

Robert Tilton

Master Faith Builder / CEO

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CHART YOUR COURSE
BY
THE DREAM IN YOUR HEART

ROBERT TILTON

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By Robert Tilton

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INTRODUCTION

God created Adam and Eve, our first ancestors, to live in a garden paradise. Eden was a place of peace, love, joy, health and plenty. He created them in His image and likeness to exercise dominion over all the earth, and to multiply and expand His Kingdom and His will on earth as it is in Heaven. If you have read the Bible you know that they listened to the wrong voice, the serpent, and sinned. God sent them out of their paradise and they were on their own. Perhaps that is how you are feeling about now—alone—on your own.

But that was not the end of the story. God sent His Son, Jesus, to forgive mankind of the sin committed by Adam and Eve. We now have hope through Jesus Christ. Life doesn't have to be a continual striving to live an abundant life...a life with "more than enough." God is our source for all that we need...and more. Look at Peter's letter to believers who may have felt what you are feeling right now.

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be *partakers of the divine nature...*

—2 Peter 1:1–4

Now, why do you think Peter was so sure that we could find all that we need in Jesus? Go back to Matthew 14:22–32 and read the story of Peter walking on the waves to go to Jesus. What do you think Peter was seeing as he took the first step on the water? When he looked at Jesus he knew that he was looking at the impossible becoming possible. With Jesus all things are possible (see Mark 9:23). Then he looked at the waves below him. He realized he was “on his own” when he took his eyes off Jesus, and he began to sink.

Peter must have had an overwhelming desire to go to Jesus...not just for the thrill of walking on water, but because he wanted to be with his master. But, look at what Peter says in verse 28: “ Lord, if it be thou, *bid me come* unto thee on the water.” He knew he couldn’t do it on his own. This brings us to the reason I wrote this book. God has put desires in each of us and is more than willing to bring those desires to pass. Psalm 37:4 says, “Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” Did you get that? He will put the desires in your heart, and then make them happen.

So, stop right now and ask yourself, “What is the desire in my heart?” “Do I have a dream or a vision that has been in my heart for a long time, but is going nowhere?” Would you like to learn how to “step out of the box” into the life you are meant to live? Are you ready to become the person you’ve always known is the “real” YOU? Get ready to learn how to see your dreams become reality. Begin to take authority over your circumstances. Learn how to *chart your course* to break free of debt, and walk in the purposes you were created to fulfill. Live the abundant life Jesus promised us—the enriched life in Christ.

As we said, “Nothing is impossible with God.” How do I know? Beloved, I’ve been there. I have been at the top of the mountain, and through many trials and tragedies found myself

back on the bottom...looking up. I found the pathway back up the mountain, and as Elijah said in 1 Kings 4, "I hear the sound of abundance of rain." My purpose today is to share what I have learned with you: *How to get up when you are knocked down.*

If you feel far from God, or if you have lost it all...your job, your family, your reputation, your friends—don't give up. God has amazing blessings for you. I want to share with you how to *Chart Your Course by the Dream in Your Heart.* God likes big dreams! He can give you mountain crossing faith to see those dreams come to fruition.

So, if you are ready to birth your dream into reality, let's go! Turn to Chapter 1 and begin the journey of a lifetime!

PART I

YOUR INSPIRED DREAM

*A man's heart plans his way,
But the LORD directs his steps.
Proverbs 16:9 (NKJV)*

Chapter 1

FROM DREAMS TO REALITY

Olympic Gold and Silver medal winner Madeline Manning Mims was born in the ghettos of Cleveland and told she would never be able to get out. She was told everything was against her, and she had no idea what she could do to change her situation. But when she put Jesus on the throne of her life, she found she could *run* out of the ghetto. Jesus told her how she could succeed and overcome every obstacle. Now she is a four-time Olympic winner. Do you have some dreams that you would like to see become reality? Well, stick with me. By the time you finish reading this book, you will be ready to “run out of your ghetto” and let nothing stop you. The apostle Paul wrote in Ephesians 3:20–21, in *The Amplified Bible*,

Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]— To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen (so be it).

Nothing is too hard for the Lord, “...*according to the power that worketh in us*” (v.20). As you pursue your dream, remember this: He wants you to succeed...more even than you want to succeed. We read in 3 John 1:2, “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.” Now, you may be thinking, “What does that mean for me?” It means if you can dream it—He can do it. You can have it.

Nearly everyone has dreams for their life, and would like to have their dreams become reality, but they often fail to decide on a plan or a blueprint, so the dreams remain dreams. So, what is your dream? Habakkuk 2:2 tells us to: "...Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it." But, before we get into how that happens, let's pray together.

Heavenly Father, as we have just seen, You want us to prosper more than we want to prosper. You want to do exceeding abundantly above all that we could ask or think, according to Your power that worketh in us. You want us to be in health. Lord, some people who have picked up this book have a dream of walking again. Lord, some have a dream of being healed and getting out of bed. Many just want to live without pain. Lord, I believe as I am writing the words of this book, the anointing that is flowing through me at this very moment—this anointing that I've spent hours in prayer to believe You for—I believe will flow through my new friend reading this book. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen, So be it, Lord.

Have Blueprints and Plans for Your Dreams

When a man prepares to construct a building, he has a set of blueprints that tell him how to build, what material to use, and where all the parts of that building fit. Many people plan all sorts of things just like that, but they seldom plan the course for their lives, their families or their businesses. They don't plan *according to the dream in their heart*. They don't have a blueprint to tell them what steps to take. We read in Proverbs 16:9, "A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps" (NKJV). We plan our ways by the Dreams in Our Heart then God begins

to direct our steps as we take action to do this God's Power begins to work in our behalf. Dream it. Plan it, Do it...Don't Stop....till you get to the top and see your Dream become a reality.

At one time I lived next to an airport, which has made me reflect at times about airplanes. Airplanes are designed to fly...some fly slower, some are built to fly higher and faster, and some are jet-propelled, often capable of flying faster than the speed of sound. But many of them just sit in a hanger doing nothing, rarely going out of the hanger. I've seen others take off, fly around in a circle and come right back where they started, never getting where they wanted to go. A few of them crash and never reach their destination.

It has made me realize how much like airplanes some Christians are. Some are still just "sitting in the hanger," doing nothing. If you are like that, I want to pull you out of your parking space, fill you up with the jet fuel of faith and get you ready to take off. If you have taken off but are flying in circles, I want to show you how to *Chart Your Course* to reach your destination. You *can* have a chart or a blueprint for your life, and God will direct your steps.

I remember once when we were going to Hawaii. We were at the end of the runway, getting ready to take off, when one of the engines quit. We sat there for two hours. We were praying and using our faith to get that engine cranked up, because we wanted to go to Hawaii, but until the engine was running, we couldn't leave the ground. Some believers don't take off because they don't have their engines running. They have no power in their engines.

Another time, we were flying out of Tampa, Florida, but the tower wouldn't let our plane take off, because there was no landing slot available at our destination. The airline's computer system would not let us take off until we had a place to land. Did you know that some Christians take off prematurely—often before they are even sure of their destination? Then they run the risk of running out of fuel before it's time to land, and they may crash.

Sometime ago a plane crashed in the suburb of a large city, only six feet from a building. What happened? As the pilot approached the area he encountered zero visibility. He became disoriented, because all he could see around him was clouds, and he didn't know how to correctly read his instruments. He knew how to fly the plane with his natural senses when he could see where he was, but when he had to depend on his instruments, charts and gauges, he didn't know if he was flying straight ahead or upside down. So, as a result, he crashed.

Let's look again at how living the Christian life is a lot like flying an airplane. Many Christians know how to fly by sight—live life on their own—but they don't know how to fly by faith *in* God and the faith *of* God. I call it “jet fuel for your faith.” They get up in the air and become frightened, because they don't see anything but clouds; they can't see the ground. They begin to think all sorts of funny things—they can't tell if they are flying straight up or straight down. Like the pilot we just mentioned, they end up crashing because they are disoriented. They don't know to fly by their instruments—the Word of God and the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways Put God First. and he shall crown your efforts with success.

—Proverbs 3:5–6

Does that remind you of another story you probably learned as a child? Look with me at Matthew 14:25–31, to see how the apostle Peter did when he tried to “fly” on his own.

During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost,"

they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 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?" (NIV).

Peter caught a glimpse or his aha moment what he could do in Christ or with God's help where nothing is impossible to a believer. Peter was trying to live by his natural senses...on his own. Do you know your senses will lie to you? Jonah prayed to the Lord God while he was still in the belly of the whale. "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy" (Jonah 2:8). Jonah learned the hard way that he had taken the wrong course. In other words things are not always as they appear to be.

Remember, you need to chart your course. You don't want to start your flight, get out of the hangar and take off, only to crash because you didn't have the right instructions or the right plans. So, you must learn to fly according to the Word of God. Learn to live by Faith and not as things appear. You can, like Peter step out of where you are now into Christ with you. Dream and hearts desires as God empowers you to build and live your Dream Life Today.

Chapter 2

LEARN HOW TO CHART YOUR COURSE

I looked up the definition of the word *chart*. “A chart is a diagram, picture, or graph which is intended to make information easier to understand.” If you chart the development or progress of something, you observe it and record or show it. The builder needs the chart or blueprint to know the layout of the rooms and where to put the walls, the wiring and plumbing, as well as the heating and air-conditioning vents.

Some people never determine their direction or path, because they have no plan for their life. Working without a plan or course of action is like going to sea without a compass. You will just go in circles—and circle and circle. Many people build all their buildings with blueprints, but never have a blueprint for their life. Each one of us should have a plan...a chart...a blueprint for our life. “But,” you ask, “How do I do that? Where do I get my plan...my blueprint?” *Chart Your Course in life by the Dream in Your Heart.*

Proverbs 24:3–4 in *The Living Bible* has been one of the most powerful scriptures that I have used as a minister/businessman. “Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts.” Ministers are also businessmen, you know. In all my endeavors, success has only come about through my practicing the principles of God’s Word. Let’s look at that verse a little closer.

Any enterprise is built by wise planning. Planning means having a plan or blueprint ahead of time. *Any enterprise becomes strong through common sense.* Many times believers do foolish things because they think they are operating in the name of the Lord. *Use common sense. Your enterprise (business venture, home, etc.) will profit wonderfully when you keep abreast of the facts.* Some people believe that if they keep at life long enough they will make it, but they

continually watch others zoom past them. They sit there saying, “If I just keep at it long enough, maybe I’ll eventually do something big,” but the Bible doesn’t say your enterprise will profit wonderfully from endurance.

God’s plan doesn’t work that way. If you have no purposeful direction, you will have no destination, so you will never arrive wherever it is you would like to be. You will be like a rudderless ship. You must have a focused direction. I like to put it this way—you must have action with purpose. Almost everyone has action. They release all kinds of energies but not always with a determined purpose. *You must have a dream, and your dream should have a plan.*

Your God-Inspired Plan Will Have Action

Many believers—and non-believers as well—think they should operate on *perspiration* instead of *inspiration*. Then when things don’t fall into place as they hoped, they begin to operate out of *desperation*. God doesn’t want you to operate out of desperation—He wants you to have a plan, and He wants to inspire that plan. He wants to charge you up from the inside. Inspire, for the Christian, means God-breathed. Your plan should be God-breathed and operated by the wind of the Holy Spirit. “But it is the spirit in a man, that gives him understanding” (Job 32:8, NIV).

You are a spirit being, and the inspiration of the Almighty gives you understanding. Many times I have turned to another scripture in Proverbs, before making a major decision.

Roll your works upon the Lord [commit and trust them wholly to Him; He will cause your thoughts to become agreeable to His will, and] so shall your plans be established and succeed.

—Proverbs 16:3 (AMP)

Roll your works—your dreams and visions, whatever you are involved in—*upon the Lord*. Give your works totally to Him and He will cause your thoughts to be in agreement with His will, and you will succeed and have Success in Life. God will charge and inspire your thoughts; He will give you inspiration. That is how the Word of Faith Satellite Network came into being in the 1980's. I was meditating on God's Word in Isaiah:

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my Word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

—Isaiah 55:10–11

In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye, I saw a satellite...raining the Word of God down upon the earth from our church. The idea came by inspiration and became a vision. I saw that the Word of God was not returning void from those who were under the rain, but was going into their hearts and bearing fruit. This very moment you are reading words that were spoken live via satellite to about 2,500 churches by satellite, with as many as 250,000 believers. The dream...the vision...became a reality. Dream It..Plan It..Do It..Don't Stop 'til you get to the top.

This same Word of God that came to me, and was seeded into people's spirits then, has changed the course of history. Today there are tens of thousands of believers in churches around the world who are enjoying their heart's dreams because of the Word of faith that was seeded into them. Not only that—they have shared their testimonies of what God did for them, and countless others have believed His promises and are living out the dreams in their hearts.

How did it happen? Through a dream, an inspired idea...a thought. God has given every one of us the ability to think. On our shoulders, inside our head, is a magnificent creation of God called a “brain.” This marvelous computer gives you the ability to reason, to think, and to create. The Spirit of God will charge you up so that you will be able to plan, to design and create things you could never have imagined on your own.

At one time I was a mechanical and electromechanical designer. I helped design one of the food carts that travels up and down the aisles of the Boeing 747s to deliver food to the passengers. I also designed a conveyor to travel up a wall at a snack food factory. Workmen took my blueprint and cut a big hole in an expensive wall. Then they brought in the big conveyor with all its belts and bracing. I proudly watched as that machine fit perfectly through the hole that had been cut. Why did it fit and work perfectly? Because the blueprint was accurate, and because there was *purposeful action* along with *inspiration*. Instead of *perspiration* alone, there was *inspiration*. Instead of desperation, there was *aspiration*, something planned in advance. But remember, *inspiration* without *perspiration* won't work, either.

It takes effort to plan something in advance. You have to sit down and think. God has given you His abilities to think and to dream, to have visions and to have God-inspired thoughts. I know they are in you, because they are in me. I have learned how to birth them and I want to show you how. By the way, thinking requires work. Some of our hardest work is *focused thinking*.

Inside you are miracles for which the world is waiting. There are healings inside some of you reading these words. There are business opportunities inside some of you—opportunities that God is saving for the Body of Christ. You have them and I want to see them fulfilled. There are songs that have not been written. There are houses that have not been built. One night I found

myself looking at houses of the future; I know what they look like, and those “houses of the future” will someday be the homes of the next generations. God gave mankind the ability to dream and to make plans. Many Christians are ignorant of that fact, but I believe we are waking up to the dreams and hopes that God has placed within us. We are learning how to live and build our Dream life. Today go to my website SuccessNLife.com and learn more about our Whole Person Prosperity at our virtual Enrichment Centers.

Chapter 3

BIRTH YOUR DREAMS INTO REALITY

Proverbs 13:12 says “Hope deferred makes the heart sick...” Many times we become frustrated because our dreams have never become realities. God would never give us the ability to dream with our own imagination without the possibility of that dream becoming real. So, whatever you can dream and whatever you can see, based upon the principles in God’s Word, you can have faith to see it come to pass.

A young woman in Dallas was married and had a family, but then World War II came along and her husband went off to serve in the military. But, when her husband came home from the war, he divorced her. There she was, a young single woman all alone, with three children to raise. But she knew God and she knew Jesus Christ as Lord of her life. She went to work and supported herself and the children, although she had no professional training.

One day she was sitting in the back of the room at a direct sales company meeting. She had worked for three weeks and averaged only \$7.00 a week (in mid-forties dollars), so she was hurting. As she sat in that chair on the back row she watched another woman, who had sold the most products, march up on the platform to be made “Queen for a Year.” She said, “I’m going to do that—I’m going to do it!” The following year, the crown was placed upon *her* head. It might not have been a big deal to anyone else. but it was big to her.

That woman was Mary Kay Ash, who founded what became one of the largest cosmetic companies in the world. Mary Kay had made Jesus Christ the Lord of her life, so she had a dream...she had a plan...she had a blueprint. She had a purpose, and she stuck with it. Before her death, her company was doing over a billion dollars in business annually, and she had hundreds of thousands of women working for her as independent beauty consultants. But it all

started with a dream...*and she had a plan*. Mary Kay has blessed us by giving us some details of her past. Let's have her tell her dream in her own words as she told the story to me when we interviewed her for our newspaper.

“The start of Mary Kay cosmetics was my determination to give other women the opportunity I felt I had always been denied. I wanted to give women the opportunity to go as far as their abilities could take them, to be the very best they could be. I wanted to give women a chance to realize they are wonderful and special, and that they can succeed beyond their wildest dreams if they are just given the opportunity. So many of them have accomplished so much. So, what was once my dream has now become a wonderful reality.”

Let's look again at the above verse, this time reading the entire verse. “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life” (Proverbs 13:12, NIV). Absence of hope can make you sick, but having no vision is even more serious, as we see in Proverbs 29:18, “Where there is no vision, the people perish...”

But, when the desire or dream comes, it is like a tree of life. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing a plan come to pass—a dream that has been conceived by you and the Holy Spirit. Maybe you are “sitting on the back row” and you are hurting. Maybe your heart has been sick because you haven't seen your dream come to pass. Stay with me...read on. I want to show you how to chart your course and use your God-given blueprint to reach your dream. It's time for you to rise up and walk. Run into the big life that God has for you.

God Works with Your Dream

God wants to work with your dream. You are not of this world, where you follow horoscopes and signs. You are of the Kingdom of God where signs follow you (see Mark 16:17). And that's not all! Look at what Romans 8:16–17 says about our standing with God:

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:
And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;

You are a child of God, an heir of God, a joint-heir with Jesus. He didn't create you for your biggest vision to be the license plate on the back of the car you're following. He created you to *run* with *your vision*. God created you to *run* with *your dream*, and to see it fulfilled in your lifetime. He created you to dream.

Mary Kay had a dream and she stuck with it. Because of her dream, she brought happiness and prosperity to thousands of women. She preached to them, talked to them, encouraged them, and loved them. She took discouraged women and lifted them up. She told them they were somebody. I praise God for her life, don't you? But she was just one believer. Think about *you* being a believer and having a dream. Think about *you* having a plan... a blueprint. Think about *you* having purposeful direction.

But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

—Deuteronomy 8:18

...Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

God wants you to prosper. He delights in the prosperity of His servants. He is for you more than you are for yourself. God pays better than we would ever pay ourselves. If we are to reach the world for Christ, we must think like God thinks, talk like God talks and act like God acts. We can do big things if we remember that God has a plan for us. He has a dream for us.

Dream Big, Act Big, have Big Faith and Think Big! Let's make that a little more personal...He has a plan for YOU!

“ ‘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, NIV). The question is: do you want to know what His plan is for you? Then let's move on.

Chapter 4

THE BIBLE IS GOD'S BLUEPRINT

Look at Genesis 1:3, and let me refresh your memory. “And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.” God began to bring His plan into existence. I call it *God's Master Plan for Man—God's Master Blueprint*. He began to lay it out: He spoke it with His words—He took His dream and put it into a plan. The Bible is God's blueprint. It is something recorded and written out. Now people are building their “houses,” (their lives), from God's plan for man—His Word. I like what He said in verse 11 in that chapter.

And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, **whose seed is in itself**, upon the earth: and it was so.

—Genesis 1:11

God said that a tree is inside the seed. You may have heard this saying, “You can count the seeds in an apple, but you can't count the apples in a seed.” God placed His plan into seed form. Inside every seed is a perfect plan for the reproduction of itself. It is a perfect blueprint, and God spoke that plan into existence. “In the beginning God created...” (Genesis 1:1).

God had a plan. In the very beginning, He began to lay out His plan...His blueprint for man... until what we know as the Word of God was revealed. We see it today—chapter and verse, line upon line, here a little, there a little. Look with me at Isaiah 28:10:

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.

We can say it this way: God's blueprint is a plan for your future. When acted upon it will bring that thing...that plan... to pass. Yes, God put His blueprint...His plan...into seeds. We think we have something new with our smart phones and computers, but God has been using things that we call "new inventions" in His plan for years. In fact, His plan has been encapsulated so small that you can't see it with the natural eye. You must have a spiritual microscope called the "eye of faith." Your faith in your dreams predicts your future.

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

—2 Corinthians 4:18

Looking at the "things which are not seen" with the eye of faith gives us the ability to see and understand our future and to see God's plan for our lives.

