

Learning to Walk in the Supernatural

Last December I was in Brazil with a team of about 80 people that included my friend Blaine Cook. Blaine is the man God used to bring an outpouring of Holy Spirit power upon my Baptist church in 1984, and he was instrumental in my own baptism of the Spirit.

Observing the team members when we first arrived in Brazil, Blaine noticed the majority of them were new to the mission field. For many, this was their first ministry trip. Most had very little experience praying for the sick or moving in words of knowledge.

One week later, on the trip home, Blaine said to me, “For me, the most amazing part of this entire trip was the transformation of the team. They arrived fearful, unsure, anxious and many without any experience. They are returning home confident, full of faith, excited and transformed. They aren’t the same! They’re confident in prayer and expectant and strong in faith. How did so much happen in such a short time?”

In my 43 years of ministry, 29 of those spent in the ministry of healing, I have taken more than 5,000 people all over the world, teaching and ministering healing, and I have seen this transformation happen over and over again. I have seen God take ordinary believers and transform them into ministers of the gospel who walk confidently in the power of the Spirit with miracles, signs and wonders following.

I want to share with you a few lessons I’ve learned on how this happens so you can experience this transformation too.

1) It Takes Time and Training

The first thing to know is that this transformation is not instantaneous. It is a process that requires commitment, effort, desire and faith.

Additionally, based upon my own experience, this process takes place in a community that has the ability to train and equip believers and then release them into situations in which God will move in power through them.

If you desire to learn to walk in the supernatural with miracles, signs and wonders following, then a good first step is to find a community of believers who are moving in the supernatural with integrity and with fruit that gives witness to the glory of God. Seek out a church or faith community with pastors who are committed to develop, by practice, a greater sensitivity and accuracy in the operation of the gifts—especially the gifts of the word of knowledge and prophecy. These gifts have a connection to healing, especially inner healing.

These pastors must strive to understand the ways of God in relation to the ministry of healing. They need to grow in their understanding of the kingdom of God and discover how to operate in the gift of faith, working with the Holy Spirit to create an environment that is more conducive for faith to occur in the people of the congregation. And they must possess a desire to equip believers by offering training and by facilitating opportunities for healing in their services and training schools.

2) It's About God's Glory

Ministering in the supernatural is all about giving glory to God. The focus is never on those of us who minister. When I pray for healing and someone is healed, I am not the one who healed them. Jesus is the healer through His finished work on the cross. The ministry of healing flows from the cross of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

There is a commensurate relationship between how much glory is given to God and how much we, the church, out of obedience and intimacy receive revelation from God of what He wants us to do. The stronger this relationship, the more we can act in faith and in the authority of His name.

3) It Requires Faith

It takes faith to allow the power of the Spirit to flow through us to others, and God has gone to extremes to create faith in us. He gives us the Holy Spirit, who gives the gift of faith. He gives His words in the Bible, with its tremendous, almost unbelievable promises to encourage our faith and be the basis for our faith. He gives us promises about healing and about miracles and about authority granted to us in Jesus' name. He tells us that all things are possible—that we can command the mountains to move into the sea and that we can have what we ask if we do not doubt.

On top of all this, He anchors these promises in the covenant through the sacrificial death of Jesus, who bore our sicknesses and diseases in His body when He was crucified, just as He bore our sins, trespasses and iniquity. (See Isaiah 53.)

Ministering in the supernatural is often spelled *risk*. Clergy and laity alike must be willing to step out in faith, believing God is who He says He is, if they are to flow in the supernatural.

4) It Means Learning From the Scriptures

One way you can begin to build your faith for healing is to find all of the passages in the New Testament that deal with healing and study them, asking the Holy Spirit to teach you about healing. As you study the healings in the Gospels, you will build your expectation and your understanding of the ministry of healing with Jesus as your model.

The more time you spend in God's Word, the more intimate you will become with Him. We must be intimate with the Father if we are to walk in His supernatural ways, just as Jesus was intimate with the Father.

In John 16, Jesus tells His disciples, "I am going to the Father." Then He says, "But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you" (vv. 13-14, NIV).

This is a picture of the Trinity. We ask the Father in the name of Jesus, then the Holy Spirit comes and enables us because Jesus has given us the authority, and this in turn brings glory to the Father and the Son.

As we become more intimate with each Person of the Trinity, we begin to see the connection between revelation, which is about hearing from the Father, and sanctification, which is about obedience. We obey Him because we love Him, and out of our obedience flows a fruitfulness that gives witness to God's glory in miracles, signs and wonders.

5) It Accompanies the Gospel

The power to heal and to deliver is part of the gospel, and as such it should accompany the proclamation of the gospel. Jesus' coming made the power of the kingdom of heaven and of God available to us who have entered the kingdom in the present and are waiting for the consummation of that same kingdom.

