

# How Do You Treat My Son Jesus?

*by Frances Hunter*

*Charles and Francis Hunter are gifted writers  
who have gone on to be with Jesus,  
the One they loved so much.*

*Joan Hunter is their daughter, and she can be  
reached at <http://joanhunter.org>*

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# Foreword

Frances Hunter says, “We pay too much attention to the devil instead of concentrating on God.

“The devil wants your mind, but we actually possess the mind of Christ.

“Read how the devil attacks you,

“... then go to the next chapter and read how Jesus protects you,

“... then go to the next chapter and find out that Christianity is as simple as A, B, C;

“... then discover in the next chapter what crossing over in your life will do for you;

“... and then the final wrap-up chapter pierces your heart with the question God said to ask you, ‘

How do you treat my son Jesus?’”

This book will challenge and bless you from the first word to the last. It is for believers young and old!



# Chapter One

## The Devil Wants Your Mind

God wants your mind.

The devil wants your mind.

Who's going to win? That depends on you, and what you put in your mind!

One of the fastest operating computers in the world today belongs to the devil!

There's nothing he likes better than to use your mind as a computer and punch keys to put into your mind all kinds of things that aren't true!

The devil has the greatest grip on the minds of people today than ever in the history of the world.

Praise God, this means we're racing towards eternity and the devil knows that he's making his last stand!

Many people don't even know who the devil really is. Let's find out!

I decided to see what Mr. Webster had to say, and found it very fascinating. He gives a lot of interesting definitions of the word "devil."

He starts off by saying: 1. In. theology, (a) the chief evil spirit, a supernatural being subordinate to, and the foe of, God and the tempter of man; Satan: he is typically depicted as a man with horns, a tail, and cloven feet; (b) any of such subordinate beings who reside in hell; a demon.

2. A very wicked person. (He even gives a scripture to back this up.) “Have I not chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?” (John 6:70 KJV).

3. Any great evil.

4. A person who is sprightly, mischievous, energetic, etc.

5. An unlucky unhappy person; as, the poor devil has had a hard time.

6. Anything difficult, a thing hard to operate or control, etc.

Webster described him very well, didn't he?

Satan, also known as Lucifer, had a special place in God's heart as one of his angels, but because of pride in his own beauty and trying to exalt himself above God, he was thrown out of heaven like a bolt of lightning.

“How art thou fallen from heaven, 0 Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: Twill sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: Twill ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High” (Isaiah 14:12-14).

He wanted to be more than God.

He wanted to be on equal footing with God, and because of this, God threw him out of heaven.

Satan then caused the fall of man. When he caused the fall of man as told in the book of Genesis, Satan regained rulership over the earth, and took away the dominion that God had given Adam.

The only way that each one of us can take away his power is by the power of the Holy Spirit and through the Word of God. We can resist Satan and all his cohorts which run around under the name of. Demons will have to flee.

God provided a way of escape for all of us, but the devil is never going to give up fighting until God stops him forever.

Do you know who Satan is, and what his character is, and what his job is?

**THE DEVIL IS THE FATHER OF LIES!** John 8:44 says, “Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there IS NO TRUTH IN HIM. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for **HE IS A LIAR**, and the father of it.” This was Jesus speaking, and telling us who the devil really is.

**HE IS A DEVOURER!**

I Peter 5:8 says, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

Did it ever dawn on you that Satan was the first sinner? He disobeyed God and was thrown out of heaven, and his purpose is to make US disobey God.

He wanted to satisfy his own desires and he put his own personal desires above God’s, and this has been his purpose ever since. To make us want OUR desires more than the desires of God.

**HE IS A THIEF!** John 10:10 says: “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy;” and that’s exactly what the devil wants to do.

He wants to steal your peace of mind.

He wants to kill your desire for the things of God, and to destroy your eternal life by deceiving you about the things of this world.

**HE IS THE TEMPTER!**

Look at the way he tempted Jesus when Jesus was led into



the wilderness. The devil always tempts our MIND when we're having a wilderness experience.

Jesus had fasted for forty days and nights and was hungry, and then the tempter came to him and said, "If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread" (Matt. 4:3).

He tempted him in the area where He was the weakest at the time — in his stomach! I'm sure that Jesus was just like all of us would be after 40 days of fasting — He was just plain hungry!

The devil knew that Jesus had the power to do anything, so he tempted Him to turn the stones into bread in order for Him to have something to eat.

Praise God, Jesus knew how to resist the devil because He said those wonderful words, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4).

Maybe you think the tempting ended right there, but the devil knew how to continue the tempting, because just by the association of words, there was probably in Jesus' mind the thought of a beautiful, hot loaf of bread with the top crust a golden brown. Mentally there was probably some butter melting on a slice of that bread. It could have been so real that Jesus could have physically wanted a bite of that beautiful bread, but He didn't weaken, and neither should you!

The devil wants your mind, because he knows if he can control your mind he controls you, because all of our functions come out of our mind.

Riding on a plane recently I saw a national magazine with a picture of a brain on it divided into many sections, and in each of these segments was listed some kind of mind control. ESP, yoga, est, transcendental meditation, and

many others I had never heard of before. These are all designed to “open up your mind to your potential and who you are.”

I read for just a few minutes and felt the most satanic presence in the world, because that is exactly what the devil is trying to do right now, control our minds.

I want you to think of something simple just to show you how many of our functions are caused by what our mind registers.

Did you ever watch a bunch of children glued to a TV set? The minute the commercials come on (and I believe they're geared to reach children's minds), up comes a chorus of “Mommy, buy me a Slick-a-Trick. I want one of those! I want one of those! That's the most fun-toy in the world today! I want one! I want one!”

Probably something that would register even more vividly in your mind is this, “Mommy, get some cereal that's flavored with elephant ears. Mommy, I want some elephant ear cereal! Mommy, the man said my ears would grow to be big like an elephant's ears if I would just eat some elephant ear cereal. Go get some right now, Mommy!”

Mother knows they're not going to like elephant ears, but their minds have been so impressed with commercials they become little monsters until they get the kind of cereal that is mentioned on TV. They don't rest until they get a certain brand of cereal.

No wonder the cereal manufacturers spend a lot of time on TV advertising. They know if they can get a child's imagination (or mind) about a certain cereal that their mother is a sure-fire customer for that cereal.

The devil uses everything he can THINK of (notice he uses HIS mind to get YOURS) so that he can hold men in subjection to him and keep them from turning to God.

We are seeing today one of the greatest moves of God since Jesus walked on this earth, and whenever this happens, the devil really gets busier than ever before.

Never have we seen such a hungering for the Word of God, and yet the minute people begin reading the Word of God, the devil comes and tries to take away that which has been sown.

The devil tries to get you through your mind, even when you're reading the Word of God.

I am appalled at the number of people who say, "Will you pray that I can get interested in the Bible?" Then they will go on to say, "I used to have a tremendous hungering, but now I fall asleep when I read it." Or maybe they will have trouble with their mind wandering when they try to concentrate on the Word of God.

The devil does such a good job of fooling our minds that we often don't realize who our enemy is. Kenneth Copeland in his book *The Trouble Maker* says something which really made me laugh. He said, "I went to a bullfight when we were in Mexico and there was only one thing that impressed me: The bull did not know who his enemy was.

"He thought his enemy was that red cape. I remember thinking, 'If he ever realizes the source of his trouble, that matador doesn't stand a chance!'

"The Christian today needs a fresh revelation of his true source of Power and Supply, and also his true source of trouble."

Did it ever dawn on you that we all have the same problem? Many times we don't realize who or what the REAL problem is.

Watch how the devil puts fear in our lives. One of his biggest tools is fear, but before we go any further, I want you to memorize a verse of scripture with me, will you?

II Timothy 1:7: “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

Say it again and again and again, until it is imprinted on your mind and heart by the Holy Spirit, so that you need not ever be afraid again. Keep on saying it over and over and over until you are convinced that God has not given you a spirit of fear, so that whenever any kind of fear comes in you can throw that scripture at Satan and he will have to run from you as fast as he can.

Watch the tactics Satan uses when he wants to control your mind:

**SICKNESS** – The other night we had every woman stand who had a fear of cancer. You would have been amazed at the number who live in daily fear of cancer.

God’s Word says, “Beloved, I wish above ALL things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth” (III John 2).

God does not want you sick!

He wants your body whole and healthy.

I’ve often heard people say that God sends sickness.

God does NOT!

It is the same thing as with our earthly father. Would he send sickness to his children? Would he rob you of your health just to teach you something? No, it’s the devil who does that, because God is a good God.

It’s when we begin operating in a realm of fear that we open ourselves up to the attacks of the devil.

One of the greatest proofs in the Bible of the fact that the devil is the one who causes diseases is the story of Job. In Job 2:7, God’s Word says, “So went SATAN forth from

the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.”

God had nothing to do with this except that He gave Satan permission to do whatever he wanted to with Job except to take his life.

The devil took the plagues that we have been delivered of, and threw them at Job, and Job had horrible sores over his entire body. Nothing could help him except the supernatural power of God!

One of the most widely used weapons of the devil is sickness, because he can create doubt and unbelief in God’s people when he throws sickness at them.

Job is a beautiful example of faith in God. He kept loving God regardless of the circumstances and in the end he was blessed far more than he would have ever dreamed. We need to remember that it’s the devil who threw the sickness at Job, and he is still doing the same thing today. Whenever the devil starts to throw sickness at you, give him the healing scriptures in the Bible, and he won’t stay around long.

Recently, I woke up in the middle of the night, and my throat felt like knives sticking in it. My nose started running, and as I rolled over to get a Kleenex, I instinctively said, “Oh, no you don’t, devil. I don’t want your garbage. Take it and leave it on someone else’s doorstep, because I’m not going to take it!”

The next morning my throat was considerably better, but the devil was persistent, and every night he tried to throw the same symptoms on me, and every night I’d say the same thing back at him. Then I’d give him a verse of scripture such as, “He sent his word and healed them” (Psalm 107:20), or “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget

not all his benefits; Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth ALL thy diseases” (Psalm 103:2,3).

You’d think the devil would get tired of trying, but he doesn’t, and he kept trying to give me symptoms of a cold. But I kept throwing scriptures at him until he discovered that he was a defeated foe!

The devil wants you to believe that healing went out with the disciples.

I never read Luke 13:11-16 without being reminded of something that happened in our ministry shortly after we received the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

“And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.”

We had been invited to a small Texas town to minister. The invitation had been given before we had received the baptism, and as we drove up, we felt we would share a personal testimony, or something that would not be controversial, but when we got there, the Spirit of God moved on us to share with the people what was going on in the world today, so we shared the miracles we had been seeing, including healing.

A hunchback woman of about 65 had been bound by the devil all of her life. As we told people we would like to lay hands on them so that they could see the glory of God, she came forward.

This was a town where everybody knew everybody else, and down the aisle came this little old lady, so stooped

over that you could not see her head above the seats, horribly crippled.

Charles laid hands on her, and neither of us remember what he prayed, but she fell backwards under the power of God, and when she did, she screamed — not from fear, but from faith!

She KNEW that Jesus had touched her.

She KNEW that she was healed!

She KNEW that when she stood up, the hunch on her back would be gone!

She stood up, and for the first time in her entire life, she could look people in the face. As Jesus had cared for the woman in the Bible, so he cared for this woman in the twentieth century. Her rejoicing and her praises could be heard by everyone present, and her joy knew no bounds.

There were, however, people in the town who didn't believe in healing. One of them was the pastor of her church. Because of the great things that happened during our meeting there, her pastor preached the following Sunday morning on WHY HEALING DOESN'T EXIST TODAY!

She sat on the front row, where she had sat all these years crippled up, but now she was straight as a ramrod! Every time he said that healing wasn't for today, she said, "Hallelujah!"

The devil had such a hold on his mind, however, that he would never acknowledge this woman's healing, even with the evidence sitting right in front of him.

The devil will use ANYTHING to control your mind.

He will use years of theological training to convince a person that the scriptures say that healing passed away with the disciples, and he continues to tell us the same thing as he attempts to get our minds totally in his control.

You may say, “Well, I don’t believe in the supernatural. I’ve never been to a church where I saw anything supernatural.”

Remember that the whole Bible is supernatural.

If you believe in God, then you have to believe in a supernatural being.

If you believe in Jesus Christ, you have to believe in a supernatural being. It’s the devil who says to you, “Don’t believe in the supernatural,” because your FAITH is a supernatural thing, and he wants to destroy that.

The devil really tries to reach us through our finances.

For years the devil fooled thousands of Christians into thinking it was spiritual to be poor. Anyone who had any sign of prosperity was obviously not very spiritual.

Then a revolution arose — people began to read what the Word of God has to say about prosperity, and realized that the devil had his way long enough, and they began to bring prosperity into existence.

I received an advance review copy of the New International Bible, and in thumbing through it discovered an interpretation of a verse which can really speak to the hearts of all those who believe in the prosperity of God. Sometimes we wonder how God is going to perform a financial miracle for us, and we forget that all things are possible with God. Look what the Bible promises in Ecclesiastes 2:26: “To the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God.”

Now the devil is going to tell you that it just doesn’t work that way.

God spoke it clear and simple, so who are you going to let have your mind, God or the devil?



Hallelujah! When I read that, I called Charles who was at the office, and said, “Honey, raise your hands up in the air to make a funnel of yourself and then let’s both tell God we receive the sinner’s money for the gospel!”

Isn’t it exciting to put your hands up in the air and believe God for the wealth that some sinner has been gathering and storing up just for you! (Why don’t you do that right now?) You can believe that the minute you do that, the devil will be right in there telling you that it just doesn’t work that way!

The devil probably attacks the financial area of our life as much as any other area because he puts fear in our heart as to whether or not we’ll have enough money to get by on.

Beloved, the God we serve is a supernatural God and He can supply money from sources that you haven’t thought of yet.

If we confess our fears, they will rule us, because if you confess something with your mouth, it reacts upon your heart or your spirit. The Word becomes real only as we confess its reality. When we confess the Word of God, He watches over it to make it good.

Rev. 12:11 says, “And they overcame him by the blood of the lamb, and by the word of their testimony.”

If I continually confess lack, I believe in lack, and my confession surely becomes a reality.

There is no end to the things the devil will try to convince you of. He will try to convince you that you are in financial bondage and that there is no way out. Give him a scripture to feed on that talks about God’s prosperity and see what happens to him!

The devil loves to see you **WORRY!**

He gets into our innermost thoughts and we begin to worry about getting old, we worry about our car getting

old, we worry about our air conditioner getting old, we worry about our inability to get a job, we worry about our children.

Did you know that God can supernaturally keep that house of yours in good repair, or supernaturally provide enough money to have it fixed? And that the same thing applies to all the rest of those worries?

Where does worry come from? It comes from your mind! It doesn't come from your knee. It doesn't come from your stomach, it comes **RIGHT FROM YOUR MIND.**

That's exactly why the devil attacks your mind! Let's see what the Word of God has to say about worrying: Matthew 6:25 expresses this so beautifully in the Living Bible: "So my counsel is: Don't **WORRY** about things — food, drink and clothes. For you already have life and a body — and they are far more important than what to eat and wear. Look at the birds! They don't worry about what to eat — they don't need to sow or reap or store up food — for your heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to Him than they are. **WILL ALL YOUR WORRIES ADD A SINGLE MOMENT TO YOUR LIFE?**" No, they won't, but the devil and worry will take years **OFF** of your life.

When we learn to trust God instead of the devil, we can stop worrying immediately. When we trust God to take care of all our needs, we can laugh in the devil's face when he tells us to worry.

The devil wants to keep your mind full of worry so that you can't be thinking about heavenly things.

When the devil controls your mind to the point where he has you worrying about everything, he's got you right where he wants you. He will throw a spirit of depression on

you and your mind will begin to concentrate on your problems instead of the solution. He enjoys twisting your mind completely out of focus so that you can't even think straight.

Ask any psychiatrist today the reason for most people seeking help. It's depression, because they've let the devil control their thoughts and mind.

There was a time when I might not have thought laziness was of the devil, but I do today. Watch how the devil will attempt to control your mind.

He'll tell you that you're too tired to do the things you should and that you need to rest.

If your mind is tired and your mind is lazy, or if you have depression, remember that a large part of this comes from a mind Satan controls.

How do you get over that? Get out and do something for Jesus!

There is nothing that will lift your spirits as high as going out and talking to someone about Jesus and telling them what He has done in your life.

When my mind is full of ideas for a book, I am so loaded with energy that I can get by with just a few hours sleep. As a matter of fact, when I am writing a book Charles has real difficulty getting me to bed because I want to stay up all night writing!

How many people do you know who sleep an excessive amount just because they don't have anything to occupy their minds?

We need to keep our minds active and alert.

I've had fabulous fun writing this book because I've been reading all the commentaries on the devil, plus checking the dictionaries and everything I can get my hands on to find out about the devil's tricks and his lies and

deceits. Then I got so excited I wanted to stay up all night to find out more about the armor of God to put on to withstand the wiles of the devil. Hallelujah!. . . and never got tired.

Another area where the devil is having a ball today is in the area of lust. Yes, lust! Even Christians are having problems in this area. The devil has so many things to attract and pervert our minds that a Christian really has to be on guard all the time.

As we were changing planes in the Atlanta airport recently, we stopped by the book and magazine rack to see if any of our books were there.

I was amazed at the titles of some of the books; titles so suggestive they weren't even suggestive!

They just came out and told you exactly what raw, sexual, sensual facts were on the inside. The subjects which some devil-controlled mind had put in books was almost impossible for a Christian mind to comprehend.

My blood ran cold as I thought about some of these magazines falling into the hands of innocent young people to pervert their minds. Subjects that lead to perverted sex to make them sound appealing like "The Joys of Being Homosexual." "Join the Crowd, Girls, Let's All be Lesbians. It's Fun!" The devil wants to possess and control every mind he can pollute.

Standing there sneaking a look at one on that subject was a lonely-looking teenager whose heart was crying out, "I'll try anything for fun!" Obviously on dope, she had that lost look and hopelessness that accompanies the drug addict.

The devil says it's natural to experiment with sex. God's Word says, "It is the thought-life that pollutes. For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts of

lust, theft, murder, adultery, wanting what belongs to others, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, pride, and all other folly. All these vile things come from within; they are what pollute you and make you unfit for God” (Mark 7:20-23 TLB).

Listen to what the Word of God says: “Don’t fool yourselves. Those who live immoral lives, who are idol worshippers, adulterers or homosexuals — will have no share in his kingdom. Neither will thieves or greedy people, drunkards, slanderers, or robbers.”

You can let the devil fool you that sex sin won’t hurt you, but you can’t fool God!

How do you keep away from that?

Get yourself as far away from things like that as you can.

Don’t read magazines (even for information) that cover subjects where you might have a weak spot. The devil is throwing pornographic literature all over the place because he wants to trap the mind of people young and old, male and female.

Lust can occupy your mind to the point where it can absolutely and completely destroy you because, for the Christian, along with it comes a feeling of guilt! A tremendous feeling of guilt.

The minute a lustful thought comes into your mind, the thing to do is to turn it off just like you turn a television dial from one channel to another.

It takes effort on our part to overcome the devil, but remember this, you’ve got more power than he has. Don’t stay where there is conversation that might be even slightly smutty.

Don’t listen to suggestive jokes of any kind, but keep your mind pure and good!

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

GOSSIP is a favorite tool of the devil.

Entire lives have been destroyed by gossip.

Gossip goes from your ears to your mind to your mouth, and the devil wants to control all three. He wants to control what goes into your ears so that he will control what comes out of your mouth.

