

Jesus Appeared in Her Kitchen in a Blinding Light—What Happened Next Rocked Her World!

In a powerful interview on “The Shawn Ryan Show,” Leigh Bortins—founder of the classical education movement Classical Conversations—shared a stunning account of a supernatural encounter with Jesus that radically changed her life.

“The Holy Spirit in the form of Jesus came into my kitchen in a blinding light, knocked me down,” Bortins revealed. “The book fell. My husband looks over and said, ‘What happened?’ and I said, ‘Did you see that?’ and he said, ‘No, but there was obviously something just happened to you.’”

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The moment was deeply spiritual and deeply unsettling. “It was the most terrifying thing in my life that that happened. And if you read through Scripture, whenever an angel comes down, it’s ‘fear not.’ It is scary,” she explained. “I didn’t go to church for a year. I didn’t read anything about the Scriptures. Nothing. I was like, ‘Oh my gosh, I don’t want that.’”

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At the time, Bortins and her husband were not Christians. A trained aerospace engineer, she had made the unconventional choice to leave her career and homeschool her children. “We weren’t Christians at the time, but we wanted better academics, and we saw the destruction of the family occurring.. and we’re like, ‘This is destroying the family. We’re not

going to let that happen to ours.’”

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Despite not knowing Christ, the Lord was already pursuing her. She explored a wide range of religious beliefs—Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormons and Protestants. But it was her neighbor who persistently invited her to church, handed her Christian books and even paid for her to attend a creationism conference. “We left kind of mad that even though we didn’t believe any of it, that we’d never heard any of it.”

Eventually, Bortins was confronted with a truth she could no longer deny. “I was reading a book from Josh McDowell... and he brings up C.S. Lewis’s logical option—that either He is the Lord, He’s a lunatic or He’s a liar. And we have to pick.”

After a nature walk with her husband one day, Bortins describes how she finally knew that God was the One worth living for.

“At that moment, I knew that I was His forever... That He put me on this Earth with a purpose, and it was to serve Him.”

From a blinding light in her kitchen to the foundation of a national homeschool movement, Leigh Bortins’ testimony is a striking reminder of God’s power to pursue, reveal and redeem.

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Abby Trivett is content development editor for Charisma Media.

Amanda Grace's Prophetic Vision for the Future: The 'Revelationary War' Has Just Begun!

It's the season no one prays for, no one expects, and most of us try to avoid—what John and Lisa Bevere call the “wilderness season.”

In a recent episode of their Conversations podcast, the couple leaned into the topic of spiritual seasons, with a focus on the most difficult one believers often endure. “What's the least favorite season that we as Believers experience?” John asked. “Without a doubt I would say it's a wilderness season.”

Referencing Scripture and personal stories, the Beveres unpack how God doesn't waste our winter seasons. “The Bible says that Jesus was led by the spirit of God into the wilderness for 40 days,” John said. It wasn't punishment—it was preparation.

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Lisa echoed this truth with a personal account of a time when God asked her to separate from new friendships. “I was like, no, no, no, no, no, you don't mean that,” she said. But God challenged her thinking. “You can make a choice whether this is a season of lonely or a season of alone.”

That choice—how we respond in a difficult season—is central to the Bevere message. “You can fight against the season or you can cooperate with the season,” John said. When believers resist what God is doing, the results can be devastating. “They got offended,” he said of the Israelites, “and so when

you get offended your behavior is going to always be counterproductive.”

Instead, believers are encouraged to lean in, to let God do the hard work of pruning, even when it feels like loss. “The branches that bear fruit, he’ll prune,” John reminded listeners. “They didn’t do anything wrong. But they’re cut off because it’s going to produce more fruit.”

Lisa emphasized that “God is doing a new thing,” and warned that it’s always easier to do the old thing. But that’s not the path of growth. “You don’t discover the new thing by looking at what people are saying,” she said. “You discover the new thing by getting into Scripture and seeing what God is saying.”

For anyone walking through spiritual winter, feeling isolated or stuck, their message is simple: Don’t miss the purpose of the season.

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Before closing the episode, the Beveres offered a heartfelt prayer, asking God for three specific things for their listeners:

1. That they recognize the season they are in.
2. That they recognize the season the body of Christ is in.
3. That they would know what to do in that season.

They prayed that “their behavior would line up with the will of God so that they can flourish as that springtime comes back

in.”

