

CHIEF MINISTRIES

January 2021

Happy New Year Family of Believers!

As I write this mid-December, awaiting the next phase of my parole process – my “program” – I think of all the changes, the jostling, the unknown, unsteadiness that has tried to consume our thought processes. I was rushed to the hospital via ambulance last week were a pre-existing condition has come to life after lying dormant for years. My covid-19 struggle was able to kick this condition into high gear and my ability to breathe was literally lost for a while. Not a good feeling. I couldn't figure it all out, yet God thrust me into a vision the worst day of my life physically. And I was in this incredible facility white and marble pillars and this incredible gold flooring/carpeting: I was ministering, walking around exhorting the people there. A young girl, perhaps 12 or so came running up to me and said, “you have powerful words, sir, but you don't know what it's like to not be able to breathe!” I smiled and almost chuckled and said, O child, but I do know what it's like and I grabbed her face and said “Breathe the breath of God, breathe the breath of life.” And she collapsed in my grip to the floor. And immediately there was a cloud in the room. A thick opaque white cloud and as I shouted “To God be the glory, to God be the glory,” a roar could be heard – whether it was the praise of the people as I first thought or an actual roar of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah. He was there. I knew it and the people did too. And then I was staring at the ceiling in 13- dorm on Eastham. And I heard the Spirit say, “You will never understand why I allow some of the things that happen in your life or others for that matter, but you must know I have a plan that is greater than you will ever know, could ever imagine or think. Just surrender, trust, and believe that as I come in these last days to pour out my Spirit, I am appointing those to move in My power and My glory. Be obedient, and DO NOT FEAR! For I am with you even to the end of the age.”

Whew! All I can say is, I am humbled even more. The question now remains for those of you reading this. Are you being obedient? Are you ready for the end time outpouring? Are you ready for your assignment?

God is warring to save America. You must find your assignment in that war. So how can you know your assignment? Think about it. It is fashionable to teach that the will of God is hard to know. But does that make any sense? We quote these verses: *Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God's marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights His heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship.* ^{v2} *Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit to a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in His eyes.* (Romans 12:1-2 TPT).

Some think this might be a difficult thing to do. But look again. It says, “*genuine expression of worship.*” the King James says your “reasonable service”. Nothing these verses demand goes beyond what every Christian is supposed to do anyway. This signifies something critical. It means the will of God is utterly knowable. You want to know, and God wants to show it.

The great skill of the Holy Spirit is to make you able to know and do the will of God. Again, this is your “reasonable worship”. It is all the added human speculation that makes it complicated. An example of what has muddied the waters and complicated things is how we are hearing everywhere – “I gotta be me”. God's purpose has made me unique, so I will pursue uniqueness. I had a brother enter the Marines. The first day of boot camp he is standing at attention and his drill instructor barks a question at him: “Why did you join the Marine Corps?” Imagine him answering, “To find my purpose”. About three days later, when the swelling in his eyes and body and the screaming in his ear subsides a bit, he can hear the Sgt. Screaming, “You have no purpose! Only the Corps has a purpose! What you have is an assignment!”

Let me break it to you gently. A better word for purpose is assignment. Aren't we to be purpose – driven? (No offense Rick Warren). No. We are supposed to be Holy Spirit driven. The one with the purpose is Jesus. You, my friend, have an assignment within that purpose.

What is Christ's purpose on the earth? First John 3:8 says, "*He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.*"

Your assignment in the Army of God is your individual expression and extension of Christ's destruction of the works of the devil. You are the destroyer of the works of the devil. God will give you a way to do it that is all your own.

Until that gets through to you – until you admit and agree to those terms – God will remain silent about your assignment.

The word purpose is too general while an assignment is focused and deliberate. Can you imagine a professor saying, "Tonight's purpose is...." when giving out homework. "Tonight's assignment" brings it right into focus.

Twice we see in the Old Testament we see prophets eaten by lions because they did not follow their direct instructions from God. Matthew Henry (theologian) said, "Those whom God sends on His errands shall not go without full instructions."