We have heard things repeated as absolute truth when there wasn't a trace of truth, but the devil tempted somebody to gossip. Whole churches have been ruined by gossip.

I will never forget when I was a brand new Christian, this was one of the areas where God really dealt with me, because I have to admit I really did like to gossip. I praise the Lord for the pastor of the church where I was converted because I heard one day that one of the young girls in the church was expecting a baby and she wasn't married!

The first thing I did was to run to the pastor and say, “Do you know, I heard that so-and-so is expecting a baby?” He almost yelled at me, “Don't you ever say that again! Don't you ever think about it, and don't you ever repeat it again whether it is true or not!”

I never had anything affect me as forcefully as that did, because in my heart I really thought I was going to share something with the pastor that he didn't know and since this concerned someone in our church, I knew he would be able to give them some tremendous help.

The devil had so completely fooled me that the devil told me to repeat this gossip to the pastor!

I have never forgotten this and I never will!

CONFUSION is another trick of the devil, because he is the author of it.

One of his greatest abilities is to confuse people where the Bible is concerned. He doesn't have to worry about the winner of an argument about doctrine, because NOBODY wins a confusion fight.

I look at the confusion today among denominations — “We don't want to speak to you because you speak in tongues.”

“We don't want anything to do with you because you don't believe in baptism by immersion.”

“We don't want anything to do with you because we don't believe in being born again.”

When we received the baptism with the Holy Spirit, the devil came in and said, “You'll get thrown out of your church. You'll lose all your speaking dates! Nobody will buy your books any more!”

The devil threw all kinds of statements like that at us.

One of his most fiendish tricks is to try to convince you that you're just making up your prayer language.

He tries to tell you that it isn't genuine and it isn't real.

We see this happen over and over again as people come forward to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

They receive, they begin to praise God in a brand new tongue, and the first thing the devil says is, “That's YOU, you are doing that, you are just making up little sounds. You don't feel anything.” He actually convinces people that the Bible says, “Ye shall receive an emotional experience when the Holy Ghost comes upon you.” The Word of God never mentions feeling in conjunction with the baptism. It mentions “power” instead.

Then someone comes to you and starts preaching that tongues went out with the apostles, that it is the devil who gives tongues, and you begin to wonder if you really received the baptism or if you were deceived!

After we received the baptism, we received letters from non-Spirit filled people offering to tell us whether or not our tongues were of the devil.

The devil often uses Christians to confuse other Christians.

I remember wondering if I should send a cassette with my beautiful prayer language on it, and then I remembered what it says in Luke 11:13: “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?”

God isn't going to give us anything of the devil! And who ever heard of the devil giving you something with which to praise God?

The devil is a liar and there is no truth in him, so we have to start being aware of his tactics and using the Word of God against him.

Every time the devil comes to say something to you about poverty or sickness, or attempts to confuse your life, throw the Word of God at him and tell him what Jesus said.

Remember that God is not on the defensive — God is on the offensive, and the sooner you take up the Word of God to use against the devil, the sooner you will discover that the devil is on the defensive, and you will no longer have to be! Glory!

Don't get caught up in binding the devil all the time and spending time with him — try praising God and see how fast the devil disappears.

Don't live to fight the devil — live for Jesus!



One of the easiest ways to let Satan trap you is to think you've got to go along with the crowd.

Too often we are influenced by our peers.

A peer to a young person is somebody who goes to the same school, and somebody who is really in the "in" crowd where they wish they were.

As we get older, it may be the neighbor next door, it may be somebody we work with, it may be your husband's boss, it may be any other individual we want to impress.

Many times we do not fly the banner of Jesus Christ just because it's easier to bow to the pressures of Satan.

A very good example of this occurred when we were in New Zealand.

We were eating in the dining room of a very elegant hotel just prior to going to a meeting. We were in a hurry, because there was only a short time between the opening of the restaurant and the starting schedule of our meeting. The waiter asked us what kind of a cocktail we wanted to drink, and we all said, "Water."

We sat waiting for quite a while, and as we did, I was looking around and noticed a very peculiar thing.

The only people in the restaurant who were not drinking or smoking were the four of us sitting at a table, Bob and Joan and Charles and I.

We all stood out like a sore thumb, and I said to Charles, "I really feel out of place because everybody is drinking."

Young people might be influenced and want to go along with the crowd, but I felt like I was sitting in a den of iniquity. We had no choice of where we were eating, because we didn't have a car and there wasn't anyplace else where we could go to eat except at the hotel where we were staying.

Charles looked at me and said, “Honey, We’re not out of place, **THEY’RE THE ONES THAT ARE OUT OF PLACE**. We’re on the winner’s side because I read the end of the book.”

Hallelujah! We all straightened our shoulders back and sat there proud to be the peculiar people God called us to be.

Too many times we think we have to bow to Satan’s pressure because people will think we’re odd because we don’t do what the rest of the world does.

Maybe you’re involved in something your own heart has a question about. Maybe somebody wants you to go to a movie that you know you shouldn’t see, and yet to be a part of the “in” crowd you’ll go.

This is where the devil grabs hold of your mind and tells you that you’ll be unpopular if you don’t go along with the crowd.

We have a saying in our house, “When in doubt, throw it out!” That means anything!

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

A **NEGATIVE ATTITUDE** is another way the devil can really get after you. Have you ever known people whose attitudes were constantly negative? People who think the Word of God says, “Have gloom in the Lord always, and again I say have gloom?”

Recently we were talking to a woman who said she woke up every morning wondering what horrible things were going to happen to her that day. And that’s exactly what happened to her — horrible things!

The devil wants you negative — he wants you to believe the Word of God won't work for you and so he gets in there with those negative attitudes.

DOUBT and UNBELIEF are two attitudes with which the devil has a field day!

Do you realize that the world is full of doubt and unbelief?

Even professing Christians have doubt as to their salvation. The devil will try to tell you over and over again that you are not saved.

He will tell you that you have committed the unpardonable sin.

He will tell you that nobody loves you. Yet, God is love, and He loves you so much that He gave His only begotten Son for your salvation.

Satan will tell you that you're ugly. But the Word of God says that you are created in the image of God.

The devil will tell you that you're alone and lonely. God tells you in Rev. 3:20 that Jesus is living in your heart, and when He's living in your heart, you can never be alone!

The devil will tell you that you are a born loser, and there's nothing you can do about it! God's Word says, "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world!" (John 16:33).

The devil will tell you that you're a nobody! God's Word says you are a joint heir with Jesus! (See Romans 8:17). That really makes you somebody, doesn't it? The devil will tell you that you're poor and can't afford the things that you need in life. God's Word says, "But my God shall supply ALL your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19).

The devil will tell you that you have to keep sinning, because it is impossible to live above sin. God's Word says,

“... I consecrate myself to meet your need for growth in truth and holiness” (John 17:18 TLB).

The devil will tell you that this is a world of “dog eat dog.” God’s Word says, “Love one another,” and it says that all the way through the Bible. (Try John 15:12).

The devil says, “Do it tomorrow!” The Bible says, “Today is the day of salvation!”

How do we overcome all of these wiles of the devil? The Word of God makes it simple, because it says, “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

Too many people forget that the Christian life is composed of the work of more than one person.

God has done His part, but we often fail to do our part, and when we fail to do our part, we leave an opening for Satan.

“Resist the devil” . . . that’s our part.

God gives us all the power we need, but how do we get that power?

Just before the words “resist the devil,” the Bible gives the condition, because it says, “Submit yourselves therefore to God.”

The answer is simple, because when you submit yourself to God, you will have all the power you need to resist the devil.

We often hear people say, “Boy, the old devil has really been after me this week.” If you are ever tempted to make that statement, quote James 4:7 again and tell the devil he has to go. He can’t be after you if he’s running FROM you, can he? Learn to STAND on the Word of God.

How do you submit yourself to God?

Read the Word and know what the Word of God says. .THEN DO IT! Know what is your right and your

inheritance as a Christian. That is what submitting yourselves to God is.

Where does this happen? It all happens in your MIND.

You have to believe that you want to follow God.

You have to believe that God is who He says He is.

You have to believe that Jesus Christ died on a cross for your sins.

You have to believe when you became a Christian that those sins were forgiven. That's submitting yourselves to God.

Let's look at what Colossians 1:13 says: (TLB) "For he has rescued us out of the darkness and gloom of Satan's kingdom and brought us into the kingdom of his dear Son, who bought our freedom with his blood and forgave us all our sins."

We have been rescued out of the darkness and gloom. Hallelujah! We've been saved — rescued — delivered — whatever you want to call it — but it's been done!

The obvious things of the devil are easy to recognize, but he also uses little things that many people have difficulty believing are of Satan.

Millions of people have been caught in the trap of the occult, witchcraft, fortunetelling, drugs, horoscopes, and even simple little things such as possession of owls and frogs.

Probably the one area where more Christians have been trapped than any other is in the area of horoscopes, because it seems so harmless to read the newspaper and see what's going to happen to you today. That's exactly the same as walking right into the devil's parlor, sitting down, and saying to him, "Well, what are we going to do together today?"

I don't need the newspaper to tell me what's going to happen. I already know, because I've read the Word of God, and it's all GOOD, GOOD, GOOD!

When I was a young girl, my sister and I went to a fortuneteller to find out about the future. I remember asking if I would make the honor roll society. The fortuneteller didn't even know what I was talking about, but as she questioned me, and I told her all about it, and how hard I studied in school, and what good grades I made, she looked into the crystal ball and said, "Yes, you will make the honor roll society."

It didn't take much sense for her to figure out that a girl who made excellent grades in school was bound to be on the honor roll society! But I swallowed it hook, line and sinker, and believed it was true! I did make the honor roll society, but not because of the fortuneteller!

I have often asked young people who have blown their minds on drugs how they ever got started, and almost without exception, their answer is the same, "I wanted to be part of the crowd! I didn't think it could ever hurt me. I didn't think I'd ever be hooked!"

The devil makes it seem so simple that no one would ever get hooked on the first try, but I remember a little teenager who was brought to my house many years ago.

She was annoyed with her mother and dad because they wouldn't let her date a certain boy, so she decided to "get even with them!" Some of her "friends" at school told her to take an LSD trip to really show her parents who was boss! She did, and her first and only trip was a bad one!

Every afternoon, the devil would convince her that her mouth was disappearing, and she would sit in a chair, visualizing that her mouth and her entire chin area were literally rotting away. Then she would begin to scream and

scream until they finally had to give her a shot to quiet her down.

Day after day, this same tormenting from the devil continued, until they brought her over to my house.

I remember looking at this pathetic girl who had so innocently been trapped into the devil's lair.

She accepted Jesus as her Savior and Lord. I told her that the devil was a defeated foe, and that he couldn't stand up against the blood of Jesus, and that she had been set free.

I had commanded the evil spirits to depart out of her, and they did!

Once she knew what she had in Jesus, she was totally and completely set free!

I have seen her over the years, and she is a radiant, lovely young girl!

Did you ever get trapped by the commercialism of today!

People wear owls around their necks, owls on their purses, owls on their cookie jars, owls on their kitchen towels, owls on the walls, owls sitting in the corner, owls, owls, owls everywhere!

The owl is a creature of the night, and in Him, there is no darkness.

Listen to what the Bible has to say in Isaiah 34:6-17 (Amp.): "The sword of the Lord is filled with blood [of sacrifices], it is gorged and greased with fatness—with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the Lord has a sacrifice in Bozrah [capital of Edom] and a great slaughter in the land of Edom. And the wild oxen shall fall with them, and the [young] bullocks with the [old and mighty] bulls; and their land shall be drunk and soaked with blood, and their dust made rich with

fatness. For the Lord has a day of vengeance, a year of recompense for the cause of Zion. And the streams [of Edom] will be turned into pitch and its dust into brimstone, and its land will become *burning* pitch. [The burning of Edom] shall not be quenched night or day; its smoke shall go up for ever. From generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it forever and ever. But the pelican and the porcupine will possess it; the OWL and the bittern and the raven will dwell in it. And HE will stretch over it the [Edom] the measuring line of confusion and the plummet stones of [chaos over its nobles] . . . they shall possess it forever; from generation to generation they shall dwell in it.”

You may say, “But my mother made this for me!” or “But my sister bought this for me!” or any other excuse you can find, but I wouldn’t have an owl in my house for anything!

I feel the same way about a frog, because Revelation 16:13 says that in the end times unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet in the shape of frogs!

The devil will try to get us to use every excuse in the book, because he is clever!

A friend of ours came to Houston several years ago after having been married for many years to a Navy man. He suddenly told her that he didn’t love her any more, he didn’t want her any more, and for her to get out. They were stationed at a Navy base, so she took her few possessions and came here.

She had been a nominal churchgoer, but here in Houston she saw the reality of a living Jesus, went on to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit, was healed of



tendonitis, got into the Word of God and things began to happen.

We went over to her apartment one night and I was horrified to discover she had owls all over everything. She must have had over three hundred owls decorating her entire apartment. You couldn't turn any direction without running into a bunch of owls!

We didn't say anything, but after we got out, I said to Charles, "Did you get the same feeling I did in there?" He said, "I sure did!"

We didn't say anything to her, but prayed that God would reveal the truth to her. We didn't have to wait long, because one day she dropped by and said, "Do you think there's anything wrong with owls?" We asked her why she said that, and she said she had been studying the Word of God, and it seemed to her that God was telling her that owls had no place in her life.

She went home that afternoon, took a hammer and broke five of the owls. Some of them were terrifically expensive, costing as much as \$300.00, but praise God, she wanted to be a woman of God, and not someone tormented by the devil.

Little by little, she had courage enough to break all the owls, and then an amazing thing happened! Her husband came home! Today they are happily married, have a little girl, and are involved in a beautiful ministry for God.

I often wonder what would have happened if she had not been obedient to God.

The devil could have kept her from breaking those owls by saying, "But look how much money they cost!" Watch everything that you put in your house, because you never know when the devil can come sneaking in.

At one time we had an oil painting in our dining room. I bought it because it matched the yellow on our walls, but didn't really look at the painting. Even though it was a flower, it gave me an evil or odd feeling every time I went by it.

We heard a man talk about the "things" in your house one night, and I said to Charles, "Do you really like that picture in our dining room, or does it give you the 'creeps' like it gives me?" Charles said he didn't like it either, so when we got home that night, Charles took a big butcher knife and said, "In the name of Jesus, devil, get out of our house!" Then he sliced the picture into four pieces, and took it out and threw it in the garbage can! As I said previously, "When in doubt, throw it out!" and that's exactly what we did!

The devil will tell you that you can't quit smoking because you've tried. Remember that with Christ you can do ALL things!

The devil will tell you that God didn't call you to be a soul winner, but God's Word says for you to go into all the world and preach the gospel.

The devil will tell you that God helps those who help themselves, but God's Word says, "Apart from me you can't do a thing!" (John 15:5 TLB).

The devil will tell you it's no fun being a Christian. God's Word says, "I have told them many things while I was with them so that they would be filled with my joy" (John 17:13 TLB).

The devil will tell you there is no hell.

God's Word tells you there is! "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars,

shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death” (Rev. 2 1:8).

The devil will tell you there are lots of ways to heaven — just live a good life. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

How do we defeat the devil? Memorize the scripture God has given us in Luke 10:19: “Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over ALL the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”

We’ve got the power over ALL the power of the enemy. Remember that Satan doesn’t have YOU in a corner, YOU’VE got him on the run. God has given to all His Spirit-filled children power over anything and everything that Satan can do.

How do we get this power working in our lives? “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

Get into the Word of God.

Confess the Word of God.

Possess the Word of God.

Act upon the Word of God.

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” (II Corinthians 10:4,5).

We need to bring every single thought that we have into captivity to the obedience of Christ. The minute your mind begins to wander and you begin to think about the things of the devil, bring your thoughts into captivity and center

them once again on the One who gave His life for your salvation and deliverance!

We need to literally put our hands to our brains, and take out those thoughts and desires which are not godly, and bring every thought into captivity.

You say you can't do it? Yes, you can!

Search the scriptures until you find the ones that really fit your needs. Let God quicken special verses to your heart.

The scriptures that work for me might not speak to you; that's why it's so vital for you to get your own two-edged sword ready to fight the battle, because yours is all wrapped up in the pages of your Bible.

The Word of God turns me on!

Did you ever read a familiar verse of scripture in the Bible, and all of a sudden have twinkling lights come on? That's what happened to me recently.

How many times have all of us said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me," and yet not really meant or understood what we said.

Reading through the Amplified Bible the other day, I came across this scripture and God really quickened my spirit as to what this is all about.

Philippians 4:13 says, "I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me — I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me, (that is, I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency)."

Believe that you are ready for anything and EQUAL to anything!

Remember when the devil sends a problem across your path, that you are ready for it and equal to the problem, whatever it may be, and regardless of the size.

Why are you equal to ANYTHING? Because Christ infuses inner strength into you. The word “infuse” means to fill; imbue; inspire; to pour into. So you are “filled” with Christ, you are “poured into” Christ and He is poured into you; you are inspired by Christ, therefore you are equal to anything.

Square your shoulders back and charge right after the enemy.

Don't let him back you into a corner!

### **FACTS OR GOSSIP?**

The devil wants your mind so badly, he will use any and all the tricks he can find to get you to stray away from what God wants. Gossip is a real tool of the devil himself!

It can get you in trouble whether you are on the giving or the receiving end. Each is equally dangerous!

A pastor who had listened and believed talebearers came to our Healing Explosion in Long Island, New York and shared the following testimony which speaks for itself.

“About two months ago I had the most resistance to the, Hunter Ministries of anyone. Frankly, it was because of good friendships with brother pastors who are also resistant and against moves of God, and one feeds the other. One feeding a negative thing to another just keeps passing it on!

“You cannot go only on the basis of good friends because they may have it wrong. Unintentionally, possibly because of listening to someone else, but regardless they may have it wrong.

“Recently I told a group of pastors to check things out for themselves and not knock other ministers even if you think something is wrong. Pray for them, but before believing gossip, check the situation out.

“I received a call from an employee of Hunter Ministries and he said, ‘This is Hunter Ministries.’

“I immediately thought, ‘Ahhha!’

“He continued, ‘We would like to know if you are going to be involved in the Healing Explosion.’

“I must say at first I was very abrupt and quite curt and short – polite, but abrupt. Suddenly he said to me, ‘Well, could I send the videos to you FOR FREE? You could review them and then call me and tell me what you think.’

“When I heard, ‘FOR FREE’ I said, “Well, okay.” He sent them, FREE OF CHARGE, so I began to watch them with a pad and a pencil in my hand so I could say, “Ah, ha, ah ha, that’s not right; this is not right.”

“I sat there and watched all fourteen hours and I said, ‘Lord, I pray like that. I remember back in the seventies, we used to pray for lengthening of legs. We used to all do that!’

“God said, ‘Why, don’t you still do it? You just let it die off, that’s all.’

“God really touched my heart and we began quickly to put it together in the church.

“I was so charged at the end of the fourteen hours that I could have taken cancer or whatever by the throat and I would have cast it to hell and back, I imagine, with the strength of faith that I had. I was prepared! But I also learned that when God strengthens your faith, He’s going to ask you to do something.

“I received a phone call from a woman who was hysterically crying. I couldn’t make any sense out of her until she finally calmed down. I said to her, ‘What’s wrong? What’s wrong, can you explain? Who are you?’

“My son, he just shot himself in the head to commit suicide.’

“Here I am on the ceiling and suddenly I discovered I was going ‘hmmmm’ and felt that my faith was leaking out my toes. Nevertheless the Spirit of God said, ‘Go down there.’ She told me where the hospital was, so I told God I would go except I had to plug up my feet so that all my faith didn’t leak out.

