

# **GOD ASSIGNMENTS**

**By Dale Gentry**

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# **GOD ASSIGNMENTS**

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this book to Chloe J. Gentry, my faithful wife and partner in ministry for 43 years. Most people know her as Jean, but I call her Mrs. America! Through the years her public voice has not been well known, but her presence and influence has been felt everywhere we've ministered. The most Godly woman I have ever known; Jean has been by my side all of these years, encouraging me in every assignment that God has given me, including the writing of this book. I'm very confident that God has given me favor because of her. Jean Gentry is the true epitome of a Proverbs 31 Woman. I love you Jean!

FORWARD- Pastor Tom Peters

I have known Dale Gentry since 1987 and have had the distinct privilege of having him speak dozens of times in the church I pastor in Lake Worth, Florida, as well as traveling internationally with him, ministering in seminars and crusades. He has one of the most accurate prophetic gifts in the Body of Christ today. However, as a pastor for over 35 years, I put character above accuracy. Dale has sterling character.

His prayer ministry has taken him to the White House to lead prayer, has opened doors with athletes in several arenas, as well as heads of state in other countries. All of which are considered "God Assignments." I was with him in the country of Burundi, Africa when he had the opportunity to minister to the President of that nation of eight million people, plus the former presidents and their wives. The prophetic words were so accurate and timely that the President invited him back. He is in relationship with ministers all over the world through his traveling ministry. He also oversees a group of outstanding young men who are considered his prophetic sons.

In a culture where people desperately desire to understand the voice of God, God Assignments encourages you to pray to hear God for yourself. It will cause you to go out into your world daily asking God for divine appointments and divine connections. As Dale speaks from experience, you will truly hear God better.

Tom Peters  
Trinity Church, International  
Lake Worth, Florida

## INTRODUCTION

Have you ever wondered why God chose you to walk on earth at this exact time in history? Think about it for a moment. You could have been born any time in History Past or anytime in History Future, but here you are alive in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Is that a coincidence or happenstance? Absolutely not! You are here by divine design; assigned to this slice of history by the Creator of the universe—Jehovah God. You aren't here just to fill space or be another statistic; you're here now because you were specifically created to make a difference during this particular time in history! You are here on ASSIGNMENT FROM GOD! When God formed you, He created your destiny, which is embedded in your spiritual DNA.

I'm sure you have a pretty good idea how you got here; and you know where you're going when this life is over. The problem that most of us have is what we're supposed to do with the gulf in between those two blessed events. Is life no more than a maze of twists and turns; events and happenings with no rhyme or reason? No, it isn't. Your life is made up of a series of assignments, and those assignments are why God put you right here and right now.

Growing up as the son of a poor Pentecostal preacher in the little town of Comanche, Oklahoma, I knew very little about assignments. We lived in a small remodeled army barrack on Willow Street, which nobody envied. Known as a shotgun house in those days, it was no more than 40 feet long and capped with gray shingles. I was the only boy in town who lived in that kind of house. One of my first boyhood dreams was to live in a house that required a turn somewhere in the floor plan.

I realize now that we were very poor, but no one bothered to tell me. We always had enough to eat and clothes to wear, but there were many less obvious things we didn't have, including a television set. That luxury would have to wait until I was a junior in high school.

However, we lived a life rich in peace, surrounded by an abundance of prayer. My dad got up at five every morning and prayed for at least an hour. While praying, Dad had one volume—loud. O.C. Gentry prayed so loud that sometimes our neighbors knocked on the door requesting that he lower the volume. Although that was quite embarrassing, I now realize that hearing his voice each morning was making a lasting impact on my life. I believe his prayers created an atmosphere where dreams and visions could flourish.

I recall lazy summer days lying on my back looking up at the vast blue sky and dreaming of my future. When a jet flew over, leaving a long trail of smoke, I imagined flying on that plane. My mind winged its way to visit distant lands in faraway countries.

My dreams became so real that during our family gatherings, I assembled my cousins and created dramas, which we presented to the whole clan. That flair for drama later earned me several thespian awards in high school, including best actor. All of this was a response to the many aspirations, which bubbled up full-grown from my heart.

Of course God was preparing me for something far bigger than I could stretch my mind to imagine. I had no way of knowing that He determined our assignments prior to our birth, knitting together the map of our destiny. God had chosen a specific time in history for my birth so that I might fulfill my specific God-given assignments.

I was about to discover my reason for living.

CHAPTER ONE  
DON'T HANG UP!

I landed in Atlanta and quickly turned on my cell phone to let my wife Jean know that I was catching the next flight back to Dallas -Fort Worth. I wasn't going to Africa after all.

I was returning home. Jean and I had been planning this trip to Burundi for several months. We'd first traveled to the small nation in Africa, which was bordered by Rwanda and Tanzania in 1990 with Jamie and Lea Peters when they were praying about birthing a new work in the capitol city. They had asked us to return for this trip to help dedicate a new church facility. When Jean fell ill with some sort of virus, I knew I had to make the trip alone. It should have been no big deal, but as I flew to Atlanta on the first leg of my long journey, I started feeling anxious. Even though Jean and I had traveled to 35 nations,

I had never flown internationally by myself. Somewhere about 35,000 feet in the air I made the decision that I was not going to be able to keep my ministry promise to Jamie and Lea. When I told Jean that I was going to catch the next plane back to DFW, She would have none of it.

"Dale, you made the commitment and you need to keep it," she said. "You're a grown man and you can *do* this!" I insisted that I was coming home and that was that. I was about to hang up the phone and reschedule my flight when she said, "Dale, don't hang up! You can do this. Now go to your next gate and catch your flight to Amsterdam. You'll be okay."

"Don't hang up." Her words brought back memories of a day we were having a quiet lunch, when suddenly, without warning, Jean started choking on a piece of chicken.

Not knowing the Heimlich maneuver, and being unsuccessful in my efforts, I did what any mighty man of God would do—I called 911.

**Pull Quote:** “Don’t hang up, you can do this. People in Burundi are waiting for you. Who knows, one word from God could change the entire nation.”

The operator said, “I’m sending an ambulance. Don’t hang up; I’ll talk you through this.

You can do it.” I followed her instructions and soon Jean and I were laughing in relief.

Now Jean was repeating those words, “Don’t hang up, you can do this. People in Burundi are waiting for you. Who knows, one word from God could change the entire nation.” A God Assignment was in motion, but could I finish?

#### A STEP OF FAITH

I reluctantly boarded the next American Airlines flight to Amsterdam, still feeling quite anxious. I looked around but couldn’t spot a familiar face anywhere. I tried to sleep on the long flight, but my anxiety level continued to rise knowing that I was getting farther and farther from home. Somewhere over the Atlantic I decided that once I landed in Amsterdam, I would use my influence with American Airlines to fly back to DFW.

I was bleary eyed with fatigue when I felt the familiar jolt of the wheels as they touched down on the tarmac in Amsterdam. The moment I entered the terminal, I pulled out my Blackberry to let Jean know I was flying home. She reminded me again that people were waiting for me in Burundi and that I could possibly have a prophetic word that would change the entire nation. She ended by telling me that I was a grown man, a mighty man of God and I was *not to hang up*, that she would talk me through it. “You’re



over half way there!” she said. “The next leg of your journey is just a short flight to Nairobi, Kenya.”

With Jean’s words of encouragement and prayers ringing in my ears, I made it to Nairobi where Lea Peters greeted me, bought me a cup of coffee and accompanied me to Burundi with a short stop in Rwanda. I finally arrived in Bujumbura, Burundi safe and sound, ready to minister at Trinity Church, not knowing the adventure that lay ahead.

Tom Peters, my long time friend and pastor of Trinity Church in Lake Worth, Florida joined me at the hotel. We ministered together at the conference for the next three days. It was a wonderful meeting.

#### YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE ROOM FOR YOU

Saturday morning I received a message that the Assistant to President Pierre Nkurunzisa wished to greet us on behalf of the President. Upon his departure, I asked if I could pray with him and give him a prophetic word. He agreed, saying he had never received a prophecy. As he knelt down in front of me, I heard The Voice speak to me concerning his future and place in the Burundian government.

On Sunday morning Pastor Tom Peters preached a great message and afterwards I prophesied. It seemed strange that the word God gave me was more for the nation than for the local church as I shared from Deuteronomy 28. Following the service, my thoughts turned toward home and my early flight Monday morning back to DFW—home sweet home. My God Assignment was finished—or so I thought.

**Pull Quote:** Soon we were being escorted to the President’s home through security guards with AK 47’s.

As we prepared for lunch, Jamie approached me saying that he had received a call from the office of the President, inviting us to have a meal with him at the Presidential Palace that very evening. Could we attend?

Soon we were being escorted to the President's home through security guards with AK 47's. It was a beautiful summer night and upon arrival, we discovered that the meal was outside under a starry sky. The President had invited about 20 other guests to join us and a magnificent feast had been prepared.

Before dinner, a robed choir with musicians positioned themselves on the stairs and balcony in front of the palace and began to worship. I was quite surprised when President Nkurunziza joined them on the balcony, leading a song himself. It was evident that he and the First Lady were believers and were not ashamed to acknowledge that Jesus was Lord.

**Pull Quote:** I began to prophesy directly to the President of a nation of eight million people.

#### BEFORE KINGS AND MIGHTY MEN

After about an hour they introduced me. With my interpreter by my side, I gave instructions about how to receive a prophetic word. Then I began to prophesy directly to the President of a nation of eight million people. Jean's word rang in my ears, "Dale, you can't turn back now. Who knows, you might give a word that could change the entire nation!" And here I was, sharing the same words that the Holy Spirit had given me that very morning, not realizing at the time that it was indeed a word for the nation and for their President.

The President listened very carefully, taking notes as fast as he could write. I shared with him the blessings that awaited his nation if he acted in obedience, and the results of any disobedience. In conclusion, I gave individual words to the First Lady, the former First Lady, Vice-President & his wife, former Vice President and his wife, the Ambassador and the former President who had led the nation during difficult years when over a million people were massacred in Burundi-Rwanda. I also had the opportunity to share Jamie & Lea's amazing story concerning their Burundian journey and how they'd stayed during the most difficult days of tribal war.

Following the meal, President Nkurunziza expressed his appreciation and I promised to pray for him and his nation on a regular basis. Following a photo session, I looked around the palace and everything seemed so surreal—like a dream—as we departed into the night with Jeans words still ringing in my ears. “Don’t hang up!” She had done the talking, I had done the walking and The Voice had just confirmed that this God Assignment was finished.

## CHAPTER TWO

### HOW TO START

One of the keys to a life well lived is meshing the dreams that God has planted in our hearts with the assignments He has woven into our destiny. The difficulty lies in being able to discern the difference between our own plans and God's plans. Like most kids, I had no idea where my life was going when my eighth grade English teacher, Mrs. Bicknell, declared to my entire class, “Dale, you’re going to be a radio announcer!”

While I now know that being a broadcaster wasn't my real assignment, what she spoke was a prophetic word, which set me on course as a public speaker. It gave me a direction and a goal, and from that moment on I knew I would be a disc jockey, sportscaster, or as they say in England, a presenter. I made many sacrifices in order to finish radio school and obtain my engineering license. Those steps were all part of my dream.

Eventually I landed a job with a CBS affiliate in Wichita Falls, Texas. Jean and I purchased a nice house and drove a new car. Life was good. We had a good marriage, good salary, went to church regularly, but something was missing. It seemed as though there was a big hole in me. I'd gotten what I wanted; but deep inside of me, it wasn't what I wanted. In desperation one morning on my way to the radio station, I prayed, "God, I'm so unfulfilled in life. What can you do for me?" Immediately I heard The Voice of God say, "Give me the first hour of your day and I'll change your life."

**Pull Quote:** "Give me the first hour of your day and I'll change your life."

I was already getting up at three o'clock in the morning, so I choked at the thought. It meant that my day would start at two o'clock in the morning! I was sure God didn't know how early I was dragging myself out of bed, so I asked Him a very foolish question. "Do you know what time I get up for work? Giving you the first hour of my day would mean getting up at two!"

I felt sure that Jehovah God didn't know what time I was getting up or He would never have asked such a thing. I felt certain that He would reply, "Son, I didn't know you had to get up so early. Don't worry about this one." Instead The Voice said to me, "Give me the first hour of your day and I'll change your life."

## RUNNING THE RACE

The Lord had thrown down the gauntlet and now the choice was mine. I did *not* want to get up when many people were just going to bed! However, that night I made a decision: I would go for it. I shared my new commitment with Jean, hoping that maybe she'd get up with me and respond to the passion that I was now experiencing to run after God. She didn't mind running, but not at that time of the morning. I was on my own, but I knew He would be waiting for me at exactly two am.

Before I went to bed, I set two alarm clocks. Then I experienced the feeling that most Boston Marathon runners endure the night before the big race; I couldn't sleep. I lay awake and stared at the ceiling. What if they *both* malfunctioned? What if this was my last opportunity to give God the first hour of my day and experience a new life in Him?

My fears were alleviated when the first alarm clock sounded that morning. I arose and went to my designated place of prayer, filled with anticipation. I had no way of knowing that I was about to embark on the very first God Assignment of my life. There had been some Self Assignments along the way, but no God Assignments. I sensed that success was just ahead, but would I have the tenacity to endure? I knew somehow that destiny was calling me, but the choice was mine. My first assignment was submitting to the will of God and that small round alarm clock every single morning during the winter of 1966. I would never be the same.

## THE CALL TO PREACH

In June of 1966, we were attending Southside Assembly of God church. Our pastor, Carl Alcorn, had invited David Wilkerson, a prophet, to minister at our church. I came Sunday night filled with expectation. I had been praying for five months and was now "running

after God.” I had even sold my television (with Jean’s approval) so that I wouldn’t have any distractions. I was hungry for God and desperate to know His will, plan and purpose for my life.

David preached and then called for a time of prayer. While on my knees in prayer that summer night, I heard The Voice say to me, “Son, I want you to preach my gospel. Will you preach my gospel?” My answer was Yes!

My enthusiasm soon turned to worry because I didn’t know how Jean would respond to my new call. My fears soon turned to major relief when she promptly responded without hesitation, “Dale, I’ll go where you go.” What an awesome woman! She has stayed true to that promise now for 43 years.

Five months later, I heard The Voice calling Jean and I to full time ministry. Looking back, I feel it was a “gutsy call” on God’s behalf, seeing we had only been called to preach less than a year—and we hadn’t been to Bible school either. We were convinced we had heard The Voice saying it was time to sell everything—our car, furniture and house—and launch out into the deep. We had no guaranteed income, medical insurance or permanent address. We abandoned everything to pursue a God Assignment that most of our family and friends had difficulty understanding, particularly the General Manager of the radio station where I worked. We didn’t understand it in the natural realm either, but in the supernatural we knew we had heard The Voice. We had a new God Assignment.

## CHAPTER

**Pull Quote:** Only 15 miles from home we heard a loud bang and saw a cloud of smoke coming out from under the hood.

We STARTED full time ministry on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1967 with one revival on our schedule. I had a wife, a young son and no promises, but we knew we had a God Assignment and were willing to risk everything to make the journey. We entered our new season with a vision, a passion and eleven hundred dollars, which we spent on a 35-foot trailer and a black Century Buick. We were off and running. However, we didn't get far. Only 15 miles from home we heard a loud bang and saw a cloud of smoke coming from under the hood. Our engine quit 50 miles away from our destination. A tow truck came to our rescue and pulled us into our first revival in Ringling, Oklahoma (actually, our only revival).

By the time the first meeting was concluded, there was another invitation waiting for us, followed by another one. God proved Himself faithful and has continued to do so. He is a *good* God! In fact, there is no god like my God!

The way we started is the way we have continued: completing each God Assignment by hearing and obeying THE VOICE. The great South Korean pastor, David Yongi Cho declared, "I pray and I obey." That is the Spirit-led life in a nutshell.

In October of 1967, our "revival assignment was finished and we accepted the pastorate of our first church—or they really accepted us. We were young and inexperienced and it didn't make us feel any better when one of the deacons in the church declared one day "that he was sick and tired of our little church breaking in these young

pastors that are just looking for a place to get started.” It was true that we wanted to be in the ministry at any cost and it was also true that the church was small. There were 25 in attendance the first Sunday and when we left two years later, there were 27—great growth at the Assembly of God Church in Holliday, Texas! It was a great place to start our pastoral God Assignments.

For the next sixteen years, Jean and I, along with our son Rick and our daughter Darla, led churches in Rush Springs, Oklahoma and Del City, Oklahoma. Attendance reached over 400 in that small town of Rush Springs, including two building programs and the opportunity to build us a new home in the countryside. In Del City, God gave us favor—helping us build a new church, gym and start a Christian school, which now has over 500 students.

Our lives took a profound turn in the summer of 1985, when my long time friend Larry Lea, invited Jean and I to move to Rockwall, Texas (a suburb of Dallas) and assist him with his prayer ministry. Larry and I had actually met nine years earlier at a meeting in Oklahoma—with Larry sharing a fantastic story about his conversion, When I introduced myself to him after the meeting, much to my surprise, he promptly declared, “The reason I came here tonight was to meet you.” I felt this was a divine appointment and two weeks later he came to minister at our church. I didn’t know at the time, but we had a God Assignment to move to Rockwall, Texas and be a part of the “fastest growing church in America.”

The transition was a difficult one—it meant leaving my son Rick in Oklahoma City and making the commitment to drive Darla back to Del City every week to complete her senior year. It also meant that we would leave a denomination I had grown up in as a



boy—where my daddy had received his 50 Year Pin. The Assemblies of God had given me my start in the ministry 18 years before. It was almost like leaving home again. However, we have discovered along the way that transitions are not always easy, but necessary. I still highly esteem the A/G movement and continue to minister in many of their churches.