In a time when many feel like they’re in a holding pattern, or maybe walking through spiritual frost, this podcast offers a timely reminder: God is faithful—even in the wilderness.

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Character Traits of Those Who Make God Their Dwelling Place (Part 1)

The kingdom of God is more than an attempt to change a lost world; it is about reclaiming and functioning within what God has always sovereignly owned and managed. Psalm 24:1 declares, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” God framed creation and entrusted it to humanity for stewardship (Gen. 1:26-28). To make God our dwelling place is to understand His sovereignty, His presence, and our role in the cosmos He created. Moses even said, “Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations” (Ps. 90:1).

This perspective reframes reality. Time and space, as Hebrews 11:3 reminds us, exist within God’s creative matrix. Acts 17:28 declares, “In him we live and move and have our being.” Coming into this revelation transforms our understanding of worship, life, and purpose. It shifts us from “going to church” to seeing the cosmos as God’s sacred dwelling place.

Hence, Christ is not only “in” believers—but we are truly “in Him” and exist within His reality!

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Furthermore, as His family, the church represents His Lordship on earth as it is in heaven.

Here are ten traits of those who make God their dwelling place.

1. Gratitude for Everything

Profound gratitude is the first mark of someone who makes God their dwelling place. James 1:17 reminds us, “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.” Recognizing that every blessing, resource, and opportunity comes from God fosters a heart of thankfulness.

When we acknowledge that the earth and everything belong to God, we shift from entitlement to appreciation. Gratitude becomes a daily act of worship, recognizing God’s provision in all areas of life.

2. A Life Centered on Worship

Those who dwell in God find worship woven into every aspect of their existence—prayer, work, family, rest. Worship is not limited to Sunday services but permeates every moment, reflecting the rhythm of creation (1 Cor. 10:31).

In Genesis, the six days of creation culminated in the seventh Day, a Sabbath of rest and worship, demonstrating that all activity ultimately leads back to glorifying God. Even the natural world testifies to His greatness: “The trees of the

field clap their hands, and the rocks cry out in praise," (Isa. 55:12; Luke 19:40).

For such individuals, worship becomes not an event but a lifestyle.

3. Submission to Christ's Lordship

To make God your dwelling place is to recognize His absolute Lordship. Psalm 90:1 and 91:9 speak of God as the eternal refuge. This means submitting to His authority in every area of life.

Every decision, action, and goal becomes an opportunity to honor Him. Those who dwell in God's presence are constantly aware that Christ is not just Savior but Lord. His will becomes the standard for all they do, and obedience is their ultimate act of love (John 14:15).

4. No Separation Between Secular and Sacred

People who make God their dwelling place understand that all life is sacred. There is no division between what is "secular" and what is "spiritual" because "The earth is the Lord's," (Ps. 24:1).

Work, family life, recreation, and even mundane tasks are opportunities to glorify God. This understanding dissolves artificial boundaries, allowing them to see every moment as a chance to reflect God's kingdom.

5. Integration of Church and Workplace

In the same way that they do not separate the secular from the sacred, these individuals refuse to divide the "church place" from the "workplace." They see their work, whether in an

office, a field, or a factory, as a ministry and an extension of God's mission.

Colossians 3:23-24 encourages, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord." The workplace becomes a platform for reflecting Christ's values and principles.

6. Stewardship of Creation

Making God your dwelling place instills a deep sense of responsibility for creation. Genesis 1:26-28 calls humanity to steward the earth as caretakers under God. This involves honoring and studying the natural world, using resources wisely, and protecting the environment as an act of worship (Ps. 111:2).

In recognizing creation as God's possession, these individuals see stewardship as optional and a divine mandate.

7. A Call to Restore the Breach

Isaiah 61:3-4 speaks of those who will "rebuild the ancient ruins" and "restore the places long devastated." Those who dwell in God feel compelled to be restorers—healing broken relationships, rebuilding communities, and bringing God's justice to areas of destruction.

This trait reflects God's heart for communities, cities, and nations. He has called His people to stand in the gap and see every "pain point" in their community as an opportunity to manifest God's creative solutions that elevate the quality of

life for all as a witness of the gospel.

8. Using Finances to Advance God's Kingdom

Those who see God as their dwelling place view their finances as a tool for kingdom work. They understand that their wealth is not their own but entrusted to them by God for His purposes (Deut. 8:18).

This perspective drives them to give generously to support the gospel, help the needy, and invest in causes that reflect God's heart. They live with the mindset that "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also," (Matt. 6:21).