“I was super charged with faith after seeing the fourteen hours of video, so I walked into the hospital, but couldn’t see him because he was in emergency. The whole family and I then went up to ICU where they had taken him to die. They had not even taken the bullet out of his brain. The whole family was weeping and wailing, and I told them that I was the pastor they had called.

“We went into ICU I don’t know if you’ve ever seen anyone who has attempted to take their life in this manner. The boy had taken a rifle, put it in his mouth and pulled the trigger. As I stood there and looked at this young man, I saw something that was unrecognizable as a human being. His head was swelled up. His eyes were like ping pong balls. He was entirely black and blue. He was bleeding from the eyes, bleeding from the ears, bleeding from the mouth and bleeding from the nose.

“I looked at him and decided that I had better keep my toes plugged up because faith was running out. As I continued to look at him, I thought, ‘Lord, you’ve got to send Frances and Brother Hunter here. Or maybe I should run back and take a look at the fourteen hours again.’

“A holy boldness came upon me and I looked at the boy’s family and said, ‘Let me say something here. That boy’s got to get saved.’ At that time I didn’t know that the doctors had said he was going to die and that the bullet was still lodged in his head.

“The mother said to me, ‘He’s in a coma, and he can’t hear you.’

“I said, ‘Yes, he can hear you’. That is why when someone comes to visit a comatose person in the hospital they should never tell anyone how bad they look, because they’re fighting inside and you have to get them to continue fighting while you’re fighting.

“I said, ‘David say this, “Lord Jesus, I’m sorry for what I’ve done to myself. I’m sorry for all my sins. Wash me. Cleanse me. Save me.” And I knew this boy was saved. There was just a ‘knowing’.

“I turned around, looked at the family and said, ‘You all better get saved right now!’ And everyone of them got saved. Hallelujah!

“A new holy boldness came upon me again. Then God said, ‘Tell them I’m going to heal this boy.’

“I was looking at the boy’s face and said, ‘Only you can do it, Lord. I can’t do anything here. I tell you right now that only you can do it.’

“I turned to the family and could not believe what I said, except for the holy boldness which God had given to me. ‘God’s going to heal this boy. Tonight is our regular service. I want you to call me at six o’clock. You’re going to have good news for me, do you hear me? GOOD NEWS at six o’clock. Call me.’

“I prayed very simply, because I remembered the tapes and I had read the book. I bound the spirit of suicide, self-destruction and self-murder in the name of Jesus. I cast it forth and commanded healing to come. I didn’t know the damage. God didn’t tell me, so I just commanded healing to come, in the name of Jesus.

“At six o’clock that night, I got a call. The boy’s mother was on the telephone, crying, but this time it was a



different cry. 'He's awake. He's up. He's talking. He knows me. He knows everybody.' Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

"From that day, the bells went off in that hospital. They took him down to operate and remove the bullet from his brain.

"When I laid my hands on him and cast out spirits, he was ice cold from the feet up to the trunk, which was the only warm part. He was dying. He was going. He was going out. I have prayed for people and that's how you die sometimes. You get colder, colder, colder, colder and the only thing warm is your head and your neck and then that gets cold and you die. This boy was going.

"God healed his head. God healed everything! He's walking, talking, walking, talking and moving around. He is absolutely a testimony of a miracle that only God can do, because I listened with my heart rather than my head of resistance. I thank God for the simplicity that I saw coming forth from those videos. I thank God for our brother and sister who keep saying, 'If Charles and

Frances can do it, YOU can do it too.'

"You see, if we make it complicated or if I look like a big stuffed shirt and I am the only one who knows what I'm doing, you will never attempt anything. God says, 'Keep it simple. Keep it simple. Look at the gospel, it's so simple.'

"All of this because I said, 'Yes, Lord, I'm open.'

"God is bringing revival and this revival will be accompanied by signs and wonders. It isn't going to be just an old-fashioned revival which is good enough and it gets people saved. This is going to be the outpouring of the book of Acts prophecy, 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream

dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy' (Acts 2:17-18 NKJV).

"I have another story that is just bubbling over in me. The next Sunday an Italian man who could hardly speak English walked in my church. This is the week after I have seen the tapes, seen the boy healed, and I am still a dynamo. I am still a dynamo today and I'm not changing. I'm not going back.

"Devil you better watch out now. Hallelujah, this is it. Glory to God, I'm kicking in the gates. Hallelujah! Amen! Glory!

"Why? Because these tapes are so anointed. Not because of Charles and Frances, but because of the tapes.

"His whole family was there, so I asked them what was wrong. His daughter said, 'He's loaded with cancer. Tumors all over. There's nothing they can do.'

"With that precious boldness that God gives you, I said, 'God's going to heal this man.' I bound the spirit of cancer, cast that dirty thing out in the name of Jesus. I rebuked and cursed that sickness and illness to its roots in

the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and commanded healing to come.

"Two days later I visited a hospital nearby. I saw the entire family in the hospital. I asked them what they were doing there, and the daughter said, 'This is the hospital my father goes to when he gets checked up on and he just had a four hour examination, and he is absolutely healed.'

"I thank you Lord, wonderful Jesus, wonderful Savior, healer, baptizer, that you let me not listen to gossip but to discover the truth for myself!"

This is just a start for someone who chose to make a decision on his own and not listen to the devil, who often

speaks through Christians. These two stories would make some people happy for a lifetime if it happened to them, but think of how these are going to multiply in his life!

And look at what he could have missed!

## **Chapter Two**

# **There's Power in The Name of Jesus**

I LOVE THE BOOK OF ACTS!

The book of Acts is a true story about a group of fanatics doing miracles because they were turned loose with the powerful name of Jesus!

The name of Jesus will still produce the same results today!

When people fall in love with Jesus, when they realize the supernatural power of God, when they get into the Word of God and see what that Word will do, they enter into a relationship with God and Jesus and a way of living that transcends the human mind.

Miracles are not just healings!

Miracles are not just supernatural acts of God!

The biggest miracle of all is the change that the name of Jesus can bring in a human life. It is a living, breathing, vital relationship with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit!

God is breathing into a group of people today creating the same kind of fanatics as the disciples!

Praise God for people all over the world who are responding to the call of God and the power of the Holy Spirit that rests in the name of Jesus!

People who formerly were an hour-on-Sunday Christians have entered into an exciting moment-by-moment walk with a living Jesus.

Scales are falling from the spiritual eyes of the Christian world and they are waking up to a new reality because they are discovering the power in that wonderful and majestic name of Jesus!

What did the name of Jesus do for Saul? When Ananias obeyed God, and “entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou earnest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost” (Acts 9:17).

It was not just when Ananias put his hands on Saul that the scales fell from his eyes, it was when he said the wonderful and powerful name of Jesus that the miracle occurred!

Later on in Acts when Peter was talking to Cornelius, he gave a long talk about Jesus and then he made the magnificent statement “that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins” (Acts 10:43).

It is in that name that we have the remission of sins — it is in that name that we have the forgiveness or pardon for our sins.

According to Mr. Webster’s definition of remission it is “the cancellation of, or release from, debt.” Just think, the name of Jesus taken upon our lips releases us from the debt of sin! Glory, hallelujah!

Jesus paid the price for us so that in His name we could have total and complete freedom and deliverance from sin!

For years I heard people end prayers with the words, “In Jesus’ name,” and never thought about the importance or the power in that name! Many people use the name almost irreverently because we do not believe and accept

the power, and wonder, and glory that lies in that name above all names!

The words “In Jesus’ name” can open the supernatural world to us if we will but believe that His name will do what the Word of God says it will!

The words will never have power, however, until we can honestly believe that they are true and that the supernatural will happen when we use those words.

They are not to be used just to close a prayer, but to believe for the supernatural intervention of God in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, right now, TODAY!

Acts 16:16-18 brings a realization of the actual power in the name of Jesus: “And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.”

The thing that’s exciting to me about this particular passage of scripture is the fact that Paul did not argue and wrestle with a spirit all night long, nor talk to the girl, but he talked directly to the spirit, and at that mighty and powerful name of Jesus, the spirit came out immediately! Hallelujah!

That same power to cast out spirits belongs to us today through the name of Jesus! Jesus said in Luke 10: 19, “Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” In the wonderful

name of Jesus we have power over all of the tricks of the devil, if we will just believe and remember to use it.

We have seen all kinds of spirits including spirits of suicide come rushing out at the name of Jesus! People are set completely free who have been tormented by the devil for years!

We were in northern Illinois holding a series of meetings, and a friend of ours who had received the baptism under our ministry wanted to bring some non-charismatic friends to the meetings. They had heard about the wild 47Pentecostals, and the even wilder Charismatics, but because she promised them that our meetings were always under control, they consented to come.

They were afraid to come near the front, because they still weren't sure what was going to happen, and so they decided on a place on the very back row. How well we remember feelings just like that, not knowing what the "unknown" would do.

About halfway through the meeting I got a word of knowledge about a spirit of suicide, so I stopped, and immediately said, "In Jesus' name, you spirit of suicide come out!" That's all I said, and I got the surprise of my life, and so did a lot of other people!

Three spirits came screaming out with blood-curdling yells so loud that my hair stood on end (and so did Charles'). There is tremendous power in the name of Jesus.

Talking to the three people later, each had been convinced that suicide was the only way out, and yet at the name of Jesus each spirit had to leave, and all three persons believed in the name of Jesus!

Not all spirits scream, praise God! That was a very unusual night, because the timid non-charismatics on the back row were sitting right next to one of the people with

the spirit of suicide. They really got an initiation into the power of that name!

Jesus knew who He was! Everything He said was spoken with great authority and power.

He made the most outstanding statements of any person who ever lived on earth. He said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). He didn't shrivel up and hide behind a tree, a bush or even a pulpit. As a matter of fact, I don't think he even had a microphone. He just opened his mouth, and the world heard!

He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

He knew there was salvation in no other.

He knew beyond a shadow of doubt that He was the only way, the only truth and the only life.

He also knew that it was impossible for anyone to come to the Father except in His name, and He clearly and boldly stated it for the world to hear!

He even went on to say, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it!" (John 14:12-14).

He said that all inclusive word "whatsoever" ye shall ask in my name, and He meant it! He gave us permission to use His name so that it would glorify His Father! (Not for any personal glory for us, but for the glory of God, the Father! Hallelujah!)

The promises He made are almost impossible for the human mind to understand, but He said, "If ye continue in



my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31,32).

All we have to do is continue in everything He said, and we shall be free! Freedom from everything was promised by this powerful man who stated His position clearly. We can have freedom from fear, freedom from poverty, freedom from sickness, freedom from the fear of death, freedom from misery. The list goes on and on. He promised us this freedom, but knowing that many who would try to appropriate it would be weak, He gave us a power, the power of the Holy Spirit with which to do it, and the use of that power lies in His name!

In the same way Jesus knew who He was, we need to know the power of His name!

We need to stand as boldly and proclaim miracles of salvation, baptism, healing and deliverance to the world with all the authority He used, because in His name He gave this to us! He not only gave us this privilege, He also commanded us to use it in Mark 16.

Jesus said, “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you” (John 15:16).

If you owned the name that was above every other name, the name at which every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that same name as Lord, to the glory of God, the Father, can you imagine giving the power and authority of that name to anyone who would simply believe on that name?. . .to anyone who would dare to confess his sins and ask Jesus to come into

his heart? And yet He did, He gave you and me that name which has POWER over everything in the entire world!

I'd have a difficult time generating enough confidence to put that power into earthly beings, and yet Jesus knew what His resurrection power inside of a person, and that name upon their lips, would do.

It could make a tiger out of the tiniest mouse!

The name of Jesus brought forth some of the greatest miracles in the Bible, and is still doing the same thing today.

Peter and John were walking by the temple one day when they saw the lame man sitting there. "Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6). And the man walked!

Peter had no more natural power than you or I have, but he used the supernatural name that was available to him. He used the name of Jesus! I have a feeling that when he spoke it, he didn't speak it softly and quietly, as though he didn't mean it.

He spoke it with great authority because that name is to be revered above all other names, and is never to be used in a half-hearted manner.

Bells went off — ding, ding, ding.

We were in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada for a seven-meeting seminar when we saw exactly the same thing happen in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

When we saw Georgina Morin for the first time in a wheelchair, we asked her why she was in that chair. She had been shot in the spine seventeen years before, and had been paralyzed from the neck down ever since. The only places below her neck she had any mobility at all were in the fingers of her left hand. The rest of her body was

paralyzed. After talking with her briefly, we said, “Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have, I give unto thee:

In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!”

And she didn’t!

She came to the next meeting, and again we walked over to her and said, “Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have, I give unto thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!”

And she didn’t!

The third meeting, I said exactly the same thing, and she didn’t!

The fourth, fifth and sixth meeting, the same words were repeated, and nothing happened.

Then came the seventh and final meeting! We walked over to her and I said exactly the same words I had previously, “Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have, I give unto thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!”

**AND SHE DID!**

Seventeen years of paralysis were completely gone! Feeling returned to her entire body. Legs walked that had not walked in seventeen years! Why? It was nothing that either Charles or I did.

It was because of the power in the name of Jesus! Simply the power that rests in that most wonderful name of all — JESUS!

In explaining the miracle of the crippled man to the religious ruler, Peter stated, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

With that one statement which was stated with absolute faith in the name of Jesus Christ, Peter eliminated every

other religion in the entire world, because it is in this name that we are saved! Hallelujah!

This is one of the most powerful testimonies in the entire New Testament concerning the name of Jesus. They were preaching the Word that through Jesus there was resurrection from the dead.

All their preaching was done in His name!

Just the mere mention of the name of Jesus upset the Sadducees so much that they absolutely forbid them to speak at all or teach in the name of Jesus. They could teach and preach and speak what they thought, but they were warned not to speak in the name of Jesus. The priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees feared the name of Jesus.

They obviously didn't fear the man Jesus when He walked on this earth, but after His death they feared the name so much that they didn't even want it whispered, let alone shouted in public places.

Because of the power in the name of Jesus, Peter and John said they couldn't stop, and great power fell upon the apostles as they witnessed of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and "great grace was upon them all" (Acts 4:33).

They kept on preaching until the high priest and the Sadducees were so mad that they put them in prison, and then the prison doors were opened by an angel and they came out of the jail.

When the high priest heard about this, he had them brought back again and said, "Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name?" (Acts 5:28). But they were afraid to lock them up again because of the power in the name of Jesus, so they beat them and commanded them not to speak in the name of Jesus, then they let them go. . .and because of the power in that name

of Jesus, they continued preaching and teaching Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

The name of Jesus spoken with belief makes the sinner nervous. He can't stand it, because he feels the power contained in those five little letters. Glory to God!

I had been sharing with a friend about what Jesus had done in my life, and was saying, "Jesus did this, and Jesus did that!" when suddenly she interrupted me and said, "I like to listen to what's happening to you and I love to hear about the miracles, but will you stop using the name of Jesus! It makes me so nervous I can't stand still!" It made her nervous because she did not walk in the power of that name!

There's power in the name of Jesus, regardless of who you're talking to, or what you're talking about, as long as you're talking in His name!

If you want to stop a sinner right in his tracks when you hear him using the name of Jesus in vain, look around and say, "Where is He? Where is Jesus?" You'll be surprised at what happens.

After all, if the sinner is going to use the name of Jesus profanely, we should demand equal time to use it in the way it was intended!

Does the sinner know that there is power in that name, even though it's not available to him at the moment? Is there anything that will make a Christian shudder more than to hear the name of his beloved Savior taken blasphemously on the lips of the sinner? Almost any other word which comes in the category of swearing does not have the impact of the name of Jesus! That is why the sinner, in his vilest, angriest moments takes the most powerful name in all the world upon his lips, because even he realizes that name has power!

The name of Jesus can bring safety in times of danger. Our daughter, Joan, and I were driving down the freeway one day and as we came down the off-ramp onto the feeder street, the brakes went out on the car. Since the off-ramp was downhill, the car was accelerating. It was a rainy day, the streets were slick, and Joan screamed, "Pray, Mother, the brakes are out!"

Instantly we both took that name above all names on our lips, "Jesus!" Joan swung left under the freeway to avoid the traffic, and there loomed right in front of us a big truck hauling junk.

We repeated the name of Jesus again, and the truck miraculously and supernaturally pulled over in the right-hand lane and we whipped to the left again and came to a halt!

No one had hit us; we had hit no one. And we know beyond a shadow of doubt, that we were safe because of the name of Jesus! Hallelujah!

I remember one time when we had a series of meetings in a city. Our final meeting was on Saturday night, and the sponsoring organization had forgotten to bring along a check to exchange for the cash in the offering. We said we would take the cash back to our room, and then take it home on the plane the next day! We never do that because of the danger, but this night without a single thought about the danger, we took the cash with us and drove off.

The auditorium was close to the hotel, and the couple driving us dropped us off at the back of the building because of the difficulty of getting to the front with the one-way streets.

As we started to walk towards the back door, three men appeared out of nowhere, one standing between us and the door, one standing at the door, and one inside the door. One

had a big metal “afro” comb which he was run- fling his fingers over. We could hear his fingernails on the sharp metal points.

The devil was rearing his ugly head!

We felt a demonic presence. However, God really protected us, because we never changed steps, hesitated, or even paused. Both of us instantly whispered the name of Jesus as Charles squeezed my arm, and we saw a miracle happen right in front of our eyes!

The first person bowed in front of us, the second one opened the door, and the third one who had the big metal comb, opened the second door which put us safely inside the hotel. “At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow!”

We calmly walked inside to the stairway leading to the lobby, and the minute we turned the corner, we both instantly ran!

There had been no spoken communication between the two of us, but we had both felt the same sinister demonic power. We had both taken the name of JESUS on our lips, and we both ran to the elevator as fast as we could!

Praise God for that name that is above every name, the name that even protects us from accidents!

I love what Jesus said in Matthew 28:18, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.” He had no doubt whatsoever as to His qualifications and abilities, and yet He willingly passed this on to us.

In Mark 16:17-18 He says, “And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and **THEY SHALL RECOVER.**”

What power He gives to us just by using His wonderful and holy name.

He gives us power over all the enemy and He says that we can cast out devils.

We don't need to be tormented by devils, sickness, fear or disease.

We have been given a name to use in these situations, a name that brings fear to the devil himself!

We were in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a seminar when a tiny girl named Belinda was brought in during the lunch time break. She had contracted a virus which was destroying her muscles, and she was shriveling up and dying a slow death.

A friend had called her parents and told them about our services, and they brought Belinda. How we praised God we hadn't gone to lunch.

Before we prayed, Belinda looked up and said, "I've got faith in God!" We prayed and told her to get up and walk in the name of Jesus!

She shot out of the wheelchair like she was a rocket, but crumpled to the floor because her little legs did not hold her.

But we knew that she had been healed!

Charles picked her up, and set her on her feet again, and said, "In Jesus' name!"

This time she didn't fall down! She walked, and walked, and walked! She knew that the power in the name of Jesus had healed her!

Jesus, how we thank you for giving us the right and the authority to use your name which brings healing and deliverance.

It was a double thrill for us in Albuquerque. Bobby, the wife of a Christian bookstore owner had come to a meeting



with an incurable disease five years previously. She was on crutches with her legs dangling like they didn't have any bones in them. They looked like the legs on a rubber doll.

She was the first one at that earlier meeting, and sat right in the middle of the front row. When she came in, she said, "I believe when you pray for me, I'll be healed!" While we were making preparations for the meeting, she kept saying excitedly, "Tonight's my night to be healed!"