There is a time to start and a time to finish a God Assignment. The assignment that was waiting for me would radically change my life forever, but I had to get started.

I had high expectations of grandeur and glory—major dreams about the important role I would play in this geographical location and how they were waiting to receive me. I had already been in full time ministry for 18 years and felt that a major role in the ministry at Church on The Rock would be waiting for me—but the spinning bottle didn't turn my way. I found myself visiting, what seemed to be hundreds of hospitals in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. That's where I got started on my God Assignment in Rockwall, Texas.

I remembered again that transitions are not easy, but necessary, if we want to complete our God Assignments. We knew we had heard The Voice, but that didn't make our move to Rockwall any easier. There were many days that Jean and I would walk around the lake that was near our small condo, crying our eyes out—feeling all alone, abandoned and misfits. Wishing we could return home to Oklahoma City. We missed those familiar surroundings. We now understand that we were experiencing “the death of a vision” (Habakkuk 3). What could have been, might have been or should have been.

One morning, we woke up and the grieving process was over. We were now on our way to the fulfillment of the rhema (from the Greek meaning special revelation)

words we had received for our new season. God had allowed the old vision to die in order to say hello to a new vision—the old was not big enough. One day Larry introduced me at one of his leadership conferences and gave me a major endorsement, which resulted in several invitations. Our God Assignment as a prophetic voice to the United States and other nations had now begun. The world was waiting for us—we had heard The Voice and what started as a small beginning turned into a 25-year prophetic journey. But how did we really get started?

## THE VOICE

My journey had started 19 years earlier when I began to hear The Voice. Of course, hearing The Voice was preceded by my obedience to the call to pray, which is actually the highest call in the whole wide world. If I had not responded to that God Assignment, I would have missed the dance.

You may not be called into full-time ministry or into the office of a prophet, as I was, but you came to earth with a God Assignment just as I did. While your race may be different, the steps to fulfill that call are the same for each of us. As I share how I learned to step over into the supernatural fulfillment of my call, you can apply the same steps to what God has called you to do. Don't make the mistake of thinking that all God Assignments lead to the pulpit. Your life is a pulpit and your testimony is part of the greatest story ever told. God has a plan for your life that is unique, amazing and transforming.

**Pull Quote:** Your life is a pulpit and your testimony is part of the greatest story ever told.

However, your entire destiny hinges on having an ear to hear THE VOICE.

Exodus 21 says, “When you buy a Hebrew slave, he will serve six years. The seventh year he goes free, for nothing. *But suppose the slave should say, ‘I love my master—I don’t want my freedom,’ then his master is to bring him to a doorpost and pierce his ear with an awl, a sign that he is a slave for life”*.

If the slave really wanted to serve his master, the slave gave him his ear. The ear was the mark of a slave for life. In other words, once God had his ear, he had his life. You and I have the same option today. If we give God our hearts and life, He will put His mark on our ear so that we hear THE VOICE. That mark on my ear has made me His servant forever. As servants we no longer choose our own assignments; we obey God’s Assignments.

One of the major themes of our Spirit-led lives is the ability to hear THE VOICE. Learning to hear is the single most important part of fulfilling your God Assignments. If we don’t get this one right, nothing else will fall into place. We’ll end up becoming a victim of our circumstances, our environment and our upbringing.

**Pull Quote:** Learning to hear THE VOICE of God is the single most important part of fulfilling your God Assignments.

If we can hear and know THE VOICE of God, then we can move to new dimensions, creating the ability to operate on a supernatural level that we previously had thought impossible. We'll go to places we've never been, do things we've never done, meet people we've never met, start things we've never started, finish things we've never finished. In short, it's possible to operate at a level that we've never operated at before.

**Pull Quote:** If we can hear and know THE VOICE of God, then we can move to new dimensions; creating the ability to operate on a supernatural level that we previously had thought impossible

The sad truth is that most people go through their entire lives and never hear The Voice. They never operate according to the supernatural; they only exist in the natural. If we only hear the voice of man with our natural ears, then we will only operate in the mundane level of the natural. Of course, we may find a certain level of success in that realm, but we'll never reach our full potential. That can only be reached through the realm of the supernatural.

In First Corinthians 2, Paul said it like this—there is an outer man and an inner man. The outer man (natural) has ears, but the inner man (spiritual) also has ears. With my spiritual ears I hear things in the realm of the supernatural that I could never hear naturally, and others who are not operating in that spirit realm cannot hear either.

#### SAUL HEARD THE VOICE

Think of the story of Saul on the road to Damascus. In Acts 9, he'd been persecuting the Church and was knocked off his big horse and struck blind by a great light. God spoke to him, but those who were with him couldn't understand THE VOICE. Only Saul

understood it because it was a supernatural voice and he heard it with his inner man. That one encounter with Jesus changed the entire course of his life and the lives of many others. Later the Lord sent him out to the desert to practice hearing The Voice. His God Assignments were about to begin—revolutionizing generations to come.

There are many voices speaking today, and if we live only in the natural, we'll be so limited that we won't be able to fulfill our God Assignments. If we only hear the voices of men, we'll never reach the potential that God has called us to both corporately and individually. The Holy Spirit wants to speak to us concerning our lives, our future, our family, our finances, our church, our business, where to live, where to go and what to do. He's interested in the minutest details of our lives.

**Pull Quote:** God wants to speak to us concerning our lives, our future, our family, our finances, our church, our business, where to live, where to go and what to do. He's interested in the minutest details of our lives.

We're faced with a myriad of decisions every day, and if the only way we have to make those decisions is through our natural mind, we're operating on a level that cheats us out of our destiny. Natural knowledge allows us to go through life, but never really live it. But when we learn to hear The Voice, we move into a supernatural dimension that the Bible call the *Zoë*—the *God kind of Life*.

It was during this season that I learned there are three levels of prayers. (1) The desire level (2) The discipline level (3) The delight level. Being a prayer leader in this nation for many years has brought me to the realization that people only develop a prayer life when they have a desire to pray—a real passion or zeal to know God and to know what He wants them to do. This passion qualifies them for the first level, the desire level.

Then comes the most difficult part—the discipline level. We must discipline ourselves to pray, following “The Jesus Pattern” by having a certain time and a certain place. Our scripture reference is Mark 1:35. Desire gets us started, but it’s discipline that keeps us on track. And if we stay on track long enough, we’ll move to the delight level and be able to fulfill our God Assignments.

As we delight ourselves in the Lord, according to Psalm 37:4, then he rewards us by giving us the desires of our heart. By this time we have moved into a special place in prayer; personal communion with Jehovah God, the creator of the universe. We then are able to fulfill our God Assignments by learning to hear His voice—The Voice.

Psalm 29 says, “The Voice of the Lord is over the waters. The Voice of the Lord is powerful. The Voice of the Lord is full of majesty. The Voice of the Lord breaks the cedars. The Voice of the Lord divides the flames of fire. The Voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness. The Voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth.”

THE VOICE is powerful! And that voice not only spoke in days of old, but The Voice still speaks today—in a very personal way. But first we must learn to hear that voice in our own prayer times. Prayer helps develop our spiritual ears to hearing sounds that we cannot hear with our physical ears. Too many Christians go through an entire lifetime without ever hearing The Voice—as a result they are never able to reach their full potential in life. They just go through life instead of living life. I Corinthians 14 says there are many voices in this world, but we must learn to hear The Voice—otherwise we will never be able to fulfill our God Assignments.

As I continued to pray, the Holy Spirit began to give me revelation that would eventually launch me into full time ministry and set me on a “Spirit-led path” that I’ve continued to run on these past 43 years.

### SEEING THE VOICE

After I began to hear properly, then I began to see what I was hearing. In other words, I began to see with my spiritual or supernatural eyes what I was hearing with my spiritual or supernatural ears. Revelation 1 says, “I, John, was on the island called Patmos because of God’s Word, the witness of Jesus. It was Sunday and I was in the Spirit, praying. I heard a loud voice behind me, trumpet-clear and piercing: I turned and saw THE VOICE” (Message Bible).

He did not say that he turned to hear The Voice, but he turned to see The Voice. In other-words, he was now operating in the supernatural with the ability to see with his spiritual eyes what he was now hearing with his spiritual ears. Paul declares in I Corinthians Chapter Two, “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love him. But God reveals them to us through His Spirit. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

Remember, this passage of scripture does not pertain to Heaven. Paul is talking about the natural and the supernatural. I Corinthians 15:44 says, “there is a natural and there is a supernatural” (Message Bible). In other words, we have natural eyes to see the things in

the natural realm. But He also gives us spiritual eyes so that we can see into the future; the supernatural. Our natural eyes definitely have limitations, but our spiritual eyes have no limits—the ability to see across the nation or around the world. Our spiritual eyes can see into the future, tomorrow, next month, next year, etc. Quite amazing, but this ability only comes through prayer. Many Christians today desire to have revelation gifts, but they don't want to pray. In Texas we say, "You can't have gravy without the grits." One goes with the other. Prayer is actually quite simple. You pray when you feel like it and you pray when you don't. One man of God said, "I had rather teach one man to pray than teach ten others to preach."

So when we pray, the Holy Spirit opens our ears and we hear The Voice. Then we begin to see what we hear. Our eyes are then filled with vision. Proverbs 29:18 say, "Where there is no vision (seeing), the people perish." Someone said, "if you don't hear right, then you won't see right. And if you don't see right, then you won't do right." It's very difficult to receive it if you can't see it. If you can see it, then you can have it. In the Old Testament, God is heard asking several prophets the same question, "What do you see?" This group included Jeremiah, Amos, Zechariah and others. What was the purpose? It was all a part of a "proper progression" to live that Spirit Led Life I've been talking about—to receive a fulfillment of your prophetic words from God, for without revelation you will not possibly be able to complete your God Assignments.

**SAY IT!**

The Proper Progression continues. After you hear with your spiritual ears and see with your spiritual eyes, then the next step in being able to fulfill your God Assignment is to



say what you have seen and heard. Acts 4:19,20 says, “But Peter & John answered and said to them, Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have SEEN AND HEARD.”

World’s are waiting to hear your voice speak the things which your spiritual ears have heard and your spiritual eyes have seen. Your voice literally brings those things into existence, giving you the supernatural ability to fulfill your God Assignments.

The Voice of the Lord is very powerful! And your voice is powerful and your words are creative also. Very creative! The Apostle John wrote in John Chapter 1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory.”

Hebrews 11:3 say, “The worlds were framed by the word of God.” In other words, God built this entire universe out of words—Creative words. So we build our lives and worlds by the words that come out of our mouth, in response to what we have heard with our spiritual ears and seen with our spiritual eyes. We literally speak our worlds into existence. And that voice not only spoke in days of old, but He still speaks today. God is still speaking! He is speaking through our voice in order to help us complete our God Assignments.

## CHAPTER THREE

### ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

Healing and miracles was a normal way of life when I was a boy. I was taught that all things are possible and nothing was impossible. In fact, I was never taken to the doctor

until I was sixteen. When I got sick, my mom and dad would pray—sometimes I would be healed instantly and other times it would take a process of time. It's not that we didn't believe in medical science, my parents just believed in healing and miracles. They didn't just believe in miracles, they depended on miracles. If healing didn't come supernaturally, then my dad would turn to home remedies, providing me with “all natural ingredients” before all natural ingredients was cool. He would give me castor oil, black molasses, raw potatoes and a coal oil rag for my sore throat—amazing results followed.

I Corinthians 15:44 says, “there is a natural and there is a supernatural” (Message Bible). I love the prophetic because it moves us to knowing that all things are possible and nothing is impossible. The Bible is filled with happenings that only could have occurred through the realm of the supernatural. The Old Testament is filled with pictures of these happenings and the New Testament is filled with principles—applications. All of these pictures and principles follow the same pattern—Hear The Voice, See The Voice, Say what you have heard and seen and then do what you have heard, seen and said. The fulfillment of The Proper Progression! Eyes, ears, mouth, feet.

By now some of you are saying, it can't be that simple. Hearing it, seeing it and saying it might be quite simple, but doing it or walking it out is always the challenge. Most Christians believe that all things are possible for others, but have a difficult time receiving it for themselves. They simply aren't looking for supernatural happenings in their own lives. If that's you, please know that you are not alone—great men and women in Bible Times experienced the same thing. In Luke chapter one Zacharias is visited by an angel who tells him his wife Elizabeth is going to have a baby. He responds in the natural, declaring he is an old man and his wife is advanced in years (note that he didn't

call her an old woman). In the natural his wife couldn't have a baby because she was too old, but in the supernatural all things are possible and nothing is impossible.

In the same chapter the same angel appears to Elizabeth's cousin Mary, with the same message, you are going to have a baby. Like Elizabeth, in the natural she couldn't have a baby because she was a virgin. So her first response was a natural one, "how can this happen, I have never known a man"? In the natural it was impossible, but in the supernatural, all things were possible. So when they began to look at things in the supernatural, things were quite different. Then Mary said, "Let it be to me." We all know the rest of the story. Andrae Crouch wrote, "I Never Thought It Could Be Till It Happened To Me." So when you receive a word from the Lord, He does not give you that word to frustrate you, aggravate you or disappoint you. He gives you a rhema word to enlarge and promote your life—to give you a future and a hope according to Jeremiah 29:11.

Over the past 25 years, I have given thousands of prophetic words to churches and individuals, declaring this could be a now word, future word, confirming word or new word. Sharing each time they cannot receive these prophecies with their natural ears and eyes, but with their supernatural ears and eyes—exhorting them to receive the word by faith, write it down according to Jeremiah 30:2, and then to follow the Proper Progression—hear it, see it, say it, do it.

The prophetic moves us from the natural into the supernatural, creating opportunities and worlds that otherwise we never could have entered. A familiar cliché is, "It's not about me, but about others." I agree but disagree. It is about others, but it's also about you and the destiny that God planned for you from the foundation of the world—or

from your mother's womb. I love David's description of us in Psalms 139 from The Message Bible. He says, "You formed me in my mother's womb. I thank you, High God—you're breathtaking! You know every bone in my body; you know exactly how I was made, bit-by-bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something. All the stages of my life were spread out before you. The days of my life all prepared before I'd even lived one day." As I said before, you could've been born anytime in History Past or anytime in History Future, but God designed you to be "alive and kickin'" here in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. He also has given you God Assignments for your life.

Of course, if we are to reach our potential in life, we must know and believe that all things are possible and nothing is impossible. We must live in that aura of expectation and anticipation. In that dimension I have experienced worlds I never thought I could enter.

Dwelling in the place of "all things are possible" has literally changed the history of our lives with astounding results that could only have been experienced through the supernatural.

Early on, I began to hear The Voice saying, "you're going to travel all over the world and do great exploits for God." This was a difficult word to receive because growing up as a boy about as far as I traveled away from home was taking our annual vacation from Comanche, Oklahoma to Paducah, Texas to visit my Uncle Tommy, Aunt Myrtle and my cousin's Truman, Charles, Patsy and Joan. That was about as big as my world was growing up as a boy—147 miles. Now I'm receiving this rhema word about traveling all over the world and doing great exploits for God. By faith I received the word—I heard The Voice, then I saw myself traveling all over the world and then I said it

and then I did it—I went out to the airport, pretending I was going to get on a plane and travel to some foreign country to minister. I didn't have an invitation, a ticket or a passport. I was just putting my faith feet in motion by doing something (faith without works is dead). “Again I say unto thee, our dead feet must be replaced by our faith feet” (Gentry version). I was also following the lead of another word I have received, which simply said, “Dress thyself and show up.”

Not only have we been able to experience the supernatural, but have been able to experience these happenings in the lives of many over the years.

#### THE FAITH OF JAMAICA JARRETT

My World Journey started in prayer one morning in 1981. Little did I realize that my practice time at the airport, pretending I was getting on a plane, was about to pay off. Jean and I were about to make our “maiden missionary voyage,” one that would springboard us to over thirty nations of the world.

Suddenly and seemingly out of nowhere, I heard The Voice say to me, “You’re going to start building churches all around the world.” Of course, when we receive a rhema word, it’s only a part of the bigger picture. I immediately thought that He meant that I would physically construct church buildings around the world. So making it a practice to not let one word fall to the ground (I Samuel 3:19), I began to speak those creative words to my congregation. Reflecting back thirty years later, it must have been quite disturbing—sitting where they sat, listening to this man who sounded more like a prophet than a pastor, talk about building churches all around the world. At that moment,

I couldn't understand why they were not more enthusiastic. Now I know why it's difficult for prophet's to lead a local church.

I continued to pray about where to start this mandate. The world is a very big place and I had no earthly idea where this adventure was to begin.

However, it didn't take long. One morning while walking and praying (I love to walk when I pray), the phone rang and a friend of mine asked I would consider inviting a pastor from Jamaica to preach in our church the following Sunday. I responded by telling him I would pray about it. Actually, I was quite annoyed with the interruption because I was specifically taking time that day to pray about where I was going to start building churches all around the world. As I hung up the phone, immediately I heard The Voice say, "Invite this man from Jamaica to preach for you because Jamaica is where you're going to begin." I had no inkling where Jamaica was, but I responded to The Voice. Straightaway, I called my friend and told him I accepted the invitation. I'm sure he probably said, "it doesn't take long for that preacher to pray about it."

On Sunday night, as the Jamaican pastor ministered, I was filled with great expectation because I had heard The Voice say, "this man is going to invite you to Jamaica and you are to accept his invitation." Pastor Lennox Powell invited Jean and I to his island and we accepted. The following Sunday I made the major announcement that our very first building would be constructed in Jamaica. It's not my style to wait, so in a few weeks we boarded our first international flight and soon we were there, with our hotel facilities overlooking the beautiful clear waters of the Indian Ocean.

After the Sunday service, I shared with Lennox my prophetic word concerning Jamaica and how we were to start our building journey there in one of the smallest nations in the world.