God Has Programmed His Seeds

A seed is something programmed to mature into a certain thing. We think of computer software and computer programming as something new to our time. Seeds have always been programmed. The words "program, programmer, and programmed" all come from the Greek word "programma," which mean "to write beforehand, to make a schedule or plan." A blueprint is like

a program, something recorded, something written before. It is like a singer making plans and choosing his or her songs...the blueprint, so to speak...in preparation for recording a new CD.

Think of your dream, your vision, or your plan, as a seed programmed to mature into a certain thing. It can lay there and never release what is on the inside of it if the proper planting and cultivating does not occur. (And Oh, Yes! Don't forget to keep it watered.) But when you take that seed and plant it—just like when you take that pre-recorded CD and put it into a player—that which has been recorded will begin to come out...it will come alive.

God's plan has been pre-recorded. It is a program that has been written beforehand. As we saw earlier, Habakkuk prophesied this in chapter 2, verse 2...Write the vision...Write the blueprint. Write the plan. God did it. We can do it.

As we saw earlier in Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps" (NKJV).

- Write your plan that is in your heart.
- Write your prayer request.
- Write down what you are believing God for.

Do it today; do it for this year, do it for next year. How about the year after that? As an example of this: I'm already programming a plan for events three years into the future. Why? Because I found that God wants us to have a purposeful action. I have a dream that what I am believing God for will come into reality by that time.

Many people fail to plan. They just start a project and think, "If I work real hard, it will happen." No, it won't! If you fail to plan, you will be like a ship without a compass or a rudder. You will be like a plane taking off without a destination.

Have a purposeful plan and put that seed to work. The Bible is God’s seed, and a seed is a plan. It’s programmed. God’s Word, the Bible, is something recorded to be played back at a later date. Here we are thousands of years later, finding out that God had a blueprint—His Word. He said, “...Let the earth bring forth...after his kind, whose seed is in itself...” (Genesis 1:11). He gave man (which means man and woman) the authority to release and loose what is on the inside unto the Earth on the Outside.

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

—Matthew 16:19

Psalms 115:16 says, “The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth he has given to man” (NIV). Acts 7:49 confirms the Word in Psalms. “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool...” The earth is here for you, not for the devil. It was created for man, and man has the authority to loose the wealth of the earth and bring it forth.

That is what Mary Kay did. She was an ordinary person who leaped up with a supernatural thought, just as you can. Again, I know, because it has happened to me. I read the Bible and found a “program.” I found some “software” that I needed: *The earth must produce after its kind, whose seed is in itself*. Remember, we have the authority to loose what’s on the earth.

What You Sow Is What You Reap

I know of a woman who had no education, and no job training. She had never made more than \$700 a month in her life. So, you can see that if she prospered, it had to be God. She wrote me:

“Brother Tilton, I listened to you on the radio, and you were talking about giving. At first, I was turned off when you began to talk about money and giving. But as I began to listen to you, I heard God speaking to me. I realized that money was a part of me, and in order to receive back from God, I have to make some room in my “house” for the blessings of God. By giving, I was making room for more to come back in. So, I made God my new senior partner. You challenged my faith to give \$100...money that I barely had...but I gave that \$100. I believed God, just as you had said, for my return. Several weeks passed, and Man! I was expecting!”

Why was she expecting? Because she was “pregnant” with a miracle. She had heard me say that what you sow is what you reap. What you sow and how much you sow will determine the harvest or the yield—what you earn from your labors. A farmer sows his seed in faith with an expectation of a great harvest. This woman was expecting a big harvest because she had released big faith with her spirit. Her act of giving was conceived through faith, and she knew in due season, she would reap. “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (Galatians 6:7).

That verse has come to be known as “The Great Law of Faith.” God may not always “pay on Friday,” but He always pays. When we trust Him and believe He will do what He has promised, we will always reap a good harvest. Look with me at Matthew 17:14–20. A certain man had brought his son to Jesus because the disciples were unable to cast out the devil in the boy. Jesus rebuked the devil and the boy was cured. The disciples asked Jesus why they had not been able to cast out the devil. Read His answer in verse 20.

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

So now, let's continue the story of the letter I received, to see what that woman's harvest was on what she had sowed. She continued:

“Brother Tilton, I was driving down the freeway when suddenly this idea, this vision, came up in my spirit. I had an idea to buy a van to pick up kids in several neighborhoods, then take them to the Christian schools and Christian daycare centers they attended. So, I bought that van! It was so “in me”...I became so infused with the idea...that I knew it was God. Brother Tilton, you won't believe this—Oh, yes, you will—I'm now clearing \$500 a week!”

Her story inspired me at the time, but even more as I read it now. That \$500 a week back then would be equivalent to \$1000 a week now. What a man (or woman) sows he also reaps, (see Galatians 6:7). The “Law of Faith” (see Romans 3:27) is also called the miracle of “Mustard Seed Faith” we see in Matthew 13:31–32.

The key to success is to be faithful with the *first* seed. Don't just look at what you have done before, but be faithful with what you *can* do, *right now*. Be faithful with the idea you have *right now*. I'm not talking about dreaming something that is bigger than you and me and everyone else. I am talking about dreaming big dreams, but I'm also talking about being realistic enough to get the mind of the Lord on your dreams, and persevere until the harvest comes.

Chapter 5

TAKE AUTHORITY OVER YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES

Man was created in the image of God and given authority over all of the earth. That meant he was in charge of all that he could see on the earth. Let's look at God's plan...His blueprint...for mankind.

God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have COMPLETE AUTHORITY over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the [tame] beasts, AND OVER ALL THE EARTH, and over everything that creeps upon the earth.

—Genesis 1:26 (AMP)

And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

—Genesis 2:15–17

That also meant that Adam was to have authority over all his circumstances. He was to have authority over the adversities that came—he was to subdue the earth. He was to cause it to yield. God meant for him to succeed, but an intruder came into the garden and changed his circumstances. Satan came tempting, testing, and trying. He talked Adam and Eve into disobedience. If they had been obedient to the blueprint or plan of God, it would have brought

life. A wise friend once told me, “That’s what God created us for...life—abundant life—the big, beautiful life—as we operate in the laws of life.”

Adam and Eve were created to live in the likeness of God in a paradise on earth, but they didn’t use the authority God had given them. God had given them instructions, but their circumstances changed when Satan entered the garden, and they yielded to the temptation before them, instead of using their God-given authority. We do that as Christians today. We forget that Jesus Christ has won the victory over Satan, which gives us authority over our circumstances. “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).

Don’t Be Led By Your Senses

Adam and Eve died. They made a choice to disobey God, and they died spiritually. God had told them that if they were disobedient—if they ate of the forbidden tree—they would die. Death is the absence of life, the absence of abundance of life. But, He said if they were obedient they would live, and experience the abundant kind of life for which they were created. Immediately after they sinned, they knew they were naked. They had been naked all along, (see Genesis 2:25), so how did they know? Because at that moment they saw everything through their natural senses. “Hey! I’m naked.” Then they were afraid and hid themselves (see Genesis 3:7).

So, they became separated from God because of their sin. They knew they were naked when they became sense-ruled. They became led by what they could see. Their spiritual lamp—the light which gave them the ability to see beyond the natural realm—had gone out. They could no longer see beyond their physical senses...their spiritual eyes were blind.

Have you ever seen a wagon train under attack in a Western film? Someone always yelled, “Circle the wagons!” Then they drew the covered wagons up tightly in a circle as the

Indians rode their horses around the wagons, surrounding them. The travelers would fire their guns at the Indians, who were shooting arrows back at them as they circled the wagons. In other words, their circumstances weren't too favorable, and they were trying desperately to take control of them.

The word *circumstance* comes from the word *circum*, which means *to circle* or *surround*, and *stance*, which means *to stand*. The wagon train was taking a stand, surrounded by an adverse condition. So, what did the people in the wagon train listen and look for? They listened for the bugle of the cavalry coming to rescue them.

But now, Adam and Eve didn't have spiritual ears to hear anymore. Satan had become the god of this world. Man was created by God to be the master of circumstances—to have authority over the adversities of life. But man lost his authority, he knew he was naked, and he was afraid.

The word *naked* means *to be bare* or *stripped*. Like a court-martialed Army General has his uniform patches ripped off. Man, who had been created to rule, lost his dominion in the earth. *Naked* also can mean *defenseless, without authority or power...* which is what man became after he left the Garden of Eden. With God, he had it made. Oh, he had it made! Without God, man lost his estate, his rulership over the earth. Circumstances became man's master. He died spiritually and came under Satan's influence.

Romans 8:6 explains basically what happened to Adam and Eve, and what can happen to us: "For to be carnally minded is death..." *To be carnal* means *to be sense-minded*, or thinking through your senses, living in the flesh...limited to what you can see and perceive. Many times, God will give you a dream. Then you look around, you perceive with your senses and respond, "No way, Baby. I can't do it." Why? Because you are carnally minded. You are sense-ruled.

But there is Good News. "...With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).

The Spiritually Minded Can Do All Things

The last half of Romans 8:6 says, "...but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." That is the law of abundance. When you are spiritually minded you cannot see lack. All you can see is abundance. When you are carnally minded, you see death, sickness, disease, fear and failure. But when you become spiritually minded, you can't see death and life at the same time. You see life when you are spiritually minded.

- You see: I can make it.
- You see: I can do it.
- You see: I can overcome
- You see: All things are possible.

Instead of being overcome, you will stand up to the attack and say, "Hey, I see myself overcoming!" Instead of the mountain sitting on you, you sit on top of the mountain. Why? Because you have become spiritually minded, your mind is set on spiritual things.

The carnal man has become enslaved by his surroundings. His dreams and visions have become limited. A carnal man can do *some* things, but a spiritually minded man can do *all* things. The apostle Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me (Philippians 4:13).

We are learning more and more how to be spiritually minded. There has never been a day like today. Believers soon will do things that previously would have boggled the mind and staggered the imagination. Inventions will come from the Spirit of God to businessmen and

women who have been faithful in the small things. These inventions will bring them to national prominence—even worldwide recognition—by the Spirit of God.

Chapter 6

NOTHING IS TOO HARD FOR GOD

Genesis 18:14 asks the question: “Is anything too hard for the Lord?...” Perhaps you have had something in your life that made you wonder if even God could help you. The answer is: Yes, He can. I have seen Him come into situations and turn them around many times. Take the example of Pat, a woman in our church. The way she overcame her circumstances shows you what can happen when you trust the Lord.

Pat had fallen victim to a skin disease which had attacked her face and progressed to the point she couldn't even cover it up with make-up. She didn't dare wash her face. The condition became so bad, and her appearance so hideous, that her husband left her. In desperation Pat got in her little foreign-made car and drove south to live in Texas, where no one knew her.

Her face had become so ugly and disfigured by the disease by then that people wouldn't look at her. When the wind blew, her face was so dry it would crack and bleed. Can you imagine not even being able to wash your face or put on make-up or creams for protection? Cosmetics are important to a woman.

When she moved to Texas, Pat began to stay in her house and hide from the curious stares she encountered when she left her home. She was so embarrassed when she went out that she chose to stay away from people most of that period in her life. She started watching our daily program, *Success N Life*, on television, where we preached the uncompromising Word of God. We were speaking *life* instead of death—*health* over sickness. We spoke *authority over circumstances* instead of being bound by circumstances. Pat then came to one of our satellite seminars. After hearing about her story I called her out of the audience and interviewed her.

“Pat,” I asked her, “Had you almost withdrawn from life because of the disease?” “Yes, I had,” answered Pat. I confirmed what I had been told: “The doctors had told you that you had an incurable disease and there was nothing they could do to help you. That had to be a hard thing to hear, Pat.” Pat replied quietly, “Yes, Pastor Bob, it was the pits!”

“Pat, when you heard our teaching on the Name of Jesus and the authority we have by His Name, you believed it down in your heart, didn’t you?” “Yes, sir, I did! You had said when we believe the right things, we can have the right things. I knew I needed God’s help, and I believed the words you said,” she answered.

“So,” she continued, “When you said you wanted to pray for anyone needing healing, and said to place my hand on the television set...right on your hand...I jumped up and did it. I knew I wanted what you were telling me about. I wanted God to heal me!”

“What happened, Pat, when you placed your hand over mine on the television?” “Pastor Bob,” she said, smiling from ear to ear, “When I placed my hand on that screen, and you prayed, Jesus Christ came and touched my life—He touched my face. He not only healed my face of the skin disease, but He restored skin to my face that had not been there for a long time—*instantly!*”

“Pat, did you feel anything?” I asked. She replied, almost like a child who had just been given a long-awaited gift, “Oh, Yes! I felt something like a twitch on my cheek. I reached up to touch my face, and my skin was soft as a baby’s for the first time in so many years. It was healed!”

God never created us for sickness, heartbreak and hurt. He created us for a life worth living...and for getting excited about. The Bible calls it *abundant life*. Basically, it means this: “So much life that you cannot measure it.” Immeasurable life. You can’t measure the length of it, the breadth of it, or the depth of it. God created you for so much life that there is no way you can

measure it. Let's get our eyes open. Let's get our minds renewed so we can do the good, the acceptable, the perfect will of God. Romans 12:2 says,

And be not conformed to this world: but *be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind*, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

The word in that verse, *transformed*, is from the same Greek word as our English word, *metamorphosis*, meaning a change from one form to another. You may have seen the change a caterpillar goes through before becoming a butterfly. As we grow in our Christian life there should be that same change.

But we Christians have no veil over our faces; we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him.

—2 Corinthians 3:18, (TLB)

Pat believed what we said, and faith came. When she heard the truth, she believed the Word we preached. "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach" (Romans 10:8). When she believed, she had faith to receive. And that's the way to overcome circumstances, whether they are sickness and disease, a business that needs to grow, or a marriage that needs healing. God can do anything when we give Him the opportunity to do it.

Is anything too hard for the Lord? No, there isn't anything too hard for God! The Lord saves and delivers by many or by few, according to 1 Samuel 14:6b. In other words, He is able to do big things or little things...through many people or through few. The Lord knows no limit—He's that kind of God. He loves to do things when we believe that He will. To be spiritually minded is life, but to be carnally minded or sense-ruled is death.

Chapter 7

BREAK THE CODE TO DEBT-FREE LIVING

Another beautiful story of overcoming our circumstances is found in 2 Kings 4:1.

Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.

That is a terrible circumstance. The creditors were going to come and sell her sons as slaves. Here was a woman who thought there was no way out—she was a slave to debt. She couldn't see above the crowd or above her “mountain.” She was surrounded—circumstanced—but the prophet of the Lord, a seer, came along. A *seer* in the Old Testament was one who could *foretell* by the Spirit of God. She knew he could *see* a way out of her situation, and *foretell* (speak forth a Rhema word of faith to bring it into reality) the solution to her problem. Let's look at the rest of the story to see how he used what she had to change her circumstances.

And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil. Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, *even* empty vessels; borrow not a few. And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full. So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out. And it came

to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, GO SELL THE OIL, AND PAY THY DEBT, AND LIVE THOU AND THY CHILDREN OF THE REST.

—2 Kings 4:2-7

In those days, God's anointing (The Holy Spirit) came only upon Israel's kings, priests and prophets. The widow knew this prophet could *see*. She said, "The creditors are about to come and take my most prized possessions."

I'm talking to someone personally now. I may be talking to you. It might be your marriage falling apart...your children about to be taken away...your most prized possessions lost. You may have some terrible financial situation right now. You probably think there is no way out.

But look at how this woman's recovery...her sons' release...came about. The prophet asked her, "What do you have in your house or your life?" She didn't think she had anything. "I don't have anything but a little bit of oil." The very thing she couldn't see was the thing God was going to use to bring deliverance to her. But the prophet saw it.

In the natural, what she had seemed insignificant, just as what you have may be one tiny idea. But it could be the very thing God will use to bring your deliverance—to bring your prosperity. What do you have in your heart or your home that God can use?

If we were to look at an acorn, never having seen an oak tree, we would say that little seed couldn't do much. But an acorn turns out to be a mighty oak tree. It's programmed, recorded to be played back at a later date. When the proper playback conditions are there, it will bring

forth an oak tree. When mixed with faith, the seed of God's Word comes alive, so "water" your dream...see it...to keep it alive. Dear One, it's time to build your dream life today!

The seed of the Word came alive in Pat's life. Her face is healed and whole. Healing rolled out of that Word and released the law of health into her life to replace the law of sickness. Pat is a living miracle today. Why? Because of faith teaching, because of pastors and evangelists who teach confessing God's Word, prosperity, and that it is the will of God to heal *all the time*.

Many people don't like to hear the words "healing" and "prosperity" today, but I would rather be criticized for teaching prosperity and healing than to keep silent and miss the blessings God has for my life, and for those believers who are touched by His Word. I would rather sow seed into the Kingdom of God, and believe God for the return, than to hold back what He has blessed me with, and not sow my seed. I'm teaching you to dream, and dream big, because God is in you...and you following His lead...can lead to big things.

There are spiritual laws at work here, if you just release your faith. For the widow in 2 Kings 4 there seemed to be no way, but the seer saw a way. What happened? He told her to get a bunch of vessels, and start pouring what she had...the oil...into the empty vessels. She went from a life of debt to debt-free living, and her sons were saved from slavery.

There is the code for debt free, residual, income. Fill Empty Vessels. Empty lives, empty hearts, empts pocket books. See the Dream, Vision, oil, the message that God created you for abundance Paradise. That's why I started SuccessN Life Club. Get on board, in fact get all aboard. Join Today if you haven't already.

Chapter 8

START USING WHAT YOU HAVE—FILL THOSE VESSELS

Men and women often go for years, waiting for some big “pie in the sky” to fall into their hands. If only they would use what they have they could see their dreams come turn into reality. You must use what you have. A pastor friend of mine told me about a man in his church who had just been saved and wasn’t trained to work at anything. He didn’t have a car or any money. He said, “I’ve gotten saved, but I’m broke. What do I do?” The pastor asked him, “What can you do?” (What do you have?) The man said, “I can’t do anything. Oh, I can wash a few cars. All I’ve ever done is work in a service station.”

Then the pastor, (a seer—one who is spiritually minded)—began to see and perceive by the Spirit of God. This pastor said, “We’re going to make you the most super-duper executive car washer there ever was. We’re going to print up some brochures at a quick-copy place and you are going to become a custom car-wash specialist.”

The pastor got the man a brand new set of khaki clothes and headed him into an office building with his brochures. He told them that he washed executive cars perfectly. The result was that he got more business than he could handle. He rode a bicycle to the offices, picked up a car and took it to his house to wash, drove it back and got another. Pretty soon, he had more cars than he could wash and had to hire high school students to help him. Then he bought a car wash that had gone out of business. Now that man has more money than he knows what to do with. Why? Because of one idea based on what he had. *He had a seed to sow. He planted the seed he had. He got a dream, then acted on it.* You can do it, too!

That dream you have, that desire percolating inside of you has power in it. *Desire acted upon becomes power.* Think! Plot! Build on your dream! God will direct your steps. You might hit a closed door every now and then...big deal. Just regroup and head out again. Life isn't over. God says that with His program we have been programmed to win,...if we will just stick with it.

For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

—1 John 5:4

Don't Drink Life's Bitter Waters

Exodus 15 describes the Children of Israel wandering in the wilderness. They were dry and thirsty. When they came to some water they began to drink, but the water was bitter (verse 23). Can you imagine being thirsty and dry, and finding everything around you dry? Then imagine finding water, drinking some of it and discovering that it is bitter.

Many people today are drinking life's bitter waters. Are you? They don't know those waters can be healed. The Bible says the Children of Israel spoke out against God. They murmured and complained until Moses called upon God for aid. God said, "See that tree next to those bitter waters? Throw that tree in the water" (verse 25). A tree? In the water? That tree is a symbol of Calvary's tree—the one where Jesus died. Calvary's tree will make you free. It will turn bitter waters into sweet, if you will just listen to the voice of the Spirit of God. "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree" (Galatians 3:13).

When Moses threw that tree into the bitter waters, those waters became sweet. They drank and drank until their thirst was quenched. Exodus 15:27 says that they came to an oasis. An oasis is a thriving, flourishing, spot of land surrounded by a desert. There they found twelve springs...one for each tribe. I believe the Spirit of God is saying this: You can be surrounded by a “desert” and still be happy in the midst of your difficulties. So stop complaining. Down the road God has your miracle. With Jesus as Lord, you can live in an oasis in this life, drinking sweet waters. A dear sister wrote me and said, “Thank you, Pastor Tilton, for teaching me to live in the paradise of Christ’s oasis.”