The purpose oriented can embellish God's order and add their own flavor and spin. The first university I attended, Oral Roberts University, was a wonderful place and voted most beautiful campus, but it began to crater after Oral Roberts vision for a "City of Faith" was made too big and he had to beg for millions of dollars and if he didn't get it, "God is going to call me home". I was there. It was embarrassing. Billy Graham was once offered tens of millions of dollars if he would build college. He prayed and turned down the money because he knew it was not his assignment.

Next, let's face it. Very few are supposed to be preachers or pastors. Far too long we have listened to the voice of God through a filter. Whenever God moved on someone to serve, we assumed it meant ministry.

This assumption of ministry has sent many to Bible colleges and universities. And here in prison, these institutes and Bible college offerings are wonderful, yet many have gone who didn't belong there. Worse yet, it has filled the pulpit with people who had no business of being there. I'm reminded of a quote by President Woodrow Wilson who once said, "One of the proofs of the divinity of our gospel is the preaching it has survived."

This filtered view of service is one big reason the church lost influence in our nation. God has tried to send people into education, law, medicine, business, art, media, and yes, even politics, but we herded them into "Christian service".

Jesus said, "*I do not pray that you should take them out of the world, but that you should keep them from the evil one.*" (John 17:15). That means that we are the one religion that does not need to hide or use violence. We are in the culture but not of the culture. We have the one faith that is designed to live behind enemy lines.

Esther and Daniel are timeless examples of pure vessels serving and influencing pagan cultures. Now prepare yourself for a greater shock: the secret to finding your assignment is your heart. God speaks to the heart and then the heart must control the mind. Unfortunately, many have this backwards. Today, a lot of Spirit-filled people are practicing an unwitting form of New Age. They relate to God as if He were a force and not a person.

They think that audacity and confidence will unlocked gifts, authority and direction. They speak of "activating gifts" as if there were a formula to supernatural manifestations. My friend, it comes through brokenness, not arrogance. The "force" is a farce.

The Holy Spirit requires everything to come through relationship. Sorry, but Christianity will always be family owned and operated. So then, how can we know our assignment in this coming year?

The secret to your assignment is discovered in a strange and wonderful fact about God: He knows how to get the best out of His children. He gives them a love for something and then intensifies their passion. The key to your assignment is found in the love of your heart. God knows that if you are doing what you love, you will never give up. He knows you will endure whatever pain that is required. He knows you will sharpen your skills in an endeavor that is the love of your heart.

The way to test this is simple. When you think of your assignment, you do not immediately bask in the sense of glory about it; you instead take a true measure of the cost and the problems that this mission will cause – and it doesn't bother you.

Hannah wanted children. So then why did God close her womb? The Bible says He did. *“But to Hannah he would give a double portion, for He loved Hannah, although the Lord had closed her womb.” (1 Samuel 1:5).* God was not being cruel. He was intensifying her desire for children.

To give up her firstborn to be a prophet required sacrifice. Love sacrifices. The kind of people who do harm to evil are capable of sacrifice. However, it seems the current crop of those who shuttle in an out of “easy” church boast of all kinds of spirituality, but when things get real, they can't sacrifice.

By the way, Samuel was not God's total reward to Hannah. First Samuel 2:21 says, *“And the Lord visited Hannah. So that she conceived and bore a son and two daughters. Meanwhile the child Samuel grew before the Lord.”*

Find the love of your heart, and the money and skills will follow. So will instructions. Instructions come after love and not before. That is why 1 Corinthians 13 makes a great deal of the futility of service that is not out of love. Verse 3 says, *“And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.”*

Have you ever had a burden to see something happen spiritually? Where did it grow? It grows in your heart. For you, it may be a passion to master a skill, it may be a people group you must help. You will find yourself more and more drawn to a specific field. No one but you and God may understand the reason for your choice. Even parents might have let go of their original design for you because of your bad choices. Don't worry. It's just time to make the right choices and kick the devil in the mouth.

But there is one final element to your assignment.

Because the American situation is impossible, only one kind of person will make a difference now. They must be armed with divine certainty. They must own an unshakable, to the bone conviction – that they have been chosen for this task.

Without this, we have zero hope of removing the bloody talons of Satan off the throat of our nation. Without it, we are doomed to another embarrassing misfire pawned off as revival.