During the meeting she came up on crutches, and when we prayed in Jesus' name, she fell under the power.

We don't always remember the details but she told us later that I threw her. Crutches across the room and said, "You'll never need them again!"

All I remember is that she looked pathetic on the floor, struggling to get up with those legs of rubber, but I kept whispering over and over again the name "Jesus!" Finally, she made it up, and although she was walking, she didn't look like she was healed. But we look not with the natural eyes, but with the eyes of faith.

At the meeting where tiny Belinda was healed, Bobbie came to tell us of her healing five years before. She said, "The only thing I haven't been able to do is dance," so Charles said, "Come on, let's dance before the Lord right now!" And dance she did!

Many people wonder if the name of Jesus is just a temporary thing to help out momentarily, or if there is enough power in that name to last forever. We say a big "Amen" to the fact that the power which rests in the name of Jesus doesn't diminish and disappear and that is why healings last!

I've seen people who were eating some super delicious dinner, relish the taste upon their lips and tongue; I feel exactly that same way about the name of Jesus! It should be

held on our lips, savored and relished until we can understand and know the love and power that is in that name!

When we sold the first building which housed Hunter Ministries, we were going to be out of town when the contract was to be signed. We signed papers giving the power of attorney to a member of our firm, so that he could sign for us in this particular transaction.

By assigning this power to him, we gave him the privilege to use our name as though we had actually been there and signed the papers ourselves.

This is exactly what Jesus did for us when He said we could use His name to do even greater works than He did while He was on this earth.

Sometimes we fail to realize the absolute authority of Jesus that belongs to us as born-again Spirit-filled believers! He gave us the privilege and power that He had when He walked on this earth to do miracles.

We don't have to see Him.

We don't have to feel Him.

We don't have to touch Him.

We just have to believe what He said! That's all. Just take the name of Jesus, and then go and do the things He told us to do, with the authority and power that He told us to use!

We didn't have to be there with the employee to whom we gave the power of attorney.

We didn't have to sign the papers in advance.

He didn't have to see us.

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He didn't have to feel us.

He didn't have to touch us.

He just believed that the authority we had given him would work, and it did!

Beloved, if we would just believe that whatever Jesus says we can do, we can do!

Jesus became God in the flesh when He came to earth, and the power of God's Holy Spirit that enabled Him to do miracles was given to us in His name!

Peek at the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts again, will you? The Lord came to a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias and told him to go and put his hands on Saul of Tarsus that he might receive his sight.

Can you imagine the fright he had in his heart? Verses 1 and 2 say: "And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way (the way of life as determined by faith in Jesus Christ) whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem."

Ananias qualified for this list!

Paul could bring him bound into the city of Jerusalem. Now he was being told to go and lay hands on this same man.

He probably was shivering and shaking in his boots, so he said, "Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name" (vs 13-14). He knew that Paul despised anyone who used the name of Jesus and that was his reason for persecuting them, but in verse 15 we find the answer: "The Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:"

That is exactly what God has done for us.

We are chosen vessels to bear the name of Jesus to all the world.

We think because we're not missionaries to Africa or China that we are not chosen vessels, but we ARE chosen to bear the name of Jesus to our family, to our neighbors, to our storekeepers, and to all whom the Holy Spirit sends our way.

One night I was questioning God as to why He hadn't saved me before I was 49.

I imagine Paul sometime in his life wondered why he wasn't saved earlier too, and I'm sure that God's answer to me was the same as Paul's. Possibly worded a little differently, but with the same meaning, because He said: "You are a chosen vessel and I have trained you to understand the problems of sin, and to bear the name of Jesus to people like yourself, who have been involved in churchianity instead of Christianity!"

That's exactly the people God has chosen me to tell about the name of Jesus. . .the ones who are suffering under the same bondage I had for years; the bondage of religiosity!

These are people who know all about ice cream socials, church suppers, ladies' teas and rummage sales, but do not know about the wonder and the power in the beautiful name of Jesus! People who live an entire lifetime in the shadows of defeat because they have not learned the power of the name of Jesus!

Power to be healed!

Power to be delivered!

Power to be set free from poverty!

Power to live above sin!

Power to live in victory!

We can believe in a partial Jesus, or we can believe in a total Jesus! John 1:12 says, “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.”

It is impossible to be saved without believing on the name of Jesus. This part is not difficult to believe, because every born-again believer believes in the name of Jesus for salvation, but sometimes we have difficulty in other areas.

The name of Jesus will bring healing!

The name of Jesus will bring deliverance!

The name of Jesus will bring prosperity!

The name of Jesus will bring victory!

Not the name Christ; not the name Jehovah; not the name Lamb of God; not the name El Shaddai; not the name King of Kings or Lord of Lords; not the name Emmanuel, but the very name Jesus! Let’s learn to use the name Jesus, over and over until we discover the hidden power that is in that name above all names!

Sometimes the best things we ever say in life are said in death! And isn’t it amazing how we never forget the last thing a loved one said to us?

The last words my mother ever said to my sister and to me were, “You girls be good girls!” I might not have always been a good girl and been obedient to her wishes, but I certainly have not forgotten them, and when I became a Christian, my mother’s words echoed in my mind, and how I wish I had heeded them years sooner.

As Jesus’ life was drawing to a close He began to give His disciples advice on what they should do when He left, and He began telling them to use His name.

In John 14:14 He told us that if we asked any thing in His name he would do it.

A little later on He said that His Father would send the Comforter in His name, who would teach us all things.

The power of the Christian life was sent to earth in the name of Jesus.

In no other name can the power of the Christian life be received.

Over and over He said to ask in His name, and it would be done!

One of the most thrilling stories I have ever heard concerns the tremendous power that lies in the name of Jesus. A young man named Gary Wood was killed in an automobile accident. He went to heaven and was having a wonderful time with the first person he met who was a friend of his. His friend had been decapitated several years before, and it was a joy to talk to him. They were strolling through the wonders of heaven, and Gary was enjoying every single minute of it when his friend said to him, "You can't stay here."

Gary said, "Why? I don't want to leave."

But his friend said, "You've got to, because she's using that name."

Then he added, "Look down at the earth at the accident where you were killed. Your sister is crying, "Jesus, Jesus, don't let him die?" It is because of the power in that name that you have to go back!"

And Gary returned to his earthly life because of the power in the name of Jesus!

". . .and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). That is what we should call Him at all times. His name is Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace!" His name is all in all and over all, except God Himself!

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing” (Rev. 5:12).

This is how we should look at the name of Jesus, as the name is full of power and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing!

I think of the innumerable times we have called on the name of Jesus! Sometimes for big things, and many times for small things, but He has always been faithful to the Word which says His name is above every other name.

We were in Connecticut one year during tobacco growing time. I had never seen tobacco grow in the field, and didn't know that it could look absolutely beautiful and lush and green. As we came into the city and noticed all these beautiful fields, many of which were growing under what looked like a huge gauze covering, I inquired of the cab driver what they were.

He told me it was tobacco!

When the Lord delivered me of cigarettes right after I was saved, I understood the problems of people who depend on cigarettes for a number of things, including nerves, weight, fear, etc., and at that time He gave me a ministry to loose people from this bondage of the devil.

All I could see in those beautiful fields of green were hundreds, thousands and probably even millions of cigarettes.

I remembered the story of Jesus and the fig tree and how the fig tree withered! I prayed a quick prayer and said, “Father, in the name of Jesus, I ask you to wither those tobacco plants, wither them, wither them, wither them!”

The next morning I came out of the Tobacco Valley Inn (what a name for the motel they put us in) and the tobacco

plants were flourishing, so once again I prayed, “In Jesus’ name, wither them, wither them, wither them, Father.”

The next morning the plants were still flourishing, so I prayed the same prayer again, “In the name of Jesus, Father, wither those tobacco plants, wither those tobacco plants!”

When we left town three days later, the plants were still thriving, but about two weeks after we got home, we received several letters which said, “Did you hear about the tornado which swept through this area, uprooting all the tobacco plants, and now they are lying out in the sun, withering away!”

Hallelujah! There’s power in the name of Jesus! (Special note: We immediately asked God to replace the tobacco crops with an even more profitable crop so the farmers wouldn’t lose out!) We heard recently that a large warehouse had been built on this property!

One morning when Charles was shaving in the bathroom, he bent over to pick something up from the floor, and hit his head on the tile sink.

The blow was so terrific he staggered and felt momentarily that he was going to black out, but he whispered the name, “JESUS,” and instantly all pain disappeared and he didn’t even have a mark on his head to indicate what had happened!

There’s power in the name of Jesus!

The book of Colossians is one of my favorites in the Bible, and the third chapter is loaded with gems and instructions about living the Christian life in victory!

“Let the word (spoken by) the Christ, the Messiah, have its home (in your hearts and minds) and dwell in you in (all its) richness, as you teach and admonish and train one another in all insight and intelligence and wisdom (in



spiritual things, and sing) psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, making melody to God with (His) grace in your hearts. And whatever you do — no matter what it is — in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus and in (dependence upon) His Person, giving praise to God the Father through Him” (Col. 3:16-17 Amp.).

Plain, simple, clear instructions that everything we do is to be done in the name of Jesus!

The Holy Spirit was sent to uplift the name of Jesus and when we are filled to the top and overflowing, it is easy for everything to be done and said in the wonderful name of Jesus! “No matter what it is — in word or deed, do EVERYTHING in the name of Jesus!”

Every single thing that we do and say should be said and done in the power of the name of Jesus!

Think of that morning when you woke up feeling miserable with symptoms of flu, stiffness in your joints, and fever. Beloved, in those moments stand right up to Satan. Tell him that you’re walking, and talking, and acting, in the name of Jesus, and giving praise to God in ALL things, and see what happens to those symptoms.

The devil cannot stand up against the power that’s in the name of Jesus!

Don’t let the devil talk you down — there’s a lot more power in the name of Jesus than there is in the name of Satan! Hallelujah, we’re on the winning side!

Ephesians 4:29 says, “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.” That means, let everything that you say glorify God and Christ Jesus! Every time we gossip, complain or criticize, we are glorifying the devil instead of Jesus!

Some of the most corrupt communications I've ever heard comes from the mouths of Christians. Not because they're using what the world calls "foul" language, but because they're using language that is in direct opposition to what the Word of God says!

In baseball, a "foul" ball is one that is not inside the borders of the game.

In Christianity, a "foul" sentence is one that is not inside the borders of the Word of God.

What fun it would be for all of us to record everything we say during a day and then line it up according to the Word of God and judge our hits and foul balls for that day!

When the day comes that we are aware of how much our daily conversation does not line up with the Word of God, that will be the day of great victory!

What would happen if at the end of every sentence during a twenty-four hour period we added the words, "In Jesus' name!" What would our conversation sound like!

"I don't have enough money to pay my bills — in Jesus' name!"

"I'm sick — in Jesus' name!"

"I'm lonely — in Jesus' name!"

"I've got bad habits — in Jesus' name!"

Sounds terrible, doesn't it? And do you know why? Because every sentence is in direct opposition to what the Word of God says!

The Word of God says, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (III John 2).

The Word says, "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (Matt. 8:17).

The Word of God says, "And now I am coming to you. I have told them many things while I was with them so

THAT THEY WOULD BE FILLED WITH MY JOY”  
(John 17:13 TLB).

The Word of God says, “Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world” (I John 4:4).

Remember the Greater One lives inside of you.

Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6). We need to remember that His way must be our way, His truth must be our truth, and His life must be our life!

We cannot hope to have the things that His name will bring if we do not fulfill the conditions that are laid down in God’s Word.

It seems so simple to use the name of Jesus, we wonder why it doesn’t work for us, but it does and will work for anyone who has taken the time to find out what God’s Word has to say about that wonderful name that is above every other name!

All power in heaven and earth is in that beautiful name and to get a glimpse of what lies beyond that, we need to learn to use that name in the way Jesus intended for us to use it.

His name upon your lips can bring wholeness and holiness to your life!

His name upon your lips can bring joy to your life!

His name upon your lips can bring healing to your body!

His name upon your lips can bring deliverance from bad habits!

His name upon your lips can bring victory over Satan!

His name on your lips is the difference between life and death.

His name upon your lips is the entrance to the abundant life on this earth.

His name upon your lips is the entrance to eternal life in heaven!

Put it on your lips right now, Say with me: JESUS!  
JESUS! JESUS!

## Chapter Three

# Simple as A. B, C

I love being a Christian because it is so completely uncomplicated! When I was a sinner I had to work hard all the time trying to have fun and excitement in my life. Now it's all changed because of what Jesus did in my life!

Jesus never made anything difficult for us. He made it all very simple and easy. I looked up the word "simple" in the dictionary and got a big surprise because it has about as many definitions as any word I've ever seen.

Here are some of the things Mr. Webster says the word "simple" means: "Not compounded or complex; not complicated or involved; easy to do; without guile or deceit; unpretending and natural."

Think of all those words in relation to Jesus. They all apply. He said, 'My yoke is easy and My burden is light' (Matt. 11:30).

The entire secret of Christianity can be summed up in two little sentences.

Do what God tells you to do.

Quit doing what God tells you not to do! . . .and you've got it made! That's all there is to the Christian life, and God gives us such a simple and easy-to-understand blueprint that we should never be overcome by any problems.

Jesus said some interesting things in the book of Revelation concerning who He is. He said, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, . . . who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty" (Rev. 1:8).

He repeated Himself again in Rev. 1:11, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last.”

Again He repeated Himself in Rev. 2 1:6, “...Jam the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.”

Then in Rev. 22:13 He summed it all up and said, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.”

He is the first, and He’s also the last. He is everything from A to Z! He is everything we need, everything we long for, everything we hope for!

In the day and time in which we live, God is calling his people to victory more than ever before! He’s calling us to let Him be the A to Z in our lives and to stand on His promises more than ever before.

Here are the ABC’s of Christianity as I see them. Learn them as you learned the alphabet when you were little, and they will serve you all the days of your life!

**ACT** — God wants us to ACT on His Word!

He says, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened” (Matt. 7:7,8).

He doesn’t say beg.

He doesn’t say plead.

He simply says to ask, and know that it will be given unto us. He says to act on His Word for answers!

**BELIEVE** — God wants us to believe! Let’s believe that “God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?” (Num. 23:19).

What shall we believe? Everything the Word says. Praise God we don't have to spend time disproving or disputing the Word. It's true, and it works!

You couldn't go past the letter "B" without making some reference to the word "blessing" because the simple Christian life is full of blessings.

We're blessed coming in, we're blessed going out, we're blessed in the city and we're blessed in the field.

We're the head and not the tail, we're above and not beneath!

Blessings and blessings are ours!

God commands His blessings to come upon us and overtake us, so when we just do what He says, we're full to overflowing with the blessings of God!

**CALLED** — We are called upon to be disciples we are called to be saints, we are

called of Christ, we are called according to His purpose, we are called to be friends!

God is calling His people to rise above circumstances and call into being those things that be not as though they are! (See Romans 4:17).

"C" means cleansed by the blood of Jesus. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9). And when we're cleansed, that means we're not guilty any longer, our sins are washed away, and we're walking in victory. We can look Satan, the old accuser, in the eye now and say, "Not guilty!" Hallelujah!

**DECIDE** — "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 can decide in your own

mind and set into motion a desire of God's will and see it come to pass.

God is so good to us because He never takes away our right to choose, so we can make our decisions about following Him or the devil.

We don't have to take the devil's choices, we have God's.

This is the day of decision!

**EXCELLENT** — Everything we do is excellent because we are created in the image of

God, and His excellency is mentioned throughout the

Word, "O Lord, Our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, You who set Your glory above the heavens!" (Ps. 8:1).

"And to the saints who are on the earth, 'They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight' "(Ps. 16:3).

We are the excellent ones, and we are the very delight of God! Each and every child of God is called to excel — not to be mediocre, but to excel through God's power.

"Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!" (Ps. 150:2). Glory to God, we are blessed and privileged to praise Him for his excellent greatness!

"Listen, for I will speak of excellent things, And from the opening of my lips will come right things;" (Pr. 8:6). We hear excellent things from Him, so who wants to listen to the devil?

"Sing to the Lord, For He has done excellent things; This is known in all the earth" (Isaiah 12:5). We even get to lift our spirits by singing about all the wonderful and excellent things he has done!

**FIRE** — Jesus baptized us with fire so that we would be blazing for the kingdom of God.



John said, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Matt. 3:11).

Fire burns out the carnal nature.

Turn up the flame!

Let the world see your light shine, “For our God is a consuming fire” (Heb. 12:29).

Let the fire of His love literally consume you!

**GLORY** — God wants us to be changed “from glory to glory” (II Corinthians 3:18) — so that we will always triumph in Christ!

There is no defeat in Jesus!

How do we get changed from this glory to glory?

It’s so simple, just like everything Jesus tells us to do.

**GIVE** — give your life — give your talents — give your money — give your time — give your all, and you’ll walk in the glory of God!

**HEAL** — Jesus said, “they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover” (Mark 16:18).

Healing is our job.

Healing is our privilege.

Healing is our desire.

Healing is our inheritance along with health!

Get those hands busy, laying them on the sick, and watch the divine health begin to flow into your own body!

**INHERITANCE** — God wants us to know what our inheritance is!

The richest and greatest potential in the world is our very own lives when we invest them in the Kingdom of

God and discover all the rights, privileges and blessings that are ours.

Everything we have is invested in something, and the best “blue chip” stock in the world is the investment of our lives in Jesus!

Best guaranteed returns in the entire world!

**JOY** — Joy is contagious.

Christianity is contagious, but only if it’s full of joy!

Jesus came that we might have joy to the fullest extent so that our cup would actually run over.

The joy of the Lord is our strength!

In the presence of God is the fullness of joy!

Rejoice with exceedingly great joy just like the wise men did when they saw the star!

Enter into the joy of the Lord!

Let His joy be fulfilled in you!

**KNOW** — Let’s KNOW that we KNOW that we KNOW that Jesus is living in our hearts.

Let’s KNOW that we KNOW that we KNOW that God is alive! Jesus said, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31,32).

We’re free, we’re free, because we know the truth. That word was used by John more than any of the other disciples. He used it 107 times compared to the 81 times used by Paul, but in the book of Ezekiel “they shall know” is used 75 times!

Know the way to God.

Know the Holy Spirit.

Know the only true God.

Know that we are in Him.

The greatest thing in all the world is KNOWING GOD!

**LOVE** — Love God with all our hearts, minds and souls!

Love your neighbor as well as yourself.

Love your enemies, and watch them become converted!  
Jesus said to love Him and keep His commandments.

For God so loved the world that He gave JESUS.

Jesus loved us so much that He gave His life for us!

Let the constraining love of Christ be the motivating force in your life.

The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit!

God loves a cheerful giver, so let's be loved as well as loving simply by giving!

**MOUNTAIN MOVERS** — God wants us to be mountain movers, not valley diggers!

Mountains are moved through faith, and we have the God-kind of faith that can walk through all kinds of circumstances — because God gave it to each and every one of us. Use it!

“For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will come to pass, he will have whatever he says” (Mark 11:23).

Let's be mountain movers.

All we have to do is to believe without any doubt and those mountains have got to start moving!

**NEED** and **NOW!** — Believe God right now that your needs are met.

Know that you need God more than anything else in the world, and give Him the #1 priority in your life. The minute you do this, He will begin to supply all of your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus!

Heaven isn't bankrupt, and never will be, so believe that your needs are met RIGHT NOW!

**OVERCOMERS** — “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us” (Rom. 8:37).

We are not defeated.

We are not losers.

We are victorious because God doesn't make provision for failure. He only deals with success.

We are not overcome, we are overcomers who always win!

