


VIDEO: True Faith Shown During Joplin Tornado

In the wake of the deadly tornado that ripped through Joplin, Mo., many inspirational videos have been posted online that demonstrate the protective hand of God. While the death toll continues to rise and we might not know the exact number of those killed for several days to come, the videos posted below are true testaments of faith.

Wilkerson Remembered at NYC Tribute

 Reverend David Wilkerson was remembered as a man deeply consumed with the passion of Jesus Christ at a memorial service held Saturday in New York City.

Times Square Church, the church Wilkerson opened in an old theater in the late 1980s, was filled to capacity as family and friends paid tribute to the late minister.

Wilkerson, 79, was killed on April 27 when the car he was driving collided with a truck in east Texas. His wife, Gwendolyn Wilkerson, 70, survived and remains hospitalized.

During the service, which was broadcast live on the Internet, Wilkerson's son Greg explained how the family was coping with the

loss. "The peace that God has given our family is really a blessing," he said.

"It's not something we have to be encouraged or even motivated to try to find. It's really there."

Wilkerson went on to add that his mother will likely stay in the hospital two to three more weeks. "She's getting stronger each day," he said.

Becoming Vulnerable

✘ For to be sure, he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, we are weak in him, yet by God's power we will live with him to serve you. -2 Corinthians 13:4

Will Work for Kids


Atlanta-based pastor Shaun King ✘ has made a promise to speak or consult with any organization of any size, anywhere in the world at no charge. His only requirement: the ministry using his services must sponsor a child at the Miriam Center

for disabled orphans in Saint-Louis-du-Nord, Haiti.

The Courageous Church pastor is part of a group helping to rebuild this dilapidated orphanage, which King says is Haiti's only school and home for orphans with severe disabilities such as cerebral palsy, autism, deafness and blindness. Many of the children are unwanted by their parents because some Haitians view handicaps as a curse, while others simply can't afford the hefty bill that comes with caring for a disabled child.

"Many of the children were simply dropped off at the doorstep of the Miriam Center," King says. "The director there has picked random birthdays on the calendar for most of the children."

Modeling Faith Through Cerebral Palsy

Her words slur when she speaks. She has a  hard time opening her hands, and the 23-year-old is only now starting to dress herself without assistance. But Megan Haught is also a model and an aspiring actress who says God is healing her of cerebral palsy,

and she is determined not to allow her illness to deter her dreams.

Haught says she's been visiting a chiropractor, but she attributes her ongoing healing to prayers she and her family have made at her church and the healing rooms she has visited.

"I'm seeing a lot of improvement and my doctors are seeing the improvement," Haught says. Her mother, Susan Haught, clarified her speech as she continued. "I have always known about God and that He could do miracles, but I'm seeing it more now and I have more of a relationship with Him now."

Hope in a Box

Immediately following Japan's devastating earthquake and tsunami, Samaritan's Purse, along with many other Christian organizations, were on the ground in freezing temperatures to help those with little food and clean water and no electricity. The humanitarian group has already distributed more than 93 tons of emergency supplies, including 10,000 hygiene kits.

You can help too. Here's how:

PRAY:

- That God would provide supernatural comfort, peace and provision to those suffering.
- For wisdom and strength for volunteers and church partners.

GIVE:

- Via *Charisma's* nonprofit partner, Christian Life Missions, where 100 percent of your donation goes to ministries helping those on the ground. Call 407-333-0600 or visit *christianlife* for more info.

GO:

- Volunteer with ministries currently working in Japan such as Doug Stringer's Somebody Cares.

Feedback

DISCERNING THE DISCERNERS

Regarding Marcus Yoars' March column, what might be even more enlightening from you is a discerning article about what is really going on at these Christian discernment ministries. You mention the goal is to "develop enough discernment to find the pearls" in today's media world. The fact is, in my own life I used to be willing to compromise with a certain level of wickedness for the sake of entertainment. As long as it wasn't "too bad" it would justify the pearls that would satisfy my fleshly desire for

entertainment. Many Christians don't want to deny their
fleshly desires
for "entertainment" and even believe that they must tune in to
pop
culture to minister to today's society.

Bernis Ingvaldson, via email

CRISIS IN JAPAN

Thank you for your ministry. I subscribe to your Charisma News
app for the iPhone, and I am glad I do!

I serve the Lord at an associate school of Christ for the
Nations

International, Japan Bible School. In your recent news you
have had

quite a few stories about

Japan, and they have been very encouraging to us here. I have
been

forwarding some of them to my list of friends who pray for
Japan,

including some Japanese people who understand English.

