

Why Women Must Embrace This Critical Spiritual Warfare Tactic

Sometimes, believers reach a point in their lives where a paradigm shift must occur if they want to move forward, Pastor Mia Wright says. They must either take the initiative to make changes or continue to wallow in misery.

That's what happened in the biblical story of the woman with the issue of blood. After 12 years of suffering, she decided to touch the hem of Jesus' garment and be made well. She told herself, and the enemy, "Enough is enough."

This story inspired Wright, co-pastor with her husband of Fountain of Praise Church in Houston, to help shatter the ideals of her traditional upbringing where women had little to no voice in the church.

"We just have to get to the place in our lives that we say, 'I want something different, something I've never experienced before,'" Wright told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of "Greenelines" on the Charisma Podcast Network. "All our lives we're trained to believe one thing, even if it's not what God wants for us.

"What do you believe? What do you believe God can do in your life? I want to trust God for something that He has told me about. Maybe it's a promise years ago that I haven't realized. We have to challenge what we think about those things so we can do it and see God's hand when we do it. When God begins to reveal his truth to us, we have to begin to open up our mindset to understand it and embrace it."

For more on how to make a radical paradigm shift in your life, listen to the podcast below.

Francesca Battistelli's Mom: How to Recognize When God Has 'Dared' You

Several times throughout her life, Kate Battistelli says, God put opportunities in front of her that made no sense. Though she never believed she was equipped to carry out those tasks, Battistelli allowed God to work through her and do things she never dreamed she could.

The mother of Grammy Award-winning Christian artist Francesca Battistelli, Kate Battistelli performed one of the lead roles in more than 1,000 shows of *The King and I*, one of the most beloved Broadway musicals of all time. Saying she had no little to no writing talent, she has now also written two books, the first of which fared well in the Christian literary circles.

In her latest, *The God Dare*, she chronicles all the times God has "dared" her during her life to come up higher and do the things that He has willed for her.

"If God is insistent, like he was with Moses, then you really don't have a choice, do you?" Battistelli told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of "Greenelines" on the Charisma Podcast Network. "It's pretty comical to me to think, *How do you say no to God?* But people do it all the time.

"One of the things for me was writing my first book, *Growing Great Kids*, because I wasn't a writer and had no platform. I fought with Him and said no and gave him every excuse in the world why I couldn't do it. But that's the key. If God calls you to do it, then He will equip you. When it makes no sense

and it's scary and it's crazy, then it's probably God.”

For more of Kate Battistelli's daring story, listen to the podcast below.

How a Spirit-Filled Lady and Derek Prince Helped Turn a Theologian Into a Charismatic

Mark Virkler's conservative Baptist background had him convinced that miracles, healing and speaking in tongues had no place in today's church world. Admittedly egotistical and convinced he was right, Virkler says he would have been part of the Sanhedrin had he lived in the days of Jesus.

But then a teacher, a friend of his fiancée, told him a story about healing that challenged his beliefs, and he began to study Scripture on healing and speaking in tongues. A year later, Virkler, author and founder of Communion with God Ministries, became a charismatic believer and never looked back.

Through Communion with God Ministries, Mark and his wife, Patti, have taught tens of thousands of people how to live a Spirit-led life and to make disciples by the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit.

But it was the teacher's story that helped turn his “Pharisee-like” beliefs—and his life—around.

“People respond differently to stories. Those who love the

truth will let a story speak to them because they honor the story. Those who don't love the truth will dishonor the story," Virkler told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of "Greenelines" on the Charisma Podcast Network. "So, I honored the story because she was a friend and she [was] feeding me.

"I began to explore Scripture a second time. By the time I was done, Derek Prince had taught me that there is a place for miracles, a place for tongues and a place for healing in the kingdom of God. I turned charismatic over the next year of my life because a lady loved me, fed me a meal and told me a story."

For the rest of Mark Virkler's story, listen to the podcast below.

How to Crush Past Hurts in Your Mother-Daughter Relationship

If you have a rocky history with your mother or your daughter, God wants you to know that you don't have to continue those patterns of brokenness. He wants to mend your heart and to make you whole.