Jesus said, “In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). Because Jesus lives in us, we, too, have overcome the world!

In the world to come, we shall eat from the Tree of Life; we shall not be hurt by the second death; we shall have some of the hidden manna to eat; we will have power over the nations; we shall be clothed in white garments; we shall be a pillar in the temple of God; we'll have a new name written on us; we will be granted the privilege to sit with Jesus on His throne; and we shall inherit all things and be a son of God!

**PROSPER** — Put your faith to work and begin to walk in the prosperity of God.

His desire is for the prosperity of your soul, and the prosperity of your entire life. “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth” (III John 2 KJV).

Don't ask for more faith, but put your faith into action right now!

We couldn't pass over the letter “P” without mentioning the word “praise”. God inhabits the praises of

His people, and when we give Him the fruit of our lips in praise, the blessings of God will flow our way!

**QUICKEN** — Let the same Spirit that raised Christ Jesus from the dead quicken our mortal bodies because He dwells in us.

Praise God, our lives and our spirits have been quickened by the Spirit of God. Now that we're quickened, let's quickly do all the things He tells us to, because we are alive in Christ!

**RECEIVE** — Receive the blessings God has for you!

Healing, salvation, the baptism with the Holy Spirit, peace, joy, prosperity, and many more are all ours when we open our arms to believe and receive.

Believing and receiving go together.

Believe that you receive your healing right now!

Believe that you receive that prosperity blessing right now!

Believe that you receive the healing of your marriage and the healing of problems with your children right now!

**SEEK** — Seek Him with your whole heart.

That's God's advice to us.

Seek Him and you will find Him.

Those that seek Him early shall find Him, and He says that when you seek Him you shall find Him and live.

Seek the things that are above and not the things of the earth.

He is a "rewarder of them that diligently SEEK him" (Hebrews 11:6 KJV).

When we seek God, then the first thing we want to do when we find Him is to SERVE Him.

How beautiful when we have that desire to serve the Lord with all our heart and with all our soul!

“But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15). “Serve the Lord with gladness” (Ps. 100:2).

We serve the true and living God! And with what great joy and gladness in our hearts!

**TRIUMPH** — “But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph — as trophies of Christ’s victory — and through us spreads and makes evident the fragrance of the knowledge of God everywhere” (II Corinthians 2:14 Amp.).

We always triumph through Christ.

There is never defeat in Jesus!

It’s victory all the way!

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, mind and soul and you will always triumph. And how we love that word ALWAYS, because it means we are triumphant children of the King of Kings at all times!

**UNDERSTANDING** — “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance I saints” (Eph. 1:17,18).

The eyes of your understanding are being opened right now!

Look into the spirit world and see the blessings that God has out there waiting to overcome you and overtake you!

**VICTORY** — “But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory — making us conqueror — through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be firm (steadfast), immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord — that is, always being superior (excelling, doing

more than enough) in the service of the Lord, knowing and being continually aware that your labor in the Lord is not futile — never wasted or to no purpose” (I Corinthians 15:57,58 Amp.).

“For whatever is born of God is victorious over the world; and this is the victory that conquers the world, even our faith. Who is it that is victorious over (that conquers) the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God — who adheres to, trusts in and relies [on that fact]? This is He Who came by (with) water and blood [His baptism and His death], Jesus Christ, the Messiah; not by (iii) the water only but by (in) the water and the blood!” (I John 5:4-6 Amp.).

What more can be said about Victory? The Word of God says it all — we are victorious!

**WIN** — “Yes, furthermore I count everything as loss compared to the possession of the priceless privilege — the overwhelming preciousness, the surpassing worth and supreme advantage — of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, and of progressively becoming more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, of perceiving and recognizing and understanding Him more fully and clearly. For His sake I have lost everything and consider it all to be mere rubbish (refuse, dregs), in order that I may WIN (gain) Christ, the Anointed One,” (Phil. 3:8 Amp.).

The only provision that God makes in His Word for losers is for the sinners. For the beloved He makes provision for us to always be winners, to always be victorious, always to be conquerors in every area of our lives.

**UNKNOWN** — In mathematics, “X” is always the unknown factor, but praise God, we don’t have to have any unknown’s in our lives because we can find the answer to

all the problems wrapped up neatly in a book called the Bible!

We take the “unknown” out by letting God make Himself “known” to us, and then our pathway is easy because it is well-lighted by Jesus who is the light of the world!

**YOUTH** — Stay Young! “Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:

Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s” (Ps. 103:2-5).

Our strength is renewed.

We don’t have to be tired and worn down!

We can mount up with wings as eagles, we can run and not be weary, and we can also walk and not faint because we are children of the King!

Forget your age and get on with God’s business.

“This is my work, and I can do it only because Christ’s mighty energy is at work within me” (Col. 1:29 TLB).

There is real energy in the Word and in the work of God, and it keeps you young!

**ZEAL** — from the Greek word “zelotes” or enthusiast.

God wants us to be enthusiastic about everything we do for Him.

Zeal for Him should be a consuming fire in our lives.

Enthusiasm according to Mr. Webster is “inspired; belief in special revelations of the Holy Spirit.” Going a little further, the word inspired means “to breathe, to infuse (as life) by breathing; to influence, move or guide by divine or supernatural inspiration”. Enthusiasm is from the Greek word “enteos” which means “God within”. No



wonder we can have zeal when we have God within. No wonder we can be enthusiastic all the time because we have Jesus living inside of us.

We need to let the Word of God prevail in our lives so that we will speak the Word, and the Word only, at all times.

All we're doing when we speak the Word of God is agreeing with God.

We're not speaking something new.

He's already spoken it!

If God said it first, we will see His glory when we say what He said!

From A to Z we need to speak the Word. Here's a suggestion for you. Select any verse you desire in the Bible, and begin to take it for your very own life. It has to get into your heart before it can change your life and your thinking, but keep trying, and see what happens.

Don't listen to doubt and unbelief.

Don't listen to the devil! Listen only to the Word of God from A to Z and what He is saying!

Let the communication of your faith become effectual by acknowledging that everything that is in you is good because it is there because of the Lord Jesus Christ.

That's a slight paraphrase of Philemon 6, but we need at all times to watch what our mouth says because we are snared by the very words of our tongue and mouth.

People who predict and speak, accidents to themselves in their cars, will have accidents in their cars!

People who predict sickness about themselves will have sickness!

People who predict poverty will have poverty, but those who speak the Word of God are going to have prosperity, health and blessings, because that's what God promises us!

You can't listen to doubt and unbelief in one ear and faith in the other, because the two are like oil and water — they just don't mix. No matter how hard you try, you cannot mix doubt and unbelief with faith. It's an incompatible combination, so you have to go with one or the other, and we like to go with faith!

Everything from A to Z is full of faith and belief.

**ACT** — doesn't go with inactivity. We need to do things for the Lord.

**BELIEVE** — doesn't go with doubt. Let's believe with faith.

**CALLED** — to be saints! Let's don't live like the devil!

**DECIDE** — Let's make a quality decision in all things concerning Christ and not be overcome with indecision!

**EXCEL** — Let's excel in all things because we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

**FIRE** — turn up that burner! Let's go for God!

**GLORY** — Let's see the glory of God!

**HEAL** — the sick!

**INHERITANCE** — Let's claim our inheritance and begin enjoying it, instead of letting it sit in a corner waiting for us to get around to using it!

**JOY** — is bubbling over right now!

**LOVE** — yourself. You can't love anyone else until you can love yourself!

**MOUNTAIN MOVER** — Mountains, watch out, here we come!

**NEED** and **NOW** — My needs are met right now in the name of Jesus!

**OVERCOMERS** — I am more than a conqueror!

**PROSPER** — I am prospering and my needs are being met!

**QUICKEN** — I'm alive, and He's alive!

**RECEIVE** — I'm a receiver and a believer! **SEEK** — I'm a seeker and a finder!

**TRIUMPH** — I'll never be a loser again because Jesus has made provision for me to always triumph!

**UNDERSTANDING** — I now understand that my future is blessed!

**VICTORY** — I live in victory every day because there is no defeat in Jesus!

**WIN** — I was made to be a winner, never a loser!

**X** — The unknown is gone out of my life. I understand what God wants me to be.

**YOUTH** — I'm getting younger every day!

**ZEAL** — Watch me go from now on!

# Chapter Four

## Crossing Over

A comfortable little niche can be a sign that we're really "in the groove," or it can also be a sign that we're in a big rut! And the unfortunate part of a comfortable, cozy, sometimes luxurious little niche is that we want to stay there forever and ever and ever and ever and ever!

Little eagles love their comfortable little nests filled with down and all kinds of soft material, and then Mama says it's time to be on your own, so one by one, she pulls out the padding until they're sitting on a bunch of thorns and they have to remove themselves from the nest.

At times all of us need to have the feathery, fleecy, velvety, silky, satiny padding removed from our little niche into which we have settled so that the thorns can prick us into greater activity, or at least into jumping into a higher realm.

Christianity has no level ground – it's, either up or down! And level ground is remaining in the same little box we've built around ourselves.

This part of the book is built around a passage in the Bible which has to do with crossing over or getting out of the place you're in. Oftentimes, we aren't even aware of the fact we're in a rut, and maybe you're not in a rut, but you need to cross over into another area of Christianity where you could experience a lot more of the abundance that God has promised us.

Over and over people ask the same question about going beyond where they are now.

I remember the day I got saved. I had no idea of what being “saved” meant.

I had no idea of what God meant. If I had realized what God was going to call me to do, I probably would never have accepted Jesus that day!

I smelled of gin because I loved martinis and I smelled of cigarettes because I was smoking five packages a day! If I had realized then that my “precious” cigarettes were going down the drain, and my “invigorating, exhilarating, energizing” martinis were a thing of the past which would come about so quickly, I probably would have run as fast as I could have out of the church!

But there was a tugging at my heart. An irresistible force which kept drawing me in the opposite direction of my flesh. There was a voice which kept saying, “Cross over. Cross over, Frances, from a life of sin into a life of abundance with Jesus.”

The sinner has no idea of what the Christian walk is all about, or even remotely what it is like, so that decision is a gargantuan step into an unknown realm, similar to what I might feel today if I decided I was going to become an astronaut. I don’t personally know anyone who is an astronaut, some have been successful, but some have failed. How would I fit into that category?

Even though I didn’t know where I was going on that special day, or with that special decision, and with absolutely no knowledge of what the Christian life was all about, I crossed over to the other side.

When you are willing to cross over to the other side with Jesus there are always miracles on the other side.

When you get to the point that you can think beyond where you are now, you will begin to walk in the supernatural. Too many people do not think beyond where

they are at the present time so we need to lift up our eyes to see beyond our today's vision.

“I've been an usher here for thirty-five years!”

I think that's great. I admire your stickability because I think that is one of the most wonderful qualities in the whole world. But here is a thought to consider. Did it ever dawn on you that God might have wanted you to go beyond being an usher? There are many church jobs I could have said as well as “usher” but could it be that we miss God's best because we sometimes are not willing to cross over and be a Sunday School teacher, or function in some other way? Or possibly even something outside the church walls? Oh, that would be too daring! Sometimes we get in our little comfortable nest which is either air-conditioned to the right temperature or heated to the right temperature, depending on whatever climate you live in, and we get so comfortable, cozy and secure and the surroundings are so familiar that we're afraid to cross over to hear what Jesus is saying.

In the fourth chapter of Mark, it tells how Jesus had been teaching by the sea and the multitude became so great in numbers that He got into a boat and sat in it on the sea; and the entire multitude was on the land facing the sea. He was teaching them with parables, “But when He was alone, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parable.. .and with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it.

When evening had come, Jesus said to them, ‘Let us cross over to the other side’ (Mark 43-5 NTC) (He didn't say where he was going on the other side, nor did He give any clue as to what He was going to do on the other side.) “Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him

along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him.”

It’s always interesting to note what happens to the bulk of the people when there is an opportunity to cross over into the unknown.

They stay behind!

Some of the people went, but it could not have been very many because He was in a boat and there were other “little” boats with Him, so there could not have been too many people who were willing to drop everything and go with Him. Crossing over means looking beyond where you are right now, but it always means leaving behind what you know about, and looking into a future that you can’t see and know absolutely nothing about!

That’s what Christianity is all about!

Before we start the journey with Jesus, let’s see who stayed behind and why they did.

Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie was one of the nicest persons you could ever hope to meet. She had her own luxurious air-conditioned tent and air-conditioned camel and her husband had just bought her a new microwave oven. She had all the niceties and necessities of life, and belonged to the “desert” club instead of today’s country club. She ran around with her own little clique and had a wonderful life surrounded by her family and friends. She did “nice” things for everyone and was known for her kindness and generosity.

When Jesus said, “Come on, let’s cross over to the other side,” she said, “I would really love to, but I just can’t. I’m going to surprise everyone at the church dinner tonight with my new recipe for chocolate chip cookies. It’s a surprise recipe. I just got it off the new TV channel and

can hardly wait to try it. Right now the most important thing in my life is to amaze everyone with this recipe.”

She continued rattling on, “It is just fabulous because it not only has pecans in it, it also has walnuts with a double dose of chocolate. The chips are not chips – they’re really ‘hunks,’ so I know everyone is just going to love them and I’ll have to duplicate the recipe on scrolls for everyone, so I just can’t go. I really appreciate your asking me, but I know you will understand, won’t you, that we have to know where to put our priorities.”

She further explained that because of the new air-conditioning in her tent it was so comfortable she just hated to get out of the house and she knew there wouldn’t be anything like that on the other side, so, graciously, she stayed at home.

There were lots of others who stayed home, too. They probably all had good excuses, but did they miss God’s best?

Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie looked out the window of her fabulous tent and saw a great windstorm out over the sea of Galilee. The waves were high and she sighed with genuine concern. “That storm is big enough and strong enough and vicious enough to sink all those little boats that crossed over with Jesus. I just feel that somehow they are all drowned by now. I knew I was smart staying at home to make chocolate chip cookies and not going out there. Look at that storm. Those little boats have all capsized by now and all those good people are drowned. Oh, I am so glad that I followed my intuition and stayed home. I suppose I had better pray for them, though, because I’m sure that the boats have all capsized and everyone will be lost.”

That was Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie’s version.



Shall we listen to the real version of what happened? The Bible tells us, “And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, ‘Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?’ Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, ‘Peace, be still!’ And the wind ceased and there was a great calm.”

Two kinds of people were involved in this miracle. Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie who stayed behind and missed it all, and then those who dared to venture beyond their own human reasoning to follow Jesus.

How would you like to have been there when Jesus stood up and said, “Peace, be still! “7 Is there a chocolate chip cookie that was ever made that was worth missing being a part of that supernatural experience of seeing the sea calmed?

As for me and my house, we will take the supernatural. But let’s see what happened to those who had chosen to go with Him, after the supernatural happened. “But He said to them, ‘Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?’ And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, ‘Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!

The supernatural is interesting! The disciples were not nearly as afraid when the storm was going on as they were when Jesus calmed it. Some people are afraid of the supernatural power of God.

Some people love it - both Charles and I love it with all our hearts!

The supernatural does one of two things; it either draws you like a magnet or it scares you silly. It seems there is no in between!

I am a firm believer that if it happened in the Bible, it will happen again, because Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever!

I never read that portion of scripture without being reminded of something that happened many years ago when I was still a comparatively new Christian.

**It's** amazing how miniature our faith is at times – and it's amazing what God will do for us if we will just believe and trust!

I started driving from Anderson, Indiana, to Lafayette to speak at Purdue University at about 10 a.m. on a foggy, rainy day. As I drove along, it was almost impossible to see the road or the cars in front, and the only thing that made it possible to see the oncoming cars *was* their headlights. The fog kept getting worse and worse until I was just crawling along at about 15 miles per hour. The windshield wipers were going full speed but they still failed to keep the water off the windshield.

After I had gone over three sections of the highway which were covered with water, I began to panic and decided I had better find a gas station and call my husband, who was auditing in Anderson, to see if he felt I should come back. Then I said to myself, “That’s silly, Charles isn’t the one to ask, God is,” so I said, “Lord, shall I turn around and go back?” Then I believe the devil got in the car with me and said, “Look, there won’t be anyone coming out in Lafayette to hear you in such bad weather. Why don’t you go back?”

However, I sure couldn’t hear God speaking to me, so I continued. After another three or four miles, I really began to panic because it was almost impossible to drive. I desperately looked around for a little patch of blue sky when I stopped to fill up with gasoline, and couldn’t see

one tiny little spot that looked promising. I got back into the car and started on and began thinking to myself (or should I say to God?).

My conversation went something like this: “God, you couldn’t stop the rain and turn the sky blue, could you?” I looked around for a little sign of blue sky, but none! Then I continued “thinking to God,” and I said, “Now, Lord I KNOW you could, because the Bible says you parted the Red Sea, and if you could part the Red Sea, and I know that you did, then I know that you could stop this rain and turn the sky blue,”

Then the devil got in the car again (maybe he never got out) and said, “Well, sure he could turn the sky blue and stop the rain, but why should He do that for you? Who are *you?*” And I thought, “That’s right, who am I to ask God for something like this?” Then another thought came into my mind... “Who am I? I’m God’s girl – I’m a child of God and because I am God’s girl, the Bible says I can ask for whatever I want, and it will be done!” (Matthew 21:22).

So very simply I said, “God, you know I can’t see well enough to get through this rain, so would you please stop the rain and make the sky blue?” God’s Word says to trust Him, and that’s all I did, but believe it or not, within 30 seconds the rain had stopped, and within one minute the sky was blue and I drove all the way to Lafayette on dry highways and under blue skies. When I arrived at the university they asked me if I had noticed the tremendous change in the weather, and I related the story to them.

As I have retold this story in the area where it happened, I have always said, “Maybe you won’t believe that God would be willing to do this for me, but I believe He loves me enough to do this for me, just like He loves you enough to do it for you, if you will only ask!” And in

each service someone has come up to the microphone to tell the audience that they vividly remember the rain stopping and the sun coming out so suddenly on this particular Thursday. I think it's fabulous how God always lets someone else see the miracles, too!

This story thrills me so much because it brings to mind the fact that God is still in the miracle-making business today just as He was when He stopped the sun, moon and stars for about 24 hours because of the prayers of one man. Joshua wasn't afraid to ask for the glory of God, so let's start asking more! (Mark 5:1-34).

“Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him,

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and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones.

“But when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him.”

There are two words that are super important in that sentence. The first one is the word “saw.” It says he “saw” Jesus.

You can walk by a building.

You can walk by a car.

You can walk by a person.

You can walk by a situation day in, day out and never see it.

Suddenly you will “see” that situation for the first time. Something will cause it to “come into focus” and I believe this demoniac “saw” Jesus that day for the very first time for who He was.

He saw Him in all His majesty and His power and His glory. He saw Jesus as the answer to his problem.

We can use the name of Jesus and never “see” the power in that name.

We can use the name of Jesus and not “see” the miracle He creates. But this man “saw” Jesus and what He was, and it changed his life! Look what happened!

The first thing he did was to worship Him. Everything changed in his thinking and his actions when he really “saw” Jesus. He began to worship Him in the beauty of His holiness. Worship does something to our soul and our spirit!

“And he cried out with a loud voice and said, ‘What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me.’ For He said to him, ‘Come out of the man, unclean spirit!’ -He was a man of action and no wasted motion.

Did you notice how simply Jesus did it? He didn’t use ten million words. He said, “Come out of the man, unclean spirit.” He got right to the point.

He simply spoke His message, sharp and clear with no extra words.