9. Appreciation of Nature as a Reflection of God's Glory

Creation is seen as a useful resource and a reflection of God's glory and creativity. Psalm 19:1 declares, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Those who dwell in God cultivate an acute appreciation for nature, seeing it as a testimony to His power and wisdom. Whether marveling at a sunrise or tending a garden, they are reminded of God's beauty and majesty.

10. An Acute Sense of God's Nearness

Finally, those who make God their dwelling place experience an unparalleled awareness of His presence. Acts 17:28 declares, "In him we live and move and have our being." This sense of nearness transforms their view of reality, enabling them to see God's hand every moment.

Psalm 91:9 promises, "If you say, 'The Lord is my refuge,' and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake

you.” This intimate relationship with God provides peace, security, and confidence, even in trials.

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Making God your dwelling place transforms every aspect of life. It shifts your perspective from merely “attending church” to living as part of God’s sacred cosmos. Those who embody these 10 traits demonstrate what it means to reclaim their role as stewards of creation, ambassadors of the kingdom, and worshippers of the Most High.

Understanding that the earth is the Lord’s and living in the light of this revelation calls us to gratitude, worship, submission, and stewardship. It reminds us that in every moment and every place, God is near—inviting us to dwell in Him and reflect His glory to the world.

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The Other Francis

A lot of attention has been focused on St Francis of Assisi after Cardinal Bergoglio took the name of Francis upon his election as Pope. As well we should, because St. Francis taught his followers to share the Gospel more by what they do than what they say.

Next week, on April 8, we mark the life of another Francis who, it is believed, is also a role model for the new Pope. On that date in 1541 Francis Xavier began his extraordinary

missionary journey to the East. Over the next 10 years he traveled through 50 kingdoms and baptized more than 1,000,000 people. He founded churches from India to Japan, earning the title "Apostle to the Indies."

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Beyond his importance as an Asian missionary, Francis Xavier pioneered a return of Christian missions to its Gospel roots. The Medieval model of missions called for conquest and forced conversion, as exemplified by the Spanish conquests and failed conversions in the New World. Francis Xavier showed that heartfelt conversion won by the love of God was not only more scriptural, it was more effective. In that sense he is the father of all modern Christian missions.

Francis Xavier lived in an age of upheaval, when Europeans had begun challenging the pagan kingdoms of the East for commerce and, later, military supremacy. The European traders were interested in gold, not God, but they undermined the power of the Pagan Kings and the Pagan Gods they claimed to represent. The traders also curtailed the power of the Islamic merchants and stopped the Islamic expansion into the Far East. As a result, societies which had been closed to Christianity became more open, and Christian missionaries were able to present the Gospel. For Francis Xavier, a million baptisms followed.

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These European powers eventually spread their empires throughout the world, replacing Pagan kingdoms in the Americas, Africa and Asia. While these nations were seldom, if ever, interested in spreading Christianity, many missionaries followed in the footsteps of Francis Xavier and brought God's love to the colonized peoples. Today there are thriving

Christian communities in the Americas, Africa and Asia because of these missionary efforts.

Also, today, we find that it is Europe which has abandoned its Christian roots and fallen into darkness. So, it seems somehow to be fitting that a Pope taking the name Francis would come from a place which was Christianized by missionaries like Francis Xavier, and would now return to Europe to preach a new evangelism to the lost Europeans.

We pray for Pope Francis, a man of the Spirit and a uniter of Christians, that he will help lead the whole church to challenge the European societies and open them to the Gospel like the Europeans did to the Pagan world 500 years ago.

We pray also for the unity of the church and a spiritual awakening of the church to enable it to be faithful in our generation as Francis Xavier was in his.

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Massive Move of God? Baylor Students Cry Out for Revival—and What Happened

Next Is Powerful!

There's no doubt that a spiritual movement is taking place across college campuses. In almost every region of the country, young people are having their lives impacted by the love of Jesus Christ. This week, thousands of students at Baylor University gathered for 72 hours of continuous prayer to ask God for revival on their campus in Waco, Texas.

Since 2019, students have gathered for FM72, or Fountain Mall 72, under a white tent for three days to pursue "the heart of God."

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Each year, the tent has gotten bigger, the crowds have gotten larger, but the heart has remained the same.

In a powerful prophetic moment, Mike Thompson delivers a stirring message that resonated with the spiritual urgency of the times. Filled with the anointing of the Holy Spirit, Thompson declares, "Rise up, rise up, lion's army, rise up for the victory at hand."