Through their book *Mended: Restoring the Hearts of Mothers and Daughters*, mother-daughter co-authors Helen McIntosh and Blythe Daniel want to help in the restoration process and help you discover powerful words that can usher in healing for wounded hearts and rebuild, restore and reconcile your connection.

Daniel says many mothers and daughters waste years of their lives because they are stuck in misunderstanding and bitterness, and neither knows what to say to the other to make the repairs to the relationship.

“A lot of daughters experience the feeling that they don’t measure up and that they are a disappointment to their mothers,” Daniel said on a recent edition of “Charisma Connection” on the Charisma Podcast Network. “What can create a barrier is that the need to be right has become greater than the relationship, and that is heartbreaking.

“Those things need to be addressed, but how do you start a conversation to say some of these things that are really hard to say? If you think about it, Jesus initiated restoration with us. He didn’t wait for us. We came to Him and realized that we needed Him. In the same way, we want to encourage women to be initiators because that’s where the healing begins.”

For more of how to restore your mother-daughter relationship, listen to the podcast below.

What Hurricane Katrina Taught This Spirit-Filled Pastor About Faith

Pastor Michael Green led a thriving Spirit-filled church in New Orleans before what he calls the “evil woman” came through and changed the lives of Green and his family forever.

That evil woman was Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

The storm destroyed their 170 square-foot church, as it did many others, and Green and his congregation had to start from scratch. With the help he received from many national ministries, he began to see God's goodness and mercy in a different light. And now, the pastor of LifeGate Church in Metairie, Louisiana, says he embraces God's call of "building Christ into every life."

"With Hurricane Katrina, we and many believers that went through it understand that God would navigate them through that storm," Green told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of "Greenelines" on the Charisma Podcast Network. "When I started preaching again, I knew these people were suffering.

"I spent six weeks going through the story of Joseph and talking about undeserved tragedy, what the devil intended for evil and how God would turn it around for His good. I began to encourage people and speak blessing to them. And now, I try to speak encouragement in every avenue and everywhere I go."

For the rest of Michael Green's testimony, listen to the podcast at the top of this article.

Why You Can't Believe Government Unemployment Numbers

The government and media may be singing a tune of low unemployment rates in America, but popular blogger and writer

Michael Snyder says they are forgetting to add in one important factor that tells a much different story.

On April 5, the U.S. unemployment rate stood at 3.8 percent, or 6.2 million Americans. Snyder, who blogs at [snyder.com](#), says the number is more like 102 million Americans, a figure that is worse than at any point during the last U.S. recession.

The discrepancy, Snyder says, comes in the number of working-age Americans—approximately 100 million—who are not officially classified as in the labor force. And that, he says, makes a huge difference.

“When Americans don’t have a job, they got either into the category of being officially unemployed or not in the labor force,” Snyder told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent edition of “Greenelines” on the Charisma Podcast Network. “But in both cases, people don’t have a job. We’ve seen the number of officially unemployed go down, and one of the reasons for that is that they made it harder to get unemployment benefits.

“But meanwhile, [the number of] those not in the labor force has gone up and up and up. The number of those not in the labor force have been soaring to one all-time high after another. We’ve never really recovered from where we were before the last recession. If honest numbers were being used, the real rate of unemployment would be 21.2 percent. People are deeply concerned, and a lot of what is being said about how well the economy is doing is not really painting the entire picture.”

For more of Michael Snyder’s thoughts on the American economy, listen to the podcast below.

Samuel Rodriguez: Never Miss Your Blessing Again

People have often asked Pastor Samuel Rodriguez, “When will I experience breakthrough? When will I achieve God’s purpose for my life?”

If you have repeatedly pondered the same questions, Rodriguez says you can find the answer in the John 5 story of Jesus’ response to the man who was paralyzed for 38 years.

“When we depend on others more than we depend on God, perpetual paralysis will define us,” Rodriguez told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of “Greenelines” on the Charisma Podcast Network. “One of the major issues that paralyzes us is this issue of unbridled dependency on others for our integrity, our joy, our peace.