“Then He asked him, ‘What is your name?’ And he answered, saying, ‘My name is Legion; for we are many.’ And he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. And all the demons begged Him, saying, ‘Send us to the swine, that we may enter them.’ And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean

spirits went out and entered the swine. (there were about 2,000); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.”

Let’s back up just a little bit. Shall we visit with Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie just to see what she’s doing? She is having a wonderful time with her new Mixmaster and her new little microwave and all those fancy little kitchen gadgets she had just gotten.

I can visualize her saying, “I just can’t get those people off of my mind who followed Jesus and went across the sea. I know beyond a shadow of a doubt they were all drowned in the Sea of Galilee during that awful storm. I just wish I could have warned them to stay at home and not follow after Him when they didn’t know what He was going to do or where He was going.”

As she mixed up another batch of chocolate chip cookies, she continued, “Oh, I have the most wonderful idea. I think what I really should do is to start selling cookies (because everyone loves them so much, and I love **to** make them) so that I can make enough money to build some kind of a memorial for all those people who were foolish enough to cross over there. I’ll make them all in the shape of little tombstones, and when I get enough money I’ll have a great big tombstone put right on the side of the Sea of Galilee so that nobody will ever forget them.”

Little Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie was so happy with her project, but look at what she missed!

Let’s go back to the other side. Would you rather have been making chocolate chip cookies or would you have rather been with Jesus when He said to the demoniac, “Come out of him, unclean spirit”?

Wouldn’t you have loved to have been there and seen that man who was insane, the man who was capable of

breaking shackles and chains, suddenly made whole? It's always far more thrilling to follow Jesus into the unknown but exciting supernatural world that is waiting for us.

There is a really steep cliff over there, and can you imagine how you would have felt to have been there to see those pigs going over the cliff into the sea? Can't you just hear them saying, "Oink, oink, oink, oink" and squealing all the way down? Can you imagine what it would have been like to be standing there watching all that?

Some like to make chocolate chip cookies, and some like to venture into the supernatural! Take your pick.

"Now those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind."

The next four words are almost unbelievable: "And they were afraid."

They weren't afraid of this man when he was breaking the shackles and chains. They weren't afraid when none could tame him! But when they saw the supernatural power of God demonstrated by the Son of God, they were afraid!

There are people just like that today! They cannot stand the supernatural because it scares them. I have people tell me, "I'm not sure I want to be healed." They are afraid of what might be expected of them if they got healed! Recently a group of wheelchair patients would not come to one of our services because they said, "We would lose our identity if we got healed, and we wouldn't know what to do!" Afraid of the supernatural power of God. Afraid to follow Jesus into an exciting supernatural world. Afraid to cross over.

The Bible continues on to say, “And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region.”

Can you imagine them pleading with Him to depart from their region just because He was involved in the supernatural? I can, and I’ll tell you why.

Many years ago when Charles and I first received the baptism with the Holy Spirit, we went to a large State Camp meeting of a well-known denomination. It was time for our last service and God had spoken to us the previous day to minister to the young people before the evening service.

We had announced that we were going to minister to the youth first, and then at seven o’clock we would have the regular service.

The camp meeting was being held in a huge, outdoor tabernacle. When we arrived there shortly before six, we discovered the entire building was filled with young people, and there were probably five hundred on the outside as well.

There was a tremendous air of excitement because apparently the Holy Spirit had spoken to both young and old alike that something supernatural was going to happen.

As we waited for God’s instructions, we received the impression that we were to lead all of them in a sinner’s prayer, so we did, encouraging them that this could change their entire lives.

The minute they had finished saying this prayer, God said, “Go down and lay hands on the children.” Jesus did this, and while we had no idea of what was going to happen, not even the slightest inkling, we were obedient. Charles and I went off the stage together. He laid hands on



one child and I laid hands on another. These were some of the small children, and a surprising thing happened! They both fell out under the power of God!

We laid hands on two more. Exactly the same thing happened! They both fell out under the power of God and as they did, we noticed that the first two were still on the ground.

Then we laid hands on two more and they went out under the power of God. But here is the unique thing –they stayed under the power of God. They didn't get up.

We continued walking through the entire audience laying hands on each of the children, but as we looked back when changing sections in the tabernacle, we noticed that every single child was on the floor. Not a single one of them had gotten up! They were all lying on the ground with their eyes shut. For a moment, we might have thought they were all watching each other and that was the reason they didn't get up, but they looked like they were all asleep.

We walked outside the tent, and exactly the same thing happened! When we finally finished laying hands on the last young person, we noticed that every child had gone under the power of God except one, and they were all still there! It seemed as though they were glued to the floor and were unable to do anything about it.

“Suddenly there came a sound from heaven, a of a rushing mighty wind,” and it filled the entire tabernacle where the kids were lying on the ground. Their hands all shot up into the air just as though they were on puppet strings. Every arm went up at exactly the same time and they all began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave the utterance.

It was a sight we will never forget as long as we live! It was one of the most incredible nights that we have ever

experienced even to this day, and we have really seen some tremendous moves of God. But this was the most sovereign thing that we had ever seen in our lives!

I do not remember how long it continued, but a newspaper photographer took hundreds of pictures of this supernatural event and seven pages of pictures and an incredible article appeared in the next Sunday's paper. None of us will ever know all that happened in the lives of those young people until we reach heaven.

The majority of these youngsters were from the Methodist, Baptist, Catholic, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Church of God (non-pentecostal), Brethren and many other churches who had never heard of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues in their entire lives, so it had to be a work of the Holy Spirit. Over the years we have seen a number of these young people who all attribute their walk with Jesus today to that experience they had in the tabernacle that night, and many of them have gone on to be outstanding young men and women of God.

When the service was over that night, the leaders said to us, "We are not going to let you go home until you promise to come back next year!" We promised them we would because they were so excited about having seen a demonstration of the power of God like they had never seen before.

We hadn't seen anything like it either, and we were on a spiritual cloud, too, so we promised them we would be back the following year.

Charles and I had to drive over an hour to get to the airport and then we took a plane back to Houston. The entire trip probably took no more than five hours, but before we got home, we had a telephone call canceling the invitation they had given us for the next year!

The reason: they had received complaints from pastors in the area because they did not like the supernatural power of God. Sometimes pastors fear the supernatural demonstrations because it doesn't happen in their own services. Evangelists often walk in a unique anointing because that is the job of the evangelist – to stir things up to the boiling point!

It happened today just like it happened in the Bible. They said to the disciples, “Get Him out of here. We don't like the supernatural.” That was exactly the same thing that happened to us because they canceled us and we did not go back the next year!

“When He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, ‘Go home to your friends and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you.’ And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled” (Mark 5:11-21).

What Jesus was actually saying is, “Don't be a conference hopper and think, ‘Wow, I just got healed in a Charles and Frances Hunter service, so I've just got to follow them around all the time.’” He said, “No, go home. Share your testimony. Tell the world what Jesus has done in your life.”

Verse 21 says, “Now when Jesus had crossed over again by boat to the other side, a great multitude gathered to Him; and He was by the sea. And behold, one of the rulers of the synagogue came, Jairus by name. And when he saw Him, he fell at His feet and begged Him earnestly, saying, ‘My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come

and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed, and she will live.”

I want to point out something very interesting to you in that scripture because it says he crossed over again.

There are many ways you can cross a lake. You can go from east to west, or north to south, or east to south, and continue crossing over again and again without retracing your steps. It isn't just a one-time decision, with Jesus, it's a decision a day!

“So Jesus went with him, and a great multitude followed Him and thronged Him. Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment; for she said, ‘If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.’ Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of this affliction. And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, ‘Who touched My clothes?’”

Hundreds of people had touched Him, but He felt that healing virtue and she just literally sucked the power right out of Him.

“But His disciples said to Him, ‘You see the multitudes thronging You, and You say, “Who touched Me?”’ And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. And He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.’”

Let's go back to Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie who was still baking cookies, and still feeling sorry for all those poor people with poor judgment who had drowned in the Sea of Galilee. Where would you rather have been? With Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie, or at the scene of that great miracle when the woman with the issue of blood was supernaturally healed?

I want to share with you a twentieth-century story with some characters with whom you might be very familiar.

I had just returned from one of my evangelistic trips. I was so wound up and so excited that God had called me to share my testimony, and my first trip to California was more than I could have ever imagined because all kinds of wild things happened and all kinds of miracles happened.

My pastor asked me to share in the church what had happened. He never allowed me to give a testimony on Sunday morning because he said, "You'll take the whole service, so I'll give you the entire Wednesday night service instead!"

I could hardly wait until Wednesday night, and I was all primed to share the little everyday miracles that Jesus wants to do in our lives, moment by moment and hour by hour so we can live in the supernatural all the time.

At the end of the service, a girl came up to me whose mother was very sick. She asked me if I would go over and pray for her mother because she said, "My mother is dying, but she believes if you will come over and pray for her, she will be healed."

I was such a new baby in Christ that I was honestly flattered to have been asked to pray for someone that was sick, and I would never have considered saying anything but, "Yes!" The more I thought about it, however, the more

I decided I needed someone to go along with me who had been a Christian a lot longer than I had.

I went to one of the women I knew was a pillar of the church and asked her to go with me to back me up in prayer. I was excited about what I was going to do and thought she would have the same kind of excitement. Her answer shocked me!

She said, "I would really love to go with you, but it's late already and I have to go home and make some chocolate chip cookies for school tomorrow, so I just can't make it with you tonight. Be sure and tell her hello for me, though, will you? And tell her as soon as I have the time I'll bring her over some of my delicious chocolate chip cookies."

Here was a real Chocolate Chip Cookie, alive and real and in a church! She could have gone to the store and bought some, but then they wouldn't have been as good, would they?

Not discouraged, I went to another acquaintance of mine in church and I knew she would want to go along with me. She had been a Christian for many years and I always loved to hear her beautiful prayers in church. I knew she would go with me, so after I explained what I was going to do, I said, "Would you like to go with me?"

Eagerly awaiting her answer, I was shocked to hear her say, "Frances, I would love to, B-U-T," she said, "You know my husband and you know what a bear he is about the house being dirty. He's been gone for a week and I haven't kept it clean. It's a real mess, so even though I'd love to go with you, I've absolutely got to go home. He'd kill me if he came home and found the house in the mess it's in right now." Then she added, "You do understand,

don't you?" She was probably thinking that because I was a widow I might not.

So I said, "That's okay. I'll ask someone else to join me."

By this time the church was thinning out, but some were still talking, so I quickly ran over to another one that I knew you could always count on and told her the story and asked her to accompany me.

She said, "Frances, I would just love to, B-U-T, I got a baby sitter tonight so I could come and hear you share about the miracles that happened in California. You know, baby sitters are so expensive these days, I had to pay fifty cents an hour for someone to sit with the kids, and I know if I went with you it would cost me at least another hour's baby sitting, so that would be another fifty cents, and I really can't afford it. Maybe some other time."

The woman is dying and nobody wants to go with me. "Some other time.. .I'll bring her some cookies.. .it might cost me fifty cents..."

I wasn't about to give up, so I tried again. This time the excuse was about a husband who didn't want her staying out late at night.

The fifth one gave me an excuse about having to do her fingernails and her hair before she went to bed that night because she was going someplace special the next day.

Nobody wanted to go with me. Everybody had their own little excuse.

I went all by myself. I didn't make an excuse because I couldn't get anyone to go with me. I just went by myself. What occurred was one of the most exciting things that has ever happened to me.

I drove over to the house which was just a short distance from the church and knocked on the porch door.

This was not a wealthy family, and the porch only had two pieces of furniture on it. One was a small chair by the door, and the other was a mattress which had obviously been pulled out of the bedroom and was just laying there on the floor.

I went in and the woman who was dying was on the mattress and when I went to sit down in the chair she said, "Would you mind coming a little closer?"

I walked a couple of steps closer and then she said, "Would you mind walking just a little closer?" I took a few more steps and this continued until I was almost standing on the mattress!

One more time she said, "Come just a little closer." So I did. She made a superhuman effort to move over on the mattress, and when she did, she weakly reached up and touched the hem of my suit. I will never forget the suit I had on that night, and that particular moment will forever be etched indelibly in my mind. A weak little voice came out and said, "I know if I can just touch the hem of your garment, I will be made whole!"

There is nothing special in the hem of my garment now or then, but there was something special in her faith. When that woman reached up and touched me, the issue of blood from which she was suffering, just like the woman in the Bible, was instantly stopped. She was totally and completely healed! She is still alive today!

Let's go back to the end of the church service. There were five people invited to go with me. There were five people who could have been there and seen the miracle power of God as this woman's faith made her whole, but they weren't there. Where were they, and what were they doing?

Mrs. Chocolate Chip got her cookies made.



The lady got her house cleaned before her husband came home.

The other lady paid fifty cents less to the baby sitter.

One woman got home early.

Another woman got her hair and nails done for tomorrow...

But they all missed what Jesus was doing. That's what happens when we don't cross over. We miss the supernatural of God, totally and completely.

The same thing happened in the Bible. Little Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie was probably over there whipping up her little old chocolate chip cookies and by this time she must have at least seventy-five dozen of them made.

But let's take a look at what she missed. First of all, she missed it when Jesus calmed the sea. There isn't a chocolate chip cookie in the world that I'd take over hearing Jesus say, "Peace be still."

Second, she missed it when the demoniac from the Gadarenes was healed.

Third, she missed the woman who reached up and touched Jesus' garment and was instantly made whole. (Mark 5:35-42). Wouldn't you have loved to have been there?

"While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue's house who said, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?' As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, 'Do not be afraid; only believe.' And He permitted no one to follow Him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James.

"Then He came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and saw a tumult and those who wept and wailed loudly. When He came in, He said to them, 'Why

make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping.”

The next words literally break my heart because of what they say, “And they laughed Him to scorn.” Can you imagine someone laughing at whatever Jesus said? And yet they did. Can you imagine Jesus coming into your house and saying that the child was not dead but just sleeping and you answer Him by saying, “Don’t be such a nut. She’s dead and I know it.”

We should never forget that regardless of what the circumstances are, with the Son of God there is nothing which is impossible.

I love what Jesus did. He put them all out!

“But when He had put them all out, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those who were with Him, and entered where the child was lying. Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, ‘Talitha, cumi,’ which is translated, ‘Little girl, I say to you, arise.’

“Immediately the girl arose and walked, for she was twelve years of age. And they were overcome with great amazement.”

Let’s go back to the twentieth century and to a story which has the same principle involved. While this story took place many years ago, and thousands of stories have happened to me since then, I still love some of the old ones.

When you’re willing to cross over to the other side and you’re willing to begin to walk in the supernatural of God, these are the kind of things that can happen to you.

I had been invited to speak at a state camp meeting. This particular year they were expecting the biggest crowd they had ever had, so they had built a new motel on the property to house the additional people, and everyone was especially excited about this meeting.

They had put in a brand new well so they would be able to supply water to the entire camp meeting group since they were expecting a record-breaking number of people.

My plane was late arriving and after being driven another one hundred miles to reach the campgrounds, I had to go to the platform immediately. It was a wonderful meeting where the presence of the Holy Spirit was so real and I was basking in the afterglow for just a moment when one of the pastors came up to me and said, “Frances, we need you to pray!”

I said, “Great, what do you need me to pray for?” There were about four or five thousand attending the camp meeting, but somewhere in the neighborhood of four hundred of the elders and pillars of the church were gathering around me and were forming a circle.

He told me that their water supply had been inadequate to take care of such a large camp meeting, so they had dug a new well 276 feet down in the earth because the water doesn’t run close to the surface in that state. The well had worked beautifully and had pumped beautiful clear water when suddenly it had sucked up a rock and the rock shut off the flow of the water into the motel. (That’s the same thing that sin does in your life - it will cut off the flow of God’s power in your life!)

They had the well drillers come out and they attempted to get the rock out with no success. In spite of everything they did, the only solution they could offer was to bring the pipe back out of the ground and dig a new well, or just dig a new well which is very expensive when it is that deep.

What they asked me to pray for shocked me! They said, “We want you to pray and ask God to get the rock out of that well!”

Do you have any idea how that puts your faith on the line? It's a simple thing to pray for something that is hundreds or even thousands of miles away, or to pray for something where an immediate answer is not needed, but here was a totally different situation. You've got a well that doesn't work. It has a rock at the bottom and no water is coming out. At moments like this you need some divine direction.

The four hundred or so of the great pillars of the church had really formed a beautiful prayer circle around me because we were all going to agree in prayer because the Word of God says, "If two or more of you agree as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them by my Father which is in heaven."

As I looked out at the faces there, I did something I had never done before and I've never done since, and I may never do again the rest of my life. But I believe with my heart and soul that the Spirit of God spoke to me and I immediately obeyed.

I stood there, searching the faces of all these great men and women of the church who had been saved maybe thirty, forty or even fifty years longer than I had. I felt just like a new little baby standing there, and suddenly I very sweetly said, "If there are any of you in this circle who do not believe that God is going to get that rock out, GET OUT OF THIS CIRCLE!"

I yelled at the very top of my lungs. As a matter of fact, I yelled so loud I shocked myself. . . but before I go any further, I want to ask you a question. What would you have done under the circumstances?

I'll tell you what they did! I never saw such a fast move of people in my entire life. They fell out of that circle so rapidly it almost made me dizzy.

When I looked out again, I had seven people in front of me. Everyone else had jumped out of that circle! There were only seven left, so I pulled myself together and said, “Well, guys, I think we had better regroup a little bit.”

And that’s exactly what we did. I was standing on the platform and seven of them surrounded me. We joined hands.

I’ve never learned how to pray fancy prayers. It seems to me ever since I got saved I always get myself into a jam and then I have to pray so fast that I can never remember how to pray real formally and with all the beautiful words, but I just have to scream out to God because it seems it’s always an emergency situation. How I praise the Lord that He hears my prayers and answers them!

As I looked up to God, I saw the few who were really standing with me, and the multitudes who were out in the periphery with all of this doubt and unbelief, so I very simply told God what the problem was. I said, “God, it’s your money. You know how you want to spend it. They’ve had the well diggers out here. They tried to get the rock out, but they couldn’t, and now they say they have to dig a whole new well.” I continued and said, “It’s your money and you can spend it any way you want to. You can give it to the well diggers, or Father, you can supernaturally get that rock out of there and that money can be used to win people to Jesus.”

I waited just another second and said, “Father, I ask you in the name of Jesus to please get that rock out.”

With that last simple little sentence, I looked back at the seven, and one of them had left the circle. He had gone over to a little building which was maybe twenty or twenty-five feet away from where we were standing.

He flipped the switch to the well, and two hundred and seventy-six feet down in the earth I heard the most glorious sound I've ever heard in my entire life. Glug, glug, glug, glug, glug, glug, glug, and suddenly the water shot out of the top of the pump exactly like out of a fire hose!

God isn't dead! The supernatural power of God is still available today to those who are willing to cross over and to do what God tells them to do.

I had people ask me that day and they've asked me ever since, "Weren't you afraid?"

"No, why should I be afraid?"

"Weren't you afraid that God wouldn't get the rock out?"

Would you believe that thought never entered my mind? I just remembered that He said whatever I asked, I would have if I just believed it when I asked it. I believed with my heart and soul that when I asked Him to get the rock out that He was going to do just that!

Paul says, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20).

If we, too, have been crucified, if we are dead to self, we can never be embarrassed whether something succeeds or fails!

Maybe the reason I had a little confidence that day was because the man who had come up and asked me to pray to get the rock out had been to a service where I had spoken in West Virginia. We had a real wonderful service on Saturday night after a spaghetti dinner.