Kings Are to Rule and Reign in Life

You have been given the keys of the Kingdom to loose the will of God into the earth from Heaven to create your paradise on earth (see Matthew 16:19). In Christ, paradise is restored. As we saw earlier, You have God-given authority. Jesus has come to restore your right relationship with God. Romans 6:9 says that death once ruled because of sin, but...*death hath no more dominion*...because of the gift of righteousness—that is, the restoration of a right relationship. Sickness, death, lack, fear, and poverty do not have dominion over you any longer.

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall *reign in life* as Kings by one, Jesus Christ.

—Romans 5:17

What is your relationship with Him? God is Abba Father. You are His child. Because of the gift of righteousness, you can be restored to right relationship by

way of the last Adam—Jesus Christ. The first Adam lost his right to paradise in the Garden of Eden, but your right to paradise on earth was restored at Calvary. You can *reign in life* as a king. Kings do quite well! But *until you realize* that the blood of Jesus Christ has restored you and freed you from the restraints, restrictions and limitations of sin, and *until you believe* it has pulled the blinders off your eyes, you will never reign in life. Through Adam’s fall you lost that right to rule, but now you have been restored through the blood of Jesus Christ.

Even though you can reign in life as a king, because of the gift of righteousness, you must know you are in *right standing* with God. You must realize you are among those who can walk uprightly, not an with an “Oh, woe is me!” attitude, and not all beaten down. You have many rights through Christ, but you must walk in them. Philemon 1:6 says, “That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.” Say *Yes* to healing, life, joy, and prosperity. Say *Yes* to the dream in you.

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

He will withhold no good thing from you when you walk uprightly and within your rights. When it dawns on you that you *can* reign in life...you *can* take dominion over circumstances...you *can* be an overcomer, your life will begin to change. Instead of circumstances ruling you, you can start ruling them, no longer beaten down but *set free*.

Chapter 9

GET OUT OF THE BOX

Gunder Birkeland died some years ago at the age of 75. He was born in Norway but lived much of his life in Seattle, Washington. A friend of mine knew of him and told me his story. When Gunder was two years old, he contracted polio, which caused his legs to shrivel up and not work. His parents carried him around in a wooden box. This was at the turn of the century, when not much was known about treating polio. Sometimes they put a rope on the box and pulled him around in it. In the winter, it had ski runners on it and in the summer, it had wheels.

For several years Gunder had heard people talking about him. They made remarks such as: “He’ll never walk...He won’t ever amount to much...He won’t last long...He’ll probably die.” Can you imagine hearing all of that death spoken about you? Imagine watching everyone walk by and there you are—sitting in a box!

Many people today are in a “box.” They have legs that work, but Satan has told them they will never do anything. The box they are in is much the same as Gunder’s. “You’ll never amount to anything.” The devil has told them they will never have any money, never be healed, never have a decent marriage.

One day when he was seven years old, Gunder’s parents sat him in front of a mirror. He looked at the mirror and had a vision—an honest-to-goodness vision. He didn’t see himself in that box. He saw himself standing up like any normal boy. *While in the box, he had a vision of standing.* After that, he would rock back and forth until he tipped the box over. Sometimes his parents would come in and scold him or spank him. They would say, “Get back in that box!” But as soon as they left, he would rock back and forth and get out of the box again. “I’m getting out of the box! I’m getting out of the box!” he would exclaim. *And he got out.*

Soon he learned to crawl. He dragged himself around until after a while, he began getting up on his little legs. Pretty soon, he began to walk. He began to do the thing people said he could never do. Gunder Birkeland outlived every one of his relatives. He became one of the ten wealthiest men in Seattle. He owned the property where the Space Needle is located. By the way, he followed Jesus from an early age. In the closing, twilight hours of his life, Gunder related the following story:

“I realized that I did not have to stay in the box. My mission in life is to tell people this: You don’t have to stay in the box, either. You can get out. You can become what you see in your spirit and in your dream. And you can obtain. You can abound in this life. You can get out of the box. You don’t have to be surrounded by adversity or circumstances. You can get out of the box.”

Some people said Robert Tilton would never amount to much. They said, “He’ll leave the ministry in two years.” Well, two years passed, three, four years passed, five, ten and more. We are still in the ministry and doing more than we have ever done, and we have just begun to fight. We have just begun to sail. We had a vision of getting out of the box!

I decreed years ago, when I was eating beans and cornbread, which I love, that I would be a paymaster for God. I’m not bragging on myself... I’m bragging on Jesus. It’s because of the laws of sowing and reaping. The world said I would never make it. The devil said I would never make it. But I believed Philippians 4:13, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

Gunder had a vision. The man washing cars had a vision. I have a vision. The Shunamite

woman of 2 Kings, Chapter 4, got out of the box when the prophet saw there was a way. Mary Kay had a vision and started her business. Then a month to the day before she began her new cosmetics business, her husband died. Once again—she was back in the box. But she had made Jesus Lord of her life, and believed her dream could come to pass. It did! She got out of the box.

Do you have a vision? You don't have to stay in the box. You don't have to stay parked in the hangar. Maybe you got out and buzzed around a little bit and crashed. Maybe the devil has you bound with fear and has told you that you'll crash again. Maybe you didn't know how to pilot your plane, but now you are learning. You are a part of the Body of Christ, and I'm telling you that God is for you. "...If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31).

Pastors, prosper in reaching your city, the nation and the world. Church members, prosper in your business, and help your pastor reach the world through your finances. Believe God to be a paymaster for His work. If you will believe, you can move the mountains out of your life. You can get out of the box and succeed. You will have some "knock-downs" but you won't be knocked out. So, get back up and run with your dream...your vision.

The next section will teach you how to run with your dream. Whether you want to admit it or not, you are moved by what you see. The direction in which you're moved, however, depends on what you see. I will show you how to illuminate your dream and become motivated.

There is a scriptural key to godly motivation. You are already being moved by something. I want to teach you how to be motivated to action by the *right things*. You may need "dynamite" set beneath you to blow you off the place where you have been sitting. In the next section you will be moved off dead center and shown your dream...right where you live.

Whatever you are believing God for—get ready to be moved to action.

PART II
YOUR DREAMS BECOME REALITIES

Chapter 10

WHAT IS MY PURPOSE FOR BEING HERE

During the first 21 years of my life, I wondered what my purpose was for living. Have you ever felt like that? Nearly everyone wonders at some time or another:

What is my purpose in life?

- *Why was I created or born?*
- *What am I supposed to be doing?*

There were few things that I couldn't do once I determined to do them. I have always had many interests and have done many things. But I never felt fulfilled, or that I had yet discovered my purpose in life. That was...until one day some "Jesus People" came by and knocked on my door. When I invited them in, they shared Jesus with me, and told me the story of Jesus dying for my sins. That day I asked Jesus into my life and I was born again.

Then Jesus spoke to me—in my heart of hearts I heard Him speak. The wind of the Holy Spirit fell, and I heard Jesus say: *"I have called you as a minister of my gospel. I have called you as a fisher of men."* In that split second in time I discovered my reason for living and my purpose in life. I was to be a fisher of men, a minister of the gospel. Yet, until I was born again, I had laughed at preachers. I think the Holy Spirit must have been listening, don't you? And He pulled my file.

I can just see an angel running up to Him and saying, "Hey! There's a good candidate down there. He's always filled with an unholy spirit, and I believe if he decides to follow Jesus, he'll be filled with the Holy Spirit all the time!" And that angel was right, Praise the Lord! Finding my purpose in life was the key to fulfillment.

Know Your Purpose in Life

The word *purpose* is defined as “the reason for which something exists” or as “the reason for being.” Many people lose hope and lose their vision. Many never find their reason for being. Some even end their life in suicide because they fail to perceive any future. They cannot see any reason for continuing to live. The devil told them, “You may hide it from others, but you have had some thoughts that there is no reason for you to be here. Go ahead and end it.” So they did.

The adversary tried to do that to Jesus by getting him to jump off the pinnacle of the temple. He tried to do it to Elijah by attempting to get him to end his life. But I am telling you, friend—There *is* a reason for your being alive. You have a purpose. You have a calling. There *is* a place for you in God’s creation. No one but you can fill it, so do it.

We Add Direction to Purpose

Many people have tried to analyze our church, Word of Faith World Outreach Center. Many faith teachers have filtered through, some openly and some sitting on the back row to observe. Once, a nationally prominent evangelist spoke at the church and afterwards he got very personal with me, trying to discover what caused our great success. He said, “Bob, if you could boil down all the things you are doing right, what would you say has caused you to be able to accomplish all that you are doing?” I thought and I thought and I thought, then I came up with this:

“We are accomplishing things for God because we know where we are going. We have a dream, a vision from Him. We have purposed to fulfill that vision for Him. We know where we are going—we have a vision and a direction with purpose.”

Did our attitude just happen? No. Psalm 119:105 tells us, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” It has been like climbing steps, and each step we take leads to

more illumination of the other steps ahead of us. Each step allows us to see more clearly where we are going.

The essence of my answer to him was, “I believe the reason for our success is that we know where we are going, because we *see* where we are going.” That is the key to *your* vision. That is the key to *your* future. When you can see a dream, when you can have hope, when you can see a reason for being, then you can have what I like to call *purposeful action*—action with a purpose. Until you settle on a purpose, you can have lots of action and get nowhere, just like an airplane circling around aimlessly in the sky with lots of movement, but no destination. So, each person must find out his purpose from the Lord. I say your dream is your purpose.

Ask God of Things to Come

Ask for what you want or you will have to settle for what you get. You can develop a personal relationship with God and He will show you things. Let me give you some scriptures for that.

Thus saith the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.

—Isaiah 45:11

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

—Jeremiah 33:3

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

—John 15:7

The morning before the particular satellite seminar that this book came from, I had prayed, “*Lord, I want to know something that is going to happen concerning Your children, something new that I don’t already know. I want to know something else of Your purpose for us*” Then, all of a sudden, the Lord said He was going to open up Christian television in England, which at that time didn’t exist there. I didn’t know when, but now I know this: Today, there is Christian television in England...in fact, it is everywhere. It happened just like Jesus said it would...long before it happened. Now we take it for granted.

We were going to Florida to a pastor’s conference and I was praying about it. As I finished praying, the Lord spoke to me. He said, “I’m sending you to Florida; you are going to lift up those pastors’ arms, and you are going to encourage them. Several of them have almost lost their vision and you are to *ignite their vision* again.” So, I just watched for it and it did happen.

Make a Decision, Then Take Action

If God will do that for me, in my life, then He will do that for you. So, find your purpose in life—have a reason for living. When you really decide...and begin to act...on your little idea or little dream, it gets bigger and bigger and bigger. Job 32:8 says,

But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

We read in Proverbs 20:27 “The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.” If the candle goes out, you can’t see where you’re going. So, let’s get

it lit. Be filled with the words of Jesus! Let's turn the light on and get out of the dark. Let's get out of the box and get into some purposeful action. I know my purpose for being. Have you found your purpose? Are you ready to get out of the box?

I prophesy to you that if you will stick with the instructions in this book...if you will diligently seek God with all of your heart, He will show you your reason for being and your purpose for living. When you find it, you will start growing. You'll become hungry for the Word of God and want to spend more time in prayer than ever before. The entrance of God's Word gives light—it causes you to be able to see. You will have energy that you didn't know you had. Having a reason for being...and a purpose in life...will give you the energy to be that person you see, and to do those things you were created to do.

Chapter 11

START WHERE YOU ARE—WITH WHAT YOU HAVE

In Chapter 9, I related the beautiful story about Gunder Birkeland, who got out of his box. There is a similar story in the Bible. In John 5:2–9 Jesus said to the crippled man at the pool at Bethesda: “...Wilt thou be made whole?” (v.6). Do you want to be made whole? You have to want to get out of the box before you can get out, and your first action out of the box may be to crawl, not to run. To get out of your box you must be willing to crawl.

You must start where you are, with what you have. When you use what God has given you, He will give you some more—and not until then. Use what you have to get what you need...so you can have what you want.

At one point during my first years in the ministry, I installed peepholes in doors, little round holes that enable you to see who is outside before opening the door. I was broke and the idea of installing peepholes bubbled up inside me. So, I installed peepholes, and all my friends laughed at me—until I came home and emptied out my pockets. I averaged \$22 an hour, which was really good money in 1974! That was one idea, one dream the Lord gave me when I needed it. Gunder Birkeland said, “Get a vision. See yourself out of the box.” He said, “I believe my purpose in life is to tell people they don’t have to live in a box.”

God has a purpose and a dream. He has a Master Plan, a blueprint for man. It starts in Genesis. God spoke it into existence; He put it in seed form. It may not be like a seed we can see with our natural eyes, but it is a supernatural seed and exists...whether we can see it or not. We

have learned that a seed is already programmed...something that is written or scheduled beforehand... to be played back at a later date, as Habakkuk 2:2 reminds us.

We are “replaying” the Bible now. We are playing back eternal life, health, happiness, joy, success, victory, and divine prosperity. We are discovering there is a plan for us in the Bible. We are finding that the Word of God is God’s software. In computer language, there is software and hardware. The Word is the software, and you must have it to see God’s plan. But if you have the software without the hardware, it doesn’t do any good. You must have both.

Guess who is the hardware? We are! We are the hardware. We will carry out the purpose written in the software—the Word of God. We are the ones that make it work in the earth. And it is fun! It is the most enjoyable thing there is, letting the Bible...the Word of God...work in our lives. Let’s turn up the volume, Lord—some thirty-fold, some sixty-fold, some one hundred-fold. We are charting our course by the dream in our heart—a dream placed there by God.

A Godly Dream Is Fond Hope

One definition of a *dream* is “fond hope.” *Fond hope* is “an anticipation of good, positive expectations, expecting something good to happen.” Oral Roberts built his university on that principle: “Expect a miracle.” That is scriptural. Hope is expecting something good to happen to you. How many times have you expected something good to happen to you? Didn’t it make you feel good? Do you know why? Hebrews 6:19 says hope is an anchor to the soul. It stabilizes your thinking. And may I say it feels good to feel good...about yourself.

Among the electronic gadgets in our church, we have had video recorders. If we turn them on without any video or audio signal going into them, they get the jitters. Why? Because they are not stabilized. A video must have input on it, because putting raw tape inside a video

player causes the jitters. It does all kinds of crazy things. To stabilize the video we must have some kind of input on it.

In order to stabilize an individual human being, there must be some “video” input. There must be some favorable expectations. Expecting something good to happen to you stabilizes your thinking and your emotions. It stabilizes your life. By the way, in Latin *video* literally means “I see.” See something good coming to you. Expecting something bad to happen makes people nervous and jittery. It sets the whole system out of balance.

A Godly Dream is Strong Desire

Another definition of the word *dream* is “strong desire” or “having a strong desire for something.” God will put a desire in your heart to do something. God did that with all of our outreach programs: the Satellite Network, the Word of Faith Bible School and all the other outreach programs. Some of the most outstanding teachers in America have taught in our Bible School. That is what God has done with all of our other outreach programs also—He put a strong desire in our heart.

A dream is having strong desire, and then God gives you the desires of your heart. Notice that this has two parts:

1. God drops the desires into your heart, and
2. He will bring them to pass.

David confirms that truth in Psalm 37:4–5 “Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Your godly desire is like a dream. It is like a vision. It is also a favorable expectation. *That desire in your spirit is the starting point of all achievement.* There is energy in it. The Spirit of God is in it...Divine Inspiration. The Spirit of creativity is in it.

Growing up, I loved to design and draw houses. As a youth I was possibly the world's greatest clubhouse builder. I built more clubhouses than anyone else in town. I had every board I would need memorized. I knew every shape. Did you ever look around construction jobs? You can pick up boards of odd sizes and shapes. Well, that's what I did. I knew every board to use as I built a clubhouse. Soon, I began to design the clubhouses. I would tear that clubhouse down and build another.

I became a mechanical designer, drawing and designing houses, buildings and other things. I had the desire to build. I ended up, after I was saved, wanting to build California townhouses. That was my desire. God gave me the desire of my heart. He put that desire in me and I was able to build California townhouses. Next, I built houses and other buildings.

Then I became discouraged and stopped building. I wasn't sure at that point what I was supposed to be doing. My desire was to build houses, but God's will for me wasn't clear in my mind. Then the Lord said, "I *did* call you to build 'houses' for My people and for My glory." I recalled the verse in Hebrews, "But Christ as a son over his own house; *whose house are we...*" (Hebrews 3:6). The Lord is a builder. "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it" (Psalm 127:1). Today I am a Master Faith Builder helping you bring to pass the Dreams in your Heart with our church and Success N Life Club.

Then when I read 1 Corinthians 6:19, I knew that the "houses" God had called me to build were actually the people I was leading to Him—just like God is using me to help you build

your “dream life. “Haven’t you yet learned that *your body is the home of the Holy Spirit* God gave you, and that he lives within you?” (TLB).

Godly desire is like favorable expectation, giving you the desire of your heart and giving you the starting point of all fulfillment. When you act on your desire or dream, when you move toward that favorable expectation, your action begins to bring it to pass. You become ignited and excited. You begin to have energy like never before—like a dynamo. Desire acted upon is power—that starting point of all achievement. So, get up and get going!

Your godly desire is like a vision. A *vision* is defined as “the ability to see something not actually visible; to see beyond what is and to cause to come about what should be.” Are you aware that God can give you the ability to see something not yet visible? Do you know there is more to see than the things you see in the natural? Dream BIG today!

A man in our congregation had a vision. As a result, he bought a laundromat in a shopping center. Soon he got the opportunity to buy the shopping center. Now he owns several laundromats and those laundromats have begun to turn into shopping centers. What principle worked for him? *The principle that success breeds success*. Remember, the principle of faith is this: “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap” (Galatians 6:7).

When you start operating in an environment of success, then you are able to do more things. Everything reproduces after its own kind. He had a vision which began to materialize. He began to act upon his desire, and God took him off the automobile assembly line and made him an entrepreneur, a self-employed businessman...by God’s power and for God’s glory.

He was an usher in our church who sometimes walked the aisles, handing out money to people who didn’t have any “seed” to put in the offering. Is that because he was a braggart? No!

It was because he had learned the principle of seeding. He had learned the principle of putting God first. When you put God's business first, He will bring your business into first place. He'll do it, but you must keep your vision. I like what Dwight L. Moody, and American Evangelist and Publisher said to his son on his death bed in 1899. If God is Really your Senior Business Partner, DREAM BIG.

Chapter 12

YOU WERE CREATED TO SEE YOUR DREAM

Another definition for the word *dream* is “to think upon something.” Actually, the best way to define the word is this: it simply means “to see, to be able to see.” Man was created to be able to see. Many, however, do not take the time to *see* a dream, a desire or a vision fulfilled.

Years ago one of our ministers wanted to publish a book. In prayer one day, I saw that book finished. I saw it as a beautiful book with a beautiful cover. It was professional looking and a tremendous blessing to the Body of Christ. I had a vision of that book. Why? I really don't know. I just did. I was his pastor, and it was probably so that I could encourage him. Today he has had many books published. Someone said years ago that everyone has at least one book in them. So do you, my dear friend. I see books in you.

My anointing from the Lord is to help His people, to lift them up above the smog of life and above the crowds of people who are do-nothings. My anointing is to get you up to a level with those who are doing things, and show you how to run with your vision. As I mentioned earlier, I presented the message in this book to some 250,000 people, to 2,500 churches, during a Word of Faith satellite seminar, but the Lord indicated that I was only zeroing in on some 5,000 of them. *If I must go through 250,000 to get 5,000 who are really serious for God, I am ready to do it.* It won't take a whole lot of people to get the world ready for Jesus.

Now I am after the readers of this book. *I am after you!* I want to fire you up...fill your vessel full of the Word of God. I intend to open your eyes to what God wants to do through you. I want to set you on solid rock, wind you up and turn you loose and on the world—to knock so you can take your place in the “Big Life” God has for you.

A Dream Comes to Pass Through Diligent Effort

Ecclesiastes 5:3 states, “For a dream cometh through the multitude of business...” You may have had certain dreams for years, but you must pay a price to see a dream come to pass. In *The Amplified Bible*, the above verse says, “For a dream comes with much business and *painful* effort...” That means diligent effort. Proverbs 21:5 tells us, “The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness...”