“Psalm 62 says, ‘I depend on God alone.’ God should be the primary source for your joy and your peace. When we push everything at the foot of the cross, when we really live a life that is full of the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, where we are led by the Spirit and not by the flesh as in Galatians 5:16, then that issue of dependency is dealt with.”

To hear more of what Pastor Rodriguez says about how you can destroy what paralyzes you, listen to the podcast below.

God Gives Pastor Vision of European Revival on Same Spot Where Hitler Indoctrinated Thousands

Ben Fitzgerald believes that God is waking the sleeping, dormant churches of Europe to a new era of revival. A native Australian who pastored at Bethel Church in Redding, California, Fitzgerald may not have seemed like the natural pick to lead a European awakening. But in 2014, God gave him a prophetic vision that forever changed the trajectory of his life.

Fitzgerald was speaking at a 2014 conference in Nuremberg, Germany. While there, he and his friend Todd White felt oddly compelled to visit the field where Adolf Hitler had held Nazi rallies decades earlier. On that field, Hitler had indoctrinated tens of thousands of youth into the lies behind his murderous regime.

On that same field, God gave Fitzgerald a vision to impact millions of European lives. In the vision—which he and White shared—Fitzgerald says he saw the faces of people from every nation in Europe, and each person asked the same question: “God, when are you going to take back Europe?”

“It changed the direction of my future,” Fitzgerald says. “I knew my whole life was going to be different, and I had to adopt this vision. I told Todd, ‘We need to do something here. We need to do something in Europe.’”

“Not long after that, I actually had a dream where I was on my knees, praying for someone in Europe,” Fitzgerald says. “In the dream, [this person] held a sign above them that said, ‘No Plan B.’ I believe the Lord was asking me, ‘Will you give

yourself to this and not look back?’ Now that I am in Europe, I feel a sense of destiny, where it has come to an hour when God will bring millions to Him.”

Fitzgerald moved to Germany soon afterward and founded the ministry Awakening Europe, which is dedicated to seeing the entire continent transformed by the gospel. Annual events the ministry has spearheaded have led to hundreds of thousands attending and being trained in evangelism. And Fitzgerald’s efforts are only a small part of how the Holy Spirit is moving mightily in Europe.

The efforts of other kingdom leaders like Jean-Luc Trachsel of the International Association of Healing Rooms; Stephan Christiansen, co-founder of Jesus Revolution in Norway; the Gospel Forum’s Peter and Markus Wenz and others are beginning to reap a huge harvest of souls in Europe. Through training and discipleship programs, Spirit-filled churches and ministries like these, the Holy Spirit is sparking a transformative move of God.

Trachsel, who is also a core team member of Europe Shall Be Saved, believes the recent work of Spirit-filled Christians has put the continent on the brink of revival.

“It’s not yet a revival, but it’s the beginning of a very visible and powerful move of the Holy Spirit,” Trachsel says. “It’s a brand-new season, and God is doing something wonderful here in Europe.”

It’s an incredible turnaround in just a short time.

“A few years ago, the church here was dead,” Trachsel says. “This was the most difficult region in the world to bring the gospel. We all passed through this dark time, and by fighting, fasting and praying, something started to shift, and the Holy Spirit started doing some new things. What we are seeing now is that people are so hungry and thirsty for God here, and it’s happening in many denominations, not just in the

charismatic circles.”

Youth-Led Revival

Europe still has several huge obstacles to overcome en route to revival: the rapid decline of mainline denominations, the massive influx of Muslims and other world-wide religions in recent years, and the overall feeling of hopelessness and desperation Fitzgerald says many Europeans needlessly shoulder every day. Furthermore, economies on the verge of collapse and skyrocketing unemployment rates in many countries are a constant source of fear, if not panic.

“When you think about nations in Europe, particularly in the south, they have never really recovered from the financial crisis of 2008,” says Christiansen. “You have nations like Spain, Italy and Greece [where] you talk about a lost generation, where many believe they have no hope and no future. You have huge unemployment there, and that’s just one of the many tools of the enemy.”

A recent Pew Research Study revealed that 18 percent of Western Europeans are church-attending Christians, while 46 percent are non-practicing Christians. Another 24 percent are “religiously unaffiliated.” Those numbers weren’t satisfactory for Trachsel, who quickly assessed that time was running short.