Spaghetti sauce can be greasy and a real mess to clean up, and it was in this case, and they were attempting to get

the kitchen ready because it was used as a classroom on Sunday mornings.

I was drying dishes. This was before all churches had dishwashers. A man came over to me and said, “Frances we need help.”

I said, “What’s your problem?”

There were five sinks there and he said, “They’re all stopped up. If you will notice, not one of them is draining.”

What a mess! They had scooped so much of the gooey spaghetti down there and it had stopped up every single sink. He simply said, “We just need you to pray and get those unplugged!”

I was still a new little baby Christian. Sometimes I think it would be wonderful if we could just stay baby Christians because you don’t have doubt and unbelief. You just believe everything the Bible says and you just believe that God will do anything.

I stood there for a moment wondering how to pray for sinks, and then I looked up and said, “God, I didn’t know you were in the plumbing business, but if you are, I ask you in the name of Jesus to unclog these sinks right now so we can have a decent Sunday School class in the morning. Thank you, Father.”

I don’t think I even had the “Thank you, Father,” out of my mouth when suddenly I heard a sound that almost shook the entire building. ALL FIVE OF THE SINKS WENT “URRRP” AND UNPLUGGED AT ONE TIME! Glory!

Does God still do the same things today He did 2,000 years ago? You better believe He does.

Let’s go back to the original Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie. Bless her little chocolate chip cookie heart. She probably makes chocolate chip cookies in the shape of a

heart and puts big chunks of chocolate in them! She had stayed behind safe and secure in her little air-conditioned tent. She had stayed with the worldly possessions which made her feel so comfortable and so safe and so secure.

I'm safe and secure in Jesus. That's all the security in the world I need.

But let's see what really happened. I imagine it was hot over on the other side when they crossed over. I imagine many of the places were extremely warm. She didn't have to go through that at all. She was there in her nice little air-conditioned tent, having a ball, making little chocolate chip cookies in her new microwave oven.

But look what she missed by not crossing over:

The first thing she missed was the storm and seeing Jesus calm the sea when He merely said, "Peace be still." I wouldn't have missed that for anything.

Then she missed the demoniac being healed. This man who had been like an animal for years was suddenly set free when Jesus said those famous words, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit." That's all, and the man was set free. Would you have loved to have been there? Me, too!

How would you have liked to have been there when the woman with the issue of blood was healed? A woman who wasn't allowed on the inside. A woman who knew that the death penalty would be hers if she was caught, but she risked everything to do the one thing that she believed would make her whole. She said, "If I can just touch the hem of His garment, I know I shall be made whole." And she was.

Wouldn't you have loved to have been there when she reached through the crowd and touched the hem of His garment and instantly the flow of blood stopped?



That's exactly what happened to the lady whose house I visited. Although there is absolutely nothing in the hem of my garment, nor will there ever be, the faith of that woman made her whole. She didn't see Frances Hunter. She saw the Jesus in me who had the same healing power today that He had 2,000 years ago. She saw the Jesus who also lives in you and who has the same healing power in you that He had when He walked in His own body on the shores of Galilee.

Wouldn't you have loved to have been there and watched the woman with the issue of blood? I would have loved to have seen the expression on her face before and after. I would have loved to have seen it with the hope and the anticipation and the excitement and the expectancy that she had. Then I would have loved to have seen her afterwards rejoicing and praising God for what He had done because He had done what the doctors couldn't do. She had spent all of her money and it couldn't be done, and yet Jesus did it all.

Think of the little twelve-year-old girl who was dead and Jesus raised her from the dead. Think of all Mrs. Chocolate Chip Cookie missed just because of not wanting to cross over. We should all cross over every single time God tells us to cross over. I'm going to, and I hope you are, too.

I often look back at the day when God gave Charles and me the mandate to take the Great Commission around the world and to teach the world, not just in Texas where we live, not just in Louisiana which is next door to where we live, but to teach the whole world that if Charles and Frances can do it, you can do it, too.

I think if we had ever realized the responsibility that would have gone with that, we might not have ever even

started. Yes we would, because we've learned that when Jesus calls you and He crooks His finger and says, "Come follow Me. **Cross** over to the other side," you may not know what's on the other side, but if you don't go, you'll miss it all. Neither of us would miss what we're doing today for anything.

There are many areas where Christians need to cross over in their minds and in their hearts and their lives and their way of living from one area into another. I believe we can do it by merely crossing over and walking on the side with Jesus.

**You can change from being a loser to a winner.**

Jesus never promised us that we would be a loser. All He promises us is that "... in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us" (Romans 8:37). It is a lot more exciting to be a winner than a continual loser, and it is only through Jesus that we can cross over to the winning side. We need to make the decision, however, because no one can make it for us.

Before I was saved, I used to wake up every morning and say, "I wonder what awful thing is going to happen to me today!"

Today when I wake up I say, "God, what fabulous things are we going to do together today?" I switched from being a loser to a winner because I'm on God's side.

**You can cross over from being a skeptic to a fanatic.**

It's easy to be a skeptic, because nothing is required of you except to say, "I don't believe that!" It's easy to say, "It doesn't work!" because nothing is required of you.

It's much harder to be a fanatic because you have to put your faith in God. You learn to depend on Him for everything. When you're a skeptic you put your faith in

yourself. It's time we all cross over from being a skeptic to a fanatic.

**Many of us need to cross over from being lukewarm to red hot.**

Many people walk the "Christian road", and I have to put those two words in quotes because I'm not real sure it is really a Christian walk. They stumble, loaded with problems, in lukewarmness all of their life. I would rather be a red hot sinner than a lukewarm Christian, because a lukewarm Christian is miserable. Not only that, Jesus said he would spew them out of His mouth! More than anything else, I'm glad that I'm a red hot, on-fire-for-God fanatic! I was born-again in the fire of God, He turned the burner up on me, and it has never cooled down since that special day. Actually it burns with greater intensity every day!

**We need to cross over from doubt and unbelief to belief.** Some of the saddest words in the Bible concern unbelief. Part of the 16th chapter of Mark deals with Jesus having come back from the dead. When Mary Magdalene saw Him, "She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, THEY DID NOT BELIEVE. After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country. And they went and told it to the rest, but THEY DID NOT BELIEVE THEM either" (vs. 11-13).

The greatest sin in the world today is doubt and unbelief. "The world's sin is unbelief in me" (John 16:9 TLB).

Not only on the part of the sinners, but on the part of believers.

Many believers do not believe in healing, and yet we see healings day after day. The Bible tells us that Jesus

Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever! If He healed yesterday, He'll heal today! Many do not believe that speaking in tongues is for today, and yet we have seen over a million people receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. We need to cross over from the area of doubting the Word of God to believing all of His wondrous promises.

Doubt and unbelief come from not understanding and not believing the promises of God and that they are for today! Unbelief and doubt are strictly from the devil, and we need to get those thoughts out of our minds, our hearts, our bodies and our souls so that we can cross over into the area of belief and enjoy the unfettered promises of God!

**We need to cross over from sickness into health!**

God's will is for you to be whole, and to walk in divine health, and yet there is so much sickness on the earth! "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers" (III John 2). Healing is for you, today!

**We need to walk out of sin and start walking in the beauty of His holiness.**

Many Christians want to walk that little middle line and think, "I'll just dabble in sin a little and I'll still be all right." God's Word says, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are" (I Corinthians 3:16,17). Once we get the idea in our minds that it is far more exciting to walk in the holiness of God, the better off we will be.

As for me and my house, we believe what the Bible says, "Without holiness no man shall see God." We want to see God!

### **We need to cross over from poverty into prosperity.**

I've walked on both sides of that fence, and I like prosperity much better. As a little girl I was brought up in total poverty, lacking 99% of all the things that young people need and want, but Jesus promised, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Jesus does not want us to wallow in poverty, but He wants us to enjoy the abundant life which He has promised to us!

### **We need to cross over from depression to joy!**

Some of the letters that come into our office would break your heart if you could read them. Sometimes people will list ten pages of problems they have, written in such a depressing manner that you might be tempted to wonder if even Jesus could get them out of the dumps. "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full" (John 15:10,11). Romans 14:17 is another verse that can put joy into your soul and remove depression. "...for the kingdom of God is not food and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit". Peace and joy are the opposite of depression, and are the things we need in our life and they're available for all! "The JOY of the Lord is your strength", (Nehemiah 8:10). If you lose your joy you will drop into "lack of joy" which is depression!

### **We need to cross over from bondage to freedom.**

Even after salvation, many Christians are in bondage to habits such as cigarettes, alcohol, lust, drugs, swearing, attitudes, and many other things. We need to be set free

because Jesus said, “Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:3 6).

It’s so easy when we let Jesus do it for us. I was set free from being a five-packages-a-day-smoker in the twinkling of an eye. The martinis I loved went right down the drain, and so did the swearing and dirty jokes because I believed what the Word of God says.

An interesting letter that came in our mail says, “I first received Jesus as Lord in July 1980. He delivered me from drugs, alcohol, pornography and a multitude of sins instantly. The one thing that wasn’t instant was my cigarette habit. Six and one-half years after I was saved I read your book on *How To Heal The Sick*. It seems I tried everything to quit. I went to the elders to pray for me.. I called Trinity Broadcasting Network. I’d go to retreats. I questioned my faith. When I read in the book to throw them away and not buy any more, it ministered to me. I threw away my first pack. A couple of hours later I got the urge again, but every time I went and bought a new pack of cigarettes, the words kept coming back. ‘Throw them away and don’t buy any more.’ After about three days and a dozen packs thrown away, I think the Lord said, ‘That’s enough!’ I haven’t smoked since and that’s been almost 21/2 years!”

Let’s be free like the Son wants us free!

**We need to cross over from carnality to total commitment of our lives.**

You might say, “How do you do that?” “I want to do that, but how do I do it?”

It’s so easy. It all comes with a decision. But the decision must be the right kind. The day I got saved I made a quality decision that God’s way was better. I looked at sin, and I looked at God’s way, and decided there was no

comparison. The simple statement I made was this, “God, I’ll make a deal with you. I’ll give you ALL of me, for ALL of You! - Then I added another sentence to make sure He understood what I meant. I said, “If you want what’s left of this mess, take ALL of me, because I don’t want anything left of myself!”

The decision was total – not part way, not half way, not even a ninety-nine percent decision. For me, it was one hundred percent from the word salvation. I made that decision, and nothing in the world could ever cause me to change my mind because I have walked in victory every day of my life since then.

There are so many questionable areas known only to each of us, but it’s such a joy when we leave them behind and cross over and actually reach that other side. Remember, the only part of you that can backslide is the part you have not given to God!

I remember many years ago when I was a young teenage girl living in St. Louis, Missouri, we often went out to the Merimac River which really wasn’t much bigger than a creek. The only beach was on a little island close to the other side of the river. It wasn’t too far to swim, but farther than many people wanted to swim, so they had row boats to take you over, for which they charged you ten cents!

We lived in so much poverty, I never had the ten cents to cross over, so one day I decided to be real daring, even though I wasn’t a good swimmer, and could only do the old-fashioned stroke called “Pick a cherry, put it in the basket and glide!” If you’re a young swimmer, you won’t have any idea what I’m talking about, because no one swims that way today that I know of, because it is slow and takes a lot of effort.

I managed to make it across the river and after we had picnicked and played most of the afternoon, I started to swim back. I was about in the middle of the stream when I realized that I was winded because I had played so much during the day. I rolled over on my back and began to float, but that began to carry me downstream, so I turned over and began to pick more cherries. Suddenly I realized that I was out of energy, and I started going under the water. I struggled to get back on top, and tried to swim a little more, but I just didn't have the strength.

A million things go through your mind at a time like that: I struggled frantically trying to stay afloat. I wasn't seeing anything except how far away the shoreline looked when suddenly I heard a voice, "Would you like to hitchhike a ride?" It was the commercial boatman who had seen me floundering and rowed down to where I was. Still paddling madly, I said, "I don't have a dime!" He said, "You can hitchhike for nothing!"

He grabbed my hand and put it on the side of the boat so I could hang on. All the fears that had rushed through my mind in that short period of time were gone and my joy knew no bounds when my feet finally touched solid ground again.

Looking back today, I see vividly it was the hand of Jesus that reached down that hot summer day and pulled me to safety! I could have never made it without Him.

If you need to cross over, do it now. You can't do it without Him, and He'll make the trip so easy for you that you'll be as ecstatic as I was when I finally landed on the other side.

It is life or death. How I praise God He gave me life.



## Chapter Five

# How Do You Treat My Son Jesus?

One of my most fabulous Christian experiences happened in a most unusual way. Charles and I had been to a powerful meeting where we had seen the power of God work through an evangelist in a greater way than we had ever witnessed it in our entire lives. I couldn't stand it. I had to find out what the secret of his power was.

I cornered him and I said, "What is the secret of the tremendous power in your meetings?"

Very simply he said, "I spend at least eight hours every day in God's Word. There is no power without that."

I knew there wasn't any power without God's Word, but nevertheless it stunned me to think that somebody could spend eight hours a day in the Word of God. I thought about my own life and all the letters I have to answer, the clothes I have to wash, the house I have to clean, the food I have to buy at the stores, how I have to prepare meals, and I wondered how I would ever find time to spend eight hours in one uninterrupted stretch in God's Holy Word.

This put a tremendous hunger in my heart and all I could think about was, "God, let me have just one day, let me have just one uninterrupted day that I can spend in your Holy Word, just You and me, and nobody else."

You should be careful when you pray unless you mean it because you might get the shock of your life! It's amazing what God will do just to answer a very simple little prayer like the one I just prayed, "God, somehow, give me eight uninterrupted hours alone with You."

I was scheduled to be at a meeting in a little town in Kansas. Even though Kansas isn't very far from Houston, Texas where I live, it was a very difficult place to get to because I had to go from Houston to Dallas, get off there and transfer to another plane.

From there I took a little plane that went hop, hop, hop, up and down until we got to Liberal, Kansas. From there I was to be driven to the little town where I was scheduled to speak.

The distance wasn't very long but the flight was, so when I boarded the plane in Houston I was well-armed for the flight. I had my brand new Living Bible with me. I thought, "I'll start in Matthew." I had read Matthew many times previously and was blessed again as I read it. When I finished it I started to read Mark. Suddenly I heard the small still voice of God. Many times that little voice is so still that we miss it, if we don't really listen, or if we aren't listening carefully.

I heard God say, "Go back and read the whole thing again." I thought, "Wow, this is going to really be interesting." I turned back and read the whole book of Matthew again. It was exciting reading but nevertheless, I knew God had something really supernatural that He was preparing. But nothing happened until I had finished it and He said, "Go back and read it again."

I read it the third time! When I got to the end of the book the third time I heard God saying exactly the same thing again. He said, "Go back and reread it."

This was four times God had me read the book of Matthew. Suddenly I got to the fourth chapter and read:

“Then Jesus was led out into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit, to be tempted there by Satan. For forty days and forty nights he ate nothing and became very hungry. Then Satan tempted him to get food by changing stones into loaves of bread.

“It will prove you are the Son of God,” he said.

“But Jesus told him, ‘No! For the Scriptures tell us that bread won’t feed men’s souls: obedience to every word of God is what we need.’

“Then Satan took him to Jerusalem to the roof of the Temple. ‘Jump off,’ he said, ‘And prove you are the Son of God; for the Scriptures declare, ‘God will send his angels to keep you from harm’... they will prevent you from smashing on the rocks below.’

“Jesus retorted, ‘It also says not to put the Lord your God to a foolish test!’

“Next, Satan took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him the nations of the world and all their glory. ‘I’ll give it all to you,’ he said, ‘if you will only kneel and worship me.’

“Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “The Scriptures say, ‘Worship only the Lord God. Obey only him.’”

Just as I finished that little part of scripture, I heard God say, “Ask them,

***“Do you yield to temptation?”***

I thought how many times in a Christian’s life we are faced with temptations.

Jesus was faced with temptation, but what did He do? God said, “Ask them, ‘Do you yield to temptation?’”

I continued reading and didn’t have to read far before God began to speak again. This was such a fantastic

experience because I was flying high in the sky with a plane full of people, but so far as I was concerned there was nobody there but just God and Frances Hunter.

When I reached the nineteenth verse, I knew there was more to come. “Jesus called out, ‘Come along with me and I will show you how to fish for the souls of men.’ And they left their nets at once and went with him.

“A little farther up the beach he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets; and he called to them to come too. At once they stopped their work and, leaving their father behind, went with him.”

When I finished reading that, I heard God speak again. And this is what He said. “Ask them,

***“Do you instantly obey?”***

Obedience to the will of God is all important!

I was extremely excited because I realized this was going to be a very special afternoon. A very special time, because God was going to be saying things to me that I had never heard in my entire life.

I was anxious to find out what the next thing was He had to say. I got to Matthew 5:21,22. “Under the laws of Moses the rule was, ‘If you murder, you must die.’ But I have added to that rule, and tell you that if you are only angry, even in your own home, you are in danger of judgment! If you call your friend an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse him, you are in danger of the fires of hell.”

And then I heard God speak again, “Ask them,” He said,

***“Do you have aught against your brother?”***

It’s so easy to get angry with members of our own family. Many times we get angry at the ones we love the

most. We get angry at our spouse. We get angry at our children. We get angry at our grandchildren. We get angry at our very closest friends. Did you ever notice that? The reason is because that's where the devil really likes to come in!

I hurriedly read on because the suspense continued to grow. I anxiously kept reading and yet I was reading very carefully and was listening so carefully because I wanted to be sure I heard everything God had to say to me.

I got to the sixth chapter, the twenty-fifth verse. This is what I read. "So my counsel is: Don't worry about things – food, drink, and clothes. For you already have life and a body – and they are far more important than what to eat and wear. Look at the birds! They don't worry about what to eat—they don't need to sow or reap or store up food – for your heavenly Father feeds them. And you are far more valuable to him than they are. Will all your worries add a single moment to your life?"

"And why worry about your clothes? Look at the field lilies! They don't worry about theirs. Yet King Solomon in all his glory was not clothed as beautifully as they: And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and gone tomorrow, won't he more surely care for you, O men of little faith?"

"So don't worry at all about having enough food and clothing. Why be like the heathen? For they take pride in all these things and are deeply concerned about them. But your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them, and he will give them to you if you give him first place in your life and live as he wants you to."

Then God spoke to me again and He said, "Ask them, ***"Do you worry? Do you trust me? Do you really believe? Do you worry? That's for the heathen."***"

Do you trust Him?

Do you really believe?

My heart cried out. I said, “Oh God, there are so many Christians who worry and worry and worry about everything. What can I say to them?”

And He very simply answered.

***“Ask them if they really trust Me.”***

So I want to ask you, do you really trust Him?

Do you really look to God as your total and complete source for everything?

This was really getting exciting because He was telling me so many fantastic things to share with you. I got to Matthew 7:21 and I was trying to read real fast because I knew that God had a lot more to say. And yet I didn’t know how it was going to happen because I knew that it wouldn’t be very long before we would be landing.

“Not all who sound religious are really godly people. They may refer to me as “Lord,” but still won’t get to heaven. For the decisive question is whether they obey my Father in Heaven.”

And God’s voice softly whispered, “Ask them,

***‘Do they really obey? Do they REALLY obey?’***

To be obedient, I want to ask you, “Do you really obey God?”

Twice while He was speaking to me He had specifically mentioned the word “obey”. Over in the Old Testament it says that “Obedience is better than sacrifice”. I couldn’t help but feel that God was saying something very, very special about wanting your obedience more than anything else.

Right after I heard this, I heard something I could hardly believe. The loud speaker came on, and the pilot began talking and what he said really shocked me. It has

never happened to me before and it has never happened since. The pilot said, “Because of the dust storm, we are unable to land at Liberal and will continue on to Denver.”