The thoughts—the things a diligent person *sees*—tend to plenty. They tend toward abundance. You can have thoughts of lack and visions of lack or you can have thoughts and visions of abundance. You can see lack or you can see abundance, but wise words tell us, “...the hand of the diligent maketh rich” (Proverbs 10:4).

Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith (see Hebrews 12:2). He gives you the ability to see your dreams become realities. He will show you how to pioneer a business or to blaze a trail. He will show you how to do whatever your vision is to do. Jesus is for you. He wants to show you how to set loose all that is in the earth.

But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant...

—Deuteronomy 8:18

God gives you power and ability to get wealth so that He can establish His covenant in the earth. That is the preaching of the gospel. Covenant of Whole Person Prosperity.

Another businessman at Word of Faith had a vision... a dream of building a mobile home park in a suburb of Fort Worth. He bought a park for a good price and began to plan. There were

no city sewer lines, so septic tanks would have to be put in. When the soil was tested, he found that it was not the right consistency to absorb the sewage, and here he was— holding the bag, so to speak.

He thought, “Aha! That’s why those fellows sold me the property at a good price. They wanted a mobile home park, but it wouldn’t work because of the sewer problem, so they sold it to me.” But, I’ll tell you something: he didn’t look at the problem. He began to *see* and *say* a solution. God gave him the idea of installing his own solid waste disposal plant, not septic tanks. He *thought bigger, not smaller*. His project has turned out to be the most beautiful mobile home park you may ever see. He expanded it to include a housing division, which began to grow, and now includes many beautiful houses.

Those developers who sold it to him thought they had ripped him off. They were back there chuckling. “Ha, ha, ha. We got rid of a bad deal!” They couldn’t see anything but failure. All they saw was defeat. All they could see was that it wouldn’t work. That is the way believers are going to end up with the wealth of the sinner. Sinners are motivated by greed...by getting something for nothing. They are also motivated by fear. Some believers remain motivated by fear until they become spiritual minded. Keep fear away; refuse it. Command it to go, and stay away. Confess what the Bible says about 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

We are going to take over the wealth of the sinner because we are not motivated by fear. We are motivated by faith and love. Faith gives you the ability to believe and receive the right things, based upon the Word of God. James 1:25 reads,

But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

If you will look into the perfect law of liberty—that's the law of abundance—and continue therein...be diligent...you will be blessed in your deeds. You will be blessed in your actions. Well, that businessman's story is just the beginning of stories about what God will do with one good inspired idea when you put Him first place in your life, and make Him Lord of all that you do.

Chapter 13

SEE AND BELIEVE CORRECTLY

Adam and Eve had the lay of the land. God had turned it over to them, but they blew it. They were disobedient. Pretty soon, they saw themselves naked. They didn't see themselves clothed with the robe of righteousness. They didn't see themselves with authority. They became afraid. They lost their vision of who they were. Why? Because they gave in to temptation.

Tempt means “to sway away from that which is good.” *Falling into temptation* means “being motivated into that which is evil and bad.” That’s what happened to Adam and Eve. They were moved away from that which was good, and began to be motivated by that which was contrary to God. They started seeing the wrong things. When they became blinded to the truth, their candles went out, they were no longer inspired—they expired. They died spiritually.

That is what temptation does. It will move you off course. You will be like a ship without a rudder or without a sail. The devil does not want you to sail into abundance or health. He wants you to sail into failure and will try to get your eyes off that which is good. But as believers we have the light of God to guide us through temptation. We read in Psalms earlier: “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Psalm 119:105).

When Adam and Eve stopped listening to God, the light went out and they stopped seeing things correctly. They stopped having direction. That is why it is so important to make Jesus the Lord of your life, your family and your business, so you can have plenty of light to see by. Adam and Eve lost their vision and perished. “Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he” (Proverbs 29:18). Jesus said, “The eye is the lamp of the body. So if your eye is sound, your entire body will be full of light” (Matthew 6:22, AMP).

Remember, we are talking about having a dream or a vision, or favorable expectations. I believe “light” is taking over in people’s lives. There is no stopping God’s people. We are learning and putting into practice the principles of success, because God is mobilizing an army to spread the gospel and no man goes to war at his own expense. God is raising up paymasters to bankroll the war chest. And those who *send* and those who *go* get equal portions. God is using ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

So, if the light of the body is the eye, what is the eye? The eye is symbolic of the way you see or perceive things. Where one person sees failure, another person sees success by the light of God’s Word. While one sees sickness and “I’ve never been able to get healed,” another will walk right up and receive healing. Why? Because they *saw* healing. It’s very hard to get healed on the outside until you *see* the Healer on the inside. If you are believing for prosperity on the outside, you must *see* Jesus as Lord of abundance on the inside.

The light of the body is the eye. The way you see or perceive things is the light of your body—the way you see *things*. The devil tries to stop you from seeing things correctly and moves you to seeing things incorrectly. He knows you are moved by what you see. You might argue that you are not moved by what you see...but everyone is moved by what they see.

The things you see, the things you believe to be true are received into your spirit and become a part of you. You can believe something to be true that is really a lie, and that lie will get down into your spirit and keep you seeing things from the wrong point of view. You can remain wrong until that lie gets plucked out and the right thing (the truth) replaces it in your spirit.

Jesus used tares as an example. Many people have self-imposed problems and limitations, because the enemy has seeded lies, (tares) into their spirit. Tares are plants that look like wheat,

but really are weeds that rob growth and development from the wheat. An enemy in Jesus' time might sow tares in your wheat field and you wouldn't be able to tell the difference until harvest time. Tares have no crop. They are counterfeits. At harvest time, the master of the field separates the wheat from the tares. Weeds, doubt, unbelief, fear of failure from the unknown, the Dark choke the seeds. Did you get that? I call them dream killers.

What you believe as truth influences your vision, your dream. The Bible says the eye is the light of the body, so how you see things determines what you believe, and what you believe determines how you act and react to the situations of life. You could be standing right next to an opportunity now. There is an old proverb that says "opportunity never knocks twice." How you act toward life determines how life reacts to you—*good or bad*.

Picture this: You are walking down the road, seeing things correctly. You recognize an opportunity and seize it. Here come some other people walking by, thinking that everything is bad, nothing is good and nobody likes them. They'll never get out of the box. They will walk right by and not see the opportunity...and it was right there in front of them the whole time.

Years ago I was in Houston, Texas, on my way to Pastor John Osteen's church. I was broke, in-between meetings. Man, I prayed. I wanted to be a provider for my household. That morning when I awakened, the Lord spoke to me and said, "Paul had a tent making job." I thought, "Oh, oh." And in a few seconds, I knew what God wanted me to do. He wanted me to go to work to earn some money. So, I went out and built cedar fences. A preacher building fences? Yes, I put up fences, and I worked hard at it.

I averaged \$1,000 a week for two weeks (that was in 1974 dollars), got some money, paid my bills and headed back on the revival trail. I was fulltime in God's work again. I could have said, "There's no hope." But I believed there was a way, because God had spoken into my heart.

I *saw* it, and I put it into action. This concept is very important: the light of the body is the eye. What you see and believe to be true determines how you act and how you react to the conditions of life. *It also determines how life acts toward you.*

So pay close attention. He who has ears to hear, listen. Two people can walk into a room, one seeing correctly and the other incorrectly. Who is going to get the blessing? The one who sees correctly. Get this valuable information into your inner man. Review it again and again until you fully understand the concept and have it in your spirit. Let's look at Jesus' words once again.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

—Matthew 6:22–23

“If therefore thine eye be single...”—if you are seeing things correctly—your whole being is full of light. *“But if thine eye be evil...”*—if the things you are seeing are wrong, or incorrect, or bad—your whole being is full of darkness.

Chapter 14

GOD SENDS ONLY GOOD

Too many people see only the bad things, such as sickness. Sickness is bad! Once I was speaking at another church where a woman with a broken leg attended. She was using a cane and had other medical equipment with her. When I saw her I determined to preach her so full of faith that she would get healed that night.

I walked up to her and said, “The Lord wants to heal you.” But something else was going on with her at the same time. She said, “The devil didn’t do this to me.”

I said, “Oh, yes, the devil did this.”

She replied, “No! God did this.”

I asked her, “God did *that*?” Then I told her, “God doesn’t tempt, test, or try anyone with evil. The Bible says in James 1:13–17 in *The Amplified Bible*:

Let no one say when he is tempted, I am tempted from God; for God is incapable of being tempted by [what is] evil and He Himself tempts no one. But every person is tempted when he is drawn away, enticed and baited by his own evil desire (lust, passions). Then the evil desire, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin, and sin, when it is fully matured, brings forth death. Do not be misled, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect (free, large, full) gift is from above; it comes down from the Father of all [that gives] light, in [the shining of] Whom there can be no variation [rising or setting] or shadow cast by His turning [as in an eclipse].

She actually believed God broke her leg, so she couldn't see healing. Health and healing are good. If God is trying to influence you, He's trying to encourage you with health and healing. He is not trying to test you with evil or sickness. The devil tries to motivate you away from good. He tries to move you away from happiness with unhappiness. He tried to move you away from joy with sorrow. He will say, "Oh, have a little pity party. Everything is bad. It is a blue day. It's raining outside."

Perhaps it did rain outside today, but above those clouds the sun was shining. It is always shining. The sun never stops shining. What do you want to see...rain or sunshine? Do you want to see problems or solutions? Do you want to see sickness or health? Are you looking for the bad or the good? What you see on the inside determines what you see on the outside. I heard someone say once, "*The Me I see, is the Me I'll be.*"

Let's go back to Jesus' words in Matthew 6:23.

But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

Your viewpoint can bring darkness into your whole life...your business, your marriage, your health and your finances, even into your church. That's the way the devil gets in—with evil. If your understanding is darkened, what you see is darkness. How great is that darkness! You must get it right on the inside. Start by changing what you *see* with your eye of faith.

Many people try to give birth to all kinds of dreams and visions, but some never get "pregnant" with them inside. They have never yet seen the stripes of Jesus and His healing power. If you are one of these people, there is hope for you yet. Keep hearing the Word. Faith

comes by hearing the Word. “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Verse 14 in that same chapter says “... and how shall they hear without a preacher?...” A FAITH preacher.

A dream comes by hearing the Word. A dream comes by seeing things that are right, not things that are wrong. Some people have lost their dream. Some have no hope, no vision, no correct sight. Not having a vision is a ship without a sail.

The Sail Determines the Direction of the Ship

I want you to see yourself as a ship. Say to yourself, “I’m a ship.” A man without a dream is like a ship without a sail. Pay close attention. *Your dream...your vision...your hope—that’s your sail.* It is not the gale, but the sail that determines the direction your ship goes. That sail represents your purpose in life. So, *Chart Your Course by The Dream in Your Heart.*

Have you ever been sailing? The direction of the wind doesn’t determine the way the ship moves. What determines the direction is the sail and rudder. Think of a shipyard full of boats with no sails on them. They will never go anywhere. You can have a little sail...like a little boat, and do little things. Or you can have a big sail...like a bigger boat and do bigger things. Now, picture a big sailing ship. It doesn’t have just one big sail. This ship has many little sails in case something happens to the one big one. If one needs repair, there are other sails to keep the ship moving.

Sailors learned a long time ago that it’s better to have a whole bunch of little sails headed in the right direction than just one big one. But don’t get a second sail until your first one is perfected. Businessmen, chew on that a little bit. An old saying is, “To have a big ship you must go where there is deep water.” You are either giving power to the past—problems, bitterness,

discouragements, lack of opportunity—or you are giving power to the future. Your vision is your future, so give power to the future

You Are Moved by What You See—Your Dream and Your Vision

For several years, I so strongly emphasized not being moved by what we see, that I was not moved at all by anything...good or bad. I emphasized the negative side without seeing the positive side.

There was a time when I became disinterested and complacent about several facets of our vision and our dream here at Word of Faith. I stopped being moved and motivated. I stopped acting on my dream. I just didn't care. Then I realized what had happened, and I said, "Hey! I know I have to be acting on my dream. Why am I not acting on my dream?"

I discovered that the devil had knocked the wind out of my sail. To a certain extent, I had lost my vision. I had not stopped ministering at Word of Faith, but I didn't have that intense energy and enthusiasm I normally have. *Enthusiasm* means "en-theo: God in you," or "God at work in you." I had lost my first love for my vision—bringing souls into the fullness of Christ.

I began to think and meditate on this, and what clicked in my spirit helped me understand how to motivate others. *The truth was that we are moved by what we see, and I had stopped seeing things correctly.* I had let my sail be pulled down. I saw that I needed to re-associate myself with my dream and my vision. So, I began to get pictures and graphs and all kinds of other things. I surrounded myself with my dream and my vision. And most importantly, I began to think upon it.

When I began to think upon my dream, the wind of the Holy Spirit began to blow and I set sail again. Why? Because I learned that I am moved by what I *see* and *I chose to see the good*

not the bad. And that moved me to action. *Faith without action is dead faith.* Get your sails up and keep them up. Sail on! Sail on!

Chapter 15

STRENGTHEN YOUR DREAM

There are four ways to strengthen your dream.

1. Start planning it, step by step.
2. Meditate upon it.
3. Do it! Do it!
4. Don't stop! Don't stop!

In 2 Kings 6 we read the story of Elisha, when he was surrounded by his enemies. His servant cried out, ... “Alas, my master! How shall we do? We are surrounded by the enemy!” Remember, the word *surround* means “to be circumstanced.” His servant was seeing the evil. Elisha, who was known as a visionary or seer...one having the ability to see...was seeing the good. He was seeing the promises of the realm of the Holy Spirit. The prophet Elisha responded to his servant by the anointing of the Holy Ghost.

And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

—2 Kings 6:15–17

There are more solutions than problems. There is more health than sickness. There are more opportunities than lack of opportunities. There is more success than failure. There are more people still to come to your church than your present attendance. I say now, “Oh, God... Open my reader’s eyes, that he may see!”

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

—2 Corinthians 4:18

“For we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7). Yes, we do see things, but not the things which are seen. *We see the things which are not seen.* That is our dream. We look not at the things which are seen. What moves you is what you see by being spiritual minded. See the promise of God fulfilled. See your Dream and Vision happening. Amen.

Choose to See by the Eye of Faith

Choose to see things through your dream, which God has given you. Remember, Acts 2:17 reveals that in the last days people will have dreams and visions. They will be able to see things.

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

Do you know what will happen then...after you envision and see things? You will have “sails,” and you will have wind in your sails. The wind will begin to take your boat. You will begin to *Chart Your Course by the Dream in Your Heart*. God dreams, and He put dreaming inside of you so that you could dream.

Oh, I like this story, found in 1 Kings 18:41–46. Elijah was praying and his servant was there with him. There had been a drought for three and a half years, so Elijah had gotten down on his knees, and he began to pray. He said to his servant, “Go up to the top of Mount Carmel and *look*.” He is talking to you today as well, so keep looking to see the things of God come to pass.

Elijah said, “I hear the abundance of rain. Go look.”

The servant went up Mount Carmel, then came back and said, “Elijah, I don’t see anything.” Elijah asked, “You didn’t see anything? I hear the sound of abundance of rain. I hear the sound of abundance. I’m hearing it. Don’t you hear it? Are you sure you don’t hear it? You’re sure you don’t *see* abundance? I *see* abundance.” (I hear abundance for your dream, Dear One.)

Elijah got down on his knees. It says he prayed seven times. At first, I didn’t understand that. But now, I know what he was praying. He was saying, “Lord, I hear abundance.” He prayed and he got back up. Every time he got back up he heard abundance again.

I want to tell you: That’s all I hear—abundance. I can’t help it any longer. I haven’t heard lack in so long, I don’t know what lack sounds like. I don’t want to know. Don’t tell me. I hear abundance!

Seven times Elijah got down on his knees. He kept on saying to his servant, “Get back up there to that mountain. Get back up there to that mountain top and look again. The seventh time he prayed a small cloud appeared and became the abundance of rain. That’s all it took for Elijah,

just a small sign of rain. He jumped up and took off running. I hear and see a small cloud of rain for you, Dear Reader. It's time for you to jump up and take off running with your dream and your vision—and don't stop! I hear abundance for you. I hear abundance from God for you!

God's Word Works

This is similar to the story of a woman who heard us over the radio. I had said that God would heal anyone who would get some audio recordings and listen to healing scriptures from the Bible. Numbers 23:19 says, "God is not a man, that he should lie..." *He still heals.*

She had been sent home to die by her doctors. She had an open tumor on her breast. It was draining and they had told her, "There is nothing we can do for you. You are eaten up with cancer."

So, she bought those audio recordings on healing and began to listen. She listened to them for a week and got mad at me...and she got mad at God...then she called me up on the telephone. She said, "It didn't work. I didn't get healed." At first, I thought, "*Oh, no! I have a problem here. What am I going to ...*" Then, all of a sudden, righteous indignation arose inside me. I didn't see that sickness. I saw health in that woman. I said, "How dare you tell me that God's Word doesn't work! How dare you call me on the phone and tell me—a servant of God—that the Word doesn't work?"

It flabbergasted her. I surprised myself, too. But I said, "You get those audios and you turn them on. Listen, listen, listen. Don't you call me back until you are up out of that bed—walking and healed by the Power of God!"

Three weeks later, I got a call at the office. It was that woman, screaming "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!" She said, "Brother Tilton, I started listening to those recordings, and I listened to them, and listened to them until suddenly I began *hearing* them. Then I *heard it!* I was

healed by the stripes of Jesus. The Power of God went into my body, and closed up those sores and those draining, festering, cancerous holes in my body. I got up out of my bed. I've been dancing and praising God—healed by the Power of God ever since.” Faith comes by hearing...and hearing...and hearing the Word of God. Dear One, when you finally start hearing God, you will start seeing God moving in your health and in your life. Have faith as your dream comes true. Amen and Amen!

Chapter 16

SEE YOUR DREAM THROUGH EYES OF FAITH

The lady with the cancerous tumor, in the last chapter, heard the sound of abundance. She stopped hearing lack and sickness. You must stop seeing and hearing sickness, lack, discouragement and sorrow. Start seeing abundance. Start seeing joy and God's love. Start seeing His blessings on you, your household, and your business.

You need a dream. If you don't have one, get on your knees and pray. Don't stop praying until God shows you what He created you for. And when you get it, it will be just a little spark, but all it takes is a little spark to light a large fire. Listen to these words the Lord spoke to me one morning in prayer. Think on them. *"If you will walk by the things not seen, you can have the things you desire that are seen."* A good example of that principle is found in Matthew 14:25–33, (NIV).

During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 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?" And when

they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

At first, Peter thought he saw a ghost. He did it was the Holy Ghost. Then he realized it was Jesus walking toward them on the water, so he asked Jesus to bid him to come to Him. As long as Peter looked to Jesus, he walked above the circumstances. When he began to see the waves, and he smelled, heard and felt the wet wind, he began to sink. What happened? He took his eyes off Jesus. As long as Peter kept his vision, he kept walking. He was either being moved by Jesus...by what he “saw” in his spirit...or he was moved by what he saw in the natural.

Let me say that I personally believe Peter had a vision as he saw Jesus walking on the water. He saw himself in the mirror of God’s Word...a reflection of himself as he was...but looking at the reflections on the water he saw himself in Christ. He saw what he could be...what he could look like and do “in Christ.” With God all things are possible.

Nothing you can see (in your dream or vision) is impossible. You, like Peter, are either being drawn to the solution or to the problem and failure. The choice is yours, so *keep walking on the water*. He will take you where you want to go. Jesus will never let you down. Get it?

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.

—Deuteronomy 30:19

God gave you the power to choose good or evil, blessing or cursing. And He wants you to *Choose life...Choose blessing...Choose health...Choose dream prosperity*. God said that those who wait upon the Lord...those who look to Jesus...shall renew their strength, which tells me that looking at a problem drains you of your strength. Don't look at sickness. It will drain you and make you even more sick. Don't look at lack. Look at Jesus and He will transform your life FOREVER!

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

- *When you see the solution, you have strength.*
- *When you have a vision, you have strength.*
- *Stop looking at the problem. Start looking at the Word of God.*
- *See your dream through the eyes of God. See your dream through your eyes of faith.*

We have been to so many city council meetings over the years, and have been told “No,” dozens of times, regarding permits on our buildings. But all we could hear in our spirits was “Yes.” And we always got what we needed for the Lord's work. You will renew your strength and mount up with wings as eagles when you let the Word work for you and see things through the Word. You will fly above problems, and not be in the middle of them. Amen.

