers over yourself. Do this out loud and silently in your spirit or mind/ imagination as well. When you pray or decree out loud, do it very quietly because we don't want to shift the focus from the spiritual to the natural. I will phrase these things as "first person" as if I am praying over myself so that you may use them as a template or however the Holy Spirit leads you.

A Prayer "Father I yield to you. I yield to your plan for my life. I open myself to you. Holy Spirit come into the depths of my being, Search me and cleanse me. Let there be no place within me hidden from you. Fill me with your Glory. Fill me with your light. Fill me to over flowing. Fill me with your spirit. Transfigure me and transform me. I receive your light I receive you Lord. Transform me Lord. Fill me with your love. Fill me with your light. I receive your love. I receive your light. I open every door to you Lord. I am a gateway for you Lord. Use me for your Glory."

As you pray something like this, pray also in your imagination. We pray not only the words "fill me with your light" but in our minds we see that light of God entering into our beings. When we pray "transfigure us Lord" we not only say the words but in our imagination we see ourselves glowing from the Glory of

God according to Isaiah sixty. We pray and decree with our entire being, body, soul, and spirit.

A Decree "In Jesus' name, I am a child of God. I am seated at the right hand of power in Christ. I am an heir and a joint heir with Jesus Christ. He has given his angels charge over me. I am seated in authority far above principalities and powers. I am a legal heir to my Father's kingdom. Because of my position in Christ, my words have power and authority. I decree that I walk in holiness. I declare that I am clothed in the righteousness of Christ. His will is established in my life and family and home. His will be done. I declare these things from God's own right hand. Your Kingdom come your will be done"

### **Exercising Authority**

One of the most powerful ways that I have seen an obvious reaction in the spirit, so as to sense in my spirit things that are happening has been during times of intercession and taking authority. We are given in our instructions that we are to discern good from evil, so how does that happen without ever discerning evil?

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (Hebrews 5:14 KJV)

A Declaration In Jesus name I declare that I am cleansed by the blood of Jesus. Satan you have no place in me and no power over me. I am washed in the blood of the lamb. From my position at the right hand of power in Christ I loose myself from all of the works and plans of the enemy. I loose my home and family from any and all unclean spirits. I command the unclean to go. I command darkness to go. I command sickness, disease and infirmity to go in the name of Jesus Christ. I command all demonic plans against us are broken. I speak total destruction upon the enemy. I command the enemy to be silent and separated from us. I place around my family a hedge of divine protection. I declare that the hand of God is around us and we are hidden in Christ in God."

### **Asking for Help**

This next prayer ruffles some people's feathers just a little. When it comes to angels, many people have strong opinions. Some say we shouldn't talk to angels. Some say we should have no desire to even see them. Some people say we are supposed to command angels and some say we are not.

Once, as I mentioned previously, during an intense time of warfare during the night, I felt so weary and overwhelmed that I didn't think I could continue.

Just when it looked hopeless, the Lord spoke.

"Ask the angel to fight for you." He said. What? Are you sure Lord. Have you read the Bible? I don't think we are supposed to talk to angels... at least that what some people say. Of course I did not say that to the Lord, I just said "Angel of the Lord, fight for me." And immediately the battle was taken out of my hands completely and I went to the bed and got some much needed rest.

This occasion, along with many others, taught me that it is not forbidden to ask angels for help. The Lord himself told me to do it. I have done it many times and I have a boatload of testimonies of God's faithfulness, and angels helping me. I ask when I have a need.

A Prayer "Father, thank you that you have given your angels charge over me. Father let the angels of the Lord minister to my family and my house according to your will. Let the resources of Heaven be manifest in my life. Angels of the most high God, you have my permission and encouragement to come and do the will of the Father in my life. Father let your angels minister your will to us to help us, bless us, and encourage us. Father let Heaven be manifest in our home and lives in this way Face to face Lord. Let your kingdom comes for your glory. In Jesus' name Amen."