“Slow down”, I shouted to Lennox as he drove me all around the island, looking for the exact place to begin. He kept driving fiercely fast the entire day, only stopping at different locations to ask, “is this it?” I would shake my head no, and then we would be off to another town, occasionally making a fruit stop. Jamaican has the most delicious fruit in the whole wide world.

We arrived back in Montego Bay, just in time to have a coffee, change clothes and head for the evening service. I was quite disappointed because I had not heard The Voice speak the entire day. However, my disappointment did not last long. Lennox told me after the service that he had actually missed a possibility and he would take me there first thing the next morning.

The seven-mile drive from Montego Bay to a little community called Guthers took longer than usual because of the narrow dirt roads that took us up a hill where we were met by a skinny preacher who introduced himself as Nathan Jarrett. He had been notified that we were coming and was standing in front of his church, nothing more than a shed type building with a tin roof—no windows or doors. The pews consisted of two by six boards on top of concrete blocks. A dilapidated piano and a small wooden podium completed the facility.

Nathan Jarrett was consumed with the moment as he began to share his story, which included walking seven miles one way each day from his home in Montego Bay to his church on the hill—asking God for a miracle. When he talked about his passion for

prayer, he immediately had my full attention. I was also attracted to the footing that had been dug only a few feet away from his small facility. When I asked him about the footing, he enthusiastically told me how one morning while praying in the little church, the Holy Spirit gave him a vision of a beautiful white church with beautiful pews, windows and doors. He had heard something, seen something and then he began to announce to his congregation the good news—they were going to build a new church. .

Of course, it wasn't long before the news went out over the entire community, which brought much ridicule from the poverty community in the hills of Jamaica. To them it was some sort of pipe dream. The persecution heated up when Pastor Jarrett started digging the footing for the church. Even the little kids would follow him down the hill, shouting, "Crazy Jarrett, Crazy Jarrett." But to him it didn't matter. He was very confident because he was following the Proper Progression. He had heard it, seen it, said it and now he was doing it. Ears, eyes, mouth, feet. Even though he had no money, he did have faith feet, so he started digging—setting his miracle in motion. What was impossible in the natural was about to become a reality in the supernatural.

Tears filled my eyes as I heard The Voice say, "This is the place." Amazing! Of all the possible locations in the world, God had chosen this place. The prayer of faith had attracted a man who had never traveled outside America to a man who had never traveled outside of Jamaica—a divine appointment. God will always provide facilitators and partners, to help us fulfill our God Assignment. The connection was made and we were about to start.

When I asked Nathan Jarrett how much this new building would cost, he responded by saying, the facility would cost 90,000 Jamaican dollars (30,000 American).



He then admitted his church offerings were only averaging three Jamaican dollars a week. We both cried when I told him that our church would provide the money for his beautiful white church building. I would even send a couple over to help him.

It took awhile (everything is a process), but eventually the project was completed and paid for. I will never forget “dedication day” as I stood on the platform of that beautiful new white building with beautiful pews, windows and doors—the church filled with people and many other looking in the windows with Nathan Jarrett, in his homemade suit, grinning from ear to ear! Nobody was calling him Crazy Jarrett now. Everyone in Guthers and the entire countryside knew a miracle had taken place, including those who had made the journey with us from our church in Del City. God Assignment finished!

Our words are very creative and our voice activates our prophecies, giving us an opportunity to enter the world of the supernatural.

#### YOU’RE GOING TO PLAY IN THE NBA

Luke Ridnour plays professional basketball for the Milwaukee Bucks and is currently the second best free throw shooter in the entire NBA. In the off-season Luke and his wife Kate live near Seattle and attend a church where Jean and I minister on a regular basis. On one of our recent journeys to Gig Harbor, we were invited to the Ridnour home for a meal, along with the pastors, Cedric and Angie van Duyn. As Luke was grilling a steak for us, I took advantage of the opportunity to ask him to tell me his story. He said that he grew up in a little town in Washington near the Canadian border. His family was Christians and regularly attended the local Assembly of God. Luke said

one Sunday a guest minister looked at him and began to prophesy that one day he would play basketball in the NBA. That word in the natural was impossible. He was only in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and the likelihood of a young boy from Blain having the opportunity to play in the NBA was probably a million to one. Did this prophetic voice not understand that she was giving a prophecy that was impossible? In the natural it was, but in the supernatural all things were possible and nothing impossible.

So Luke heard it, then he saw himself playing in the NBA and eventually he began to say it. He heard something, saw something; said something and then he did something. He continued to practice, dribbling, shooting, passing, “making room for the big.” Luke recounted his story of winning the state championship both his junior and senior year with his dad being his coach. A basketball scholarship awaited him from the University of Oregon where he was selected as “newcomer of the year” in the Pac 10 his freshman season, followed by “Pac 10 Player of The Year“ his junior season. He entered the 2003 NBA draft following his junior year at Oregon and was chosen in the first round as the 14<sup>th</sup> pick overall! What was impossible in the realm of the natural became possible in the supernatural—a God Assignment for Luke Ridnhour. Jean and I are now big fans of the Milwaukee Bucks—cheering for Luke. Proving that all things are possible and nothing is impossible—remembering that one word from God can change your life forever!

Leeland and Jack Mooring were eleven and fourteen years old when we first met them and their parents, Todd and Cyndy along with their sister Shelly. It was another divine

appointment followed by a divine connection. Eventually they began to travel with us, leading in worship and enhancing our prophetic ministry.

Soon, it became quite apparent that Jack and Leeland were quite gifted. Leeland eventually sang the theme song in our prophetic meetings. Faith would always rise as he sang, “I believe I can fly, I believe I can touch the sky. I think it about night and day, spread my wings and fly away. I believe I can soar, I see me running through that open door. I believe I can fly.”

One night I began to give Jack and Leeland both a prophetic word, declaring that I saw them ministering in major stadiums. This word seemed impossible, but in the supernatural all things are possible. It was quite evident that big things were in store for them and they had a bright future. It was exciting to watch their progress the next few years. Eventually the two of them formed a band, which included their cousin Jake and called their group Leeland. Not letting any grass grow under their feet, they entered a music contest in Nashville. Even though they didn’t win, they attracted the attention of Michael W. Smith, who later became Jack’s father-in-law. A divine connection was in motion.

I can still remember us ministering together in Tulsa and listening to a demo of their very first album. It was evident they were marked with greatness and the blessings of God were on their lives.

Soon the album was released and went to the top ten on the contemporary charts. Then everything started happening in quick succession for these teenage boys from Baytown, Texas.

In 2007, major cause for celebration came when Leeland was nominated for their first Grammy. Jean and I traveled to LA so we could celebrate a big moment in their lives—knowing that dreams really do come true. Soon the prophetic word I had given them earlier was fulfilled with an appearance at Anaheim Stadium with over 50,000 in attendance.

Leeland, Jack and Jake continue to make history with their music. Having been nominated for a third Grammy, they continue to impact their generation—proving that all things are possible and nothing is impossible!

#### FIVE MORE YEARS TO LIVE

When you operate in the supernatural, amazing things can happen. One of the most amazing happenings was in the life of Chester Howard—one that took me a whole new faith level.

In 1993 I sat with Mr. Howard's family while they were waiting for their father to return from surgery. A grimed faced doctor soon returned, saying he wouldn't be able to perform the bypass procedure because of his age and condition. He completed his short report by stating that their father could have a few weeks or few months to live. Not a good report in the natural. I shared their grief and prayed with them. Before leaving the hospital, they asked if I would go to their dad's room and pray with him. I told them I would be happy to do so and preceded to his room, fully intending to greet Mr. Howard, say a short prayer and head home. However, as I entered his room, I immediately heard The Voice say, "Tell Mr. Howard I'm going to give him five more years to live." Those words suddenly challenged my faith. Just a few minutes earlier I had personally heard the

doctor say that he only had a few more weeks or possibly months to live; now The Voice was instructing me to give Mr. Howard a “far out” rhema word. I knew in the natural that couldn’t happen, but in the supernatural anything is possible.

“Mr. Howard, I just heard the Holy Spirit say you are going to live five more years,” I declared. He immediately received it—he heard it, saw it, said it and did it. Ears, eyes, mouth, feet.

I was at the airport in 2005, waiting to board my next flight when I received a phone call from Mr. Howard’s son Jim, telling me that his father had just gone to Heaven. He not only had lived five years, but twelve years! Amazing! He had finished his God Assignments while declaring that all things are possible.

## LOMA LUX STORY

Dr. Steve and Lorraine Smith came to attend a prayer revival we were leading at The Christian Centre in Saskatoon, SK. Canada—desperately needing a word from the Lord. Steve, who was a dermatologist, had been praying many years for a cure for psoriasis, which is a severe skin disorder—trying to find a way to relieve the pain and suffering that so many of his patients were experiencing, without prescribing strong medications—many with severe side effects.

One day while in prayer, Lorraine heard The Voice say, “bromide and nickel.” She didn’t know what these two scientific words meant. However, she knew it was a word from the Lord and couldn’t wait to share it with her husband. He agreed, but had no idea how these two minerals could be connected to psoriasis. Soon they discovered

through research, that bromide is found in the Dead Sea. So they traveled to Israel to investigate the possibilities.

Upon returning, Steve formulated an oral medication of bromide and nickel, which he gave to his patients in very low and safe doses. Soon he began to receive glowing reports, which encouraged him to get FDA approval. The patent was approved shortly, but when he proceeded to gain FDA approval, he discovered it would take twelve years and millions of dollars to complete this process.

When Steve and Lorraine arrived at the meetings, they were ready to give up on their dream. As I prayed with them, I heard The Voice say, “dig around the tree one more year” (Luke 13). They received the prophecy and returned home encouraged.

During the next several months, through divine appointments and divine connections, everything began to turn around. Eventually over ten thousand stores were selling this formula. Thousands of individuals have benefited from all natural Loma Lux products—proving that one word from God can your life. All things are possible and nothing is impossible.

## YOU ARE GOING TO EAST GERMANY

Once again, I’m convinced that our words are very creative—speaking things that have not happened as though they had already happened.

A classic example happened in 1989, while ministering at a church in Tulsa, I began to prophesy over a couple saying, “I see you going to Germany.” As the words left my mouth, almost instantly I heard The Voice say to me, “Say East Germany.” I was petrified. I tried to ignore The Voice speaking into my ear while wrestling with the circumstances. I knew in the natural that this couple couldn’t go to East Germany

because of a major opposing force called the Berlin Wall. Everyone in the Western World is prohibited from going in there. It's impossible.

It was only a matter of a few seconds, but it seemed like an eternity as I carried on this conversation with the Holy Spirit—me wanting to play it safe by just saying Germany, The Voice saying, “tell them they are going to East Germany.” So I said it. I could tell by the look on their faces that it was no surprise to them at all, seemingly to readily accept the word.

Several months later there was a well-known Christian leader, while praying one day, heard the Holy Spirit say, “I want you to fly to Berlin, put your hand on the Berlin Wall and command it to come down. Years later, this man personally told me his story. He said, I obeyed by boarding a flight from LAX to Berlin. He had heard something, said something and now he was doing something with his faith feet. He was following the Proper Progression—sensing major change on the horizon.

He said upon landing, he immediately took a taxi to the Berlin Wall. Being prompted by the Holy Spirit, he suddenly told the driver to “stop here.” He exited the taxi, walked across the street, laid his hands on the Berlin Wall, and as instructed by The Voice, said, “In the name of Jesus, I command you to come down.” That was it. He had flown ten thousand miles just to declare that one sentence. He said he got back in the taxi, returned to the airport and took the next flight back to California.

We all know the rest of the story. A few months later the wall did come down. This man told me he could not be certain, but as far as he could tell, the wall started falling at the very place where he had prayed.

The Berlin Wall had responded to the word of the Lord, enabling this couple from Tulsa to move to East Germany. The last I heard, they were fulfilling their God Assignment—proof that prophetic words not only change people, but also change nations. “My tongue is the pen of a ready writer” (Psalm 45:1).

## PEANUT FARMER BECOMES LT. GOVERNOR

I have always been interested in governments. Growing up in Oklahoma, I could tell you the names of all of the state, county and local officials. I even kept up with the County Commissioners race in Comanche. I have often said that if I hadn't been in five fold ministry or in radio, next I would have chosen politics (governments).

That might have been one of the reasons I was attracted to Spencer Bernard when Jean and I move to Rush Springs in 1970. Spencer was not only involved in public affairs; he was also a Godly man. Following our transition to Oklahoma City, my relationship with the peanut farmer from Caddo County continued.

One day Spencer approached me, sharing with me that he was considering running for Lt. Governor of Oklahoma. He then proceeded to tell me that if he decided to run that he would have sixteen opponents. I prayed for him and encouraged him, letting him know that all things are possible and nothing is impossible. Run he did, using his campaign slogan, "the man with two first names", defeating all sixteen opponents in the process. Spencer Bernard, a peanut farmer with no college education, captured the second highest office in the state of Oklahoma—was also re-elected for a second term. One of the highlights of his political career was having the opportunity to introduce President Ronald Reagan when he came to town.

On occasions, Spencer would speak at our church—his homespun sermons always resonated with our charismatic congregation, even though he was a member of the Church of Christ.

One day he called, saying to me, "you and Jean are going out with the Governor of Oklahoma today." He quickly explained that Governor Nigh was out of the country that week and he was serving in the states highest office for a few days. We went to a barbeque restaurant with little fanfare—but to us it was a day we will never forget.

The story of the peanut farmer from a small town in Oklahoma, with no formal education—though not an eloquent speaker, defeated sixteen opponents to become



Oklahoma's Lt. Governor for eight years. Proving that if we can believe, all things are possible and nothing is impossible.

#### UNIVERSITY COMING TO LINCOLN

Norman Barnes set my itinerary for our second journey to England. One of those places was Lincoln, England. Stuart Bell, the leader of the church, didn't know us and we didn't know him, so we ended up taking a chance on each other.

While Norman and his wife Grace drove us to Lincoln, Norman updated me on the history of the church, telling me the congregation was meeting in a town hall because the congregation had been forced to move from their previous location. He went on to say the building they had called home for many years had been condemned by the city fathers due to structural problems. So while they were looking for another location, this small rented facility had become their temporary meeting place each Sunday for the past two years.

Entering the building that Sunday morning, I had no inkling what the Holy Spirit was up to. The worship was very good and the prelims were short, which I like, and soon I was introduced—sharing what was in my spirit for that particular time and place. Having never been there and the people not knowing me, I had to feel my way along as to make a good first time impression. Well, all of that quickly went out the window (as we would say in Texas), because suddenly my spiritual eyes were opened and I saw the congregation back in their former church building—the beautiful building in the heart of the city that was approximately 100 years old. My natural mind immediately rejected

what I had just seen with my supernatural eyes. What I had just seen was impossible in the natural, but I had learned that in the supernatural, all things are possible. So I moved quickly into the true office of the prophet, declaring what I was seeing. “He who is now a prophet was formerly called a seer” (I Samuel 9:9). “I see this congregation back in your former facility” I declared with very little response. Looking back, they were probably anticipating me sharing about some new facility they were about to build. But soon the atmosphere changed and it became evident that the audience was now seeing it too. But then my prophecy took on an entirely new magnitude, with me declaring, “and I see university students coming across the street to your remodeled church building.” I didn’t seem to notice that a quick hush came over the congregation following those remarks. I was emptied out—as we would say, knowing in my knower that my God Assignment for that particular week in Lincoln, England was finished.

Soon after the service was over, a member of the church approached Stuart Bell, declaring, “I know now this preacher from Texas is a false prophet. We don’t even have a university in Lincoln.” However, before he could gather his stones, I got out of Dodge.

After a few months, Stuart sent me an article from the local newspaper, reporting the story of a prophet from Texas giving a prophesy, followed by a change in the city code, followed by the remodeling of the church auditorium, etc. What was impossible had become possible through one rhema word.

University Coming To Lincoln—another newspaper article arrived in my mailbox, telling the story of a new university being planned for that geographical location. Sometime later, Stuart would drive several hours to attend the meeting I was leading at Waverly Abbey, accompanied by several architectural pictures of the all new

Lincoln University—“and by the way”, he said, “it’s located across from our church.” Afterwards he told me the story of how the university originally was to be located outside the city. But for some reason, the committee decided to locate the facility in the heart of Lincoln. I find it quite amazing how God desires to move, mold and shape things that he has planned since the foundation of the world—but he needs our cooperation to full His plans, which become our God Assignments.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### LITTLE RAY

In order to fulfill the will, plan and purpose of God for our lives, we must be bold and tenacious. Over the years I’ve met many bold and tenacious individuals, but none of them could hold a candle to my cousin Ray Watkins, whom everyone called Little Ray. They called him Little Ray because he never grew over five feet tall.

Little Ray would never give up or quit. It was not in his vocabulary. Even though he was a year older than me, I was always taller. Sometimes we would wrestle and I would throw him to the ground, pull his arms behind his back as hard as I could, all the while saying, “Give up Little Ray, give up.” But he would never give up. In the midst of his pain, accompanied with tears, he would declare, “I will never give up.”

We grew up only 20 miles apart—as a result he was my favorite cousin and I learned a lot from Little Ray. One of the greatest examples of his tenacity was demonstrated when he came to visit me in the summer of 1956. He was thirteen and I was twelve. We have

moved from Comanche to Temple, a small town nearby, where my dad was the pastor of Temple Assembly of God. It was a hot August day when Little Ray arrived, and being one who never lets grass grow under his feet, he promptly requested we go swimming. I told him that Temple was only a small town with no public swimming pool and that my friends and I all went to the lake about five miles outside of town to go swimming. With a scowl on his face, he said, "I'm not going swimming in some muddy lake. There must be a swimming pool in this town", he said. I responded by saying I only knew of one swimming pool in town, but it was in the backyard of a rich man in town and no one was allowed to swim in his pool; in fact, no one was even allowed to go near his house. His beautiful home was on my walking route to town and I walked by there on several occasions, wondering what it must be like to live in a home like that with your very own swimming pool. At the little church parsonage we lived in, we didn't even have indoor plumbing.