The devil likes to zap you of your energy by getting you discouraged about sickness or sorrow, and the business deal that isn't going to work. You tell the devil right now that there isn't any business deal that won't work with you. They will all work with you, because whatever you put your hand to will prosper. Listen to this, business people:

- Proverbs 22:29: Seest thou a man *diligent* in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.
- Proverbs 21:5: The thoughts of the *diligent* tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.
- Proverbs 10:4: He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the *diligent* maketh rich.

So, listen for the sound of abundance. Keep your eye on your dream, and be counted among the diligent. Get a Dream....Get a Vision.

Chapter 17

YOU CAN RISE AGAIN

I end this section with the beautiful story of a woman who was a strong believer. Her husband divorced her. She had four children, but she had no way of earning an income. She was kicked out onto the street...evicted from her apartment because she had no money. She wrote this:

“I will rise again. I am 40 years old, divorced and broke. My four children and I have just been evicted from our apartment. I thought my world had come to an end. I have never been so depressed, so lonely, so frightened. I don’t understand life today. I am the sole support of four children and myself. I’m not going to cry anymore, though. This is only a temporary situation, because the things which are seen in the natural are temporary.

I have been happy before—I will be happy again. Today is the first day of the rest of my life. I’ll set a good example for my children. I’m going to take them to church and teach them about God. I’ll motivate them and inspire them. I will be the best mother in the world. I will be somebody someday. Someday kings, queens, heads of state and even presidents and other important people will ask my advice and listen to me.

I will not let anyone or anything limit me. I will not be satisfied with being a sailboat out in the sea, drifting around. I will be an ocean liner, charting my course in the sea of life. There will be obstacles. There will be some setbacks. There may be some detours. But I refuse to let them destroy me. It will not be easy. But I am

going to make it. I'll win the battle. I'll win the war. I will turn this loss into a cornerstone of my life, and I will rebuild again. I will succeed. I will keep going. I won't look back. I'll not look back. I have obligations. My children are depending on me. And with God's help, I will rise again." Mary Ash, founder of Home Interior Inc.

She became one of the wealthiest women in Houston. She wrote her own ticket with God. She prophesied, and then with much labor, brought it to pass. She has even had contacts with national leaders, just as she had prophesied she would.

The story of Lot in Genesis 19 says that God gave him a way of escape. God told Lot not to look back, but to look forward for his direction...the mountain of safety. You will always see your way of escape if you look forward, not back. I'm writing this to someone in particular, someone to whom God is speaking right now. Lot's wife looked back. She had the way of escape before her, but she refused to "see" Her husband looked forward and escaped from the destruction behind him. She lost her way by looking back at the past and became a pillar of salt.

By the authority of Jesus Christ, by the greatest vision a person can have—and that is seeing Christ in you, the hope, the image of God—I release healing, health, miracles and divine prosperity into your life this very moment. I prophesy health to you. Come on! Reach out and take it. Reach out. Turn your faith loose. Chart your course. Get out of the box. Stand up and walk. See health. See your business prospering. You, too, can rise again in Jesus' Resurrection Power! Jesus is all you need to have everything you ever wanted.

PART III
YOU CAN PREDICT YOUR FUTURE

Chapter 18

YOU ARE MOVED BY WHAT YOU SEE

I have been telling you how I learned to *Chart Your Course By the Dream in Your Heart*. I learned that with people or sailboats, it is not the force of the wind that gives direction. Direction comes from having a sail and pointing it in the right direction. Your sail is symbolic of your dream. I have learned that we are to look at things which are not seen for our motivation. Don't look at the natural—look at what is in your heart...in your dream.

We are all learning day by day how to be led by the Spirit of God. If you are born again, your spirit has been recreated into a new being. God talks to you through your spirit. God comes to you and bubbles up into your thinking. Then you can give action to those things in your daily walk on the earth. The inspiration of the Almighty gives understanding or illumination. God gives you the ability to *see* in the Spirit. Have you ever been reading the Bible and suddenly you “saw” something you hadn't seen before? That is illumination. God's Word gives us light for our path so we can find our way in life. Put God first. He will crown your effort with Success.

God will reveal things to you and show you things to come. When Peter confessed that Jesus was the Christ, Jesus said, “... flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 16:17). That is called revelation knowledge.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

—1 Corinthians 2:9–10

Many times people stop reading before verse ten, which tells us that it is by His Spirit that He reveals things to those of us who love Him. The spirit of man is the candle by which he sees those things revealed by the Holy Spirit. When you become born again, God lights your candle. Then you must be like the wise virgins in Matthew 25, and keep plenty of oil, or understanding. The five foolish virgins didn't have enough oil in their lamps, so while they were away...buying more oil...the bridegroom came and the door was shut.

We don't want to be foolish. We want to be wise and have understanding so we can see where we're going. This is what is happening to us: We're learning how to walk...not by the things that are seen...but by the things that are not seen—the eternal things of God. These are the things that have existed throughout eternity and will continue to exist...things such as health. There is no sickness in heaven, so we must start “seeing” health in Christ's abundance of life.

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

For years, I taught that we should not be moved by what we see; many others also taught the same thing. But we should have been teaching: “*We are moved by what we see, and we have to make sure that the things we see are the right things.*” You must have a vision—you must see something. Many people don't guard what they look at because their eyes and their perceptions go in every direction, just like a little boat without a compass or a sail. Whatever they are looking

at...there they go...following that dream.

We Have the Power of Choice

I was that way until I found that I could look at only what I willed to see. I learned I could choose the direction of my destiny. I could determine where I wanted to go. God gave us the power of choice as a free moral agent. He didn't make us robots. He made us in His image, giving us the ability to be creative and to enjoy the fulfillment of the things He leads our spirit man to do. However, He wants us to learn how to make our own decisions, in line with His Word and the Holy Spirit.

You have heard people running around saying, "The Lord told me to do this. The Lord told me to do that," as often as I have. Most of the time, however, the Lord didn't tell them any of that. When someone says that to me, I start getting flashing yellow lights, so to speak. God will give you direction, but He also leaves some things up to you. And that's the fun part! God can so energize your spirit man with His ability and with knowledge of Him that you can make some decisions for yourself. So get going all aboard.

Granted, those decisions must be based on the authority of God's Word. He would never want you to do something against His will, but He has given you guidelines. God has given you a freeway, and He has given you road signs to keep you on track. You can enjoy driving down the freeway. Obedience is staying on course. Disobedience is running off the edge of the road.

When a Christian psalmist and songwriter I know was born again, he became spiritually alive and began to use his God-given talents to write songs that glorified, magnified, and exalted the King of kings and Lord of lords. He enjoyed God's creativity working through him, but he also made some decisions of his own while writing the songs.

People Are Searching for Their Purpose

Everyone is looking for their purpose. Those who don't know God are out there searching for their purpose anywhere they can. They read the horoscope column in the newspaper, and some of them go to fortune tellers. That fortune teller will come out in her little old robe, in a funny-looking house with a crazy-looking sign. She usually has a crystal ball to see into your future, or will "read" your palm and see a romantic life ahead, full of travel and excitement.

Kids play with Ouija boards because they are curious about the supernatural. They don't know they can call on God. They have never read in God's Word, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

Why do people search after the occult and false prophets? Just like children...they don't know there is a God alive in the earth Who has all the answers! Attending some of today's dead churches probably didn't give them anything spiritual, so they went looking for the supernatural somewhere else.

On the other hand, some people search for their purpose in natural things. They read the newspaper and listen to all the news reports, and are programmed by what some editor or reporter said: "Well, interest rates and gasoline prices are going up. I guess we'd better tighten our belts and not do anything, because times are going to be bad."

I want to tell you something. Gasoline prices may go up and they may go down. It doesn't make any difference to God either way. The Word of God says He is able to save and deliver by many or by a few (see 1 Samuel 14:6b). He can fill up your tank with gas, whatever the price.

Some Christians follow signs because they don't know that *signs are to follow them*. They wait for the signs of circumstances to be right. For years I have watched Christians follow those signs. "If the interest rates are just right, if the weather is just right, if Mama says it's okay,

if all the right doors open up, I'll know it's the will of God so I'll follow those physical signs.” Do you know what happens? It always ends up with them going around in circles. They always have a “new door.” “Well, this or that happened, and it must have been the will of God, because the door opened.” Don't follow signs. Look to God for your dreams and visions. Then, *Dream it! Plan it! Do it! Don't stop! Till you get to the top of the mountain of your Dreams*

What You Have Been Preaching Will Follow You

I know God can open doors that no man can shut (see Revelation 3:8). But following signs is not God's perfect will for you. His *perfect* will is for you to zero in on the Word and act on it. Then signs will follow the Word. Signs will follow you. Signs will follow what you have been believing to be true. Have you been believing lack? Then lack will then follow you. Have you been believing for healing? Then healing will follow you. Have you been believing for biblical, divine prosperity? Then the signs of prosperity will follow you. The words of your mouth will follow you. What is following you? Most actions and events in your life are only your past words following you.

The world doesn't know God. They think they have to go to the devil, to witchcraft or to the occult to receive supernatural guidance. I can't really blame them, for they thought they knew about God from the little bit they learned at the church they attended as a child.

Even some born-again people have not been warned they shouldn't mess around with the occult. Many of them are even doing it in the name of the Lord. Remember, the devil never did anything original. He is a counterfeiter, a perverter. He changes things around for his use. All of the witchcraft things—Ouija boards, palm reading, and so forth—are counterfeits of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Corinthians 12:7-11

Chapter 19

YOU CAN DETERMINE YOUR DESTINY

Now, I'm going to make several important statements about life that can change your walk with God. In fact, they may change your entire future.

- You can determine your destiny.
- You can either *let* things happen or you can *make* things happen.
- You must ask for what you want or settle for what you get.

You have the power of choice to determine your destiny in agreement with the Word of God. You can decide the direction of your life, and once you get a success momentum going it will breed more success. *You can predict your own future by the dream in your heart.*

Look at the churches that were affiliated with the Word of Faith Satellite Seminars, for example. The prophetic gifts of the Holy Spirit and our church's corporate anointing have been established through years of prayer, speaking God's Word, and pulling down strongholds. Through the seminars of the five-fold ministries, the Word of Faith anointing flows into these other churches. This has given them a momentum in the Holy Spirit that might have taken as long as five or ten years for them to achieve alone. This created a powerful move of God, with ripple effects for years to come.

There is a spiritual God-purpose that we transfer to them—the power of united corporate faith. We have been continually pushing back the powers of darkness to clean out a place where believers can come and be fed, and then launch out into the rest of the world. There is a success-anointed presence on this book as you read it. Accept it now from the Lord. Receive the divine anointing to rise up and walk into the vision, the dream God has put in your heart.

Your Vision Is Your Future

Some people would instantly write off my statement that you can write your own future. They would say I don't know what I am talking about. But it is scriptural for you to predict your future, based on the authority of God's Word. The word *predict* means "to tell something in advance." When you predict, you speak of something you believe is going to happen. Do you know what that takes? It takes F.A.I.T.H. You predict your future and determine your destiny by your vision, by what you see in your heart. Your vision is your future, and without your vision you won't reach your destiny (see Proverbs 29:18).

In your mind, picture a wall ahead of you. It is some distance away, but as you walk, it gets nearer. That wall is the future. That is what you see. Now suppose that wall is invisible, yet you know it is there. That is the definition of a vision. It is something not seen in the natural. At one time I saw my "wall" in a dream...a vision. But as I began to move toward it, I got closer and closer until I touched it. Then it became a reality in the natural world.

I could have stayed away from it, or walked in a different direction, and that wall would have remained a dream...a vision... but not a reality. Someone once said that a dream without action is just a fantasy. Until I began to chart a course by that "wall" (my dream...my vision), until I began to sail toward it, it never would have become a reality. Without a vision, people perish. I once heard it said, "A dream is just a dream until you write it down." As we saw earlier, Habakkuk 2:2 states, "Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it." Share your dream...your vision. Dream it, Write it Down, Do it, Don't Stop.

Many people really never realize their full potential in life because they never see by the things that are not seen. Hebrews 11:3 says, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, *so that things which are seen were not made of things which do*

appear.” If you do not have a vision, you do not have a meaningful, purposeful future. You must have a vision. Remember, Proverbs 29:18 says that without a vision you will perish...you will lose hope. And, “Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life” (Proverbs 13:12).

Have Faith as a Programmed Seed

Jesus said faith is like a mustard seed that can grow to fill an entire garden. Remember, a seed has the capability of knowing what its future is, the ability inside itself to predict its future. Encapsulated inside the shell of a seed, it is programmed to grow into a certain thing. Then Jesus told his disciples that if they had faith, they could be like that seed.

And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

—Luke 17:6

God programmed His Word in seed form to be played back at a later date, to go whithersoever He will, and never to return void, or without fruit. One time I had some weeds in my yard, so I hired a man to chop them out. I asked him, “Where did those weeds come from? They weren’t here a few days ago.”

He looked at me and said, “Son, don’t you know that when the soil gets hot, the seeds in it start popping open and the weeds start coming up?” I said, “I think I understand.” I thought to myself, *Now I’d better also understand about spiritual seeds and spiritual growth.* Matthew 13:8–9 tells us:

But other (*seed*) fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Do you know what I am trying to do? I am trying to get you so fired up that the seeds—the Word of God inside you, your dream and visions—will start popping open and coming up, bringing forth much fruit. I'm after results in your life. I believe that's what you want... results in your life. That's why you are reading this book. Well, you can have results with the Word of God. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).

So, speak your dream in faith, believing you receive. Speak God's Words out loud so you can hear them and build your creative faith into ACTION! Faith in Action releases the Power of God. Remember God can do beyond all we can dream, but only to the Power of God we release through our faith based activities, believing we have received then and act like it, talk like it, see then by your Eyes of Faith and you shall have them. That is worth reading again and again and again.

Chapter 20

FAITH ALLOWS YOU TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE

If you have little faith, then you don't see very far or much. As long as Peter looked to Jesus, the author and finisher of his faith, (see Hebrews 12:2), he was able to walk on the water, did the impossible . But as soon as he stopped looking at Jesus and started looking at things which are seen, he began to sink. Your level of faith determines what you can see or can't see.

You see a sick person in the natural, but because the Word of God says they were healed by the stripes of Jesus, in your spirit you see them healed (see 1 Peter 2:24). That is foretelling something you believe is going to happen before it ever happens. That is what God wants you to do, but most people are saying what has already happened. They let the past influence them, instead of speaking what they believe is going to happen. God declared the end from the beginning. I say again, "Stop believing what you are seeing and start seeing what you are believing." Kathryn Kuhlman

Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.

—Isaiah 46:10

The Lord revealed this prophetically to faith teacher Charles Capps, "*I have told My people they can have what they say, but they are saying what they have.*" Can you imagine thousands of believers prophesying that America is rising up again? Can you imagine thousands of believers prophesying that this country is serving God, that North America is covered by the

Word of God and the knowledge of God? And, not only America...believers are prophesying all over the world. In your country, as well. Can you imagine the newspapers full of revelation knowledge and understanding and the plan of salvation? Can you imagine the gifts of the Holy Spirit in operation on the 6:00 p.m. newscasts? Amen, Shout the Victory!

God is not going to stand for prime-time TV being lorded over by the devil. We are going to have our share and equal opportunity on prime time. Remember, God told me He was going to open up Christian television in England years before it happened. Mark my Words of faith, it happened.

Just as there are false prophets in the land, there are also true prophets in the land. In order for there to be falsehood, there has to be truth. I am reminded of the story of Balak in the Old Testament. For several years I didn't understand that, although I heard ministers preach on it. I knew that Balaam started out being a prophet of God, yet Balak tried to persuade him to curse the Israelites. But Satan knew the spiritual principle "...those you bless are blessed, and those you curse are cursed" (Numbers 22:6, NIV), so he set out to pervert Balaam's gift.

The devil knows Christians have the power to curse and to bless. He knows there is power in words. So, he tries to get us to use that power to bring negative things into our own lives...such as ill health and poverty...by prophesying: "Nothing good ever happens to me. I'll never make it, etc." Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love or appreciate them [*their words*] shall eat the fruit thereof."

But look at the apostle John's words: "...the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy" (Revelation 19:10). This verse says that the testimony of Jesus Christ—the statements that Jesus made—are the spirit of prophesy. What's your testimony? These truths I am teaching are the

spirit of prophesy. *To prophesy* means “to foretell something you believe is going to happen—before it ever happens.” Let’s read that verse again, this time in the *Amplified Bible*.

For the substance (essence) of the truth revealed by Jesus is the spirit of all prophecy [the vital breath, the inspiration of all inspired preaching and interpretation of the divine will and purpose, including both mine and yours].

—Revelation 19:10

“Does that mean, Bob, that if we get these words in our spirit man and release them we are prophesying?” It surely does mean just that. You can prophesy. Moses declared this to the Israelites in Numbers 11:29, “...would that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put His spirit upon them!” Jesus told his disciples they could predict the future of the mountain by “saying.”

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I *say* unto you, That whosoever shall *say* unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he *saith* shall come to pass; *he shall have whatsoever he saith*.

—Mark 11:22–23

Enrich your words with Faith Believing in them.

You can predict the future of your business, your home and your health. You can *Chart Your Course by the Dream in Your Heart*. You can prophesy. If you don’t prophesy things, nothing will happen, because you have the keys to loose the will of God into the earth. Either

you use them or they go unused. Again I say, “Ask what you want, or you will have to settle for what you get.”

The Keys to the Kingdom Are Yours

Look again at the words of Jesus in Matthew 16:19:

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Your words or your keys to the releasing the Kingdom of Heaven her on here on Earth.

Some people don't think they have the keys because they don't have a key from Honest John's Key Store with “Kingdom of Heaven” engraved on it. But God's keys are voice-actuated. He has given you the authority to speak His will, and loose His will into the earth.

I have a garage door opener. When I pull up in front of my house and push the little button, up goes the garage door, and I pull my car into that garage. Why? Because I have authority to go in there. Everything in that garage belongs to me. I can park my car, put the door down, walk into the house, take off my shoes, plop down on the couch and enjoy what belongs to me. I have the keys to my house and I use them. That's the way it is with the Kingdom of God, and remember...the keys are voice-actuated. Enrich your words with Faith love them.

Once again, the secret is loving, repeating and embracing our words. We can eat the fruit of heaven now—the fruit of eternal life, the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance). These are just the earnest or down payment of a whole lot more to come.

To prophesy or to predict means “to decree the future of something.” Prophesying is speaking forth the counsel of God. “You shall also decide and decree a thing, and it shall be established for you; and the light [of God's favor] shall shine upon your ways” Job 22:28 (AMP).

You Determine Your Direction

The above verse says that *you decide*. That means that you determine your own direction. Decide your destiny. Get out of indecision—stop sitting on the fence. God has put a dream in your heart. He has given you the ability to have dreams, and He gives you the desires of your heart...the desire to see your dreams come true.

Decree something in line with God’s will and it shall be established for you. God has given you the authority to decree a thing. What’s more, His favor will shine upon that thing. Why? Because we are created in the image of God. We are the Body of Jesus on the earth, and we have the keys of Heaven to loose all of Heaven’s resources and the will of God into the earth.

The Lord recently spoke this to me: “*I cannot loose from heaven what you don’t loose on earth.*” God has established it that way, so that’s the only way He operates. His plan involves our loosing His riches from Heaven on earth through Christ in us. That’s what we have been doing in this book. We have been loosing the will of God. That’s what we do; we loose the abundance of God in Glory through Christ name and authority. and His healings and miracles.

We overcome lack by prophesying abundance. Determine your direction. Decree a thing, and it will be established unto you. It must, for you have authority. Look once more at Job 22:28 in the *Amplified Bible*. The end of that verse says “...and the light [of God’s favor] shall shine upon your ways.” God will begin to cause the light to shine, and favor will grow and grow in your life. Dream big we serve a big God.

Some time ago, when our church attendance was low, we had a lot of “giants” coming

against us. I prophesied, “We are going to cut these giants’ heads off.” Remember, to *prophesy* means “to foretell,” “to decree something you believe is going to happen before it happens.” And you can only prophesy according to your measure of faith. Believing in what you say will come to pass.