In 2016, he called key leaders from around the world to meet for a roundtable discussion on how to better reach Europe for Christ. Laying down their own agendas at the last minute to attend, kingdom warriors like Fitzgerald, Heidi Baker, Paul and Sue Manwaring, Peter and Markus Wenz, and Daniel Kolenda converged on Switzerland and devised a strategy to bring 100 million souls to Christ.

“As we are taking the gospel to the people of Europe, we are discovering that these people are hungry and thirsty for God,” Trachsel says. “As they are coming into His presence, the Holy

Spirit is coming upon them, something they've never experienced before. And, as the Holy Spirit is coming to them, the Holy Spirit is telling them to go to the mission field. That's where we are seeing a huge difference."

Other ministries like Jesus Revolution are sending individuals into the mission field in droves. Founded in 1997 in Norway, Jesus Revolution has targeted the youth of Europe with the gospel for the past 22 years. Programs devised by founders Stephan and Anne Christiansen include evangelism and concert teams that tour across Europe, discipleship programs, summer mission tours and even New Year's festivals.

As a result, Jesus Revolution has sent out more than 8,000 young people from 30 nations to spread the gospel through its summer teams program. This summer's program—titled "Impact the Alps"—will bring students to Stuttgart, Germany, for five days of teaching, training and workshops. The ministry will then send groups of students to Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Italy to share the gospel on the streets.

"What we're really about is releasing a whole army of gospel preachers who make Jesus available for young people," Stephan Christiansen says. "What we have seen through the years is that believing, trusting and releasing young people to preach the gospel has really been the key to release its power."

Christiansen says his ministry has seen thousands of European young people come to the Lord.

"There are so many open doors, and so many young people want to respond to the call of salvation," Christiansen says. "What we are doing at Jesus Revolution is to mobilize the body of Christ to stand together for massive evangelization. We do that at many different levels, through our training schools and good old-fashioned revival crusades. We had an event in Rome two years ago where we had 6,000 people hit the streets, and we saw about 1,500 young people receive Jesus in that

scenario and several hundred healings take place. They're hungry, but the need for workers has never been greater."

Transformative Prayers

Another indication of potential revival in Europe in recent years is the emergence of numerous houses of prayer, similar to the International House of Prayer in Kansas City, Missouri, and others found throughout the U.S. Houses of prayer have spread to most major European cities, including Brussels, Belgium; Wien and Vienna, Austria; Berlin, Munich and Heidelberg, Germany; Edinburgh and Glasgow, Scotland; Stockholm, Sweden; and Reykjavik, Iceland. Additional 24/7 houses of prayer have even opened in Prague, Czech Republic; Oslo, Norway; and Warsaw, Poland.

Dr. Johannes Hartl founded the International House of Prayer in Augsburg, Germany in 2005. Today, it's the largest house of prayer in Europe. Hartl says the growth is driven by the next generation.

"The level of prayer is rising," Hartl says. "With the House of Prayer movement and ministries like 24/7 prayer, the topic of prayer is much more prevalent than it used to be. The younger generation loves worship and is drawn to real Spirit-filled worship."

Prayer and the worship of God have not ceased at the International House of Prayer in Augsburg since 2011, which Hartl says is a tangible sign the Holy Spirit is moving mightily in Europe and especially in his home country of Germany. And that has resulted in yet another encouraging byproduct—unity among churches.

"Amidst pervasive secularization, the level of unity in the church is probably higher here than anywhere else on earth," Hartl says. "Evangelicals, Protestants, charismatics, Catholics—without neglecting the differences, there is an overall sense of need to cooperate and help each other in a

measure we did not see a few years ago.

“With the large influx of immigrants from the Middle East, many churches have successfully started to reach out to Muslims. Thousands of previously unreached men and women have heard the gospel. The overall situation remains challenging, but to hear so many conversion stories—many involving dreams and visions of Jesus—is definitely very encouraging.”