My thoughts were interrupted with Little Ray declaring, "We'll swim in that pool. But Let's go right now!" I responded by saying, "That rich man doesn't let anyone swim in his pool. We can't do that. He doesn't even want anyone even coming near his house." But "no" was not in Little Ray's vocabulary. He acted as if he didn't hear a word I was saying, promptly declaring, "We'll swim in that swimming pool today." My arguments about that not being a possibility went unnoticed as Little Ray proceeded to put his swimming trunks on while I continued to voice my protests that "no one is allowed to swim in the rich man's pool." In the natural it couldn't happen, but I was about to experience the supernatural. Discovering that all things were possible and nothing impossible. A short God Assignment that would impact

generations to come. Little did I realize that one day when I would preach to nations of the world, The Little Ray story would become the all time favorite.

So down the street we go, with our swimming suits tucked unnoticed under our jeans, with Little Ray leading the way and me continuing to explain to Little Ray why we shouldn't be trying this. Not only was I about to discover his boldness and tenacity, but also his persistence, determination, perseverance, courage and bull doggedness, I was about to be reminded again that Little Ray was one who was never willing to give up or quit. With Little Ray, all things seemed possible.

So I tagged along like a little puppy dog behind my cousin that day, which was a least eight inches shorter than me, scared stiff that Little Ray was actually going to carry this assignment out. At least, it appeared that he was by the way he was strutting toward that rich man's house. Looking back now, the house wasn't that big and palatial, but considering what I had been living in, it certainly appeared that way at the time.

Soon we were turning up the walk to the big house with the swimming pool, with my knees knocking and having a fellowship meeting. Up the steps we went with me still following Little Ray at as distance, with Little Ray proceeding to knock on the door, with me praying that nobody would be home. My fears were answered as the door opened quickly with the maid peering out from behind the screened door (very popular in those days) and asking if she could help us? Little Ray quickly responded by saying, "We would like to speak to the man of the house." She smiled and said, "just a moment." At this moment, I wanted to run away from that house as quickly possible, still not believing that I had allowed Little Ray to talk me into this.

Before I could turn and run, the man of the house suddenly appeared at the doorway; I estimated he was at least seven feet tall, looking down at us and asking if he could help us? Little Ray did not hesitate, “Me and my cousin Dale Wayne (everybody needed at least two names in those days), we came to swim in your swimming pool!” The rich man looked down at us and said, “Okay, go home and get your swimming trunks (it was trunks in those days) and come right back.” Little Ray responded by saying, “We already have them on.” “What a coincidence”, the rich man replied. Then much to my surprise, he opened the screen door, motioning for us to come in. So we did, through the palatial house, out the back door, jeans and shirt off and into the swimming pool with me thinking, “If my friends could only see me now!” We had just made history—a signpost in my memories. I had done something that none of my friends had ever done. I experienced the supernatural, the wonderful land of dreams and visions. Now believing that all things are possible and nothing is impossible. Ears, eyes, mouth and feet. Little Ray mentoring me in the Proper Progression. Showing me how when you receive a prophetic word, it sometimes takes great boldness and tenacity to walk it out.

#### I NEED SOME BREAD FRED

This story reminds me of the one Jesus told in Luke 11, concerning the man who had a friend that came unexpectedly to visit him one cold winter night (I’m paraphrasing now), very hungry and needing something to eat. Since it was midnight, the 7/11 Store had already closed and his friend kept speaking with convincing words that he could not eat a sandwich without bread. So being a good host and desiring to

please his guest, in went in search of a loaf of bread, starting with his next-door neighbor, the house where his friend Fred lived. After the pounding of the door, a male voice from in responds with a slight irritation; “who is it?” “Fred, it’s me, your friend Ted. You remember me don’t you Fred? I just live next door and I have a houseguest who has just arrived, hungry and I need some bread for sandwiches. I have mayo, pickles, tomorrow, the works except I don’t have any bread—you will help me won’t you Fred? I really truly need some bread Fred.” Fred quickly responded by saying, “It’s cold and I’m not going to get up. Besides. My kids are in bed with and they are already asleep” (Fred must have been experiencing marital problems). Anyhow, the conclusion of the matter is that Ted finally got his loaf of bread from Fred. Jesus, summarizing the story, shares that Ted got Fred to get up and give him enough bread for his houseguest; not because Ted was his friend but because of Ted’s importunity, persistency, tenacity, perseverance, endurance, patience, determination, indefatigability and his bull doggedness. Mission accomplished because he would not take no for an answer. It’s obvious that Jesus loved this story enough to write it in his book as a prime example of what happens when you are never willing to give up. When you know way down in “your knower” that all things are possible and nothing is impossible.

The second category is those hear the word, receive the prophetic word with great joy and gladness, but don’t want to take the risk. They don’t want to launch out into the deep because they don’t want to take the risk. Great men of God became great because they were willing to take a risk. It’s obvious that many Christians allow their prophetic words to fall to the ground and die because of three primary reasons.

First of all, they don't have the determination, endurance, importunity, persistency and tenacity to push the rhema word forward. Jesus knew these quality ingredients would be needed to reap the fulfillment of a God Assignment. That's why he told the story of Fred and Ted. Many believers are just too timid. They claim to be tall in the saddle and can spit a watermelon seed fifty yards, but they simply can't finish what was started in their lives through the supernatural words they have received. I label those types of Christians as Wannabe's. They want to succeed but seemingly never make any progress. They live and die in the realm of the natural, never experiencing the supernatural dimension of their lives because of a lack of tenacity. That's why they've never gotten off the sidewalk and into the streets. They want to live near the Shoreline, but the supernatural happenings are out there in the deep—in the risky waters of life. So some believers choose to go through life, but never really live life. They have learned to be content with just making ends meet, having a good retirement and taking an annual two week vacation—visiting the Grand Canyon, taking pictures of the canyon and showing them to all of their friends—their friends remarking, “What a big hole!” Normal Christian Living. They stand on the bank in their safety jackets, saying to those who would desire to live in the supernatural, “come back, come back, You'll lose your life out there.”

They are like the Sower that Jesus talked about in Mark 4 when he mentions the person who hears it, sees it, maybe even say it, but can't walk out the supernatural word of the Lord—they “are overwhelmed with worries about all the things they have to do in the natural and all the things they want to get. Then the stressors of life comes and strangles what they have heard, and nothing comes of it” because they are



looking at everything from the natural viewpoint of life. Therefore confining themselves to a small world—programming themselves to believe and try to obtain other worlds is too risky.

The third category of believers are those who gladly receive the Prophetic word and are willing to walk it out, but like many business people, they simply don't know how to close the deal. They don't know how to do it. They are convinced that the prophetic word they have gladly received will automatically come to them. They just don't know how to do it.

#### I'LL TAKE IT!

My dad, like Little Ray, was very bold and tenacious, strong willed and full of faith and adventure—my hero.

I remember when I was a junior in high school, he sent his resume to a little church in Southwest, Oklahoma, population 200 (not the church, the town). Stecker Assembly of God responded to my dad's application and invited him for "a tryout" as it was known in those days. When the big day finally arrived, my mother couldn't go because my Grandpa Wilson was ill and there was no one to stay with him. It didn't matter much because she couldn't play the piano; which was a requirement in those days. So my dad and I went for "the tryout" which concluded with an election following the Sunday night service. In order to win the election, a candidate must get two thirds of the vote.

My dad and I waited in the car while all nine votes were counted. Suddenly the deacon board stood on the front porch of the church, waiting for us to exit the car. As we approached the committee, led by an elderly woman, I already knew how many members were voting and how many votes were needed for us for us to move to Stecker, Oklahoma.

When the vote was announced, I immediately knew we had missed the election by a long shot (not even close), but the original O.C. didn't blink. He already knew he was coming to Stecker Assembly—he had heard The Voice—he had seen us moving there—he had already said he was going to pastor that church, so he promptly replied, "I'LL TAKE IT!" I couldn't believe what he was saying and the committee stood there stunned also. It was as if time stood still as they looked at each other, with the chairman finally responding in a weak voice, "OK." Pastor O.C. Gentry heard it, saw it, spoke it and did it. He really did it—the Proper Progression. Ears, eyes, mouth, feet. The God Assignment was on! I never told my dad he took that church illegally and he never talked about it. To this day I believe it was the "major coup" in the history of Caddo County.

So even though my dad never spoke of being a prophet, he certainly had all the markings, especially when he prophesied over me when I was nine that one day I would be a preacher and years later boldly declared that I was a world evangelist, when I actually had only been to one nation at the time. Little did I realize that those rhema words were preparing me for my God Assignments. Later both of those prophecies were fulfilled.

So with a prophetic impartation from my dad, David Wilkerson and others that had laid their hands on me from boyhood, I too proceeded to operate in the Proper Progression.

Of course, Jean and I too have followed The Proper Progression for many years, experiencing results that have literally changed the history of our lives with astounding happenings that could only have been experienced through the supernatural.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### YOU'LL DO IT WHEN YOU DO IT

It was on our maiden journey to the United Kingdom that I first met Gerald Coates, “one of the all time England greats.” At the time he was giving oversight to a congregation in Cobham and was so excited about me coming to Britain, that he didn’t even show up the first time I ministered at his church. However, he did invite me back the following year, even attended the service and brought Noel Richards with him, a well known British singer and songwriter. I remember Noel leading worship that evening, followed by me preaching and then sharing many prophetic words corporately and individually. It was that night that I shared the vision Holy Spirit had given me concerning “young people being shot out like arrows from England to the nations of the world.” I also declared how I had seen “youth gathering in stadiums of the world.” Later, Noel talked with me about the prophetic word he had received concerning ministering one day at one of those stadiums, Wembley in London. He said that it all began one night in the fall of 1986 while he was watching television and a band called Queen was in concert at Wembley Stadium. Noel said that Queen launched into their famous anthem “We Are The Champions” as the vast crowd of 70,000, led by the late Freddie Mercury, began to sing at the top of their voices thrusting their hands into the air. He said at that very moment he saw something in his spirit that would never leave him. He saw that

stadium, with tens of thousands of Christians; singing out what was really true-that only Jesus Christ is the Champion of the World! Noel said that he sensed THE VOICE say to him that, “one day that stadium would be filled with worship.”

Noel would recall a few years later – “I pictured myself standing there at Wembley. I remembered the words of Dale Gentry-a prophet from the USA telling us in 1991 that we needed to receive a big vision of what God could do through us. He reminded us of God’s promise to Abraham that he would give him all that he could see. His only limitation would be how far he could see. More and more, in my spirit, I was seeing Wembley filled with thousands in worship.”

In May of 1994, while on the train to London, Noel began to talk to the Lord, saying, “When will this event at Wembley Stadium happen. When will I do it?” The Holy Spirit spoke to Noel and said, “you’ll do it when *you* do it.”

Faith began to rise in Noel’s heart and one day while driving by Wembley Stadium, he and his wife Tricia stopped the car, he told Tricia to wait in the car while he ran up the steps to Wembley Stadium, laid his hands on the stadium and asked the Lord to give him this venue, so that He could be worshipped in this place where the false gods of sport and music had been exalted. Even though the event was going to cost around 1 million dollars for the one-day event, faith rose in his heart that he could really do this!

Noel & Tricia worked with my friend Gerald Coates, a man of great influence in the UK in planning this major event. They also had a great supporting cast (facilitors), who believed in them and was willing to grab hold what they were seeing in their spirits.

The event was scheduled for Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1997. Jean and I arrived in London four weeks prior to the gathering at Wembley Stadium to lead a month of revival services in

the heart of London; just down the street from the cathedral where Princess Dianna's funeral was conducted later that same year. This revival was being hosted by Gerald Coates. He and a number of other Christian leaders in England had invited us to lead these services at a facility on Marsham Street in the heart of London. The services were well attended and each service ended with personal ministry for everyone. Five nights a week The Revival On Marsham Street continued. We experienced the "glory of God" on a nightly basis. Many of the services were in preparation for the "Champion of the World" event in Wembley Stadium the last Saturday night in June.

It had been raining during the week of the event in London and rain was also in the forecast for Saturday, the day of the gathering. There was much concern about this possibility, particularly among the leaders and participants. So the Friday evening service on Marsham Street was primarily dedicated to praying over the Champion event the next day. In unison, we prayed the same prayer Elijah prayed when he commanded that there not be any rain for a certain amount of time. We stood in faith against the weather forecast for the next day and commanded, "In the name of Jesus" that no rain would fall on Wembley Stadium the next day.

When I got up on Saturday morning, it was evident that threatening rain clouds were all about the city. Jean and I spent much of the morning prior to our departure to the stadium, praying in agreement the same prayer we had prayed the night before, that no rain would fall during the event that day. As we made the journey to Wembley stadium with our good friends from Germany, Rudi and Billa Pinke; the rain clouds still looked threatening, but thousands of people were seemingly paying no attention to the skies, just

excitedly lining up for a magnificent time of worship and prayer. The big day had finally arrived and it seemed all of England had gathered at our doorstep.

As the day began, us older people gathered in the stands, but thousands of teenagers sat or stood on the field as close to the stage as they could possibly get. Everything was excellent, including the music by many well-known Christian artists. I was quite excited as Gerald Coates invited me to the stage to lead a time of prayer. Leading prayer for almost 45,000 people remains today as one of the major highlights of my 43 years of ministry!

It was a life changing occasion, Noel concluding the event at 10:30 that night by singing the song he had written especially for this day, “Jesus, Champion of The World.”

“We will raise a shout

We will shout it out

He is the Champion Of the World”

His song was followed by seemingly everyone in that massive stadium on their feet shouting Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! I still get “cold chills” just thinking about it. God

Assignment Completed!

Before the final song, an announcement was made from the stage that “it was raining all around Wembley Stadium”, but we never received one drop of rain inside. A miracle!

Our prayers had been answered, the same as the prophet Elijah. “Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain”(James 5:17). We were very thankful! “You’ll do it when you do it.” And Noel did it!

Just one more example of how God desires to give you the desires of your heart, but those dreams, visions, prophecies and promises will not automatically come your way.

There are times when you must become very aggressive, bold, tenacious, pertinacious, persistent, insistent, importune, resolute, determined and like Noel, be willing to finish your God Assignment.

## FACILITATORS

Noel was able to finish his God Assignment because he had facilitators in his life; his wife Tricia and Gerald Coates, who kept telling him he could do it. We all need facilitators in our life, like Jean Gentry who has told me hundreds of times over the past 49 years that I could do it and don't hang up. Those like my dad, Bob Nichols, Little Ray and others, who kept facilitating me, encouraging me and promoting me. People like Tom Autry, well known singer and songwriter, who told me, "You can do it, you can make it and you're looking good!" I'm convinced that many other stories would have been told if certain individuals would have had a facilitator, one who would encourage them along the way when they wanted to quit.

God is also a great source of encouragement along life's journey. He believes in us more than we believe in ourselves. He is an amazing God!!!

Several years ago, I was ministering for Jeff Kenney at New Hope Church in Concord, California. We had a great start on Sunday morning with the mayor of the city sharing a great testimony of her faith before I ministered the word and closed with some corporate prophecies. During lunch I started feeling quite ill; by evening time I felt much worse and dragged myself to the evening service. I felt great during as I ministered, but by the time we got back to our hotel, I felt even worse. When Monday morning called, I could not answer the bell. A substitute was called in with faith that I

could make the final conference service that night. But throughout the day I was feeling progressively worse, finally deciding about three o'clock that I was going to have to cancel. It was a difficult decision to make because I have always taught my students "champions play hurt." As I picked up the phone to call Jeff, I heard The Voice say, "You can do this." So instead of telling that I wasn't going to be there for the conclusion, I told him I would be there. I had heard The Voice, seen myself ministering in the evening service, declaring I could and I would, and then I did it. "The just shall live by faith" is spoken four times in the Bible, and it took every ounce of faith I had that night to "do it" but I did it. The Voice encouraging me every step of the way. We had an awesome service. Another God Assignment finished!

Then there are times we must encourage ourselves. A great example being David The Point Guard VS Goliath, The Post Man (# 1 draft pick). The Champion of the Philistine team had publically threatened David by shouting he was going to kill him, cut off his head and feed him to the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. That evening they would send a sad message to his momma. But the Bible says "David encouraged himself in the Lord his God" (I Samuel 30). You know the rest of the story. Sometimes it's necessary we encourage ourselves in order to finish our God Assignment.

Growing up in Comanche, my neighbors played a key role in shaping my future assignments. I remember before organized football came to our town, most afternoons found me just around the corner where Ronnie Hobzifkin and his half brother Junior Cranfield lived. Ronnie was a big strong German who talked a lot while he played—many times sharing with us exactly what play he was going to run, daring us to stop



him; encouraging himself before each play. Ronnie's bold words and strong confidence soon became very intimidating. However, I was observing my young mentor; not realizing his "self encouraging words" would a major difference in my future.

Another influential neighbor was Billy Bob Robinson, who lived just across the street from Jean and I. Billy Bob was only about six at the time, but talked like a grown person. He was attracted by my listening ear, so he came over often to visit and repeat same motional spill, saying, "Mr. Gentry" and I would say, "Yes Billy Bob." And he would then say, "I can walk and I can walk fast. Watch this. " Then he would began to walk very fast, quickly returning for my approval. I would usually respond by saying, "Billy Bob, you really can walk fast." And then he would say, "Mr. Gentry" and I would say, "Yes Billy Bob." And he would say, "I can run and I can run fast." And then he would run real fast, hurriedly returning again for my validation. He would go through the same scenario each time, word for word, as if he already knew that his "self encouraging words" were going to make a major impact in the life of Dale Gentry; which they did. Each time Billy Bob would conclude by again saying, "Mr. Gentry" and I would follow his lead (having now memorize my supporting role), by saying, "Yes Billy Bob." And then he would say, "I can mow and I can mow fast." And away he would go, pretending he was pushing a lawn mower, accompanied by all of those lawnmower sounds—waiting for my final approval. That small boy from Comanche became a major motivator in my life, teaching me that when others are not encouraging me, then I can truly encourage myself. Sometimes I still look at myself in the mirror and say, "I can walk and I can walk fast. I can run and I can run fast. I can mow and I

can mow fast. I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.” His example has played a major role in helping me finish my God Assignments.