As you do these things, praying and decreeing over yourself, pay attention to anything at all to seems out of the ordinary and make a note of it. The more you do this, the more you will have an awareness of your spirit-man. The fruit of this is that as it becomes more normal to discern and feel the spiritual dimension, it is easier to see and go and walk in the spirit as well.

#### 3. COMING INTO REST

Coming into a place of rest is a very practical teaching meant to make it easy to make the transition from physical to spiritual as quickly as possible. Really the goal is to make it where there is no transition, you are just always walking in both realms. But sometimes we need to do something to get the breakthrough. It's kind of like when someone desires to be able to juggle and ride a unicycle at the same time. That may be the goal, but when they train people to do that, they master one thing first to the point where they need pay no conscious attention to do it, then they learn the other skill as well, then they can effortlessly learn to do them both at the same time.

That is the purpose for this next exercise. We want to make it easy to make the transition so that it becomes first nature.

When I first began to wait on the Lord and was trying to learn the practical lessons to overcome distractions of every kind, this is how I learned to go from physical activity to stillness and rest very quickly...

Sit in a comfortable chair or lay down wherever it is comfortable to do so. In your mind or imagination, go through a mental checklist of your body from the top of your head to the soles of your feet. As you focus on the first item n your list, let's say it your face, you purposely relax your face and bring it into a place of rest.

You will be asking yourself... Are my eyes relaxed? Are my lips relaxed etc.. Then when you have decided they are, you move down the list. Now, it may be

your neck so you purposely relax your neck and go to the next item on your checklist.

After you have gone from head to toe, wait about five minutes and then go through the checklist again. You will more than likely find that some parts of you are tensing up again and need some more focus. After you have done this a second time, get up and move around. Do something physical for a few minutes. The goal is to go from being physical to being still as quickly as possible.

Then go back and repeat the exercise again.

I know that this sounds very strange to some of you. I get it. This is not a religious instruction but a practical one. "Where is that in the Bible brother?" To be honest, I can't think of a scripture that mentions going through a mental checklist. It's kind of like if I was giving you practical instruction of how to memorize scriptures. I could say "As a practical measure, you probably should not watch TV while you are memorizing scripture." Where does it say in the Bible that we can't watch TV and memorize scriptures at the same time? It doesn't. But we can understand that it is just a practical thing that we can do to see a faster breakthrough or result.

This exercise will cause you to see greater results in all the other exercises, as they are all about engaging the Kingdom and they all work together.

#### 4. PRAY FOR FIVE PEOPLE

In this exercise we see the power of praying with our entire being, when we pray for the needs of people. This is an engagement of our imagination when we pray. Ask the Holy Spirit about who you should choose and then choose five people that you know need prayer for something, and write their names down in a notebook. We do this so that we can verify what we are seeing in the spirit when we pray.

Now from a place of stillness, seeing the first person in your mind or imagination. Notice the surroundings, what they are wearing or anything else you may "see" as you pray. Pray as if you are standing there right with them. See yourself laying hands on them or prophesying over them. Pour oil on their heads or anoint them as the Spirit leads you. Pray for this person, in your imagination for five minutes. Make it the most fruitful five minutes of prayer ever and then move on to the next person. And repeat this process.

After you have gone through all five people on your list, take a few minutes and write down any details that stood out to you as you prayed. Not just the surroundings or the clothes they are wearing, but also if the Lord may give you a word for any of them. . After you have done this, if at all possible try to verify anything you may have seen. And write that down also.

What I have seen as people do this, is that very often the things they see in their imagination when they pray are the way that things really were for those whom they prayed. I have seen testimonies of healing and deliverances and other miracles come from people who have done this.

The Lord showed me a few years ago, that when we pray in the spirit, there is little to no doubt and unbelief involved. In the Spirit our faith soars and we know who we are when we pray. As a spirit being, we don't carry that doubt. When we pray in our imagination or spirit, even though we may have the conscious awareness of the physical realm at some level, we still carry a greater level of faith. When I pray for people, this is how I pray.