One such conversion story involves a popular and respected Czech architect named Frantisek. He was invited in 2017 to Awakening Europe’s Prague gathering by a young woman who gave him a free ticket. Though Frantisek’s job was restoring churches (in addition to government and historic buildings), he was hardly a candidate to become an evangelist. He had tried other religions, like Buddhism, but none gratified his soul or drove away the hopelessness. He later told Fitzgerald he only accepted the ticket because of the “pretty girl” who invited him and because he believed alcohol would be served at the event.

Frantisek felt like he had nothing to lose when he walked into Awakening Europe. What he gained there was the greatest gift he could ever receive: his salvation.

“He told me he walked into the stadium and thought, ‘Wow, this is incredible,’” Fitzgerald says. “The worship music, which he first thought was rock, was pretty strong and he loved it. He said he was simply standing there when he began to feel something touching his life.

“I got up on stage and did a quick 10-minute altar call—a short, clear gospel message. [Frantisek] told me he felt the presence of God all over him, and he responded. ... People prayed for him, and this man got completely transformed. He doesn’t really remember what happened or how it happened, but he left that stadium a completely different man.”

A few months later, Frantisek discovered online that Awakening

Europe would conduct a training school in Germany for students to evangelize the whole of Europe. The training school is an intense, three-day session, by application and invitation only, that teaches students how to lead and run their own stadium and soul-winning events. Frantisek decided to apply and made his way through a highly scrutinized application process, where he caught the eye of school officials.

“He came to the school and thanked me for having him there,” Fitzgerald says. “I asked him where he was a pastor or an evangelist, and he said, ‘I’m not. I’m not even sure what an evangelist is.’ I explained to him what an evangelist is: somebody who wins the lost. ... Now this man preaches the gospel wherever goes. He’s since been filled with the Holy Spirit and is now a huge carrier of light. He’s one of our greatest examples of a person who was saved and is now bearing so much fruit.”

Ministry to the Unreached

The Balkan Peninsula in southeast Europe—comprised of countries like Romania, Serbia and the European part of Turkey—presents perhaps the biggest cultural challenge for evangelization, Christiansen says.

Islam is the primary religion in Kosovo (96 percent), Turkey (99 percent), Bosnia and Herzegovina (45 percent) and Albania (58 percent). In fact, Protestantism represents only 6 percent of the population in Romania and only 1 percent in Serbia.

“What is difficult for some in the Western world to comprehend is that you have some nations over here that lack even the most basic Christian infrastructure,” Christiansen says. “It’s like going into a third-world country and attempting to sell cell phones. There is not a functioning network, so you have to first establish a network, which is a tedious process.

“At the same time in that same region, Muslims and the officials of the religion of Islam know the strategic

importance of that area because it is the gateway between the East and West in Europe. The Saudi Arabian and Turkish governments are pouring in billions of dollars, building mosques everywhere. They are also targeting youth in those countries because they know the youth are important to the future of their cause.”

But Christiansen says there is hope for the region. In 2018, he and members of Jesus Revolution went into a Muslim-majority city in the Balkans of 150,000 people (unspecified here for security reasons). His team discovered only five evangelical believers, less than one-tenth of a percent of the population, in the entire city. Not one church existed.

Christiansen says he was told that Christianity had not been preached in the city, to the knowledge of the people he spoke with, since the Ottoman Empire came into the area and occupied it in 1389—over six centuries ago. His group stayed in that area for a week. Before they left, Christiansen says more than 1,000 people received Jesus. He says many miracles took place, including 285 “instant healings,” in just a few days.

“I’ve never seen anything like it,” Christiansen says. “The blind were seeing, the deaf were hearing, and people were throwing away their crutches. This was happening in public—the Muslim towns and villages—in front of everybody.”

Christiansen says he knows exactly why this happened.

“People in these areas and these countries are hungry for something they can’t even understand,” he says. “A lot of them have a culture that is inclined toward the West, so it’s not like the youth are stuck in the traditional culture of the country. But they certainly don’t know Jesus. The door is wide open, but how can they believe unless they hear? How can they hear unless someone pitches it to them? That’s why we need a massive mobilization of workers, people who are willing to go there and bring the gospel to them.”