#### YOU CAN DO IT AND YOU WILL DO IT

The Bible says that John The Baptist received an assignment to minister for a season in the desert. Jean and I received the same type of God Assignment in 2001, moving to Roswell, New Mexico. We had not suspected that we would ever lead another church, but God seems to keep things exciting by blessing us with different adventures and assignments, Roswell being a good example. Gateway was the only church I served as pastor that had two parking lots—one for cars and trucks and the other one for spaceships and flying saucers. I’ve said many times that it was quite unusual to see people sitting in church with little antenna’s sticking out of the side of their heads. They were actually a great group of people and our five years on the desert was very profitable. We still minister at Gateway at least once or twice a year.

As we felt our time of departure was at hand, Jean and I began to pray concerning our successor. While driving back from Texas one day, I heard The Voice speak to me about one of my elders, Rick Rapp serving as the next pastor. Rick and his wife Linda had been members since it’s beginning in 1978. Although Rick had never been a pastor, he had done an excellent job giving oversight to our Christian school for many years.

When I approached him concerning what I had heard The Voice say, he said he had never even thought about being a pastor, didn’t feel qualified and that he and Linda would need to pray about it. So I encouraged them to go and pray about it, but to come back with a definite yes.

So after spending several days in prayer, he came back to me saying that he would do it. The following Sunday I made the announcement concerning our departure and that we would officially receive Rick and Linda as their new pastors. It was a difficult day with lots of tears.

The plan was for Jean and I to meet Rick and Linda the following Sunday morning in my office for a short time of prayer, going over with them the order of the service. Early that morning I received a call from, asking if they could meet with us earlier than scheduled. Seated in my office, Linda began to share with me that she could not do this. Surprised, I responded by saying, “What do you mean, you can’t do this?” Having known her for a long time, I had learned that when Linda gets excited or nervous, she starts talking real fast. Her words coming forth in rapid succession, she explained to us that she had never been a pastor’s wife and did not feel was capable or ready. Without any mercy, I told her that it was almost time to for the service to start and it was too late for her to change her mind. I rose to my feet, my voice rising and said to her, “I rebuke that spirit of fear. You can do this and you will do this!” With an astonished look on her face, Linda quickly responded by saying, “Yes Pastor.” Out the four of us went to pass the mantle to Rick and Linda Rapp. Our God Assignment in Roswell was finished. It’s been four years now and the Rapp’s have done a wonderful job. Both the church and the Christian school have flourished under their leadership. Sometimes we not only need somebody to tell us that we can do it, but at other times we need someone to give us a push, telling us that we will do it.

## CHAPTER SIX

## SEED—TIME--HARVEST

“You’ll do it when you do it” doesn’t always work. It seems the harder you try, the more difficult it becomes—at times it appears that your prophetic word will never come to pass. You have facilitator’s who are encouraging you and you are encouraging yourself, but there seems to be no fulfillment of the rhema word you have received. What do we do? We wait for the right time, remembering that our time is not always God’s time. God’s will and God’s time must kiss each other. Genesis 8 reminds us of “seed—time—harvest.” The seed represents the prophecy that is has been designed just for us. The harvest represents the fulfillment or the completion of the rhema word. But in between the seed and the harvest is “time.” Most of us know it as “mean time.” It’s called “mean time” because of the waiting period, which most of us despise. I remember one man approaching me at the close of a service as I was leading, glaring at me and declaring, “You’re a false prophet.” I took the bait and said, “why would you say that?” He responded by saying that I had given him a prophecy two years before and it had never come to pass. He evidently didn’t understand that sometimes our prophecies are future words. Many times we are ready to do it, but it’s just not time to do it. Let me illustrate.

While serving as pastor of the church in Rush Springs, I received a call from another church, requesting I come for an interview that very week. I immediately heard The Voice say, “You’re going to be the pastor of that church in Del City.” Even though we loved our present God Assignment, I was suddenly filled with great excitement at the prospect of leading a church in the Oklahoma City area.

Thursday quickly rolled around and I got dressed early, anticipating our meeting with the deacon board that evening. While waiting to make the 90-mile journey, I made a short trip to town, returning to find Jean with a puzzled look on her face. She said that we had received a call from the church secretary in Del City, explaining to her that the current pastor of the church had reversed his decision to resign. The meeting had been canceled and we were not going to Del City after all. But I was ready to do it. I was sure I had heard The Voice. I had seen us moving to First Assembly of God in Del City, I had been saying we were going—we were ready to do it, but now we couldn't do it. I was so depressed that I immediately undressed, went straight to bed and covered up my head. When Jean discovered that I had gone to bed at three o'clock in the afternoon, she said I needed to get up right away, our youth pastors, Don and Kay Couch were coming over and we were going out to eat. When I refused, she said to me, "Dale, you need to be a good example for Don and Kay." I responded by saying, "I don't want to be a good example. I'm depressed."

She finally bribed me with the promise of a good Italian meal and we finished the day at Mama Mia's.

The next morning I still felt the same way as the night before. Very confused and discouraged about my Del City Word. In the natural, circumstances had changed, but in the supernatural, the word of the Lord was still in motion. Before long, the church in Del City called again, saying the pastor had resigned again and extending a second invitation. We finished our God Assignment in Rush Springs and started a new

assignment in Del City. We heard it, saw it, said it and finally did it. Not in our time, but His time. Seed—Time—Harvest.

#### FORTY SOMETHING BREAKOUT

Godfrey Birtill had waited for a long time for his harvest. He was over forty now, still working as a newspaper photographer in his home nation of England—following in the footsteps of his father who was also a newspaper photographer. He loved his father, only he didn't want to continue in his vocation footsteps. He wanted to follow the dreams of his heart, to be a singer and songwriter. Godfrey believed that dreams really do come true, but he had waited for a long time—his only claim to fame being the one who photographed a famous plane crash not far from where he worked. He really needed a Breakout.

Godfrey's Breakout came in January of 1998. The previous year Jean and I had been invited to minister at a revival in London, led by my friend Gerald Coates. We were there for the entire month of June, living in the middle of the hustle and bustle of one of one of the most well known cities in the world, leading a revival at Emmanuel Church—located on Marsham Street.

One evening before the service began, I was alone, praying for the Holy Spirit to anoint the service, when suddenly I heard The Voice say, "There is a revival on Marsham Street." That evening, I stood before the congregation, saying what I had heard and seen. From that night forward we began to experience Breakout—sharing each service the Breakout Word from Psalms 18. "I can run through a troop. By my God, I can leap over a wall" (Psalms 18). When we experience a Breakout, we go to

places we've never been, do things we've never done, meet people we've never met, preach sermons we've never preached, sell things we've never sold, write songs we've never written, sing songs we've never sung, etc. Of course "the singing and songwriting words captured Godfrey Birtill's attention, encouraging him to make the four hour trip to Marsham Street quite often. He had waited for a long time, but now he believed his harvest was at his doorstep.

When I returned to minister again in January of 98, the Revival on Marsham Street had been in progress eight months, with many testimonies of supernatural happenings. During that time I again declared the Breakout Message. Godfrey Birtill was back at the meetings, sitting on the first row, waiting for his harvest—still believing that all things are possible and nothing is impossible.

During that eight month period, Godfrey was never the recipient of a personal prophesy, but by this time he was hearing The Voice---seeing himself writing and singing songs followed by putting his faith feet in motion. He knew he had a God Assignment, so he went for it. He took the words from the series of sermons I had been preaching and wrote a song he entitled, BREAKOUT! Hear something, see something, say something, do something. He did something by writing and recording his first song. Shortly thereafter he sent me the cd containing his songs, accompanied by the words---which read,

"I have been washing my nets for too long, on the shores of unbelief. Listening through hours of meetings, now it's time to do what I see. Breakout, this is the time to Breakout, this is the call to breakout, this is the year of the breakout!"

The recording also contained a testimonial from Godfrey, saying though we had never met, his life had been influenced and changed by the Breakout message, so he had written and recorded his first song and requested some feedback.

At first I was somewhat skeptical because it sounded different than any recording I had ever heard. There were people in the background singing along with him, with frequent shouting's, closing with an enthusiastic response. However, I was quite impressed that his song had followed the theme of my Breakout message, so I responded by writing him a complimentary letter, never realizing this "40 Something Man" was about to experience his harvest. Godfrey had followed the Proper Progression—the wait was just about over.

It wasn't long before I returned to England to minister at a prayer conference at Waverley Abbey, first built in 1128. I had actually prophesied about that particular facility when I first came to England, so I was delighted when Gerald Coates invited me to lead the conference.

Upon arriving, I found out that Godfrey Birtill was going to be working with me for the entire week, leading worship. I was pleased that I was going to meet the Breakout song guy. There was an immediate connection. Godfrey wrote several songs that week on prayer, in response to the prayer teachings I was sharing and the prophetic words I was giving. Some of those songs are still on cd today.

Thirteen years later finds Godfrey continuing to write and records songs, traveling across Britain and into other nations of the world, his schedule now packed, his time of harvest has arrived—the days of working to just to make a living are gone now—his dreams being fulfilled. As his spiritual father, it's great to observe his Breakout words



being fulfilled. Not long ago one of his songs won Song of The Year in the UK. Seed-Time-Harvest.

### STILL WAITING

Waiting on our ship to come in (the fulfillment of a prophecy) is quite difficult. I have prayed for many Christians, who initially were filled with great, hope and enthusiasm concerning their prophecy. Eyes sparkling accompanied by a big YESSSSSSSS, only to experience years of seemingly little or no results. One example being a word I gave to my pastors, Bob and Joy Nichols concerning their beautiful daughter Janet. Over ten years ago, she went into a coma and was not expected to live. Pastor Nichols spent many nights sleeping in the ER waiting room, waiting for a miracle for his daughter while thousands of believers around the world interceded for Janet and her miracle. During this time, I had a vision of Janet putting a blue dress on and taking healing and miracles to her generation. Bob and Joy Nichols received the word, heard the word and with their spiritual eyes they too saw Janet's complete recovery, going out to minister with that blue dress on. They then proceeded, with their faith feet, to hang a new blue dress in Janet's closet.

Over ten years have now come and gone and still Janet's blue dress still waits. Even though she has progressed, she remains in a semi-coma, while prayer continues day and night for her full recovery. I too pray nightly for Janet Nichols's complete healing. Why do so many believers encounter the fulfillment of their prophetic words so quickly, when others wait year after year, seemingly with little or no results? I don't have the answer except I do know there is a time factor between the seed and the

harvest—we know it as “mean time.” So we wait for the promise, still trusting him with all of our hearts, not leaning to our own understand, but in all of our ways we keep acknowledging Him as He directs our paths (Proverbs 3). Waiting on our God  
Assignment. Seed—Time—Harvest.

My spiritual grandson Leeland wrote one of my favorites songs. It goes like this:

“For now, I’ll wait for the sun to shine again. For now I’ll wait for the rain to pass away. I’m looking for the brighter days to come my way. When all my hurt seems to fade away. I’m looking for the brighter days to come my way.

For now Ill now I’ll sit at the end of the road. For now I’ll wait at the end of the pathway. I’ll watch the night time to turn to morning. I’m looking for the brighter days to come my way.”

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### NOTHING, NOTHING, NOTHING, POW!

It’s difficult to understand or discern how the Spirit Led Life works. Sometimes things happen quickly, sometimes slowing, sometimes with our help and other times with little or no effort on our part. Suddenly everything can change. The testimony of Gary Everett is a prime example.

“It was just another hot Texas summer afternoon that day when the phone rang; but it was a day I will never forget. It was on Friday in July 1997 in the busy Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. Little did I expect that my life was about to be SUDDENLY changed forever.

As I answered my busy mobile phone; to my surprise I heard the voice of my pastor Bob Nichols, greeting me on the other end of the line. He asked if I could come by his office that same afternoon.

I didn't know that Pastor Bob Nichols had been preparing to start a Christian television station in Kampala, Uganda Africa. One day Pastor Nichols invited Dale Gentry to join him; asking him to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give him a prophetic word concerning someone to manage the station.

As Brother Dale began to pray, he saw my face in a vision and knew my first name was Gary. Pastor Nichols confirmed the prophecy, and then went in search of this person. When it was finally determined that I was the right one, then the call came. They didn't know that over a period of several weeks time, I had four dreams of being interviewed by Pastor Bob Nichols and Dale Gentry.

As I entered his office, I took a deep breath and calmly greeted Pastor Nichols. I had told my boss that I did not know if I would be asked to teach a Sunday school class or to go to "Timbuktu". Little did I ever dream that it was "Timbuktu." Even though I had been a member of the church for three years and was actively involved, my pastor did not know me personally.

After about thirty minutes of questioning me about my marriage, work, education, gifts, etc.

Then suddenly, the question came that would change my life forever. Pastor Nichols asked me if I would be interested in going to Kampala, Uganda, East Africa to work in a new Christian television station sponsored by the church? I told him that I would be willing to do so, but would like time to discuss it with my wife.

Several days later, my wife Menchu and I were invited back to our pastor's office. Included in this meeting was Dale Gentry, who had given me a prophetic word in 1994 that would change my life forever.

I told them my wife and I had discussed the matter together and she was willing to go with me, even though she had been in the US only twelve weeks—moving from The Philippines. When Pastor Nichols asked her her comments in this second interview, her simple reply was that she would follow her husband wherever he chose to go.

ONLY ELEVEN DAYS after Pastor Nichols initial phone call, Menchu and I were on an airplane flying to the mission field; a new and unknown destination. We simply parked our two cars in the garage of our home, locked the doors and left SUDDENLY. We did not know what our salary would be, the people or conditions. However, none of that matters when you believe in the call. I just didn't quit my job and make something happen. I let the Lord work and open the doors and now I knew it was right—and I was ready. What a change, and so suddenly!”

God desires for similar things to happen in each of lives. In natural, this could never have happened. Gary did not have the technic skills needed to manage a television station. But in the supernatural, he realized that all things were possible. He heard, saw it, said it and then he did it. Gary followed the Proper Progression and now he and Menchu and their three children still reside in Africa, giving oversight for the past 13 years to the Lighthouse Television, where 15 million people have access to the gospel 24/7—fulfilling the God Assignment that once was only a dream!

We know the Bible is filled with Suddenly's. However, my favorite Suddenly Story is the account of Peter, after fishing all night and catching nothing (one translations says, not even a minnow), was the beneficiary of a prophetic word from Jesus himself. Jesus said, “launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a big catch” (Luke 5). Peter gives a natural response to a supernatural word, claiming that he had fished all night and caught nothing—he was dog tired (as we would say in Texas). Then like Mary, he makes a faith shift by responding appropriately to the rhema word. “Nevertheless at your word, I will let down the net” (Luke 5). He heard it, then he saw it, then he said it and then he did it. The results were two boat loads of fishes. Nothing, nothing, nothing, pow! I'll say it again, anything can happen in the next 24 hours. As believers, we must live in that aura of anticipation. What God did once, he'll do it again. What God did for Peter and Gary Everett, he can do for you. Get ready for The Suddenly's! Your God Assignment is on the way.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

## GIANT KILLING DAYS

Not many people enjoy very many, what I label, as giant killing days, in their entire lifetime. Those days are usually few and far between. However, we all like to experience them and also read about them. All of us probably know the account of how David experienced the rush of a major victory or a giant killing day, even though he was still a teenager. I'm sure he savored that day many times though out the next 40 years as he served as both military and governmental leader over the nation of Israel.

Jean and I have celebrated several of those giant killing days in our 49 years of marriage, but none like the one in the summer of 2004.

No one wants to hear the C word. My pastor Bob Nichols says, "There is no trouble like trouble that comes your way."

In the natural, she needed immediate surgery to remove the malignant mass. Jean checked into the hospital and while waiting for surgery, Pastor Don & Diane Labro came to pray with Jean and asked if she had a peace about this operation? She replied, she didn't and asked the nurse to remove the IV. When our doctor and long time friend, David Remedios was informed of the change in plans, he agreed that if we did not peace about the procedure, we should wait. So instead of Jean having surgery, David and Yvonne Remedios, Don and Diane Labro, Jean and I went out for a steak to celebrate her healing. Jean was at perfect peace with her decision and all had a good time.

The next morning we met with the local oncologist, responding to Jean's determination as risky and that we needed to reverse our decision and have the surgery done immediately.

We was not denying there was a problem—we knew that in the natural Jean’s decision could be fatal, but she had earlier received a prophecy from Bob Alexander, a prophet, “that it was not malignant.” In the natural it was malignant, but in the supernatural it wasn’t malignant. Her situation was similar to the twelve old girl’s case in Mark Chapter 5. The girl’s father called Jesus, asking if he could come and heal his daughter—Jesus agreed. But the girl died before Jesus arrived. So outside the little town, they told him that the prayer meeting was off, the girl had died. Jesus responded by saying, “she’s not dead.” We know in the natural she was dead, but in the supernatural she was not dead. Of course, they were shocked with his remarks and then began to laugh and mock him because of his ridiculous assertion. It was obvious the young lady was dead. There was no heartbeat and no signs of life. In the natural, the situation was hopeless, but not in the supernatural. With God all things are possible and nothing is impossible. At the end of the day, the little girl was walking, talking and enjoying life because of one supernatural word. The same with Jean; after days of prayer, fasting and saying what she had seen and heard, “this is not malignant”, she decided to use her faith feet. One morning she declared she was healed, so we returned to for a second biopsy. Jean was convinced that her miracle was in motion and she was ready to be a recipient of a supernatural happening. While David performed the second biopsy, his wife Yvonne and I spent time praying in the spirit, interceding for Jean. Suddenly my spiritual eyes were opened and I saw Jesus enter the operating room, put his hand on Jean and say,

“REQUEST GRANTED!”