This is what I said at that troubled time: “I prophesy to you right now, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that you’ll see us rise up out of this situation and you’ll see us going forth. You’ll see people flying in from all over the world trying to figure out how we’re doing it. They’ll find out it’s the Word of God operating in the hearts and lives of God’s people—because the boiler room of faith has been fired up to work.”

The spirit of prophesy, the testimonies of Jesus Christ, are prophesying and crying out to you. “Health, be yours. Ringing ears, be healed. Tumors, I predict your future—I see you dissolving. I see you shriveling away and disappearing under the force of God’s Word and the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Every mountain of adversity, disappear now.”

I predict money in abundance entering your life. Your dreams coming to fruition. It is going on right now while you are reading these words. The Spirit of Jesus is permeating and penetrating...going into bones, straightening, opening up arteries that are clogged up, so circulation can resume and numbness can disappear.

Your eyes are opening so that you can see—you are getting a vision. The light of God’s Words will cause you to see that “...if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth” (Mark 9:23). Rise up and step out of limitations of fear, doubt and disbelief. Rise up and walk by faith into your blessing of life in Christ.

Prophesy! Prophesy! Prophesy!

Chapter 21

SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD

A root of the Greek word for prophesy is *phemi*—"to say" or "to make one's thoughts known." *Rhema* is the Word of God spoken to you in your spirit. When you take the situation of life that you are in and infuse it with the *rhema* Word of God, you are prophesying the will of God for you.

Apply this principle to your business. The Word of God says it is God's will for your business to prosper and be in health. Now apply the *rhema word*—the living Word, by the way, not just the *logos*, but the understood, directly applied Word of God. This is prophesying. These are voice-actuated words: "Business! I am speaking to you. I see you prosper. I predict your future. You are prospering—you are bursting at the seams. You have more business than you know what to do with. I predict your future based upon the authority of God's Word."

God could have let the angels come down and preach the gospel, but He didn't. He chose to let you. God didn't create the angels to rule the earth. He created *you* to rule the earth! God didn't send Jesus to die for angels. He sent Jesus to die for *you*, so that you could regain your fallen position. He wants to fulfill His plan through you—paradise restored in Christ. Today we are with Christ in the paradise of His presence.

What you think to be true determines what you believe, and *what you think is what you see*. What you see and believe to be true gets down into your spirit and controls your actions. The power of believing the right things regulates your life for your level of success. What you believe in your heart and speak with words of faith regulates the amount of God's grace and favor released from Heaven into the earth and into your life.

Prophetically speak the Word of God to your life, your home, your loved ones, your business. Personalize the Word of God and speak the will of God. You can prophesy. Faith is the creative ability of God. Faith comes by hearing your words and hearing the Word of God (see Romans 10:17).

Prophecy According to Your Level of Faith

I say it again...faith is the creative ability of God. You cannot prophesy beyond what the scriptures promise you. That gets you into presumption and foolishness. Romans 12:6 says you prophesy according to what you have faith for. *You can only predict your future relative to the level of faith that you have.* You can only decree what you can see through the eye of faith. I like what Kenneth Hagin said, “Your level of confession determines your level of possession” (see Numbers 13:30).

The Holy Spirit gave me this truth several years ago when I was attacked by Satan and began to lose my vision...my dream...as I mentioned in an earlier chapter. I didn't know what had happened. Then I found out that you have to write the vision, and make it plain, so that they who read can run with it (see Habakkuk 2:2). So, I gathered around me everything that included the vision, so that I might begin to see it again. This reinforced my vision and painted a clear picture in my spirit man.

In the natural, I felt as if Word of Faith was coming apart...and some of it was dying off. It was like all hell had literally come against it. At the same time, walking down the hall of our offices, the Spirit of God rose up inside of me and said, “Prophecy to it! Prophecy life to it! Prophecy coming back together to it.” Then I heard the Lord say, “*Prophecy according to your proportion of faith.*” When God gives you a word of prophecy, say it loud, bold and proud.

I began to prophesy. “Television programming! You get back in line. I'm speaking to

you. I command you right now. You get back in line and you hook back up with the rest of the ministry.”

“Bible school! You get back over here and you get back with the rest of the ministry. I speak life into you. Death, you depart in Jesus’ name. Life, you get back into the school in Jesus’ name.”

“Staff! Come together in Jesus’ name. I prophesy that you are walking in harmony. You are walking in love. You are walking in faith. I prophesy that God has given us the right staff, a qualified staff, born again, Spirit-filled, talking the Word only, walking in forgiveness and love. I prophesy more staff is coming in from the North, the South, the East and the West, from every direction.”

I prophesied it. Why? I had to, because I was the one with the keys. You may say, “I don’t believe in that confession stuff.” Whether you believe in it or not, you are practicing it. Every time you use your mouth you are confessing something.

It takes just as much energy to speak a negative word as it does a positive word. So, *You* can prophesy. The apostle Paul, in Romans 4:17 commends the faith of Abraham, who is called the Father of Faith, for his belief in the God who quickened the dead and called things that were not as though they were.

Some say, “I don’t believe in acting like God.” But you are His child. You are feeding on His Word. You are drinking of His Spirit. Sooner or later, you will be conformed to His image. That’s why the pagans called those folks at Antioch, “Christians.” “...And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch” (Acts 11:26b). The world called them Christians, Christ-like-ones.

Did they call them that because they looked like a bunch of wooden soldiers? No, they

called them that because they were running around acting like Jesus. They were Christ-like-ones. I wonder, if they had never coined the term “Christian,” would some of us be called Christ-like ones? Do you act like Jesus? Proverbs 4:23 says, “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.” *The Living Bible* says, “Above all else, guard your affections. For they influence everything else in your life.”

Whatever is in your heart is going to come out of your mouth. This is the way the Spirit of God spoke it to me. “Out of your heart, out of your belly, out of your spirit come the issues of life.” The *Amplified Bible* says of the heart, “... out of it flow the springs of life.” Your heart is the source of springs, or issues, of life. Faith is the stuff life is made from. Don’t forget the words of Isaiah 57:19, “I create the fruit of the lips...” Be ready to speak them out.

It is interesting that the figurative meaning of that word translated issues or springs is “deliverance.” For truly, out of your heart or born-again spirit, also come the deliverance of life. Guard your heart for it gives substance to things hoped for and things not seen. It determines the course and direction of your life. Think Dream Big if God really is your Lord and Source of Life. If he is not Lord turn your life and future over to Him right now. What a great business partner to have!

Chapter 22

I HEAR THE SOUND OF ABUNDANCE

What do *you see*? Do you see lack or abundance? Elijah kept hearing the sound of abundance. He told his servant to run up to the top of Mount Carmel and “see that rain I’m hearing.”

His servant obeyed him, but he didn’t see anything. He came back down to tell Elijah, “I don’t see rain. Elijah said, “I hear the sound of abundance.” But the servant didn’t see anything. Some might say today, “I’ve been living in America for forty years and I’ll tell you what...I haven’t heard anything like what that preacher is prophesying. He’s prophesying revival! He’s prophesying America rising up and all the nations of the earth calling her blessed. He’s even prophesying that they will call America a delightful land. I’ve never heard that before!”

You’re hearing it now, and you are going to keep on hearing a large number of people prophesying what they have seen and heard. Prophecy according to your proportion of faith. That’s what the Lord told Abraham and Joshua.

When I prophesied in the summer of 1976, as I said earlier, we were meeting in a little, old warehouse building with 100 people. Our auditorium was nothing but a dream. But I was having big dreams and big visions. Now, you who see big dreams and big visions in the supernatural, but can’t see them yet in the natural...don’t lose patience. Don’t give up. You are seeing in your spirit what you will see in your future. If you continue to go forward and prophesy according to your proportion of faith, *you will see your dreams come to pass.*

My ministry started in a tent, while I was living in a small trailer. Now, that was a humble beginning. That tent was so full of holes that when it was foggy on the outside, it rained on the inside. Later, we started meeting in the YMCA with 60 people. Finally, we moved to our

own building—the warehouse that seated 100. We put out more and more chairs. Then we had blueprints drawn for our church structure, and construction got under way. But it took about a year to get past the point of steel framework.

In Dallas, we were on a major freeway. Hundreds of thousands of cars went up and down that freeway while the framework stood up there in the air. Everyone was laughing at us. Some “flakes” began getting “visions” that there was a crack in the foundation and the entire building was going to fall down. They began calling us, telling us it was going to fall down or going to rust to pieces. It seemed as if every devil in hell was coming against us.

But I would stand right in the middle of the auditorium and speak to those metal rafters up there...and I would prophesy, “Building! Girders! Come together and be clothed!” We didn’t have any money to keep building. That’s why it stood there for a year. But we were calling the money in. We commanded the building to be clothed.

We said, “Building, be clothed with tilt-up concrete walls. We command you to be clothed with a nice roof. We command you to have a ceiling. We command you to have carpet on the floor. We command you to have fountains and trees in the lobby. We command you to have beautiful colors. We command you to have a concrete parking lot, not asphalt, not a muddy, gravel lot, but we command a concrete parking lot to come to this church.”

We prophesied it for days. In the natural, it didn’t look as if anything was happening. But in the supernatural, the Spirit of God was moving. The powers of darkness were being shaken. They were being pulled down. The blessings of God and the abundance of rain were beginning to come in so that we could start building again. So, we built, and we built, and we built until the first phase of the construction was completed. It all became a reality. We were enlarging the place of our tent, as we read in Isaiah.

Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.

—Isaiah 54:2–3

Many people have gotten part of the faith teaching and are running around trying to prophesy things. They are trying to have babies in the spirit, to “deliver” from the supernatural into the natural realm—from things not seen to things seen. But they have never gotten “pregnant.” The written Word never became the *rhema*—an alive personal word from God for them.

Plant the Seed of the Bible by Speaking

The entire Bible is the *logos*. It is seed. But just like natural seed, that seed has to be sown in good soil. It has to be sown in your spirit man. All the right ingredients of soils, watering, tending, weeding, pruning must be there for the *logos* to become *rhema* in your heart.

In Mark 4 we read the parable of the sower. Jesus was speaking from a ship on the Sea of Tiberias to a multitude of people on the shore. Some were there to learn more about the one who claimed to be the Messiah, others were there out of curiosity. Just as we have learned that some people just don’t want to see, so it is with our hearing. Unless we hear and grasp the truth of God’s Word, how can we speak it to others? So, let’s see what Jesus had to say about it, beginning in Mark 4:3.

Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow: And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up. And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth: But when the sun was up, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit. And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred. And he said unto them, *He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

—Mark 4:3–9

The disciples didn't understand what He was teaching. When they were alone, they asked Him what the parable meant. Look at His answer:

The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended. And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. And these are they

which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred.

—Mark 4:14–20

As I began to relate this story to what I have been teaching about seeing and speaking the Word, I realized that Jesus had given us the ingredients for growing good seed...they were there all the time...in His Word. As the Spirit spoke to my heart I saw four ingredients that we know are important in the natural, if we want to grow something. But they are equally as important in the spiritual realm. What are they? Just look at the following list.

1. *You must have oxygen* for seed to pop open. For the Word to come alive, release its program, play itself back and reproduce itself in you, it must have oxygen. Breath your faith into it. Otherwise, the Word is choked off by cares of this world. You must be careful not to let cares choke out the oxygen after you get that Word into your spirit. If you do, the seed will die unborn.
2. *You must have light*. The Bible says those who heard the Word and didn't understand it did not produce anything. Some of those who heard it *understood* it—to *understand* means “to have light on the subject or “to be enlightened.”
3. *You must have water*. If you are dry to the things of God, there will be no water in the soil. And it takes the “water” of the Word for the *logos* to become the *rhema*.
4. *You must have heat*. You can't remain indifferent and lukewarm and expect the Word of God to grow and produce fruit in your life. You must be on fire for God.

Oxygen, light, water, and heat: those are the four ingredients. When you read the parable of the sower in Mark 4:3–20, you'll see every one of those interwoven into it. To become “pregnant” with your dream...to become “pregnant” with the Word of God...it must become a rhema or a personal word just for you. Dream big things from your heart, meditate on them. See yourself doing what you want to do. Plan them out, write them down, begin to speak them to yourself. Start doing this a little bit everyday. Don't stop doing what you can do. Keep going till you begin to see your dream begin to grow. Keep it watered. We are co creators with God. God gives you Power to Prosper in all areas of your life. I believe in you. God believes in you. You believe in You.

Chapter 23

PRESENT YOUR BODY AND BE TRANSFORMED

Now I'm going to give you a prerequisite for prophesying. Let me explain the term *prerequisite*. When I was in college I wanted to take an architectural course. But they told me I had to take math first. They used this little word called "prereq." When I asked what that was they said it meant *prerequisite*, or "required beforehand." That means you are required to do *this* before you can get to *that*. So here are two *prerequisites* for prophesying:

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye *present your bodies* a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And *be not conformed* to this world: but *be ye transformed* by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

—Romans 12:1–2

- Present your body as a living sacrifice. That means present your senses as a living sacrifice. In other words, reckon your senses dead, alive only when they agree with the Word of God. Why? So that you will not be conformed to this world. Under its influence.
- Be transformed so that you can come into the image and likeness of Christ...so you can prove what is the good, the acceptable and the perfect will of God. This allows you to prophesy the truth, speak the truth, and know the truth.

The apostle Paul wrote, "...but be ye transformed..." (v.2). As I mentioned in Chapter 6,

the Greek word here is *metamorphoo*, “a metamorphosis experience,” as when a caterpillar changes into a butterfly. During the metamorphosis process the caterpillar lives in a cocoon, where its body is broken down and changed into something new...a beautiful butterfly. The caterpillar probably thinks during the process that it is the end of the world. Haven’t we all felt But it turned into a new beautiful beginning.

You must get out of the bad thoughts into thinking the right thoughts, and seeing or perceiving the right things. Present your *senses* a living sacrifice, so that you will not be conformed to this world or under its influence. So, how do you do that? You turn the *logos* into the *rhema*: you line up your situation with the Word of God. You take your dream, the *rhema*, and turn it into *phemi* (prophecy) and prophesy it. Decide and “... decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways” (Job 22:28). Speak it, say it, write it down. Don’t stop till you get to the top.

Let’s look at Elijah’s story from his servant’s point of view. Elijah heard rain—he heard abundance. The Lord spoke this to me. He said, “*Elijah was prophesying to his servant.*” Elijah was seeing into the Spirit of God. He was saying, “I hear the sound of abundance.” But his servant was saying, “I don’t hear anything.” That’s what we do sometimes. God says “abundance,” but we don’t see it...we don’t hear rain. Why?

Spiritual immaturity.

...the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all.

—Galatians 4:1

The servant’s senses weren’t dead to natural things; he was still following and being led

by his natural senses. He was listening to the evening newscast and it wasn't forecasting rain. He was not listening to what God had to say. The prophet was prophesying, "I hear the sound of abundance of rain." I believe he literally prophesied rain into existence. He kept his servant running back and forth until he began to see signs of rain. What did he see?

He said, "...Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand..." (see 1 Kings 18:44). Praise God, he was getting his senses lined up with the Word and the Spirit of God. I'll tell you what that cloud is like. That "hand" is like the five-fold ministry. That is the ministry of the apostle, the prophet, the evangelist, the pastor and the teacher. (See Ephesians 4:11.) It is the five-fold ministry stretching open, starting out like a small cloud. But they are opening up their hands and standing up on their feet. The five-fold ministry shall *release the abundance of rain—the rain of God's Word into the earth.*

In our satellite seminars, the Word of God was being rained down upon church congregations through the five-fold ministry. And when rain comes, glory be to God, it causes the seed to pop open. It causes the fruit and the vegetation to flourish. It causes what you have been planting and what you have been cultivating to begin to produce fruit.

If people will just keep watering all that we are pouring into their spirits, and will be that pasture of good, green grass that we are raining down from heaven, churches won't have enough chairs to seat the people who will be coming to them in these last days.

The sound of abundance! The sound of abundance! That old prophet Elijah heard rain because his eyes and ears were open. That's what I hear—the sound of rain. I have been prophesying the sound of abundance since I first had the vision of satellites raining down the Word of God on the earth. I hear abundance raining down into your business, your health, your family, and your children's lives. I hear the sound of the abundance of rain. Whole person

prosperity—success in life. God is bringing you into your Garden of Eden/Paradise in every area of your life. Say AMEN if you believe His Prophets-so shall you Prosper!

Prophecy as Ezekiel Did

God spoke to Ezekiel about some dry bones in Ezekiel 37. He said, “Ezekiel, can those old dry bones live?” And Ezekiel said, “Lord, You know.” So the Lord said, (and I paraphrase):

“Ezekiel, you’re my man in the earth. I don’t move through angels. I let them take messages, but I move through men. You’re my man in the earth. The only way those bones are going to live is if you speak to them.”

Some of you have dry bones hanging around your church. Others are not there yet, but they are coming. They won’t be dry long, however. If they are in the rain, they’ll get wet and start coming to life.

You have to speak to the dry bones. You have to prophesy, just like God told Ezekiel. You have to call things that be not as though they were. You have to speak to the four winds—to the north side of town, the south side, the east side, and the west side. Prophecy to the four winds. Hear the word of the Lord:

“Church, you are going to grow, whether or not you want to grow.”

“Business, you are going to prosper, whether or not you want to prosper. The powers of darkness cannot keep you from prospering.”

“Body, be healed. Be whole.”

“Relationships, be loving and blessed.”

“Marriage, be perfected in Christ.”

A Great Army Is Rising Up

God said those bones began to come back together. Listen to this, Body of Jesus Christ. Ezekiel

saw an exceeding great army rise up. That is what I have been prophesying, and it is happening. The sound of abundance of rain. The wind of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God programmed for success, seeded into people's hearts, being watered with the Holy Spirit, is coming up and an army is rising up. An army of Whole Person Prosperity is rising up.

God gave me that vision. He said we would see God's "army camps" all around the world." Every one of these churches that received the satellite seminars will be turned into God's "army camps," fully trained by the five-fold ministry, and they will be equipped by the sword of the Spirit. They will begin to march...they will not break ranks, and every man and every woman will march according to their own orders. They will be in harmony with the will of God, an exceeding great army, armed and equipped to pull down the strongholds and set the captives free to take the glorious gospel covenant of Divine Prosperity spoken to Abraham all nations will be blessed. to the four corners of the earth!

Now, step out and receive your miracle—receive your healing. Let that healing virtue of Jesus flow into your body. Let the healing virtue of Jesus flow, and flow, and flow. The anointing of the Holy Spirit will flow into you, making you every area whole. Today is your day. (See John 7:23.) You can predict your future. You can *Chart Your Course by the Dream in Your Heart. Raise your hands to God and tell him you want all He has for you. Your life, business, family, health and career. Whole Person Prosperity.*

PART IV

DECIDE! DECREE! DECLARE!

Chapter 24

GOD LIKES BIG DREAMS

Do you have a desire to really get to know our Heavenly Father? More and more I have such a strong, earnest desire to know Him personally. I read His Word—and I know spending time in the Word is spending time with Him—but I'm talking about really knowing our Heavenly Father in a personal way.

I have experienced the Holy Spirit speaking to me, and I knew it was the Holy Spirit. I have experienced Jesus speaking to me, and I knew it was Jesus. And, one time, I experienced the Father speaking to me and I knew it was the Father. Through hearing God's Words we are learning, and becoming more sensitive to hearing His voice, which helps to be better able to communicate with Him.

God's thoughts are big thoughts. God thinks big things. God dreams big dreams, and He likes being around people who try to be like Him. Did you get that? God likes being around people who, like Him, dream dreams. As I said before, we are co-creators with him.

Your dream must be watered and nourished to be kept away from the cemetery. So, *decide* what your dream is, *determine* your direction, then *decree* it. Those three words—decide, decree, declare—were given to me by the Spirit of the Lord at 4:30 a.m. on the day we opened our Word of Faith World Outreach Center building. We had no carpet, no lights, no ceiling tile in the bathroom, no doors on the building and the parking lot was full of junk from the construction.

We got a one-day permit from the city and worked all night...several nights...trying to get the building halfway presentable. Lights were quickly wired in the bathrooms. There was no

platform and none of the permanent walls. In the natural, it didn't even look as if we had a building but we convinced the city to let us have a permit for that one day. When we came together, worshiped God and had our dedication service, *we saw that building finished—in our hearts we could see it done!* Then it started to come to pass. Our dream began to be finished.