#### 5. COMING BEFORE THE THRONE

One of the greatest "vehicles" of breakthrough we saw during the school of the supernatural, was worshipping God in our imaginations. The Bible says that God inhabits the praises of His people. This is one way to see the reality of that.

How this came about for me was that after I learned of the power of words and sounds and how they can affect us and our spirits, and be felt in our spirits, I

would engage in worship this way at church. Many times I'm sure people were wondering why I was not participating in worship because I was sitting still, but the truth was I was worshipping in the spirit.

As I did this more and more, just like anything we engage in the spirit, it begins to manifest in our lives. Bruce Allen talks about the imagination being a bridge between the physical and spiritual realms. That is very true. He says that the more you exercise your sanctified imagination the faster the transition happens for you. After a little while, the transition becomes more like stepping through a doorway and then after that, you move back and forth at the Father's pleasure without any thought on your part whatsoever. You just walk in both realms.

From a place of stillness, see yourself coming before the throne of God. If you don't know how that might look, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal it to you. If you still need help, find a picture that an artist might have created. Fix that place in your mind and see yourself kneeling down before the throne and lifting your hands and worshipping. However the Lord leads you, flow with it. Sing or dance or fall on your face, all in your imagination or spirit, and worship God. I try to do this until I have a manifestation of God's presence in that I become aware of His presence in a tangible way.

When I first began to do this, when I began to find myself in the throne room, I would try to stay in the back behind others and worship from there. The Lord would always bring me to the front row. I did that many times until finally I just learned to be there and accept His goodness and love for me. Even though there were multiplied millions there, the connection you feel is so personal. It's like you are the only one in the world to Him.

During these times in the school, many were caught up into visions and other experiences.

### A Word about Imagination

Imagination has been given such a bad rap by the church, it is like the devil stole it and it's use by default. God created the imagination, not the enemy. The enemy doesn't create anything. He just steals what he can and twists it for his evil purpose. In the Bible it talks about casting down imaginations. The rest of the verse explains that we are casting down those things that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God. The Bible gives us instruction to use our imaginations in a godly way for His purpose. When the Bible talks about meditating or thinking on things, how do we think? With our minds and our imagination. If I tell you to think about your house, what happens? You probably see a picture, not the word house printed out as in a book.

Here are a few scriptures to meditate on concerning the imagination.

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; (2 Corinthians 10:5 KJV)

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14 NIV)

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. (Philippians 4:8 KJV)

Use your imagination and develop it to godly purposes. Think and meditate on good things and godly things. Think about the things of Heaven and the Lord and meditate on Him and His goodness. If you have ever used your imagination for ungodly purposes, ask forgiveness and cleansing to be given to you. Ask the Lord to sanctify your imagination and He will do it!

#### A Final Word

The things that I have shared with you are the things the Lord put on my heart to share. The Lord said to make sure to present the importance of foundation in the things of God when seeking the supernatural. I have tried to do that. If you master the basics. I mean really master them, you will walk in the supernatural. You will walk in the Spirit.

The life that my family and I live is what I have talked to you about. It is not a fantasy to expect continuous relationship with the Lord, visitations from angels, miracles, signs and wonders and a life of blessing and abundance. I pray that you do all of these things and more until you find yourself living I the supernatural of God.

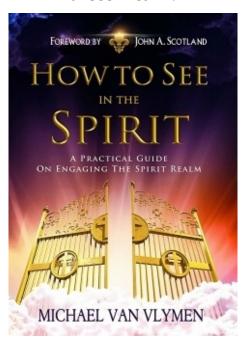
Father, I release all you have given me in spiritual gifts to those who are willing to receive it. Father bless them and use them for your glory and for the Kingdom. Let them experience every lesson and vision and visitation, let them become a sign and a wonder and let their homes be a place of the manifestation of your Kingdom. In Jesus' name. Amen

# Other Books by This Author

## How to See in the Spirit

A Practical Guide on Engaging the Spirit Realm

This book teaches you how to open your spiritual eyes so that you can see the unseen realm.