The next afternoon, David and Yvonne came to the prophet’s chamber that had built for us next to their home, hardly able to contain themselves with the report that three

pathologists had searched for four hours and could not find a trace of cancer! We had experienced an overwhelming victory! The celebration began and is still continuing. Jean has been cancer free now for almost six years! To God be the glory! Jean heard The Voice, saw The Voice, then she said what she had seen and heard, and then she did it. She walked it out. In the natural it was not possible, but in the supernatural we know that all things are possible. Jean followed The Proper Progression and experienced a miracle. We don't just believe in miracles, we depend on miracles. If we believe, all things are possible and nothing is impossible.

Following her healing, Jean wrote a book entitled Overwhelming Victory in response to a prophetic word given by our friend Tina Welch, proclaiming that Jean would experience an overwhelming victory. She did! Ears, eyes, mouth, feet. God Assignment completed. A giant killing day indeed!

#### YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG NUMBER

“People are going to start giving you money that you've never met before” was the prophetic word I gave to a woman who lives in New Orleans.” She received the word by faith and followed The Proper Progression.

One day she received a wrong number phone call, followed by an apology. Instead of accepting the explanation from the voice on the other end of the line and hanging up, she promptly offered to look up the telephone number for her. She then followed that courtesy by asking the lady if she could pray for her, which the lady immediately accepted. Then the stranger on the line then requested then asked if it would

be possible to call her again sometime for another prayer. Phone numbers were exchanged, followed by more calls and more prayers. One day the lady she had never met, called requesting her to come to her home for a visit, giving her the address of her residence. The woman who received the prophetic word said she drove to the lady's house, which was in a poor neighborhood and was warmly greeted by the lady she had never met. After being seated the lady said they she did not have relatives and wanted to give her something for her kindness. She said while she waited this lady went into another room of her home, returning with a brown paper bag containing fifty thousand dollars cash. She then said she had something else and went to another room of her house, this time returning with \$200,000 worth of bonds, cd's, etc. She said that she came to the lady's home that day in the natural, living on a fixed income; but left in the supernatural with a quarter of a million dollars in her trunk. She heard it, saw it, said it, did it. A "giant killing day!" All things are possible and nothing is impossible. One word from God can change your life!

#### I SMELL SMOKE

"Don't bring anymore money" were the words of Pastor Tom Peters, as he shouted to the congregation on that Sunday afternoon at Trinity Church in Lake Worth, Florida. I could hardly believe what I was hearing. I hadn't heard those words since David was King of Israel. But it was true and a giant killing day was in motion.

It all started 60 days earlier when I was taking my Sunday morning prayer walking, asking the Holy Spirit to anoint me as I ministered at Trinity. Soon I heard The Voice say, "Tell the congregation this morning that you will return in sixty days to burn the church mortgage." I love the smell of smoke as it pertains to a mortgage burning. I



had participated in some other mortgage burnings, but this one was a little different. Only sixty days to raise \$576,000. Not too difficult if you said it real fast or if you believe in the supernatural—that all things are possible and nothing is impossible. I heard it, I saw it and that morning (with the pastors permission), I said it. I knew that in order to complete the Proper Progression, I had to do something. That doing something resulted in Jean and I giving the equity out of the recent sale of our home and returning sixty days later to burn the mortgage.

Energy was in the air as the people gathered for the Sunday Morning Showdown. I'm sure many just came to see if God could really pull this one off. During the previous two months, church members had been making "faith commitments", but this day was the day they those commitments were to be fulfilled.

That morning I remembering standing and speaking with a most unusual anointing that day, fully aware of my God Assignment and boldly declaring, "we are going to burn the church mortgage today—I won't be coming back next week, so today is the day."

In order to make that happen, I was told we still needed approximately \$200,000 that very day. So we proceeded to pray, asking people to put their faith feet in motion and do whatever the Holy Spirit asks you to do. Like a roller coaster attempting to gain momentum in getting to the top, things went quite slowly for a while. In fact, it appeared in the natural that we weren't going to succeed. We still need over a hundred thousand and people were giving me that "empty pocketbook look."

Then suddenly the roller coaster got to the top. Scores of kids from the children's ministry entered the sanctuary, bringing their piggy banks and other sources of finances;

igniting a spirit of faith in the auditorium, which resulted in a whole new wave of givers coming to the front and depositing cash and checks in the buckets. The crowd would roar with approval as each gift was announced, whether large or small. Everybody seemed to be into at this point.

The service would normally have concluded by the magic twelve-noon time, so they could beat the Baptist to the cafeteria. But today they didn't seem to care that we were approaching two in the afternoon, because suddenly everyone seemed to smell smoke, meaning we had almost reached our goal—which meant there would actually be a mortgage burning on the platform of the church to celebrate the church had absolutely no indebtedness. In fact, our faith feet had prompted us to prepare for the victory celebration, believing that all things were possible and nothing was impossible.

Then it happened with Pastor Peters suddenly jumping to his feet, taking the microphone to declare to the congregation, "I'm about to say something I've wanted to say my entire ministry, DON'T BRING ANYMORE MONEY. We now have more than enough!" Then bedlam erupted---people were clapping, shouting, jumping up and down, etc. It reminded me of an Oklahoma-Texas football game. The celebration had begun followed by another celebration as Tom and Mary Ann Peters, accompanied the elders along with Jean and I, actually burned the mortgage that Sunday in 95. Pastor Peters concluded the service that afternoon with the promise that the church would never go into debt again, and he has kept good on that promise. People didn't want to leave the building, lingering, enjoying the moment and knowing they truly had experienced a giant killed day. God Assignment finished. We would never be the same again

CHAPTER NINE  
RUNNING WITH THE BIG DOGS

“You’re going to minister at the White House“ were the words written on a small crumpled piece of paper that was handed to me at the close of a service in 1993. It was short and to the point, but proved to be a very significant God Assignment. Little did I realize the obedience of one person could make such a difference. Everything starts with a rhema word. “In the beginning was the word, the word was with God and the word was God. And the word became flesh and dwelt among us and we held His glory (John 1). Hebrews 11 says, “By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God.” The Voice literally spoke the worlds into existence. Like father, like son and daughter, supernaturally, we too can speak our worlds into existence. As a result, we can enter worlds that were never possible in the natural.

After leaving the service that Sunday morning, I took the small piece of paper and by faith began to declare, “I’m going to minister at The White.” I had heard it and then I saw it and then I said it. Then I knew I had to put faith feet to my prophecy, so in my minds eye, I began to picture myself walking down Pennsylvania Avenue, making a turn into the White House. .Ears, eyes, mouth, feet.

When we receive a prophetic word, we never know how God is going to do it. In the natural, there was no way that a boy from Comanche could minister at the White House—but the supernatural was a different story.

In April of 1994, Jean and I responded to an invitation from Pastor Bob Nichols to lead a two-week prayer revival at Calvary Cathedral in Fort Worth. Those two weeks

turned into 26 weeks with the most amazing results I had ever experienced in my entire ministry. Eventually Jean and I moved to Fort Worth and continued the revival flow and rhythm for the next three years. Later I wrote a book entitled *Revival In The Morning*, a complete account of the events.

It was during this season that a lady from our nations capitol came to the revival. She sat on the first row and when the service was over, came to the platform and gave me an invitation to come to Washington D.C. She explained that her and her husband were the prayer leaders at the White House and led a weekly prayer service for the White House personnel. I readily accepted the God Assignment. Bubbling with excitement, Jean and I began to make our plans to go that very night.

Soon government documents arrived in the mail, to be completed and returned so that we could have security clearance into the White House. Finally the day arrived for our history-making journey. Jean and I flew to DC, where we were met by our hosts and together walked down Pennsylvania Avenue, just as I had done many times (in my dreams). When we arrive, we were given authorization to enter, followed by a long walk up the stairs, but I was too excited to notice. I soon knew this was no ordinary tour—passing by the modest ceremonial office of Vice-President Gore, we made our way to our designated prayer place. That prayer place turned out to be the former offices of George H. Bush, when he served as V.P.

Jean and I were left alone for a few minutes, waiting for the prayer meeting to begin. As we stood there, looking out the window at the residence of the President of The United States, I was thinking, how did I get here? Everything seemed so surreal at the moment, but I knew it had all began with a word—a creative word that I receive three

years before. Soon our God Assignment was finished and we were on our way back to Texas.

Soon after arriving back home, I saw something in the news about how national and international leaders gather at The Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. With the hotel being in close proximity to the White House, I was asking Jean why we hadn't stayed there on our recent trip? Her answer was the same as mine, "I didn't think about it." I immediately determined that if ever again travel plans called for DC, I would definitely stay at The Mayflower.

I didn't have to wait long. Soon a second invitation came to be involved in a session at the Whitehouse, with my personal assistant making reservations for me at the world renowned Mayflower Hotel, built in 1925 and quickly labeled as "Washington DC's Second Best Address" by President Harry Truman. Jean opted out of the trip. Her replacements were my son Rick, Anthony Haygood, Lyle and Brenda Mason.

It was late when Rick, Tony and I arrived in DC. By the time we retrieved our luggage and got to the hotel, it was quite late. Upon arrival, the receptionist confirmed our reservations, for the second floor, but soon informed me that due to our late arrival, somehow our rooms on the second floor had been occupied. Evidently she saw the disappointed look on my face and quickly began to take another look at her room list. Finally she turned to me and said, "the only vacancy we have tonight is the Presidential Suite—I'll put you guys in the Presidential Suite. I found out later it rents for five thousand dollars a night! God is neat. We came expecting to stay on the second floor, but ended up staying on the top floor—all for the price of a regular room!"

Soon we were escorted through the double doors with the presidential seal, hardly believing the comforts we were about to enjoy for the next few hours. All three of us were exploring this incredible facility that included a television with the capability of viewing eight programs at once, plus other amenities that were prepared for royalty. I could hardly sleep that night, trying to soak up every minute, knowing this would be a once in a lifetime experience. When I phoned the front desk the following morning, I asked if I could stay in the suite another night. The reply was “absolutely not.” However, it was not just about staying in the Presidential Suite at The Mayflower, but the most important part came when The Voice spoke to me and said, “You came expecting to stay on the second floor, but I put you on the top floor. This is where I want you to dwell. On the top floor.”

It’s true that many Christians are willing to live on the second floor, expecting very little else in life. Their days are filled with mediocrity, average, ordinary, unmemorable, lackluster, common, second-rate, plain-vanilla living. They go through life instead of living life. But God desires for his children to live on a higher level. “And the first voice I heard said, come up here” (Revelation 4). All things are possible and nothing is impossible. All we need to do is get off the porch and run with the big dogs!

#### PRESIDENT BUSH

I leaned over my computer, typing a letter to President Bush, thinking in the natural, “What am I doing this for? There is no way this will ever reach the President of The United States.” However, I knew I had heard The Voice talk to me about what was

happening in Iraq and a possible solution. So I had to act in obedience and follow the Proper Progression—knowing that all things were possible and nothing was impossible.

“Always write it down immediately” is one of the principles I have given over the years during my prophetic instructions time. Most people think that one is not necessary because they somehow believe they will be able to remember when they get home or when they get up the next morning. But it’s quite amazingly true that most people cannot remember what they’ve heard the next hour, not including the following day. Many times I have gotten up in the middle of the night, trying not to waken Jean, going into my office or even our closet, to write down those revelation messages from the Lord.

On this particular day, the Holy Spirit definitely had my attention, so I immediately went to my computer, knowing that over 40 plus years I had received thousand of prophecy’s but never getting one for the leader of the free world.

After placing my words carefully on an email, only then did the thought cross my mind, “Who am I going to send this to?” Not having the President’s email address handy, I forwarded it to myself—knowing in the supernatural, that there would be an opportunity to actually send it to President Bush.

Everyday I pray for divine appointments and divine connections. So before long, I had a divine appointment. A friend of mine called me, saying that he had a friend who owned a bank in Texas and wanted to know if he could possibly call me? He went on to say that his banker friend had heard about my prophetic ministry and wanted to know if I could possibly pray for him? I agreed, not thinking he would call me right way, but he did. In fact, it was only a couple of minutes or so, my phone rang and it was the Texas Banker on the line—telling me had heard I gave prophecy’s and wondered if I might give

him one also? I always try to give the same answer to that particular question, “I’ll pray for you and if the Holy Spirit gives me anything to share with you, then I’ll say it.”

I started the conversation by asking him if he had every received a prophecy—which he hadn’t. In fact, he knew very little about the prophetic. So I proceeded to give him some prophetic instructions, followed by some examples, telling him about some of the people I had given prophetic words to, including our mutual friend. Then suddenly I began to tell him that recently I had even received a prophecy for President Bush, even though I didn’t know how I was going to possibly be able to get the prophetic word into his hands. The Texas Banker immediately responded by saying, “I can help with that one.” Quite surprised, I instantly responded by saying, “You can?” He then told me that he and George W. had gone to school together and their friendship had continued, even after he had moved to the White House. He said that he had spent several nights there as guest of the president and Mrs. Bush, including the previous week.

As I stood there quite speechless, he asked if I would mind reading him the prophecy that I had prepared for the president. I hurriedly went to my computer, found the presidents word. Hurriedly he said, “forward your prophecy to me and I will then forward it to President Bush---in fact, I’ll guarantee it to be on his desk this afternoon.” Just like that, it was done—another God Assignment finished. I’m not taking any credit, but shortly thereafter the War in Iraq began to turn in our favor. Who knows? There is one thing I do know—all things are possible and nothing is impossible! Another thing, I was definitely running with the Big Dogs.

VICE PRESIDENT CHANEY



As I shared in an earlier chapter, I love governments—I'm very interested in politics. While serving as pastor at Gateway Church in Roswell, New Mexico, our membership included both a state legislator and a state senator, who also won the republican nomination for Lt. Governor. He and the nominee for Governor asked me to come to the airport and personally pray for them as they started their campaign. They later came to our home for a meal so we could talk politics. I love politics.

So when one of the congressional candidates in our district asked if he could come and speak for a few minutes at one of our Sunday morning services, I readily accepted. By divine appointment, he came the Sunday just prior to the New Mexico Tuesday Primary. He and his wife met with us in my office for prayer before the service began. Just as we were leaving, the prophetic anointing came suddenly and out of my mouth came these words, "Jean and I will be coming to Washington DC to visit you." I immediately knew I had just taken a major risk—going out on a limb to share this prophetic utterance because he was running third in the polls and that was only two days before the election.

Two days later, the prophecy was fulfilled (a now word), followed by an invitation from his office to come and pray for the Vice-President of The United States, who was coming to Roswell to help him win the general election. I had been invited to pray for Dick Chaney!

It was sort of a surreal moment, the boy from Comanche going to pray for the VP. The press was there, accompanied by a large security force. Suddenly the program began and then it was my turn to step behind the Vice-President's personal podium, thinking how did I get here? It had to be a supernatural happening—but I again remembered The

Voice speaking to me that night on the top floor of the Mayflower Hotel, telling me that He wanted me to dwell in the supernatural. The pictures of Dick Chaney and myself still hang in my office today—reminders that all things are possible and nothing is impossible—opportunities to “get off the porch and run with the big dogs!”

## CHAPTER TEN

### BIG HOUSE, BIG SCREEN TV

For several weeks Tim Storey and I had been leading a revival at Trinity Church in Lake Worth, Florida. One night in the middle of his sermon, he turned to me and boldly declared, “I see you living in a big house with a big screen TV.” Jean and I immediately received the prophecy and were convinced it was a word from the Lord. In the natural, this seemed impossible, but in the supernatural all things are possible. Prior to the meetings in Lake Worth, we had sold our home in Oklahoma City and moved to Fort Worth. We had anticipated buying another house, but that option had been removed months earlier when in obedience, we responded to The Voice to give our entire equity to help pay off the mortgage at Trinity Church.

This was not a new word, but a confirming word. We were very excited because we were convinced that another “house miracle was in motion.” For many years, God had been providing special places for us to live. One of those “special places” came our way while living in Rockwall, Texas. The church there had provided us a condo, but after several months, we knew it was time to move closer to the church. Each day Jean and I would pray for a divine appointment as she went “house hunting.” One evening she came

home, announcing she had found a place and wanted me to go and take a look. After a short tour of the condo, we decided to put our decision on hold for 24 hours.

As we continued to pray about this location, I heard The Voice say, “this condo is second best.” After sharing this with Jean, she assured me that we were not going to settle for second best.

The following morning, Jean prayerfully went in search for the best, setting her faith feet in motion.

As I came through the door that evening, Jean was bubbling with excitement, having found a brand new condo. She told me the story of how the Holy Spirit had directed her to a location where new condominiums were under construction. Upon finding the owner, she proceeded to tell him she wanted to lease one of his new condos. His answer was swift and firm, telling Jean that his units were not for lease, but for sale. Jean knew that God was providing us a miracle place to live, so she picked up the pace, making the same request again, when suddenly he responded by saying yes. Not only did he say yes, but gave Jean permission to choose the colors, carpet, appliances and other accessories. In a few days, we moved into a brand new condominium in a gated community with a lake view! Jean had followed the Proper Progression—hear something, see something, say something, do something.

As a result of a series of house miracles, it was quite easy to receive “the big house word, big screen TV word.” That very night, a businessman gave me a check to purchase the big screen TV. Now all we needed was a big house to place it in.