One of the key reasons we must declare victory right now is what Thompson says is a "Philistine spirit" trying rise up against our nation.

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"The battle is the Lord's, and the victory is yours, but keep your eyes upon the victory," Thompson says.

He urges Christians not to be distracted by the enemies rising against them, but to stand firm in their faith, knowing that they will emerge victorious. This Philistine spirit is a symbol of opposition to God's purposes, but Thompson reassures believers, "You shall defeat the enemy in every turn, for the enemy is not God; he is a wicked spirit, a usurper."

Just because the enemy is real, we need still to remember and realize that our God is much greater and more powerful than anything that the darkness tries to throw at us.

"The true spirit of God is moving not only through you and doing spiritual warfare but He is moving with victory and reward upon the face of the earth," Thompson says.

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He encourages believers to embrace the Holy Spirit's anointing, which brings both personal and spiritual breakthroughs, declaring, "It will come at times in a soft way that softens your heart and brings loving embraces with your family... but it also comes in the area of strength as you fight the enemy."

This divine empowerment, according to Thompson, is the key to cultivating the kingdom of God on earth.

"The kingdom of God is as a seed that is planted and it grows up and it yields the fruit that is necessary to promote the covenant of God," he says.

He also stressed the importance of discerning between the true voice of prophecy and the false voices of the enemy. "You'll operate not in the false voice of prophecy but in the true voice of prophecy, which is from Him, your Lord and your Savior," Thompson says.

In these tumultuous times, Mike Thompson's prophetic word is a powerful call to rise up in faith and authority. The Philistine

spirit may be at work, but the victory already is ours through the power of the Holy Spirit. As we stand firm, focusing not on the battle but on the promised triumph, we will witness the kingdom of God advancing mightily in our lives, our nation and the world. Now is the time to embrace the victory—your destiny is unfolding in the glory of God.

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Congresswoman Warns: Satan's Lie Is Spreading Through Our Youth Ministries

There's a battle raging in America today, but it's not just political—it's spiritual. And if the church doesn't open its eyes soon, we may find ourselves complicit in affirming lies that come straight from the pit of Hell.

As reported by The Christian Post, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA), and several of her colleagues called out what many believers already sense in their spirits: the transgender movement isn't just a cultural shift, it's a spiritual deception.

"I think it's a direct attack on God's creation," Greene said on the "Right to the Point" podcast. "God created us male and female just like the bill is stating, male and female in His image, and that's why the Left is attacking it."

That's not just political rhetoric—it's biblical truth. Genesis 1:27 says, "So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them." No middle ground. No confusion.

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Greene and other congressional leaders are backing H.R. 1399, the "Protect Children's Innocence Act," a bill that would make it a felony to perform sex-change procedures on minors. It also gives harmed children the right to sue those responsible. That's more than policy—it's an act of compassion to protect kids from irreversible damage.

Rep. Diana Harshbarger (R-TN) didn't mince words: "It's a lie from the pits of hell that you can change your sex; you can't change your DNA." She's right. We're not just dealing with bad science—we're dealing with demonic lies that twist God's design.

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What's even more alarming is when these deceptions creep into the church. Greene took aim at North Point Community Church, led by pastor Andy Stanley, after a leaked video allegedly showed staff being trained to affirm trans pronouns and names for minors. "That should never happen in church, because that is... confirming Satan's lie to these vulnerable children," she said.

This isn't just a political battle, folks. As Rep. Harshbarger pointed out, "What the Bible says is ... what is construed as right in the end days will be looked at as wrong, and what is wrong will be looked at as right." We are there. Isaiah 5:20 warned us: "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil."

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Rep. Mark Alford (R-MO) tied it all back to the Garden of Eden. "It's a great lie that Satan had from the very beginning... he is a liar and deceiver," he said. And that same lie—that we can redefine ourselves outside of God's image—is being sold to our children today. Tragically, even some churches are buying in.

Let's be clear: Christians aren't called to hate. We're called to love with truth. Telling someone the truth about who they are in Christ is the most loving thing we can do. Affirming confusion is not compassion—it's spiritual compromise.

This is more than a bill. It's a line in the sand. As believers, we must choose whether we will stand on the unchanging Word of God or bow to the pressures of culture and deception.

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Digital Currency or Digital

***Control? The Beast System Is
Here***