On that opening morning, the Spirit of the Lord awakened me and spoke those same three words. It was just as if three feathers drifted into my spirit and lay, one on top of the other in a sequence. Then the Spirit of the Lord said this:

“You have been practicing the principles and the laws of My Word. Many times you have been doing things and you didn't understand why you were doing them. But you have been getting results.” And we had been getting lots of results. It was like waking up and grabbing the jawbone of an ass to fight Philistines! I'd grab the sword of the Spirit, the shield of faith and I'd climb mountains and chop off devils' heads. My whole lifestyle was just swinging away at the enemy all the time.

The Spirit of the Lord continued, *“Because you have been practicing many principles of My Word, I'm going to tell you three things that have been making it easier for you.”* I was all ears. I appreciate the Lord. (Lord, I appreciate You sharing these three things with me.) He said, *“And then I want you to tell them to others.”*

- *“Number one: you made a decision. You determined what you were going to do.”*
- *“Number two: you have been decreeing it. You have been confessing it. You have been saying it in faith and believing it.”*
- *“Number three: you have been declaring it. Speaking it and speaking it out loud.”*

Of course, at the time, I didn't know all of these scriptures that I've been sharing in this book. The truth in those three little words has been like a gigantic tree. It gets bigger and bigger and bigger. At first, it was one message. Then, it was three messages. I preached four nights at one of the satellite seminars and hardly even talked about the three words, just about the truths involved. Now, it is in book format. But it all boils down to these three things: decide, decree, declare.

I looked up the word *declare* in a book titled *Hebrew Honey*, a book given to me by teacher Marilyn Hickey. She and I both love words. One Hebrew word translated *declare* is the word "ba'ar," as used in Deuteronomy 1:5: "On this side Jordan, in the land of Moab, began Moses to *declare* this law, saying..."

Let's look at the definition of this word *declare*. As Moses used the Hebrew word it was meant to announce, make plain or broadcast it. Another meaning in the Hebrew was "to dig, as one would a well," and "to dig, as one would engrave a track." Declaring is like digging a well. Jesus said that out of your belly (spirit) shall flow rivers of living water (see John 7:38).

You have decided something, so you drive a stake in the ground and declare, "This is it." It is then conceived in your spirit. You are "pregnant" with it. You have birthed it in prayer, and it is conceived in your spirit. Then it's no longer the *logos* but has become the *rhema*. That means it is no longer *the* Word of God but a *personal Word of God...just for your situation*. Your dream is like a seed. It is conceived in your spirit at the time you believe your dream can come to pass. You must believe that your dream is possible, or it will never come to pass. The faith of God makes the impossible possible. Hope is someday. Now faith is the substance of things hoped for today. Like a seed. Hope is like a bag of seeds. They have no positive expectation- Faith is the seed that has been sown today and declare it to water it.

Your Dream Must Be Watered

Now you begin to water it—decree it, like a king makes a decree (see Job 22:28). Psalm 2:7 says, “I will declare the decree...” The word *declare* also means “to call.” Call it. Announce it. Proclaim it. State it clearly. As you have decided, you have decreed a thing. Many people get dreams, then let them dry up. Any healthy vegetable hanging on the vine will dry up and die if it is not properly watered. “A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good” (Luke 6:44–45).

You must keep it watered. When you decree your dream you have more authority to decree things that are backed up by God’s laws and principles, than any king in the earth has natural authority. Your decrees are backed up by God. You must declare it in case there are any devils that don’t know it. Declare the decree.

God said, “*This is what you have been doing: deciding, decreeing and declaring it.*” He said, “*This will keep you on track, and you won’t get off course.*” Chart your course.

Many people get off course. They get all fired up and inspired. They are going to do this, they are going to do that, because God has called them to do it. But they get a little way down the road and something happens. They get discouraged, attacked by the devil who “zaps” their dream, and they lose their vision. That is why it is so important, once you have decreed, “This is what I am going to do,” to keep declaring it. Look once again at Proverbs 29:18, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Write the vision! Plan it out.

When I was preaching in that little tent, I had to take a sledgehammer every day and drive the tent stakes down into the ground to keep them strong. The winds would blow the tent, just like the winds of adversity blow our dreams—and that would cause the stakes to work loose. Eventually, the winds would have pulled them out of the ground. But every day I would drive

those stakes back down into the ground. *Declaring your dream—speaking and saying your dream based on God’s Word—keeps your stake in the ground. Stake your claim to your dream life. Stake your claim to your Rich life in Christ. In Him is Paradise Restored.*

“You...stake...you will not come out of the ground. You...wind...you will not pull my tent up in the air. You will not destroy my tent. You will not destroy my dream. You will not destroy my vision.”

Decreeing and declaring is also like digging a well. Remember in Genesis 26 when the Philistines stopped up the wells of Abraham? Isaac came along and unstopped them. That is what we are here to do: unstop the wells, loose the spring of life, loose the living water and cause it to bubble up. Out of your belly shall flow rivers of living water, the creative ability of God—Faith. (See John 7:38.)

Declaring your dream will keep you on course. To declare is to dig or to engrave, to lay a track. We are laying a correct track. The track of this teaching will help keep you on course. Declaring your dream keeps the winds of adversity from harming you and keeps your boat off the rocks. It keeps you from self-destructing. Lots of boats hit the shore and are destroyed because they got off course.

Your heart gives reality or substance to things hoped for. Your heart gives reality, actualization, and realization to those things hoped for. Speaking and declaring your dream protects you from the adversities of life. Keep those stakes in the ground!

Your Dream Must Be Nurtured and Protected

Many times a person has a dream then finds mountains and obstacles in the way of seeing that dream come to pass. If you look at the mountain that must be moved...bypassed, gone over or through...it can seem impossible. If you look at the mountain of circumstances, that mountain of

adversity, it can seem to be immovable. Well, we *are* moved by what we *see*. So choose carefully what you see! Keep your eye on the vision. I heard about a motorcycle policemen today tell other policemen, keep your eye on where you are going not where you are.

“While we look not at the things which are seen...” (2 Corinthians 4:18). You cannot look at that mountain in your way, that city you are in, or your business, and say it cannot produce fruit and cannot grow. I want to interject a thought here for business people who are reading this book: Do what you can, and when God gives you an inspired idea for a new idea—take it. It is better to have many products than one main product. I believe in diversification. When God gives you an idea...develop it, just as Mary Kay did with her cosmetics firm, or as many direct sales companies have done. If they only had one product, they might sell thousands. But by having many products, they sell millions. It’s good to have many little sails on your ship.

Dreams are like seeds. They can reproduce themselves and can cause themselves to come into existence. But the first thing you must do is get the adversities out of your way so that the vision can grow. Above all else, at this point, you *must believe* that the mountain can be moved. Look again at a familiar passage of scripture:

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought

against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

—Mark 11:22–25

This passage was one of the first scriptural revelations for me in the beginning stages of my walk with the Lord. When I entered the ministry, I had not gotten into the revelation of “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (see Colossians 1:27). I didn’t understand righteousness. I didn’t know about the authority of the name of Jesus. I preached the Holy Ghost and fire, and I walked a lot. I would go from one end of the auditorium to the other as I preached.

But God gave me more revelation. For years I had “King James faith.” Mark 11:22 says, “...Have faith in God.” Well, there is nothing wrong with having faith in God, but the literal Greek in this passage does not say that. What Jesus actually said was, “You Have the faith of God.” Then you can move the adversities and mountains out of your way. Another way I like to say it, “Use your faith like God does: Speak it...Believe and don’t doubt. What you are wanting will come to pass. Don’t forget Faith without action- Works is dead. Non Productive Faith.

I like something Kathryn Kuhlman said: “Stop believing what you are seeing, and start seeing the things you are believing.” She is also quoted as saying, “*Dream big*, for we serve a Big God. So, my dear friend, I am for you, and God is for you.” Also, I believe what Dwight L. Moody, an American Evangelist and Publisher said to her sons on her death bed in 1899. If God is your Senior Business Partner Dream Big.

For years, the devil has bound the Body of Christ and talked us into believing that we cannot move mountains. But we can! We can move those things that get in the way of seeing our God-given dreams and visions come to pass. *We can move mountains!*

Chapter 25

MOUNTAIN CROSSING FAITH

I have crossed so many mountains—I have been surrounded by mountains. I have also learned to climb them. Once I was down to just an old broken-down pickup truck with slick tires, both mufflers broken off, inspection sticker outdated, and a paper license plate on the back. And...it was an ugly truck. It was a pickup with the back taken off and an old flatbed on it. It wasn't even supposed to look that way. It was terrible. It would have humiliated someone who was dead...it was that bad.

At the time, I was between meetings. It was raining and sleeting, and it was cold. I had my little trailer parked at a trailer park...a yukky trailer park at that. I was coming home from church and had a flat tire just as I pulled into the park...and I didn't even have a spare. The steering wheel was moving around because of the sleet and the slick tires, it was making noise because the muffler was off—I could easily have gotten discouraged. It looked like the end! Actually, I was beyond the point of discouragement, so I totally ignored the flat. If I'd had any money, I would have had it fixed, but I was just trusting God for money to “make it.”

Abraham's blessings were mine then, as well as now, Praise God! But if you had looked at me, you wouldn't have thought I was blessed. If anyone had asked me, I would have said: “I'm blessed with the blessing of Abraham.” I had gotten hold of Galatians 3:13, “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law...so Abrahams blessing are mine too in Christ.” I refused to go by what I saw on the outside. I chose to go by what I saw on the inside—a great revelation—so I declared, “Somehow, some way, God will make a way where there seems to be no way. This mountain of adversity will be cast into the sea and I will sail on.” So, I pulled into

the trailer park...I got out and slammed the door.

I said, "I'm not going to do anything!" Why should I do anything? I didn't *see* anything wrong, you know. I had cast the care on the Lord, because at that point, there was nothing I *could* do. He expects us to do what we can and trust Him for the rest.

So, I went into that tiny little trailer. It was eight feet wide...on the outside. The walls were about four inches thick, total. It was so small I had to go down the hall sideways.

The apostle Paul said, "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound..." (Philippians 4:12). (They didn't let him finish, but he would have said abounding was better, you know.) So, I said, "I'm going to bed."

It was a pitiful situation. Have you ever been in a pitiful situation? The next morning, I had just awakened when I heard the Lord speak to me so sweetly. It was as if He were standing by my bed waiting for me to wake up. He said, "*I'm going to send one of My ministers to come and change the tire for you. I don't want you to think about it.*" That's what He said, "*I don't want you to think about it. I have commissioned one of My men to change the flat.*"

So, I didn't think about it. And I *declared*, "I'm not going to do anything. The Lord said somebody is going to come and change that flat."

I had two or three phone calls that day. Finally, about 3:00 p.m. a Christian brother came by and said, "Bob, what are you doing?". He wanted to go to Dennys. Smile

"Nothing."

He asked, "Why aren't you doing anything?"

"Well, I'm just not."

He asked, "What's wrong with your truck out there?"

"Well, it's obvious it's got a flat."

He said, “Let’s fix it,” and I told him I wasn’t going to fix it. He said, “You’re not going to fix . . . ?” When I told him, “No,” he said, “Well, I’ll fix it.”

I was watching to see what the Lord would do. I was watching what was going on, you know. My friend removed the tire from the truck, then took it to a service station. The wheel had six big thick bolts and an odd-sized tire. The station couldn’t fix it because it was beyond repair. So, my friend came back and asked me what I was going to do.

I said, “I’m not going to do anything.”

He said, “Well, I’ll just take it with me. I’m going to my dad’s house in Ennis, Texas. Maybe they will have one there that will fit. I’ll also call some tire companies and some service stations.”

He went to Ennis, Texas and called around, but no one had that crazy tire size. But, lo and behold, he found one in the back of his dad’s garage...of all places...and it was new! He put it on the rim, brought it back the next day and it was perfect. Now, what am I saying? God knows where you live and what you need. “But even the very hairs on your head are all numbered...” (Luke 12:7). If you’ll just cast your care on God, He will take care of you (see 1Peter 5:7).

I could go into story after story to show where, every time, God removed every mountain totally out of my way so I could see my dreams come to pass. I have been through everything imaginable. Sometimes, I think there couldn’t be anything else left to go through—and my confession is that *there isn’t anything else*.

But if there is, I am well able. God’s grace is sufficient to handle any situation, whatever need may arise. His favor on your life, as well as on mine, is more than enough to make you the head and not the tail. You can manage whatever life throws at you.

There may be some “thorns in your flesh” right now. The Lord has been talking to me about “thorns in the flesh,” and there are different kinds of “thorns.” Do you have little things in the natural...maybe on the job...that just prick your flesh a little bit? The Lord told the apostle Paul the grace and favor upon his life from Jesus was more than enough to be able to handle any situation.

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

—2 Corinthians 12:9

Out of difficulties, out of problems, out of adversities, God will take our Problems and turn them into opportunities. I call it, He can turn Dirt into Gold by the kind of Seeds you Sew. I have a farmer friend, his name is Steve, He plows the Soil, prepares and decides the kind of seeds he is going to sow. He then waters and his seeds become Prosperity and he reaps his harvest.

Let me say one more thing to you that are reading this book. Just like the farmer, you must plow and cultivate your heart, so that the seeds and dreams you sow into your hearts will not be choked out by weeds of doubt and unbelief and discouragement. Stay focused on your dream, meditate upon it, see yourself already with it and it has to come to pass. You will reap your harvest in life if you faint not.

Chapter 26

CHART YOUR COURSE—A REVIEW

Let's review the principles and teaching of how to chart your course.

1. Determine Your Purpose in Life.

Those who do not have a purpose in life basically have no direction. Consequently, they get into frustrating lifestyles. God never created anyone without a purpose. And everyone in the world is looking for that purpose in life. Put God First and He will direct your steps.

Your dream, your vision, is your purpose. When you get into that dream, your fulfillment and achievement begin to come. It vitalizes your entire being. You may stay up all night thinking and talking about it. When I was building homes, sometimes I would work around the clock drawing plans and designing homes and other things. I designed integrated circuits for Texas Instruments when the little IC chip was first invented. I was one of the first men to be trained by engineers to lay out all those circuitries, the diodes and capacitors and resistors for those multi-layer circuits. And I would get so engrossed that I worked hours nonstop. I would sit down at my desk at 8 a.m. and look up at 6 p.m.! Of course that was a while back.

2. Be a Dreamer.

I believe like *attracts* like, and like *begets* like. Everyone in our Success N Life Club and church is dreaming and getting inspired ideas. I think it's great. I love it! Look at Proverbs 16:3 in The Amplified Bible.

Roll your works upon the Lord [commit and trust them wholly to Him; He will cause your thoughts to become agreeable to His will, and] so shall your plans be established and succeed.

Your works are all the things you are involved in. Commit them totally to Him and He will cause your thoughts to be in agreement with His will. I call that having inspired, “in-spired” thoughts. One definition of *inspire* is “to guide or control by divine influence.” God infuses your spirit man with thoughts. When you believe your creative ideas are being inspired of God and when you act on them, they will succeed.

When I was building houses, I would drive my little truck down the street and “windshield the job”—check the job through the windshield. I would drive by some house where people had moved in and my heart would just go “pitter pat-pat” when I saw them being happy there, out in the yard playing with the kids or gardening. I felt so good. Why? Because something had been created through my mind and hands, and through the business administrative ability given to me by God. It felt good to dream and it felt good to see a dream fulfilled. “It feels good to feel good.”

3. You Are Moved by What You See.

We are to be moved by seeing the eternal things of God. We are admonished in His Word to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold of eternal life. Lay hold of new creation truths and realities. Lay hold of things not seen, for that is having a vision and a dream. Vision is the ability to look beyond what is and to bring about what *should* be, *can* be, or you *want to* be.

I went out to visit a home builder in our church who was pouring streets in his housing development. He had blocks and blocks of streets. I said, “I’ve never seen streets poured like this

before.” He said he had never poured streets before. But they looked good and they worked good. He had streets everywhere and was building houses all over the place.

He said, “You know, Bob, some of the builders in town told me I should join a homebuilders’ association.”

I said, “Make me a promise! Never join a homebuilders’ association. They’ll convince you that what you’re doing is all wrong and it won’t work. You don’t need to have anyone tell you that what you’re doing won’t work. It’s already working!”

4. Have Purposeful Action and Direction.

A couple from our church have a trucking business which all started with an idea, a vision of big trucks hauling oil and gas pipes up into the mountains to deliver them. Now they have more than 35 special trucks that travel up and down mud roads and through forests, hauling pipes for gas companies. Those trucks cost \$50,000 to \$75,000 apiece. They used the Word of God and their dream grew to reality very quickly. As far as I know, they are one of the largest pipe-stringing companies in the country.

They are ordinary people just like you and me. They are believers who are practicing putting the Word first place in their lives. They dreamed a dream. They didn’t have any money when they started. But God will cause things to come to pass and begin to develop what you start with. Many times, people want to wait until they have some money, then do something. I believe in doing what you can...taking the first step. Then God will provide the second step. I like dreams and visions.

5. Be Faithful with What God Gives You.

This is a very important point! Be faithful, then trust God to make your planted seed grow. When I first went into the ministry, sometimes it was a month between meetings and then it

might only be a one-night engagement, so I needed money to live on. Then I got an inspired idea: *I should have some Christian greeting cards made up. I'll find some appropriate scriptures, and draw little pictures to go with them. I can get them printed, and stop off at bookstores as I go through towns and sell them.*

I thought that was a great idea and pretty soon I had them printed and ready for sale. Everyone liked the cards; most stores would buy six packages, one of each of the six designs and verses. That was about \$1.50 profit back then, but it might cost \$5.00 in gas just to find the bookstores. So, I committed it to the Lord and I prayed.

Driving down the freeway from Dallas to Houston, I had a vision. I saw a little redwood or cedar shadowbox with those little cards stacked in it. I said to myself, "I've been going into bookstores trying to sell one package. I should go in and sell them 35 at a time." That's how many the little rack would hold. So we built them. I got cardboard out of dumpsters behind mattress stores, and bought cedar pickets from a fence company. Then I nailed the racks together with panel finishing nails and put the cardboard on with a stapler.

About 90 percent of the bookstores I went into bought the racks with cards. I averaged selling five to seven of those a day—while still conducting meetings. The little 8 ft. wide by 35 ft. long travel trailer was just solid greeting cards inside. I spoke the Word and favor of God over them, so that when I walked into a store, everyone would just have to have them.

I always set up my sales display next to the cash register and whoever was checking out always wanted to buy cards, even before I had them sold to the store. I would tell them, "Well, if you want to buy them, go ahead." The store manager would immediately want to buy the cards. It was an interesting experience.

At night, we would pull into a trailer park and look for an electric plug. I used the

national parks...the kind where you paid a dollar a day...not those expensive ones. I would go to the lumberyard and get the pickets to saw. I soon became the world's greatest card folder. Having them folded at the printers cost an extra one-fourth of a cent and that added up. I could do it better with a two-by-four than the folding machines could, anyway. I became almost like a robot, folding cards by the thousands and counting them out into bundles of ten.

This may sound foolish and funny, but it gave me some money in my pockets while I was ministering for Jesus. One inspired idea soon led to another one. You see, God wants to help us. He wants to work with us. When we get in a tight spot, He will help us get bailed out. My next idea was to wrap the cards in plastic so they would look professional. So, I bought a roll of shrink film plastic, after I found out what kind the big companies used. But I didn't know you had to have a \$2,500 machine that wraps a bundle of cards, then puts it through a little oven at the exact heat to shrink the plastic to a nice, neat, pretty package. I also needed a special machine to chop the plastic all around and seal it airtight.

Well, I used a \$2.50 soldering iron as a cutter, and I used a hair dryer as the oven. I had to heat the plastic just right with the hair dryer or it would burst a hole in the wrapper. They had to look professional. But I managed to heat-shrink the card packages, load them into the racks and sell them. Everybody loved them. Within about four months, we had sold cards in seven states, and people were starting to order them from all over. If I had stayed with it I could have been as big as some of the large Christian greeting card companies today. And it all began with a tiny idea.

A desire is the tiny starting point of all achievement. *Desire acted upon is power.* When you begin to release your desires and act upon them, things begin to happen. Things begin to move and events begin working to bring those things to pass.