The gospel of Jesus and His apostles was the gospel of the kingdom of God. This kingdom dawned with the coming of Jesus and is to be ever increasing. The gates of hell will not be able to stand the advance of the church with its message of

the kingdom of God, which is based upon the revelation that Jesus is the Christ. Like leaven, the kingdom is to eventually leaven the whole lump—to affect all the systems of the world—just as the mustard seed continues to grow until it is the largest plant in the garden.

About one-fourth of the verses in the Gospels deal with Jesus healing someone or explaining healing or going to heal someone or commissioning His disciples to heal the sick. This emphasis on healing continues in the first recorded history of Christianity, the book of Acts. It is also evident in the epistles, with their mention of signs and wonders and the ministry of healing as the primary display of a sign or wonder.

Paul, near the end of his most doctrinal epistle, says, “For I would not dare say anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to make the Gentiles obedient by *word and deed, by the power of miraculous signs and wonders, and by the power of God’s Spirit*. As a result, I have *fully proclaimed the good news* about the Messiah from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum” (Rom. 15:18-19, HCSB, emphasis added).

God’s calling card—His main plan of evangelism—is to demonstrate His power through healing and deliverance. The power to heal and deliver is not given to prove the truth of the message of the gospel but to demonstrate the message of a compassionate God who cares about our lives here as well as in the hereafter.

6) Its Fruit Is Joy

When we understand the authority we have in Christ, we will be better able to embrace the joy He has for us. You see, Jesus has a joy for us that cannot be taken away. It is a joy that springs from authority—an authority given to us to ask and receive. In the finished work of the cross, we can ask the

Father for anything in the name of His Son, Jesus.

In His own words, this is what Jesus tells us about this joy: "Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete" (John 16:22-24, NIV).

Let me share a story about how this joy erupts when we walk in the flow of the Spirit of healing. I was ministering in Brazil in 2003, and as I was preaching, the Lord gave me an impression that I was to take oil and pour it out on the concrete floor and then tell the people that God said, "There is a river of healing right here, like the Pool of Bethesda, and when you come up and stand in this river, I am going to heal you."

I felt certain it was a word from God, and because I was willing to take a risk in faith, I set about to consecrate the word by pouring oil on the floor and inviting people to come up and be healed.

A man came up with severe neuropathy. He could not lift his feet from the floor. All he could do was shuffle with the assistance of a walker. He was also bent over, not because of a bad back but because of the oppression that was on him.

But he made his way to the front and got into the "pool." And God started healing him. The man was able to lift up a heel and then a foot, and then he started walking normally, without shuffling. And then his back began to straighten up, and his head came up too. Hope came upon him, and as it did, it began breaking the oppression.

The man straightened up tall and continued to take steps, and the people saw it. They began to clap for him and to praise God for the miracle that was happening. And then he threw

aside his walker and continued to walk, and the people went crazy with praise because they had seen him come from the back with his walker, bent over, shuffling his feet until he had reached the Pool of Bethesda. He came in faith, he was healed, and there was great joy.

Will You Begin?

If you have a desire and a calling from God to be involved in ministry to needy, hurting people, seek out practical instruction in praying for the needs of others in specific ways. Learn to pray for the sick—for their salvation and deliverance from curses and demonic oppression. Learn how to work within a sound model for healing so that you will be less likely to go astray in the midst of ministry.

The Holy Spirit Himself is our wonderful teacher, and He has a desire to help anyone who is willing. With His guidance, we can become a channel for the love of God to flow into others we are ministering to so that all are blessed. When we learn how to hear God's voice and follow the leading of His Spirit, our lives will become effective and powerful for the advancement of God's kingdom.

Scripture is clear that there can be an impartation of spiritual gifting through prayer and the laying on of hands (1 Tim. 4:14). I recommend that clergy and laity alike receive prayer for impartation whenever practicable. There may be special opportunities for such impartation at crusades or when a healing evangelist visits your church.

There is more power, more passion, more purpose and more pleasure in God—and also more fruit from the ministry of the Holy Spirit—working through our broken clay vessels. As we learn to walk in the supernatural and awaken to the knowledge that God's great power to heal is available for us today, we will find ourselves in a place where the heavens open and the power of evil is confronted and limited. The gifts will come

forth, we will see healings, and the lost will be saved.

God tells us in His Word that “the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea” (Hab. 2:14). Learn to walk in the supernatural, and you will see the floodgates of heaven open and the King of glory come in!

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Should we only pray for a person to be healed when we're led by the Holy Spirit? Randy Clark answers that question at