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00FV4WJJ0

I have read many books on this subject but never felt like it could really happen to me until this book. This book is by far the most "nuts and Bolts" practical that I have ever read.

-Amazon Customer

### **Angelic Visitations**

### and Supernatural Encounters

Read of our heritage and the normalcy of living a supernatural life in God. This life is for you.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00IDWDTO6

This book is a record of what it looks like to live life in the supernatural every day. With instruction and encouragement throughout, this book will bless you and impart to you.

#### Also by Michael Van Vlymen...

### How to do Spiritual Warfare

Keys to Walking in Victory as a believer <a href="https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00UDNPZFY">https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00UDNPZFY</a>

### **Powerful Keys to Spiritual Sight**

Effective Things You Can do to Open Your Spiritual Eyes

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B015F2XEMS

### **Supernatural Transportation**

Moving Through Time, Space and Dimension

### for the Kingdom of Heaven

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01GLP27TO

## **Angels and Demons – Book One**

Encounters in the Unseen Realm

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B016HIOSDS

### Angels and Demons - Book Two

Encounters in the Unseen Realm

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B019SHMU0I

# **Translation by Faith**

Moving Supernaturally for the Purposes of God With Dr. Bruce Allen

https://goo.gl/cSojtk

# Michael and Gordana Van Vlymen River of Blessings International Ministries



Please visit us at www.riverofblessingsinternationalministries.org

or connect with us on social media.

Thank you.

# One More Thing....

#### **Healing and Breakthrough**

One of the greatest blessings to my family in learning to walk in the supernatural of God, has been the interaction with God's angels. Can I just share a story with you?

Many times in the course of our lives especially these last few years we have had occasion to see many angels. Some of them appear as you might expect angels to appear, some are "see through" in appearance and some are like men.

Not long ago my wife Gordana and I were in the Philippines ministering with Bruce and Reshma Allen, and we had a glorious time in the Lord. God did many miracles and I was so thrilled that Gordana got to go with me. Many times it is not possible for her to go.

For many of the flights going there we were able to sit together and it was a blessing. On the way back however, the longest leg of the flight we were separated. We were both sitting in the very middle row, in the middle seat, with me directly behind her. On this aircraft, the middle section had three seats across. I was at least happy that we were close, if not actually side by side. The plane filled up with passengers and Gordana still had no one on either side of her.

Suddenly down both aisles came two very tall men. The one on the left looked to be about six foot- five, with a medium build and the man coming down the right aisle just a bit taller but with a muscular build. They each took a seat beside Gordana. I kind of laughed and thought to myself that it's a good thing that she is so small, because those guys were so big. As the flight continued on, I would

look in on Gordana from time to time to make sure she was doing OK.

She seemed to be talking to the man on the left a lot and he seemed very nice and friendly. I watched her interact also with the man on the right, but although he was nice, he seemed very serious. In one of my times of checking on her, I was thinking to myself, it sure is nice that she has someone pleasant to talk to on this long flight.

As that thought had only just happened, I heard the Lord speak to me. "They asked to sit with her." I'm sorry..... What Lord? "Yes, They asked to sit with her. The "man" on the left is Healing and the "man" on the right is Breakthrough." I looked at them again closer and with that revelation. Oh my goodness I thought. Then, I was wondering if it would be OK if I also spoke with them, but I couldn't bring myself to butt in. Gordana was having such a wonderful time talking with them. I didn't want to mess it up. I just watched.

After we left the plane to catch the next one, Gordana turned to me with a huge smile and said "you will never guess who those guys were who were sitting with me!"

I smile back. I said "the Lord already told me. They were angels. The one to your left was Healing and the one on your right was Breakthrough."

"Yes!!!" She said "Can you believe it!"

Yes I really can.

Healing and Breakthrough asked to sit beside my wife Gordana and the Lord granted them that. We have seen many angels and have had many encounters but the Lord always surprises us and thrills us with His goodness!

Thank you Lord!