6. What You Believe in Regulates Your Life. What you Believe in you can Receive From.

For years the devil had the Body of Christ convinced that we are to follow signs, when all the time Jesus said signs were to follow us (see Mark 16:17). Signs will follow whatever you preach. Signs will reproduce what you believe and say. But I found we could be the master of circumstances, instead of circumstances being the master of us. We don't have to let what we see in the natural be the limit of what we can receive. We can see by the eyes of faith into the supernatural. What not is but what can be.

If you can't believe your dream can come to pass, you are not "pregnant" with it yet. You must believe it. If you have a dream that is not believable, back up and find out what part of it is believable, then start with that. When I was making greeting cards, that's where my level of faith was. God could have moved other ways, but that was where my faith was (see Matthew 8:13, 9:29; Mark 11:24).

The Lord said to me, "*When you pray and believe, that's when what you prayed is conceived in your spirit.*" When we pray and believe we give birth to the dream. Then the Lord gave me an example of a woman who was pregnant at the time. He said, "*She's pregnant now, isn't she? And she has the baby now, doesn't she?*" Yes, even while a woman is pregnant we could say she has the baby. But we could also say, "She will have the baby." She has the baby now, but not in the realm of the seen—she is pregnant.

Your dream is just that way. That's the way faith works. That is the way you call your dream or vision unto you. That is how you move the mountain of adversity out of your life. Believing is like a regulator for your life. What you believe regulates your life for success or failure. That's why I talk about accurate, error-free thinking in my teaching course dealing with

success,

7. The Eye Is the Light of the Body.

How you see and perceive things determines how you act and react to the conditions and opportunities of life around you. Believe you can succeed! To be *successful* means “to succeed in seeing your dream come to pass and become real in the natural world, to succeed in seeing all the obstacles moved out of your way.”

8. Call upon God and change your destiny.

Jabez called upon God and God changed his destiny (see 1 Chronicles 4:10). You may think you’re in the ditch and can’t get out. I’m telling you something: if you can believe that you can succeed, you can get out of the ditch and learn to be an overcomer. But you won’t be an overcomer on the outside until you see Jesus on the inside. Like Peter I believe he saw himself in Christ and Christ in Him

See, it is not by might nor by power, but by the Spirit of God (see Zechariah 4:6). You need to see that it is not your natural strength or your mental powers that can get the job done. It is the Holy Spirit in you. He will give you grace and power and what you need. He will give you the anointing you need when you need it. Relative according in the Power of God working in you.

During our satellite seminars all kinds of funny little things happened—like wires shorting out. Sometimes I just felt crushed physically, mentally or emotionally. But I said, “I cast all my care on the Lord.” Then I felt the Bigger One, the Great One, getting bigger and bigger on the inside of me until that load just kicked off my shoulders, and once again I could see blue skies and breathe fresh air.

You weren’t created to wallow in the dirt, to eat dust off the devil’s feet. You were

created in God's image—to rule and reign with him...to rule the earth.

9. Use your faith on the mountain.

Look at Jesus' words in Mark 11:22–24.

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Many people are using their faith on God, when God is saying, *“Hey! Hey! Hey! Your faith is for the mountain. Use your faith on the mountain. Get your faith off Me and onto your mountain for your dream to come to pass.”* Many people are not using their faith to bring about the solution to the problem. They are not using their faith on something they are believing God for. Once you have prayed, put your faith *in* God and *on* the mountain. Speak your word of faith in God directly to the mountain. It is conceived in your spirit. You are God's representative in the earth. He has given you the keys of the Kingdom here on earth.

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

—Matthew 16:19

This is what happened on the earth. Adam had authority. He decided and decreed and declared what could be permitted onto the earth and what could be restrained and restricted and prohibited from entering onto the earth. But Adam fell down on the job. He permitted the devil to enter onto the earth through himself. Then the devil took control of the earth and became the god of this world. He is not a god, only a fallen angel. But he became the “god of this world.” Death entered onto the earth (see 2 Corinthians 4:4).

Now Jesus has redeemed us and given us the keys of the Kingdom. He said that whatever we declare to be legal and lawful on the earth will be so. He said that whatever we permit to be loosed into the earth will be loosed and whatever we restrict and prohibit from being released on earth will be prohibited and restricted.

We have been teaching on the subject of the family. The husband is the responsible head of the home and has the ultimate responsibility of restricting the enemy from entering it. Many husbands have lain down on the job. Many businessmen have allowed the devil to get into their businesses. If you are the president, you have the ultimate responsibility and ultimate authority. You are to stop the devil and restrict him—prohibit him from entering into your business. You have the keys of the kingdom of heaven to bind, to loose, to set free, and to lock up. You can lock the devil out of your affairs.

10. Use the power of the tongue.

Jesus upheld and upholds all things by the Word of authority and by words of power. Jesus maintained His position of control. Hebrews tells us how: ...upholding and maintaining and guiding and propelling the universe by His mighty word of power...

—Hebrews 1:3 (AMP)

You can maintain your dream by declaring it, by making it strong, and by keeping it on course. The Body of Christ is finding that we can chart our course. We are finding out we can dream and that we have the keys of the Kingdom. A new era is here. The Church is entering into a new era, a new dimension, a new threshold. It is similar to transition times in the past when the Church moved into new eras. I call it the New Golden Age of the Church.

In the Dark Ages there was little light and no voice. The Church lived in darkness and the people were burdened down. Then a voice, a man named Martin Luther began to cry out, “. . .the just shall live by faith . . .” (Hebrews 10:38). Then light began to come and set free the Body that had done nothing for years but try to work its way to Heaven. Burdens began to be lifted. Now we are continuing to come out of a darker age and enter an era of greater light and clearer voices. We are entering in from one glory to the next glory (see 2 Corinthians 3:18).

James talked about the tongue, which is small but does big things. He said we put bits in the horses’ mouths and those little pieces of apparatus control the whole horse.

Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things...

—James 3:3,5

This is talking about speech, about the words we speak. The tongue is a little member but it boasteth big things. That word *boast* is like a hammer and chisel. They are little things but they can create a great statue. A tongue is like a bit in the horse’s mouth. It can steer the whole horse in the direction he should be going. It’s like a little fire that can create a great blaze. Taken in the negative, it can burn a “house”—destroy a marriage, a business, or a church.

But the positive side is this: “My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue” (Psalm 39:3).

“My heart was hot within me while I was musing.” *Musing* means “meditating, thinking, envisioning.” Musing also gets into the area of wisdom. There are different kinds of wisdom. There is cause and effect. If you do a certain thing, a certain result will occur. We can have our minds so renewed to God’s Word that we can understand what causes things to happen, like the principles we are discussing in this book. Then we can take action and know certain things will come about as results.

People have said there isn’t room for any more ministers of business; there isn’t room for another book on the power of the tongue; there isn’t room for another big church. That’s the same lie the devil has been spreading for years. It isn’t crowded at the top. There is plenty of room for those who want to walk in the Word of God. A group of businessmen tried to get the President of the United States to close the Patent Office in 1933. They said everything had already been invented and the office was a waste of taxpayers’ money!

I’m reminded of a story about Michelangelo. Walking down the cobblestone streets of his city one day, a block of marble caught his eye. The shopkeeper came out and said, “I have some better blocks out back.” But he said, “I like this one.” The shopkeeper knew Michelangelo’s reputation as one of the greatest sculptors and painters who had ever lived. So he kept trying to talk him into a “better stone.”

Michelangelo said in a very clear voice, making sure that everyone standing around heard him, “That block of stone is very important to me. I see something in that stone.”

The shopkeeper said, “What do you see?” And he replied, “I see an angel in that stone and I must free it.”

You have the keys to free an “angel in stone,” your dream, your purpose in life, although you might be seeing just a little bit of that purpose at present.

11. Faith in the Words and in your Words works for everyone.

The Word works for everyone, not just for preachers. The Word does not return void. The Word is no respecter of persons. What God will do for one, He will do for another. When Jesus was asleep in the boat crossing the Sea of Galilee with His disciples and the storm arose (see Matthew 8:24–26), He woke up and rebuked the storm, then said to them eyeball to eyeball, “Where is your faith?” Interesting statement, isn’t it? In so many words, he was saying that they could have rebuked the storm for themselves. What is your Faith in today?

12. There is a time and a place to get violent.

Don’t go and do crazy things out of your own flesh. But when you know God is in it and when the Kingdom of Heaven is attacked, that’s the time to become violent in your spirit and refuse to take “no” for an answer.

And from the days of John the Baptist until the present time, the kingdom of heaven has endured violent assault, and violent men seize it by force [as a precious prize— a share in the heavenly kingdom is sought with most ardent zeal and intense exertion.

—Matthew 11:12 (AMP)

We had a couple from India in our church. They were born again and simply took the

Word of God as it was. They didn't come over here and get a bunch of intellectual doubt and unbelief programmed into them. They got the message of faith, started believing the Word and doing it. God did amazing things in their lives. They lived in an apartment, but as they were reading Psalms one day, they found that God wanted them to have a house.

Praise ye the LORD. Blessed is the man that feareth the LORD, that delighteth greatly in his commandments. His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.

—Psalm 112:1–3

The husband said, “Well, I’m an upright man. It says my seed will be blessed.” The psalmist said our “seed” will be blessed. Well, our “seed” is our dream, our vision. They read that God said wealth and riches shall be in the house of an upright man. So this couple said, “God wants us to have a house. We’d better go find one.” So they went out and found a house, put down all the money they had... a \$400 deposit... and sent in their loan application. Here’s what they wrote about it:

“The builders called and verified the bank balance, then called me to say that I didn’t have enough money, so they asked me to please send some more money. I received another phone call, and still didn’t have enough money. Again they asked me to send more money—I asked them to send the application through again. We began confessing our faith about the house.

“A few days later, Brother Tilton said, ‘I want 100 people to give \$1,000 for the church building.’ I stood up for the need and met it. I seeded into the house of God for my house to

come to pass. When I need money, then I give money, especially when the man of God asks for it—like the widow and Elijah.” Just simple faith.

Then the mortgage people called them and said, “Instead of your bank balance improving, it has gone down.” The man wrote me, “We then came to the church that was being built (Word of Faith) and began to call things which be not as though they were. We went back to the salesman and found they had already started putting colors in the house. Someone else’s name was on the house and property.

“I asked the salesman, ‘Why is this other person’s name on my property?’ He said, ‘Your loan has been rejected. Here is the paper. These other people have bought it.’ I said, ‘Put that file back in your drawer. They cannot live in my house. This is *my* house and I am going to live in my house.’ I asked for the mortgage company president’s name and they wouldn’t give it to me. I asked for the vice-president’s name and they wouldn’t give it to me.

“So we got more vigorous. We started toward our house. We marched around the house, me and my family, four of us, one behind the other—with all the construction workers right there. We marched seven times around the foundation of the house saying, ‘Glory, Hallelujah! This is our house! Praise the Lord!’

“Then we started buying things for our new home. The next week, Brother Bob asked for more people to give to the building fund, so we gave again. *If we do the ridiculous, God will do the miraculous.* We started this in January. Things hadn’t changed. Next, we began to tell everyone, all of our friends, that we were moving. We told Christians, Hindus and others. The other man’s name was on the house, but we were going to be moving into that house, because it was our house.

“Then we got upset with the devil, just like in Acts 16:18. We invited neighbors to the

apartment for a farewell dinner, because we were moving out of that apartment. We told the apartment manager that we wouldn't be renting the apartment next month, because we had bought a home. We collected boxes, because we knew we were moving. I put an ad in the newspaper for a Bible study starting in September at the new house. Finally, I changed our address at the post office.”

By now the house was painted, wallpapered and carpeted. Here's what they did:

“The builders told us that the house now belonged to the new people. But I said, ‘It's our house.’ So we went back to our house.”

See, they were doing everything they knew to do. It took faith to cancel their apartment and change their address. It took faith to tell all their friends they were moving. It took faith to put an ad in the newspaper. So they went into the house this time and cursed the carpet and the wallpaper, telling the devil to get out of their house for it belonged to them! He concluded:

“So, that time miracle money came from different sources, money that was due a long time ago. And then the home builders called the following week and said, ‘You have won the battle. You have gotten the house!’”

They had a beautiful home, and many people were blessed because of their simple, God-kind of faith. Years later they sold their dream home and went into full-time ministry. They are ordinary people, yet they have great faith, because they know the God that they serve. And, dear friend, I *see* that same Jesus, that God-likeness in you.

God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

—Colossians 1:27

My job is that of every pastor...and every God-given gift in the Body of Christ: to see Christ in you. Our assignment is to show you the freedom of having Jesus in you—the hope, the dream of God. Dear reader, you can *Chart Your Course in Life By the Dream in Your Heart*. Sail on! Sail on! Sail on! Let's get started! It's time to build your dream life today. What are you waiting on?

APPENDIX I
HOW TO BE BORN AGAIN

You don't have to clean up your life before you can be born again. God will clean up your life. Asking Jesus Christ to cleanse you from your sins is more than a request for forgiveness. It causes a supernatural event to happen. God gives you a new heart, new desires, and the Spirit of Truth. Following those new desires, which are based on God's Word, will give you a beautiful new life on earth and an eternal life in God's Kingdom.

Why Should I Read This?

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

—Romans 10:17

Who Is Jesus, and Why Do I Need Him?

He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

—John 1:10,12,13

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.”

—John 3:36 (NIV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

—John 3:16

Jesus answered, "...I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

—John 14:6 (NIV)

Why Did Jesus Die for Me?

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

—Romans 3:22–26 (NIV)

Am I a Sinner Even If I Believe in God and Jesus?

"I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

—John 3:3 (NIV)

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here..."

—John 8:42

How Do I Get Saved From My Sins?

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

—1 John 1:9

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

—Romans 10:9

Is That All? I Don't Have to Do Anything?

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

—Ephesians 2:8–9

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

—Romans 8:1-2

Do I Have to Change Now?

NO! Let God change you! Give Him your life. He'll give you a new heart.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away;
behold, all things are become new.

—2 Corinthians 5:17

Be born again. Grow spiritually by feeding on the Word of God—the Bible. Talk (pray) to your heavenly Father in the name of Jesus. Commit yourself to a body of believers—a church. Determine now to believe God’s Word and His promises above all circumstances in this life.

Pray This Prayer and Believe

Father in Heaven, I have heard Your Word, and I want to be born again. Jesus, cleanse me of my sins. I want to be a child of God. I want to give my life to You. Make me a new person. Be my Lord and Savior.

I now believe that I am born again because, God, Your Word says I am. Jesus is my Lord. Thank You, Jesus, for a new life. Amen.

Now, don’t go by what you think or feel. Go by what God’s Word says. You are saved. You are a new creature. Believe it!

APPENDIX II

**HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
WITH THE EVIDENCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES**

Receiving the Holy Spirit follows the same pattern as all the promises of God. It begins by accepting God's Son, Jesus Christ, as your Savior from sin. You make Him the Lord and authority of your life, and He personally dwells within you. (See John 14:23.) You receive forgiveness of sin simply by believing that you are forgiven. You receive the reality of Christ in your life by simply believing what His Word says—He abides in you because He says He does. Believing God's promises are how the promises are received.

According to the Bible, receiving Jesus causes a re-creation of your spirit, the real you, the inner man. The Holy Spirit causes a rebirth, just as He caused the birth of Jesus physically. Jesus didn't just offer us life, however. He offers us the power to live His way of life. He promised the baptism of the Holy Spirit for those who believe (see Acts 1:4–5).

The evidence of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit, as seen several times in the Bible, is receiving a heavenly language. As you speak this language, it activates the functions of the Holy Spirit.

You don't beg for the Holy Spirit or for the heavenly language. You simply ask for it and believe you have it, based on what God's Word promises. The only requirement is that you ask Jesus Christ to save you and to take charge of your life, believe in your heart, and begin your new re-created life in Him by obeying His desires for your life, as revealed in His Word and by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit prompts you or gives you utterance to speak in the heavenly language (see Acts 2:4). You then act on that utterance and as a step of faith you begin to utter the

syllables and words which suddenly come to your thoughts. More than a language, it is an articulation and release of God's Spirit which, when spoken, performs the works of His Spirit.

The steps to take are these:

1. Be born again.
2. Determine to believe what God's Word says and act upon it.
3. Believe the following scriptures:

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

—Luke 11:13

When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

—Acts 19:5–6

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

—Romans 10:17

...faith without works is dead?

—James 2:20

And they were all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other (different, foreign) languages (tongues), as the Spirit kept giving them clear *and* loud expression [in each tongue in appropriate words].

—Acts 2:4 AMP

Now ask, believe, and begin to speak in your heavenly language as the Holy Spirit gives the ability:

Heavenly Father, I believe Your Word is true. I'm just going to believe Your words with childlike faith. You said in Your Word that if I ask for the Holy Spirit and just believe You at Your Word, then I have received it. I am asking You to fill me with Your precious Holy Spirit.

Jesus, Your Word says that You are the Baptizer. Baptize me in the precious Holy Spirit. I believe I am receiving right now. The Holy Spirit is within me. By faith, I accept Him.

Now, Holy Spirit, rise within me as I praise my God. I expect to speak in tongues as You give me utterance.

Now speak. *You* speak the utterances coming to your thoughts. Speak them out loud. Faith is an act. Jesus called for us to *walk on the water*. Don't even speak in English or a language you know. Speak the syllables on your lips. You are speaking in a new tongue. It sounds like gibberish? It's repetitive? Don't go by what it sounds like or what it feels like. Go by what the Bible says about it. It is a promise. It's yours. You have done what the Bible has told you to do.

Continue praying in tongues and expect to experience the Comforter, the Intercessor, the

Counselor, the Advocate, the Strengtheners, the Standby, and the Source of Power. *The Word of God* is the seed. Satan is the fowl of the air that tries to steal the seed (see Matthew 13:4).

In other words, he'll sometimes come to your thoughts, attempting to convince you that your experience isn't authentic. Stand by what the Bible tells you about it, not what your thoughts, your friends, or even your church says about it.

Jesus said it as a simple command:

"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues... they lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

—Mark 16:1–18 (NIV)

About the Author

Developer, Father, Husband, Television Channel Stopper, Motivator, Sr. Pastor, American Icon, a Worldwide Brand of Miracle Success and Prosperity.

As a legendary person he loved by thousands of those who know of him and have listened to him say “you were created for a rich, full life in all of its abundance”. He is God’s Prophet of Divine Prosperity. He has a message of creative faith for today’s WholePerson Prosperity TM.

He is an author of over 40 books and for many years he had the largest television broadcast with 285 hours of broadcast daily in all markets in the USA alone. He had over 1000 employees grossing over \$80,000,000 per year in the years of 1980s & 1990s one of the first mega churches.

Who is Robert G. Tilton? He is an Author, Entrepreneur, Real Estate When he was at the top of the mountain, tragedy struck, fake news for months and months tried to take him down. But, as the old saying goes, you can’t keep a good man down! He is climbing back up to the top of the mountain and wants to take you with him.

If you want to live debt free, have residuals, passive income and see your dreams come true, then he has Words Of Faith for you. Go to www.SuccessNLife.club and hear more about having more of heaven’s riches in your life!

Robert Tilton has been to the top of the mountain and he’s coming back up. Do you want to grow with him? Go to www.SuccessNLife.club and download his free book “How to Be Rich and Have Everything You Ever Wanted”. He can help you.

Today Robert is happily married, thriving on the real Jesus, and living a resurrected life in Christ. He wants to help you enjoy all the amazing blessings God has for you. If you have been down, broke, lost in love, have had health problems, lost your job, feel empty, have no dreams, feel like giving up on yourself and life; Robert Tilton understands because he has been there too. He is your friend who loves you and can help you get up and walk into the big life God has for you.

Check out his for-profit Success N Life TM Club, a Lifestyle Enrichment Company. God has revealed the code to debt free living and residual passive income from 2 Kings Chapter 4. Go to www.SuccessNLife.club to hear more.

The Devil does not want you to hear God’s message. It’s no wonder Robert Tilton is persecuted, he is sharing God’s message of WholePerson Prosperity TM for everyone who wants it! God has a plan and purpose for your life...

Get the Free Book, Join the Club and get All Aboard and stake your claim to your rich life in Christ. Join the Success N LifeTM Club today.

Dream it... Plan It... Do it... Don’t stop until you get to the top!