I didn’t want to go to Denver! I was scheduled to speak in Hugoton, a little town about forty miles from Liberal. I looked out the window and you’d never guess what I saw. It looked like I was floating in a sea of red dust. I couldn’t believe it! I’d never seen so much red dust outside of a window in my whole life! I quickly turned to the other side of the aisle and looked out that window and it was exactly the same thing. All of this red stuff just swirling around the airplane.

I continued on to Matthew 9:9, “As Jesus was going on down the road, he saw a tax collector, Matthew, sitting at a tax collection booth. ‘Come and be my disciple,’ Jesus said to him, and Matthew jumped up and went along with Him.”

At the end of that little verse God spoke again. Just one tiny little verse and yet God spoke clearly. And I knew exactly what God was going to say, because it said, “Matthew jumped up and went along with Jesus.”

God spoke again and said, “Ask them, ask them, wherever you go, wherever you speak,

***‘Do they instantly obey?’***

I’m going to ask you, “Do you jump right up when God tells you to do something? Do you instantly obey?”

I read on to the 37th and the 38th verse and by this time I was aware of just two people in the world, God and me. There might have been other people on the plane. The stewardesses were there, and the plane was loaded, but I could have been in the middle of the desert for all I knew because to me it was just, “You and me Lord, and that’s absolutely all.”

“The harvest is so great, and the workers are so few,” he told his disciples. “So pray to the one in charge of the harvesting, and ask him to recruit more workers for his harvest fields.”

Had the plane been flying lower, I could have looked down and seen harvest fields all over Kansas. Some of the greatest wheat fields in the world, or in the United States anyway, are in Kansas. And I thought about all the wheat that needed to be harvested. And I thought about all the people who needed to know about Jesus.

And God said, “Ask them,

***‘Are they willing to be recruited? Are they willing to be recruited to be workers in the harvest fields?’***

Beloved, the fields are so white unto harvest. There are so many people out there who are anxious to know Jesus. But they need somebody to tell them.

Tread on to Matthew 10:37. I was oblivious to time, or place or space, or anything else. “If you love your father and mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine.”

There was a tremendous love of God enveloping me as I read this particular part, and I knew something special was coming next. I thought of my own beloved daughter, and I thought of my own beloved husband. I thought of my beloved son.

I thought of all my family that I love very much and God said, “Ask them,

***“Who do you love the most? “Who comes first in your life?”***

And then God spoke to me. He said, “Frances, who comes first in your life?” All I can say is Praise God I could answer, “Jesus.” After Him comes my family.



When you love God more than you love your own family He will give you a love for your family that is far greater than any love you could have ever dreamed or ever imagined.

So I'm going to ask you just what God told me to.

*"Who do you really put first in your life?"*

I read on. I was devouring every single word because I wanted to be sure I didn't miss a single solitary thing that God said to me. And then I got to the twelfth chapter of Matthew, the 34th verse.

This is what He said. "You brood of snakes! - Wow, look what Jesus was saying. "You brood of snakes! How could evil men like you speak what is good and right? For a man's heart determines his speech."

And softly God said to me, "Ask them,

*"What comes out of your mouth?"*

I thought about my own mouth. I thought about what I'd heard from the lips of other Christians. And wondered if all that came out of our mouths was of God.

I thought about the years I spent in the world serving the devil before I became a Christian and I thought of all the things that came out of my mouth. There's a hangover lots of times from before we're a Christian, and then when we become a Christian.

And all I could think of was God saying, "Really watch out what comes out of your mouth."

Does it really glorify God?

Does it always magnify Jesus?

Does it always lift up the name of Jesus?

I'm going to ask you what God told me to ask you.

"What comes out of your mouth? What really comes out of your mouth? Now I just don't mean on Sunday. I mean what comes out of your mouth all the time!"

I kept reading because there was a real stirring in my heart. Suddenly I knew God was going to say another very special something.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a pearl merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. He discovered a real bargain – a pearl of great value – and he sold everything he owned to purchase it.” (Matthew 13:45).

I thought about this man gathering everything together. Everything he had. And he was willing to trade it all for one pearl.

And God said to me, “Ask them,

***“Are they willing to give all?”***

Are you really willing to give all for that pearl of great price?

Jesus paid a great price for us. And yet that pearl, Jesus, is absolutely free. All it takes is all of us.

So I want to challenge you: Are you really willing to give all?

Every question that God asked me, and every question that God told me to ask you, God asked me to search my very own heart to see if I could honestly give all the right answers to every question that He was telling me to ask you. How do you really treat His son Jesus?

I got to Matthew the 14th chapter the 25th verse, and I began reading and I knew again here was something very special.

“About four o’clock in the morning, Jesus came to them, walking on the water! They screamed in terror, for they thought he was a ghost.”

I imagine I would have too, wouldn’t you? “But Jesus immediately spoke to them, reassuring them, ‘Don’t be afraid’, he said. Then Peter called to him. ‘Sir, if it is really you, tell me to come over to you, walking on the water.’”

“All right,” the Lord said, “come along”.

“So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. But when he looked around at the high waves, he was terrified and began to sink. ‘Save me Lord!’ he shouted. Instantly Jesus reached out his hand and rescued him. ‘Oh man of little faith,’ Jesus said. ‘Why did you doubt me?’ And when they had climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped.

“The others sat there, awestruck. ‘You really are the Son of God!’ they exclaimed.”

Then He said, “Ask them,  
***‘Do you really trust Me?’***”

I began to think about my own life. Do we have those times come up when we really panic and we try and do it ourselves? Do we panic and fail to look to God as our source? Do we panic and look to our own human strength? Do we look to our husbands for the answer? Do we look to our children for the answer? Or do we really trust God? All I could think about was my own heart.

“Do you really trust Me, Frances? Do you really trust Me?”

So I’m going to ask you, “Do you really trust Him?” Through it all, through thick and thin, through all the problems that come up in your life. Through all the situations that may come up even within your own family. A situation with your husband, your wife. The impossible problems that you have with those teenage children. Do you really trust God? Do you really?

Suddenly, I got so excited because it just seemed like God was beginning to speak more and more. And I got to Matthew 16 and the 24th verse. Once again I felt that there was going to be something real super special.

“Then Jesus said to the disciples, ‘If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who keeps his life for himself shall lose it. And anyone who loses his life for me shall find it again. What profit is there if you gain the whole world –and lose eternal life? What can be compared with the value of eternal life?’”

I stopped reading because I knew God was going to speak again. And He did. This is what He said. He said, “Ask them, again and again and again, the most important question of all,

***“Are they really, really willing to give all?”***

Are you really willing to give every single thing that you have to belong to God? That’s what He told me to ask you, He said, “Ask them,

***“Are they really willing to give all? Are they really willing to give up every single thing to belong to me?”***

I read on and my interest kept growing more and more all the time. By this time I was at the 18th chapter of Matthew and I read, “About that time the disciples came to Jesus to ask which of them would be the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven! Jesus called a small child over to Him and set the little fellow down among them, and said, “Unless you turn to God from your sins and become as little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven.”

And God said, “Ask them,

***“Are you willing to come as a little child, in simple faith? Are you?”***

I didn’t become a Christian until I was forty-nine years of age, and I never will forget what the pastor who led me to the Lord said.

He said, “Frances, at your age, you’ll never make it.” You might think it’s peculiar that he said I’d never make it. But he followed it with a statement that has really stayed with me throughout all these years.

He said, “You’ll never make it as a Christian at your age, unless you come with the faith of a little child just believing.”

That’s exactly the way I became a Christian. I became a Christian with the faith of a little child. I have never changed. I still have that very simple childlike faith. And I pray to God that I will never lose it because if we can let our faith be just as simple as a child, and just as trusting as a child, we’ve really got it made.

Think about your own children. Did you ever notice, especially when they’re little, that when they get hurt, the first thing they do is to run to their mommy or their daddy. Why? Because they have faith to know that mommy and daddy can heal it. That’s what they believe!

The faith of children is beautiful! If we could just look upon God as our Heavenly Father, know that whenever we have an ache or a pain, or whenever we have a problem, that He is right there, ready to take care of everything.

I think about little children running with their arms outstretched to their mother or their daddy when they get hurt. That’s exactly the same way we should run to God – with our arms outstretched and just saying, “Abba Father, Abba Father”.

If we can just put our trust in Him, and look to Him totally and completely as our source, He’ll never let us down. God said, “Ask them,

***‘Are you willing to come as a little child, in simple faith?’***

Are you really willing to come with just that simple little childlike faith?

At a recent meeting they brought a little girl who had been born totally deaf in one ear. She had heard that I had prayed one time for a little girl who was deaf in one ear and she was healed. And this little girl came, believing that Jesus was going to heal her the minute I touched her ears.

She walked right up in the middle of the service. It was the most beautiful thing you ever saw because the Spirit of the Lord was really on her. She just walked up to me and stood there just looking at me.

I said to her, "What do you want Jesus to do for you?"

And she said, "I'm deaf in my one ear. And Jesus told me that when you touched my ear, I would be healed."

I knew that I didn't even have to touch her ear because I knew that her faith had done it. Bless her little heart, I just put my finger in her ear and said, "Open in the name of Jesus." And it was done, just like that! Beautiful, simple childlike faith!

It took a lot longer to persuade her mother and her daddy! I asked them to come up onstage because the child had come up alone, drawn there by the power of the Holy Spirit, and drawn by that simple little childlike faith in Jesus. Her mother and daddy tested and tested and retested before they finally believed that this child was healed, and yet instantly, the little girl knew she had been healed. She could hear everything we said.

Beloved, let us all get back to that simple childlike faith. Just like God said, "Ask them,

*'Are you willing to come as a little child? Just believing?'*

I said, “Oh, Lord, keep me a little child. Don’t let me ever grow up. Keep me a little child just believing in the Word of God.”

I got to the nineteenth chapter of Matthew and in the fourth verse it said, “Don’t you read the Scriptures?” he replied. ‘In them it is written, that at the beginning God created man and woman, and that a man should leave his father and mother and be forever united to his wife. The two shall become one – no longer two, but one! And no man may divorce what God has joined together.’”

Then God said, “Ask them,

***‘Do you really believe in marriage?’***

I thought about all the married couples I’ve counseled with, and all the problems they’re having. I thought about how many were thinking of getting a divorce. And my heart cried at the answer a lot of people would have to give to that question. But I’m asking you because God told me to.

He said, “Ask them, *‘Do you really believe in marriage? Do you really believe that marriage is what God created it to be? Do you believe, really believe that God knew what He was doing when He created marriage? And when He said “the two shall be one”?*”

So I’m going to ask you, do you really believe in marriage?

I read on. I read on because I know how I feel about marriage and I read on to Matthew 22:37. “Jesus replied, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second most important is similar. Love your neighbor as much as you love yourself..’”

And then God said, “Ask them, again and again and again,

***‘Who do you love the most? Who do you really put first in your life?’***

Before I became a Christian, I put the dollar bill first, because on the money it said “In God We Trust” and I thought if I trusted money, I automatically trusted God. That’s not what God means.

God said, “Who do you really love the most? Is it that money that says ‘In God We Trust?’ Who do you really put first in your life? Your money? Your husband? Your job? Your security? Or do you put God?”

He said, “Ask them.”

And so I’m asking you, “Who do you love the most?”

I want to ask you a question right now that I never thought about until this particular moment. “Who is really the most lovable? Is your money more lovable than God? Is your husband more lovable than God? Are your children more lovable than God? Is your job? Is your home? Is there anything in this world that is more lovable than God?” I can’t think of a thing, can you?

I got excited! I read down to Matthew the 24th chapter. I got to the 30th verse and you know how you just know that God has something real special for you? I just knew that something just real super was going to happen.

This is what I read, “And then at last, the signal of my coming will appear in the heavens and there will be deep mourning all around the earth. And the nations of the world will see me arrive in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And I shall send forth my angels with the sound of a mighty trumpet blast, and they shall gather my chosen ones from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven.

“Now learn a lesson from the fig tree. When her branch is tender and the leaves begin to sprout, you know that summer is almost here. Just so, when you see all these



things beginning to happen, and you know that my return is near, even at the doors. Then at last, this age will come to it's close.

“Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words remain forever. But no one knows the date and hour when the end will be –not even the angels. No, not even God’s son. Only the Father knows. The world will be at ease –banquets and parties and weddings –just as it was in Noah’s time before the sudden coming of the flood; people wouldn’t believe what was going to happen until the flood actually arrived and took them all away. So shall my coming be.

“Two men will be working together in the fields and one will be taken, the other left. Two women will be going about their household tasks; one will be taken, the other left.”

And God said, “Ask them,

***‘What will you be doing?’ Ask them, ‘What will you be doing?’ Will you be the one taken? Or will you be the one left?’***

I think of so many people today who have so many things on their mind and so many things going for them. But they don’t have time for God. The Word of God says so specifically that two people will be working together and one will be taken and one will be left.

I’ve never read this part of scripture without thinking of that tremendous song by Larry Norman where it says, “A man and his wife lying in bed, he heard a noise and raised his head, and she was gone. Wish we’d all been ready. Wish we’d all been ready.”

I often wonder if God didn’t really say, “Are you really going to be ready? Are you going to be ready on that glorious day when Jesus comes back again. When the

trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall be no more.  
Ask them,

***‘Are you really ready?’***

I went on to Matthew 26:7 and it says, “While he was eating, a woman came in with a bottle of very expensive perfume, and poured it over his head,” and as I read, God spoke again.

He said, “She gave the best she had. Would you?” God said, “Ask them,

***‘Would you give the very best you had?’***

I want you to think about the possessions you have that are so precious in your own life. Would you be willing to give the very best to Jesus? This woman was.

There was a holy stillness as I continued to read on to Matthew 27:26. I was almost finished with that whole 27th chapter when suddenly God, in His beautiful way, began to speak again. My heart began to cry as I tread these scriptures because I read something that I had never read into them before.

It says, “Then Pilate released Barabbas to them. And after he had whipped Jesus, he gave him to the Roman soldiers to take away and crucify. But first they took him into the armory and called out the entire contingent. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him and made a crown from long thorns and put it on his head, and placed a stick in his right hand as a scepter and knelt before him in mockery. ‘Hail, King of the Jews,’ they yelled. And they spat on him and grabbed the stick and beat him on the head with it.”

My heart has never cried as much as it did on that day, because never have I so vividly felt that crown of thorns going on His head. I could just see the long thorns. I understand they are about three or four inches long.

I could feel in my spirit the absolute agony He suffered as they put this crown of thorns on His head. I am sure it was not put on gently. Tam sure that they jammed it on there with viciousness as they said, “Hail, King of the Jews!”

When a little tiny thorn pricks your finger it hurts! Think what those big spikes in that crown of thorns must have felt like as they pushed them into Jesus’ head. Can you imagine the pain right then?

Then they spat on Him! Jesus, the Son of the Living God. They were all spitting on Him. Horrible! Sickening!

Then they took clubs and beat Him. They put the scepter in His hand, and then they took the stick out of it and they began to beat Him on the head with it. My heart cried and cried as I saw Jesus with the blood streaming down. And all I could think about was the agony of His soul, and the agony of my soul.

I thought to myself, “How could they have ever done it to Him? How could they have ever done anything as horrible as that to Jesus?”

And then God said to me, “Ask them wherever you go, ***‘How do they treat my son Jesus?’***”

I looked around the airplane and saw the cigarette smoke filtering up to the top of the plane.

I saw the cocktail glasses with the ice tinkling in them. I thought about the indifference to God that I viewed everywhere on the plane. And I wondered to myself, “Which is worse, spitting on Him, or just plain ignoring Him?”

God spoke to me again and He said, “Ask them in every city you go,

***‘How do they treat my son Jesus?’***”

I read to the end of the book, and there was no more. I turned back to the first page of the book of Matthew and I wrote the date, 4/12/72 in my book. “Ask them, ‘How do they treat my son Jesus?’”

When I landed in Denver, I checked on the possibility of chartering a small plane back to Liberal, Kansas, but I discovered that nothing, absolutely nothing could land there that night. They told me that they would be very glad to put me up in a hotel for the night and that they would fly me in the next morning providing the dust storm had ended.

I said, “Tomorrow morning won’t do me any good, it has to be tonight.” There was no way of getting out of there, so you know what they did? They put me on a plane back to Houston.

I landed back at Houston, I looked at my watch, and it was exactly ten hours from the time that I had started that morning. Ten hours when I had had the opportunity to be alone with God and with Jesus. Ten beautiful hours where I had the opportunity to listen to God and to hear God ask me questions that He wanted me to ask you.

God answered my prayer in a very peculiar way, didn’t He? Do you realize the dust storm He created to come up so that I couldn’t land in Kansas? And then He made it impossible for me to land any place other than Denver.

God would never send you on a trip like that and make you pay out a lot of plane fare money just to fly and get nowhere.

When I deplaned in Denver, they gave me a free ticket back to Houston, and a refund on my ticket from Houston to Denver because they called it a “futile trip fare.” In other words, I had not been able to go where I wanted to go and so they refunded ALL of my money.

I had ten beautiful hours up in the air with just you and me Lord, and it didn't cost me a single solitary thing. Now they might have thought it was a futile trip, but I knew it was not.

I want to ask you the question that has burned in my heart ever since then. Somehow or other, that day I was so completely wrapped up in the arms of God that I knew He wanted me to ask everyone, "How do you treat my son Jesus? How do you really treat my son Jesus?"

Could I pray for you right now? "Father, I know that there are people reading who have never accepted Jesus, but whose hearts were pricked today by the questions You asked them.

"Father, I want to pray for them right now. In the name of Jesus, I pray a special blessing upon every person who ever hears this message in person, by television, by radio, by a cassette tape, or a book.

"Father, I pray that their heart will be so stirred, so ignited and so challenged that they will say, 'I want to follow God all the rest of my life. I will put Jesus first in my life from now on'".

If you are in that category, I'm going to ask you to just pray a simple little prayer with me right now. Would you do that? Say it out loud with me, would you?

"Dear Lord Jesus, I want to be your disciple. I want to instantly obey you. I want to hear you when you call. I want to put you first in my life. I am willing to give up everything to be your disciple, and to find that pearl of great price. I want to come with childlike faith. I don't want to yield to temptation anymore. I want to be obedient to you all the days of my life.

"Jesus, I am not going to worry! I am going to look to God as the total source for everything I need. I am going to

put my faith in God and I am going to have such a simple little childlike faith that I will never doubt again. I am going to put you first in my life because I heard today that you will take care of all my needs if I give you first place in my life.

“Father, I ask you to give me boldness. I ask you Father, to let me give my testimony wherever I go. Let people know what Jesus means to me. Father, give me such boldness, and give me such courage that I can share my testimony all over the street where I live. All over the town where I live.

“And then Father, when I have the opportunity to be away from my town, give me the boldness that I need to share my testimony wherever I go. Lord, let me be one of those harvesters in that field. I want to be a harvester. I want to be right up there because you said that the fields are white unto harvest.

“God, I am willing to give you all. I am willing to trust you for everything in my life. I am willing to put you always first in my life. Lord Jesus, I ask you to take me right now.

“I ask you to forgive me of all my sins. I ask you to forgive me of that sin of indifference to God, because from this day on, I am never going to be indifferent. I open the door to my heart and I invite you to come in, and I close that door, because I am not ever going to let you get out of there again.

“Thank you dear Jesus, for forgiving my sins.

“Thank you for coming into my heart just like you promised. I love you Lord Jesus, and I am going to serve you forever. Hallelujah!”