After returning home to Fort Worth, in response to the word of the Lord, Jean started searching for the big house.

One afternoon, she called and asked me to “pray right away.” She had just found a beautiful new two-story house with a three-car garage, in a gated community with a duck pond across the street. To top it all off, the house had her colors. “It looks exactly like me”, Jean said. She then proceeded to tell me how she had called the owner for a tour, even though there was a “for sale” sign in front. She then told him that she wanted to lease the house, but he explained to her that it was not for lease, but for sale. But Jean persisted, giving him her phone number, asking him to think about it and to call her if he changed his mind.

We prayed and shortly thereafter, Jean called again, saying the owner had just called her, saying he had decided to lease the house to us and she was to meet him right away to sign the contract! God did again, honoring Jean’s faith by giving us another house miracle. That very week we moved into the big house that included a big room for the big screen TV. We eventually bought the house and experienced several years of wonderful memories.

#### A PEACEFUL DWELLING PLACE

Tony Miller and I were ministering at a conference in London when I suddenly heard The Voice saying, “Tell my people that I want them to own their own house—I want them to live in a place that is comfortable and peaceful. I desire to work miracles concerning their dwelling place. They must believe me for upgrades and for supernatural happenings concerning their homes. “

So I promptly shared this word with the people, followed by Tony standing and declaring, The Voice had just shared that with him also. “In the mouth of two or three witnesses, let every word be established” (II Corinthians 13).

Without delay, we announced a special service at four o’clock that afternoon, preceding the evening meeting, to pray specifically for people that either did not own their own house or did not live in a place that was peaceful or restful.

Much to our amazement, hundreds of people were present for the afternoon event. Tony and I prayed for each of them, believing for their home miracle. That one service totally changed my life, knowing that God not only has prepared a home for us in Heaven, but has also prepared homes for us on this earth. He wants to provide homes for us that we feel we can’t afford in neighborhoods we never thought we could live in. Your home miracle could be in motion at this very moment! A God Assignment.

## CHAPTER ELEVEN

### THE POWER TOWER

A great example of this occurred in January, 1995 when I shared with my pastor, Bob Nichols, a prophetic word I had received 16 months earlier while flying to Austin, Texas on a Sunday morning to minister in the capitol city of the great nation of Texas. I heard The Voice speak to me from Ezekiel 7:23, saying “Make a chain.” That’s all He said, but that’s not unusual. I Corinthians 9:13 says that “we know in part and we prophesy in part”, meaning we never get the full measure of the revelation during the course of one prophetic word. We must receive the word by faith and then it takes faith to walk it out.

We would all love to have the complete picture, but it doesn't work like that. It's not simple, but it's not complicated either.

When I heard "make a chain" I didn't know how it could work since I was not a pastor, but felt it could be a word for some pastor, some church somewhere on this planet. But where and when I had no clue. I didn't know if it was a Now Word or a Future Word, but I did write it down and began to follow the Proper Progression. I had heard something, then I saw myself making a chain and then I began to say, "I'm going to make a chain, for this land is full of crime and violence." However, I knew that in order to experience the fulfillment of this prophetic word, I would need someone to cooperate with the word, a facilitator, someone who had faith feet. I did know this faith feet person would come through a divine appointment and divine connection. Locating this person didn't take long. The God Assignment came during the 9<sup>th</sup> month of a prayer revival Jean and I had been leading at Calvary Cathedral in Fort Worth, since April of the previous year with prayer services twice daily, experiencing the glory of God.

As I shared this prophetic word with Pastor Nichols, I knew instantly that I had discovered the faith feet of the prophetic word I had received 35,000 feet in the air. The prophetic word now had someone to cooperate. My pastor immediately responded by saying, "that's what's in my heart and we can do that, we can do it here." I was delighted when he said that we could do that here and even more delighted when he asked me to help set it in motion. It's very gratifying when you have the occasion to share a dream from the Holy Spirit with someone else and then get to step into that dream with them and partner with them to walk it out. It doesn't happen often, but it can be very

rewarding. It's like writing the script for a movie and then not only get to be the writer and director, but you also get to play a leading role.

That very next week Pastor Nichols and I met late one night at Denny's on University Street. If I had known the significance of that meeting, I would have been too nervous to have eaten that stack of pancakes with a large helping of honey. My friend Syvelle Phillips says, "big doors swing on small hinges." That Sunday night meeting in January of 95 seemed so small at the time (small hinges), but the door that was about to open was big (big door). It was very big and it was happening quicker than I could think.

Pastor Nichols said. "Let's get started right away—24 hours a day, seven days a week. You set it in motion Dale. You introduce it, train the workers—let's go Dale. Let's do it. He had heard it, seen it, said it and now we were going to do it! Ears, eyes, mouth, feet. I suggested to we start out slowly, perhaps start out with an eight hour per day rhythm, but Bob Nichols insisted we start full blown—24/7. At that time, he had led the same church for over 30 years, so I knew he was not a man that made irresponsible decisions, so I set my faith with his faith. There are times we don't need to operate with our own faith, it's possible to experience promotions through someone else's faith, as demonstrated in Mark 2—when the man who was paralyzed was made well when Jesus noticed the faith of his four friends.

We started the prayer chain on the second Sunday in May 1995. For several weeks I had been training the prayer captains from the manual I had written (which they still use today) and the church leadership was praying with me on a daily basis, preparing for the main event.

For the 24/7-prayer ministry location, we chose two rooms located above the sanctuary in the tower of the church. One for the prayer team and the other for phone calls, faxes and emails.

For several weeks we climbed the stairs to the upper rooms, praying for guidance and wisdom concerning the formation of the prayer chain. One day while praying in the upper rooms, experiencing the awesome presence of the Holy Spirit, someone suddenly declared, “this is a power tower!” That was it; we would name this 24/7 place of prayer, The Power Tower. Even though many have given me the title of founder of this international prayer ministry, the true founder was Joy Nichols, wife of Pastor Bob Nichols. For several years prior to that time, Joy and some “prayer warriors” in the church had been praying weekly in the upper rooms, preparing the way for this God Assignment.

The second week of May 1995 was designated as the official start of The Power Tower. We had determined that the prayer chain would consist of 84 prayer watches with two-hour increments. Over three hundred people enlisted to participate and we were off and running. At least we thought we were.

The first prayer watch was scheduled to start immediately following the morning service. As planned, the first prayer group would go up the stairs and would turn on the switch just inside the Power Tower, which would immediately turn on a light in the church auditorium, indicating the first prayer shift was in motion—history had been made.

About 1500 anticipating church members waited for the light to come on, but what should have taken only a few seconds had now turned into several minutes, delaying the celebration. We found out later that for some reason the door wouldn't open. The first



prayer watch couldn't get the door open! They finally had to find a hammer and screw driver to remove the entire door before the team could enter and turn on the light, much to the relief and enthusiasm of the waiting audience downstairs. We all determined that there were evidently "powers of darkness" that were trying to oppose the opening of the Power Tower and now we can certainly understand why—the prayer chain has been in operation 24/7 almost fifteen years with almost 700,000 prayer requests recorded since May of 1995 with hundreds of healings and miracles reported. The light has been burning day and night with the exception of a short period of time when a tornado roared through downtown Fort Worth in March of 1999, knocking down the church auditorium, but miraculously leaving the two intercessors intact in that small Power Tower above the sanctuary. The miracle attracted the major news networks to Calvary Cathedral. Not to report about the destruction of the beautiful church edifice, which was a landmark in downtown Fort Worth, but to report the stories of how the two ladies survived the tornadic winds that had torn down a church, blown out the walls of the Power Tower, but left the two ladies praying when in the natural they should have been blown into the next county. It was a definite supernatural happening. Later, as curious onlookers gathered across the street to gaze at the remains of the church, particularly The Power Tower, a reporter from the local newspaper approached me as I and asked me to share my thoughts for a news article he was writing. Immediately I said, "as I looked at The Power Tower, the things that really mattered are still there. The cross is still on top of the building, the altar is still in the room and the two women prayers are safe (still there)." I'm convinced that what Satan intended for our destruction was turned into a major victory—the whole world hearing about the 24/7 prayer ministry of a local church in Texas. And the

publicity was all free! What had begun as a “three word prophecy (make a chain), coupled with a pastor who believed that all things are possible and nothing is impossible, developed into a happening that’s made a difference in families and individuals all around the globe. A major God Assignment for a church in Uptown Fort Worth. God did it again!

The prayer chain continues today because of the faith of Pastor Bob and Joy Nichols, their wonderful congregation and the faithfulness of Steve Arbo, who has served as full time prayer director since 1997. They followed their God Assignment and the Proper Progression.

## CHAPTER TWELVE

### DIVINE APPOINTMENTS AND DIVINE CONNECTIONS

As I pray each morning, I ask the Holy Spirit to set up divine appointments and divine connections for my life—knowing that I can never fulfill my God Assignments without the participation of these “breakout partners” who are coming to help me fill my boat. I need divine encounters with those who hold the keys that will unlock doors of destiny in my life and ministry.

As Jean and I enter our 6<sup>th</sup> decade of ministry, we are fully aware that any measure of success in life that we might have obtained is due to the fact that we have had

partners who have come and helped us fill our boat (Luke 5). To each of these, we are truly grateful. Without them, we could never have fulfilled our God Assignments.

But how do we make these connections? First of all we pray for divine appointments followed by trusting the Holy Spirit to make those connections for us. This includes the discernment to recognize these connections and cooperation on your part to develop a relationship with each individual the Holy Spirit assigns to your life. But remember that relationships are spelled T.I.M.E.

Two years ago, I had the privilege of ministering to a group of leaders in Bangalore, India. A conference led by A. Stephen. Standing in front of those Indian ministers, I never dreamed as a boy that I could be traveling to different nations of the world. But how did I get to this nation, halfway around the world from Comanche? It's called divine appointments and divine connections. Here's how it happened.

In 1989, Pastor B.B. Hankins invited me to minister at a Missions Conference in West Columbia, Texas, there I met Norman Barnes, a Christian leader from London, England, who in turn invited me to the United Kingdom. It was there I met Stephen.

On our first trip to England, Jean and I were invited to stay in the home of Ollie and Ernie for a few days during our time of ministry for Norman and Grace Barnes, who were leading a church in the east part of London called Goodmayes. One morning at breakfast Ollie announced that we were going to have another guest join us that evening—a man from Bangalore, India. She explained that he was not scheduled to arrive until the following week, but the Holy Spirit had spoke to him to go immediately to the airport and change his ticket to arrive the following day. He could not comprehend it all because he knew a couple from Texas currently occupied the home he was to stay in

the following week. His reasoning's failed, so in obedience to The Voice, he made new arrangements, receiving permission from Ollie and Ernie to come to their home the very next day. Jean later asked me privately not to have anything to do with the man from Bangalore—stating that she definitely didn't want to go to India. I concurred; since we were to be leaving tomorrow anyhow and would probably not even see him. But little did I realize that a divine appointment was in motion.

While on my way to the kitchen early the next morning, I saw Stephen sitting in the parlor, reading his Bible. Even though we were preparing to leave, I suddenly felt great compassion for him and knew I needed to pray for him. After introducing myself, I asked if I could pray for him and he consented. I didn't know at the time that he was in the process of making his farewell ministry journey. He had earlier told God that after this trip, he would never preach again. He was so discouraged, having given so much of himself in ministry and yet seeing so few results. He had previously been a very successful businessman, so he was ready to re-enter that world on his return to India. However, a supernatural happening was about to take place. That's why The Voice had spoke to him to come to England the next day—next week would be too late. The couple from Texas would be long gone by that time.

Looking back, it's quite neat how the Holy Spirit brought two men together from two different parts of the world—different culture and different language, but that's how the Lord fulfills his plan and purpose.

As I began to pray for Stephen, a heavy anointing came upon me and I started to prophesy, declaring that God was going to mightily use him in his homeland and that he

would make a major impact in his nation—speaking things could only happen in the supernatural (he still carries that prophetic word with him wherever he goes).

Stephen immediately began to weep, sharing with me that he received the prophetic words that had just been spoken, and even though he had vowed to quit the ministry, he would now do the will of God, whatever the cost. As this broken man from India continued to repent with tears, I suddenly knew that I would be connected to this short man from Bangalore forever. Stephen went back to India a changed man.

The results of that one prophecy have been astronomical. During the past 20 twenty years, Stephen has experienced one supernatural happening after another. Without borrowing any money, he has built over 200 churches, a prayer center, an orphanage, a conference center, Bible school, home for girls, hospital, etc. He has led hundreds of Hindu's to Christ and still ministers regularly to a leper colony. At one time, his ministry team traveled to a different village each day, inviting people to come that night for a showing of The Jesus Film. Thousands have come to know Christ—many have been baptized, with some even attending his Bible school. In order to reach more people with the gospel, money was given to him to purchase a drilling rig so he could provide water to the village—thus giving him another opportunity to preach the gospel and win souls for Christ. All of this and more were released thru one prophetic word---accompanied by a divine appointment and divine connection. As a result, Stephen has been able to complete several God Assignments. I'm so grateful that I finally had the opportunity to travel to Bangalore, India and see for myself what God had done. As I observed all of the beautiful facilities, everything completed with excellence; I felt like the Queen of Sheba—overwhelmed by the goodness of God and the value of the prophetic—knowing

that one man with faith feet had heard something, seen something, said something and then did something. He had followed the Proper Progression and the results were overwhelming!

Stephen's story is only one of many that came as a result of "those divine appointment and divine connection prayers." Another one came one night while ministering at Cathedral of Praise in Austin. As I finished my message and began to prophesy over individuals, the Holy Spirit directed me to pray for a young man sitting near the back of the auditorium. I told him I had a personal prophecy for him, so he came forward and stood directly in front of me. As I started to pray for him, suddenly I heard The Voice say, "Evander Holyfield is about to make a major comeback." I was quite startled because I knew Evander was not in the building. I had never met him, but I knew what he looked like because I had seen him several times on television, including the time he got part of his ear bitten off in a boxing match with Mike Tyson.

Again I heard The Voice speak to me again, "Say Evander Holyfield is about to make a major comeback." So in obedience to the Holy Spirit, I said it to the congregation, not realizing the man standing and waiting for his own prophecy was Evander's personal trainer, Tim Hallmark.

After the service that evening, Tim called Evander and told him about the prophecy. Evander then asked if I would call him and talk to him about the prophetic word, which I did. During the conversation, Evander, he told me about his three consecutive losses in the ring due to a shoulder injury—concluding things were not going well for him at that time in the boxing world. The conversation ended with us talking about the prophetic

word and his desire for me to be involved in his major comeback. That night I knew another God Assignment was in motion.

For the next three years, I spent regular times praying with Evander and traveling with him to different places as he began to make his major comeback—starting in my own backyard at American Airlines Arena in Dallas with over 12,000 in attendance. Over that period of time, he won four consecutive matches, defeating his opponents easily and showing the type of grit that had made him the “only four time Heavyweight Boxing Champion” in the history of the sport.

Evander’s string of four consecutive wins brought him another opportunity to box for the heavyweight title. The prophecy I had given to him three years earlier had finally come to pass. Even Wikipedia.org confirmed the word, listing that era as “Comeback.” In 2007 I sat at ringside in Moscow, Russia, watching along with a world wide television audience, praying in the spirit, and again thinking, “how did I get here “—another divine appointment and divine connection.

## CHAPTER 13    PROPHEPIC INSTRUCTIONS

I’m confident that the previous chapters have built your faith, helping you to contend for a new dimension of supernatural living. I have endeavored to encourage you through the testimonies and stories of others who have lived to tell how God brought them to a place of major increase and enlargement through the fulfillment of their prophetic words. I too have been a significant recipient.

But all of the previous chapters would be of little benefit if I did not write these next two. First sharing invaluable guidance in walking out your prophetic words and then giving you additional information, using word pictures to help you in the completion of your God Assignments. It would be like building a house without a blueprint—purchasing an airplane and expecting to land it without an instructor.

Several years ago I wrote a prophetic manual with the emphasis on not “throwing the baby out with the bathwater.” I talked about the abuses connected with prophecy in the church world today. All of us have heard the horror stories of people receiving a prophetic word without any instructions, information, confirmation or mature leaders to assist them in their revelation journey.

I knew of a family who became very bitter at God because they received a prophetic word that their loved one was going to be healed of cancer. When the person died, they blamed God and of course blamed the one who gave the prophecy. I’m sure each of us have heard similar stories and I agree there’s been much damage in the body of Christ, people no longer wanting anything to do with the prophetic. That’s why we need valid prophetic voices in the church to bring credibility into this arena, not only through their revelatory words, but also by teaching, training and instructing.

That’s why I’ve dedicated this chapter to assist churches and individuals to better understand the value of the start and finish of a prophecy. There are probably millions of prophecies that have been given and received, but never finished—simply because they did not understand how to walk out the Proper Progression.

Hopefully I can bring a greater measure of understanding—to help you more effectively and efficiently be able to experience a fulfillment of your prophetic words. Remember, according to Jeremiah 29, the plan for your life is a good plan—thus giving you a future and a hope.

## THE NEW TESTAMENT PROPHET

The primary work of the prophet is to give prophetic words to churches, cities, and nations. Their secondary work is to identify and train prophetic sons. Thirdly, the prophet is to give personal words both to believers and unbelievers, including instructions and information.

A true prophet is a seasoned five-fold ministry person—called by God, having been confirmed and recognized by apostles and prophets they are in



relationship with. The making of a prophet usually takes many years of preparation.

Even though a prophet's words may be published and read by many, the prophet's primary sphere of influence is the group of churches that recognize him as a prophetic voice to their congregation. There is a danger of too many prophetic voices speaking into a local church.

A valid prophet is one who understands times and seasons—as a watchman declaring what they see.

Younger prophets need to work in conjunction with older prophets who serve as a father figure in their lives. Keeping in mind that everyone who prophesy's is not necessarily a prophet.