You see it in the Bible. You see it in the stories of heroes of the faith, who throughout history altered the course of their generation. At the dawn of their mission, God infuses them with incontestable certainty.

This certainly plays a critical role in their survival. Think of it like the escape velocity of a rocket. Escape velocity is one of the biggest challenges of space travel. In order for a rocket to break free of earth's gravitational force, it must reach a speed of seven miles per second. That's 25,000 mph!

Evil convulses at the approach of a new vessel of God. Hell instantly puts chosen ones on a hit list. The child of God must be blasted by divine certainty into a trajectory that will escape the pull of devils, the seduction of fame, withering criticism, and the dark night of the soul that comes to all who are called of God.

I have a quote about William Wilberforce who was called by God in government to ban slavery. From his death bed John Wesley wrote to encourage Wilberforce. In it he confirms the urgency of the divine certainty: “Unless God has raised you up for this very thing, you will be worn out by the opposition of men and devils. But if God before you,

who can be against you? Are all of them together stronger than God? Oh, be not weary of well-doing! Go on, in the name of God and in the power of His might..... “.

Understand this, child of God! The same Spirit that is awakening a passion and direction in you is doing it to millions more. Soon an army will emerge that is entrenched in every area of our culture. Today, it is fire here and there, but soon, as the prophetic core of God obey and embrace their assignment and come together in a chorus of victory, it will be unlike anything we have ever seen.

You want to see the lame walk; the blind see, and the deaf here? Tired of seeing powerless ministries. You want to unlock the how and why God grants power to do mighty signs and wonders? Do you wonder why so many have asked and so few have received the gift of healing?

It's time to pull back the misconceptions. It is time to be brutally honest. We have been able to create mind – bending technological breakthroughs. We can now do in an instant what used to take decades, but we will never find a shortcut for supernatural power.

The Holy Spirit's work never changes. His process of taking raw material and making a living, breathing conduit of His power has never changed. In 2000 years, it has not been shortened or compromised one iota (little bit).

If you seek glamour, fame, or riches, skip this message. If you are dazzled by people you have seen powerfully used, save us both time, do not seek this power – you have no heart for it.

A young man – enthralled by the power he witnessed – ran up to Smith Wigglesworth and begged for the gift. Wigglesworth said, “You don't want it. Before God is through with you, you will feel as if a thousand switch trains have run over you.” A.W. Tozer said, “It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply.”

You still yearn to be used? You still want power – real power and not the fluff of so many hyper emotional meetings today? Then proceed with caution.

The reason for our lack of miracles is plain. We are just not willing to pay the price. If you are willing, the Holy Spirit will take you through the process to power. Here then is the price of God's miracle working power.

E.M. Bounds in the book “The Works of E.M. Bounds” said, “The preacher must throw himself, with all the abandon of a perfect, self-emptying faith and a self-consuming zeal, into his work for the salvation of man. Hardy, Hugh Rourke, compassionate, fearless martyrs must the man be who take hold of and shape a generation for God.

A.W. Tozer in “Of God and Men” said that these kinds of vessels “serve God and mankind from motives too high to be understood by the rank-and-file of religious retainers who today shuttle in and out of the sanctuary. They will make no decisions out of fear, take no course out of a desire to please, except no service for financial considerations, perform no religious act out of mere custom; nor will they allow themselves to be influenced by the love of publicity or the desire for reputation.”

Oral Roberts despaired of life itself in his hunger to understand miracles. He was pastoring without power when he went to Kansas City to hear William Bronham. That encounter with the supernatural was his line in the sand. He went into fasting and prayer. Oral went into the prayer closet and died.

In her description to understand the supernatural. Kathryn Kuhlman visited several healing meetings. She often left disgusted and broken hearted. Her tears and prayers reached critical mass and she made a holy vow to conduct meetings that were full of power and dignity.

She never looked back. Kathryn traced the moment of this power. She said, “I died.” From that moment on there was no Kathryn Kuhlman, only a utterly devoted shell.

All of these people and more reported being overcome by compassion for the sick. Their level of caring rose to divine heights. They agonized for the lost, the sick and the dying. Matthew 14:14 says, “*And when Jesus went out*