Awakening Europe, Europe Shall be Saved and other ministries intend to keep doing exactly that—and keep the momentum going for the remainder of 2019 and into 2020. Fitzgerald says God recently gave him yet another prophetic vision—he calls it “the callback”—in which individuals of European heritage now living in other parts of the world will converge on their cities of origin in summer 2020 for an opportunity to evangelize. That means believers of Italian descent will travel to Italy to share the gospel, or people of Dutch descent will come to the Netherlands to share Jesus with the lost.

“We’re calling the whole world back to Europe, not to attend a conference or an event, but to come to the nation of their heritage,” Fitzgerald says. “...We are encouraging them to begin to look at what God is doing here. We are encouraging them to look at the unity we share and the people’s focus on the harvest, and see the thousands upon thousands who are being saved here. If they cannot make it, we simply encourage them to pray for their country of origin and believe that God can turn Europe around and [the nations will] become some of the greatest missional sending nations of the world.”

The event, which kicks off in Amsterdam, is only the beginning of what Christiansen believes God will do in Europe.

“I really feel that Europeans haven’t said no to Jesus—they just hadn’t had Him made available to them,” Christiansen says. “When Jesus is let loose, He’s alive, and the gospel works everywhere. No exceptions.”

Shawn A. Akers is a content development editor for *Charisma Media*.

CHARISMA is the only magazine dedicated to reporting on what the Holy Spirit is doing in the lives of believers around the world. If you are thirsty for more of God’s presence and His

Holy Spirit, subscribe to CHARISMA and join a family of believers that choose to live life in the Spirit. [CLICK HERE](#) for a special offer.

End-Times Expert: Is God's Patience Running Out?

God has been “exceedingly patient with America,” says popular blogger and writer Michael Snyder. Our nation’s moral steep moral decline includes the passing of laws adopting gay marriage and the murder of 60 million children through abortion.

The Lord’s patience, Snyder says, may be nearing its end.

“God has been patient, and He has been sending warnings saying, ‘Come on back to me, come on back to me,’” Snyder told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of “Greenelines” on the Charisma Podcast Network. “God always gives us a choice. He sets before us life and death, blessings and cursings even when it seems like judgment is imminent, like with the story of Jonah and Nineveh. Jonah went to Nineveh and declared, ‘Judgment is coming,’ but they repented as a nation, and God withdrew the judgment.

“God always wants to be merciful. He says, ‘If you do things My way, things will go very well for you. If you don’t do things My way, then things are going to go very badly for you, and judgment will inevitably come.’

“God has set this before America. The reason God is giving us this warning is that there is a redemptive purpose for it. God wants to bring revival. He wants to draw us back to Himself.”

For more of Michael Snyder's thoughts about the dark path down which America is headed and God's plan for redemption, listen to the podcast below.

Spirit-Filled New York City Pastor: 'We Shouldn't Preach Hell Without Tears in Our Eyes'

This week on an episode of *Fox and Friends*, Pastor Ron Lewis of Every Nation Church in New York City said that pastors need to be true to their convictions instead of succumbing to fear and pressure when addressing hot-button cultural topics in the pulpit.

A new study by Barna Group, published in January, revealed that half of American pastors worry about preaching on cultural issues such as abortion, LGBTQ issues and the reality of hell simply because they might offend someone.

Lewis appeared on the Fox News show with Pastor Michael Youssef of Atlanta and Pastor Corey Brooks of Chicago.

"Because we are called of God to preach the gospel and to preach the counsel of God, we really need to be true to the Word of God and not cave into fear or the overt concern about offending people," Lewis told Dr. Steve Greene on a recent episode of "Greenelines" on the Charisma Podcast Network. "For example, the topic of hell. We need to go deeper in our theological understanding of hell."

“I know there is a movement today that would want to completely ignore hell. Obviously, universalism is growing in its popularity through certain teachers,” Lewis said. “But, it’s like one of the ancient men said, we shouldn’t preach hell without tears in our eyes. If we really believe it, we should not be so cavalier with this. We don’t want anyone to end up in hell, so we need not to be the stumbling block but let the Word of God itself penetrate the heart and also let us, as ambassadors for Christ, feel what God feels and see what He sees.”

For more of Pastor Ron Lewis’ thoughts on preaching on cultural issues, listen to the podcast below.