Gerald Goodall, Hokkaido, Japan

Charisma Online

Join the Prayer Boot Camp

Online this month we're giving you the
necessary tools to become effective prayer warriors. It's not
enough for

us just to know that prayer is good; we also need to study God's Word to understand how it can be used to help us pray. Visit any of the topics on this page at to get tools you'll need for being equipped to war in the Spirit. Also, email us at @ and tell us what other topics you'd like us to add tools for.

Do You Know the Value of a Prayer Partner?

If the prayer of one righteous person avails much, think what the prayers of two righteous people will accomplish. Do you see the value in a prayer partner? Go to to learn more about the importance of praying with another person.

How should you Pray for a Wayward Child?

Not in our worst dreams would we imagine our children turning their backs on God as adults. But despite our efforts, many of our kids make decisions that lead them away from what they've been taught. Find tips on praying for your wayward child at .

What does prayer have to do with Power?

You can live a life of extraordinary, supernatural power! The secret is actually simple. Visit to find out how intimacy with God affects the way His power flows through you.

Are You Prepared for Prayer?

Without proper preparation a lawyer would make a fool of himself before the judge, his client, his adversary and the entire courtroom. Likewise, when we intercede in prayer, we plead our case before the eternal judge of the universe—and every case we present calls for genuine preparation. Visit to find out how to effectively prepare for prayer.

Does God Answer All our Prayers?

Consider the times when God didn't seem to answer your prayers, even when you asked for what you thought was a good thing. Why didn't He come through? Find out why God doesn't answer

every prayer at .

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John the Baptist

According to the Scriptures, John was filled with the Holy Spirit "while yet in his mother's womb".

Let us understand this prophet, John the Baptist. According to the Scriptures, John was filled with the Holy Spirit "while yet in his mother's womb" (Luke 1:15). We are also told his coming was in the spirit and power of Elijah. Historians tell

us that John's penetrating, uncompromising ministry led nearly 1 million people to repentance. Vast multitudes left their cities and towns and went into the wilderness to hear the prophet and be baptized into repentance in preparation for the kingdom of God.

Only Jesus knew the fallen condition of the human heart more perfectly than John. No class of people escaped the Baptist's judgment: soldiers and kings, sinners and religious leaders alike were all brought into the "valley of decision." John's baptism was more than a simple immersion in water. He required a public confession of sins as well as the bringing forth of righteousness (Matt. 3:6, 8).

Jesus testified that John was "more than a prophet." He said, among those born of women, "there has not arisen anyone greater than John" (Matt. 11:9-11). John was a "seer prophet," which meant he had open vision into the spirit realm. He testified that "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven" (John 1:32). He saw "the wrath to come" (Matt. 3:7). He witnessed "the kingdom of heaven" (v. 2). John had insight into the secrets of men's hearts. His vision penetrated the veneer of the well-respected Pharisees; within their souls he saw a "brood of vipers" (v. 7). Understand this about prophets: they are aware of things that are hidden from other men.

But when Jesus came to be baptized, before the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended, John saw something that was overwhelming even to his standard of righteousness. He gazed into Jesus's heart, and he saw no sins, no lies, no lusts. John saw a level of holiness that, without knowing he was gazing at the Messiah, caused him to utter with astonishment, "I have need to be baptized by You" (v. 14).

Jesus, as the "Lamb of God" (John 1:36), was without spot or blemish. This is exactly what the prophet beheld in Jesus: spotless purity of heart. Christ's virtue took John's breath

away! The powerful emanation of Christ's inner purity made John immediately aware of his own need. When John saw Jesus, he discovered a level of righteousness that was higher, purer than his own. This great prophet looked into the heart of Jesus, and in the brightness of Christ's holiness he cried, "I have need."

And so it is with us. Each time we see Jesus, each successive revelation of Christ's purity makes our need more apparent. As Christ's holiness unfolds before us, we cannot but echo the same cry of John the Baptist: "I have need to be baptized by You!"

Yet, in the beginning of our walk, we embraced life in our own strength, trusting in our own skills for success and attainment. Yes, we turned to God, but mainly in times of grief or trial. But as the Lord brings us into maturity, what we once considered strengths are actually discovered to be more subtle and, therefore, more dangerous weaknesses. Our pride and self-confidence keep us from God's help; the clamor of our many ideas and desires drown the whisper of the still small voice of God. Indeed, in God's eyes, the best of human successes are still "wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked" (Rev. 3:17).

Two Thumbs-Up for Smart Technologies!

I double-checked the message I had just texted to a close friend on my new smartphone. I couldn't help but smile!