#### CORPORATE PROPHECY

According to I Corinthians 14, every believer is eligible to prophesy in a congregational setting when released by the pastor or church leader—everything being done decently and in order. These prophetic utterances must edify, exhort and comfort the church—not giving direction, rebuke or instruction.

#### PRIVATE PROPHECY

I believe in personal prophecy, but not private prophecy. A private prophecy is one given in a private setting without seasoned leaders to judge the validity of the word. This violates Biblical principle and creates potential dangers for the recipient, including an opportunity for that person to control and manipulate your life.

Most of these private prophecies are given by “arm chair prophets” self proclaimed and unauthorized, who sit at home by their telephone, waiting to give one of their prophetic clan another word. Most of these operate in conjunction with a Jezebel spirit. Jesus himself spoke of this spirit when He rebuked the church in Thyatira (Revelations 2:20). The Jezebel Spirit is a spirit of witchcraft,

which finds a place of influence in an attempt to manipulate and control the environment by calling themselves a prophet—working their magic and gaining influence by giving prophetic words in private. This spirit hates and discredits leadership they cannot control and who will not give them public recognition.

#### PERSONAL PROPHECY

A personal prophecy is given in the company of seasoned leaders and contains a nugget of revelation and information concerning a person's future. According to I Corinthians 13:9, we know in part and so we prophesy in part. It's not a chapter or a book; it's a word from the Lord—only a small part of the big picture. This prophecy should be accompanied with the following guidelines:

1. It's a Now Word ,Future Word , Confirming Word , or New Word.
2. You must receive this word with your spirit, understanding that your mind does not have the capability or capacity to receive the things of the supernatural (I Corinthians 2).
3. Once you receive it in your spirit, you need to take ownership of the word by writing it down (Jeremiah 30:2) and rehearsing it. I have a friend who has a record of every prophetic word I have given him since 1988. We must not let a word fall to the ground (I Samuel 3:19).
4. After your prophecy has been received, you must then rest in that word, allowing it to soak in your spirit—resisting the temptation to try and make it happen.
5. Wait for confirmation—if the prophetic word contains a major decision, then wait for even more confirmation.
6. Every decision you make concerning a prophetic word must be confirmed by those you are accountable to—particularly the pastor and leaders of your church. How many “trail of tears” a church member has left, after having

received a prophecy, immediately proceeded to follow that word without consulting with their pastor or elders. Realizing there is a very fine line between God's voice and Satan's voice, I must purpose that I will never make any major decision in my life without the confirmation of the two apostles I'm submitted to. Coming to the conclusion that I will not proceed without Godly confirmation, regardless of how convinced I am that I have heard The Voice.

7. You must then wait for the fulfillment.

8. Have a party!

#### EVERY PROPHETIC WORD IS CONDITIONAL

Sharing a prophetic word with someone does not bring automatic results. This is one of the dangers or pitfalls of the prophetic. Many people get disillusioned when their rhema word is not fulfilled, not realizing that every prophetic word given is conditional.

A good example is found in the book of Jonah. The prophet receives a prophetic message that he is to go to a city called Nineveh and tell them that in forty days, their city is going to be destroyed. The mayor immediately calls his city to repentance, plus a time of praying and fasting. God responds by granting His mercies to that city by sparing the city. Jonah was very upset because he didn't like this city and this turn of events made him appear to be a false prophet.

A similar thing happened to the prophet Isaiah. In 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 20, the Lord tells the prophet to deliver a prophetic message to King Hezekiah that he is going to die. The prophet hardly gets out of the parking lot until he hears The Voice telling him to go back and tell him he is not going to die after all—he is going to live fifteen more years. I'm sure Isaiah was stunned over the sudden turn of events, but once again the mercies of God prevailed. Little did the prophet realize the king had immediately asked God to let

him live—no sooner said than done. Request granted—fifteen more years for Hezekiah; a happy king but a displeased Isaiah. After all, he now appeared to be a false prophet—when in reality every prophecy is conditional.

In conclusion, sometimes a prophetic word depends on us believing that all things are possible and nothing is impossible. I have given many prophetic words to individuals who were shaking their heads in unbelief before I ever completed the prophecy. Because of their unbelief, I knew it would never happen—I was convinced they didn't have the faith or determination to follow the Proper Progression.

#### CAN I BE TAUGHT TO PROPHECY?

A Christian can no more be taught to prophesy than he can be taught to speak in tongues. I tarried (no a current word in our charismatic vocabulary) for the Holy Spirit for several years as a teenager. I was so hungry for more of God, but it seemed He eluded me at ever time. My ad being the original O.C. and a Pentecostal preacher at that, I felt I might somehow receive some preferential treatment. However, I was determined not to quit. I had invested too many time and energy chasing this gift. Along the way, I did attend a few sessions where people tried to get me to say, “glory, glory, glory, glory” followed by such words as “see my bow tie” over and over. Anyhow, even though the words sounded similar to the speaking in tongues I had heard all my life, I knew this was Memorex. It was not for me.

The same applies to you attempting to give prophetic words to people, even though you might have it down in theory, you must know that every person who operates in what I call, “the prophetic flow” Paul wrote in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14, that a prophetic

word needs to give a life giving sound—a sound that speaks like into the heart of the believer.

I'm not saying that none of these schools or training centers aren't profitable; personally I had rather find me a secret place, set down in there for hours if necessary, while I tell the Holy Spirit that I desire the gift of prophecy, so that I can minister prophetically to my family, my neighbors, my colleagues at work, even those I meet up with on the street—then get around others that have the gift of prophecy and when the anointing comes on them, request they lay their hands on you. I believe in impartation, the Holy Spirit taking of the spirit that was on Moses and transferring to another person, who would then prophesy (Numbers 20:24). However, I don't want just anyone laying hands on me at random—thus receiving the wrong type of spirit on me.

In conclusion, if you attend one of these prophetic schools, please don't participate in the sessions where they teach a person for an hour on how to prophesy, then they release everyone to prophesy over each other for the next hour. Don't participate in that—run as fast as you can.

#### PROPHETIC RHYTHM AND FLOW

In order for the prophetic to operate effectively in a corporate setting, the person leading the service must make room for that anointing. Allowing the prophet to function in each service, as the Holy Spirit leads—thus facilitating the gift of the prophet.

Operating in the prophetic is like a surfer waiting to catch the wave. If he misses the wave, he then has to wait for the next one. As a prophetic voice, I have discovered over the years that there is a certain time in each service when I see the wave coming in. At

this point, I tell the pastor or leader that I'm ready—the Holy Spirit is ready for me to minister. Sometimes the pastor will elect to sing another song, receive an offering, make an announcement or simply hesitate—not understanding the flow of the prophet. The wave goes out and the man of God has to wait for another wave to come in. The Holy Spirit operates by ebb and flow. There is a certain rhythm and flow the true prophet must work with in every service or else there are minimal results.

I remember on one occasion, I told the pastor that I was ready to minister (the wave was coming in), so he told me to go and tell the worship leader—who responded by saying, “I need to sing one more song.” When the song was finished, the wave had gone back out again, but now I had the microphone in my hand. I proceeded to exhort, pray, and wait until I was able to catch the next wave. The service concluded with me knowing it could have been much better if I have just been released to catch that first wave. Pastors and leaders play a major role in facilitating the prophetic voice—also understanding that the ability to work with the Holy Spirit, even in their regular services will elevate the life of the church.

#### HOLDING A PROPHETIC WORD

As a prophetic voice, I have learned over the years that wisdom and prophecy go hand in hand. Lady Wisdom desires to work with us in our prophetic giftings. We know that “wisdom is the ability to live life skillfully on a daily basis.” A lack of wisdom has minimized many prophecy's or prophetic settings to be minimized—teaching us the importance of discerning how much of a prophetic word to give and how much of to hold.

On one occasion, while praying for a young man who was serving as an associate pastor in a certain church—my spiritual eyes were opened and I saw him being received as senior pastor of the very church he was then serving at. I saw he and his wife coming down the center isle of the church with a wild reception given by the congregation. In the natural, it didn't seem possible because the current pastor appeared to be in a "long term mode." So I only shared a portion of the word, Lady Wisdom prompting me not to "tell it all." So I gave him the pastoring part, but I wouldn't tell him what church it was. Several months later, to most everyone's surprise, the senior pastor left. The associate called and told me the leaders of the church had requested him to consider serving as their next pastor. He asked me if that was the church I saw and I declared it was. His message in lieu of a call to that church was entitled "Five Reasons Why I shouldn't Be The Pastor of This Church." Lawrence Neisent was chosen anyhow—he and his wife Tracy being received just as I saw spiritual eyes. I had first met Lawrence in 1986 when I ministered at Hillcrest Baptist Church in Stillwater, Oklahoma. The rocker with the mullet received the prophetic word and continues to have a successful tenure at the church I once pastored in Del City, Oklahoma. To have given him all of the prophecy that day would have not been wisdom. So in operating in the prophetic, we need to ask Lady Wisdom to go with us as we make the prophetic journey. That every word we give will be postured properly, accompanied much grace—always containing a measure of encouragement and hope with the understanding that we don't always say everything that we see.

#### INTERPRETATION OF A PROPHETIC WORD

When we attempt to interpret our own prophecy, we become either eligible to accept second best or we become susceptible to missing the proper timing of the word. Another pitfall is attempting to visualize the word in our own minds while it's being given.

Jean and I are a good examples. We both received prophecies on the very same day while ministering in Saskatoon, SK, Canada. Her word from the Lord declared "She would put her suitcases up and place her feet in the sand." My prophetic commission stated that God was "going to give me a well than no one else would contend for." Before allowing the prophecies to soak into our spirit, we immediately connected them to our present situation. Martin Smith, leader of the Christian contemporary group Delirious, and his wife Anna had invited us to live in a newly remodeled cottage next to their home in Rustington, England. Soon afterwards, Jean and I went there to live on a part time basis—believing this was the fulfillment of the word we had received in Saskatoon. The opportunity to travel locally, put up our suitcases and sleep in our own bed. Our cottage was only nine blocks from the beach where Jean could put her feet in the sand.

Not long after moving into the cottage, we returned to the states to lead a revival in Roswell, New Mexico—a church we had been related to since 1986. During our 5<sup>th</sup> week, Pastor Jon Ogle announced that he was moving to Dallas, so he left the church with us on an interim basis. Shortly thereafter, we began to sense that Roswell was the



fulfillment of our prophecy. Jean putting her feet in the desert sand of New Mexico and me having a well—RosWELL that no one contended for. For the next five years we served as pastors of Gateway Church.

In conclusion, again, don't try to interpret your own prophecy, nor request the giver of the prophetic word for an interpretation. I also suggest you never ask them if they have any additional insight to their prophetic words, remembering that one prophecy never tells it all—learning that revelation is progressive.

#### THE PROCESS OF ELIMINATION

There are times when a prophecy is only completed after what I call, “the process of elimination.” Sometimes this process can be very painful, yet necessary.

During my season as a radio announcer, Jean and I were living in a small West Texas town, working in rather subpar conditions, yet we were quite satisfied living in our comfort zone, which consisted of a livable salary, a nice church, a nice pastor and a very nice apartment, which Jean absolutely loved. One day my world was abruptly shaken by the announcement from the station manager, that I was being replaced—a nice word for termination or being fired. I never saw it coming. We were quite disappointed because we had become somewhat content living in town of “five thousand friendly folk and a few old sore heads” –actual words I was instructed to give several times a day to our major listening audience. All I could see at the

moment was the unlikely prospect of another radio job soon, having to move, start over, etc. That was what I did know—but what I didn't know was this was a part of my process of elimination. I didn't know at the time that this rejection was for my protection, my provision and my promotion. The Holy Spirit was taking me through this process of elimination so he could get to the place where I could begin my God Assignments. In no time at all, I landed an even better job in a city of 80,000. It was there I met my friend Joe Tom White, who recommended for an even a better job in Wichita Falls—where my first God Assignment was located.

Late one night, not long ago, Jean and I drove through that small West Texas town where I had been terminated over forty years before, discussing how we could still have been living there, possibly owning the station. We could have missed the dance if we had not gone through the process of elimination. “We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28).

#### DOING SPIRITUAL WARFARE WITH YOUR PROPHECY'S

Paul instructed his spiritual son Timothy on the principle of using the prophetic words he had received to obtain spiritual victories in his life and ministry. “This charge I commit to you Son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by

them you may wage the good warfare” (1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 1:18). Paul was able to speak from experience, declaring the word he had received from the Lord prior to his journey to Rome. In the natural, Paul and the 276 persons were sailing with him were about to perish. However, he discovered when all hope was gone in the natural and the ship about to go down, in the middle of his storm, he could do spiritual warfare by declaring the word of the Lord that was given him prior to their launching. So he stood against the destructive elements through his prophetic word, “Be of good cheer, Paul; for as you have testified of me at Jerusalem, so you must bear witness of me at Rome” (Acts 23:11). So regardless of the natural circumstances, the natural had to submit to the supernatural. The supernatural set in motion by the revelatory message given to Paul by Jesus himself. He and those with him were not going under because The Voice had already told him he was going to minister in Rome. While going to a certain place to minister several years ago, my plane encountered major turbulence, followed by fearful thoughts of my possible demise. However, my fears quickly passed, knowing that my plane would not go down today because I had not yet been to South Africa. Several years prior to that The Voice spoke to me that I would be going to South Africa, so since I had not gone yet, I knew I was safe. The same with Paul—the ship could not sink because the word said he was going to Rome. Doing

spiritual warfare, using prophetic words is a major advantage in our kingdom journey.

When my son Rick was a teenager, one night I had a spiritual dream and in my dream he was riding his motorcycle down a street near where we lived. Suddenly he lost control of his bike, skidding sideways down the pavement and crashing. In my dream, I rushed to the scene of the accident, only to find that my son was already dead.

I immediately awoke, knowing the Holy Spirit had warned me of a Satanic attack on my family. Jean and I responded by putting on our spiritual armor and using the prophetic words we had received concerning our son, “that he would live and not die and work with us in the ministry.” Soon after that, he did have an accident, on the same street as in my dream. We were thankful that he only experienced a few scratches. We were able to achieve a major victory because we had learned to win spiritual battles with our prophetic words.

### PROPHETIC PRAYING

I’ve learned that we can expect significant results following our prayers of faith. I have found this also applies to the prophetic. Occasionally I will have a prophetic prayer session, always accompanied with effective results.

On one occasion, my friend Jamie Peters had come to Florida, where he was attending at World Conference where I was ministering,

hosted by his father Tom Peters. As Jamie was planning his departure, I heard The Voice speak to me and say that he needed to stay over an extra day so we could have a prophetic prayer session. He responded by saying he would. So as we began to pray together, I asked him what he would like for me to pray with him about. He concluded by saying his congregation in Burundi, Africa needed another facility to worship in. Almost as soon as we began to pray, the Holy Spirit opened my eyes and I suddenly saw the church worshipping in a theater type facility. As I began to describe the facility, Jamie began to say, “that is the national theater in Bujumbura. It wasn’t long before they were able to obtain to occupy the building and were there for several years—the result of a prophetic prayer session, where a specific request was made and God responded.

Sometimes people ask if I’m able to receive a prophetic word for everyone I pray for, and my response is “yes”. Of course, it has taken me many years to arrive at that particular level of faith—sometimes giving hundreds of prophetic words in one setting. The Bible say in Romans 12:6, that a person can prophesy according to their measure of faith. However, there is a danger in going beyond that dimension after the anointing has lifted—this can result in operating out of “the familia”, giving ourselves over to a “familiar spirit.” Many prophetic novices have a tendency to allow the expectations of people to press them out of measure, where they sometimes are prone to give words

that come out of their own processes. This will eventually destroy the credibility of the person giving the prophetic words—denying them a possible future as a prophet or prophetic voice. It's important that we learn when the Spirit lifts or shifts—at that point we need to discontinue our prophetic session.

In conclusion, much can be accomplished in the kingdom through prophetic prayer sessions. This truly is one of the most invaluable operations of the prophet. Much

#### IMPARTATION

“The laying on of hands” is one of the doctrines of the New Testament mentioned in Hebrews Chapter Six. This process is used throughout the Bible in conjunction with a release of certain giftings and anointings—a transference or impartation from one person to another in a valid setting. “And the special gift of ministry you received when I laid hands on you and prayed” (II Timothy 1:6 Message).

The many men and women of God who have laid hands on me, praying for me—releasing and imparting to me blessings and anointings, have truly enriched my life. I feel that a major part of what I carry now came through impartation. My dad knew the value of this, having many men of God lay their hands on me as a boy, blessing me and releasing giftings and anointings in my life. Even though I don't

believe that we can give ministry gifts to other individuals, I do see the value of releasing giftings in our lives through the laying on of hands. Such was the case of David Wilkerson laying his hands on me and praying for me the night I was called to preach. I don't believe he gave me the gift of prophecy, but I'm convinced that because there was a prophetic gift lying dormant in my life—his prayers ignited and release that prophetic anointing in my life; preparing me for many future years of ministry. A prime example is found in Deuteronomy 34:9, "Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him." Jesus continually used the laying on of hands while praying for the sick—that principle being followed throughout the remainder of the New Testament—information, revelation, and impartation. At other times there can be transference of anointings and the release of certain gifts just by association. "Everyone, after he has been full trained, will be like his teacher" (Luke 6:40 New American)..When Jean and I started serving as a prophetic voice to other churches in 1985, there were very few people giving prophetic words. Twenty-five years later, most every pastor we are in relationship with has some type of prophetic anointing or ministry—anointing by association.

## APPENDIX

### PROPHETIC DEFINITIONS

PROPHECY WORDS- different words to describe the prophetic. Such as word from the Lord, prophetic word, rhema, revelation, revelatory, prophetic utterance and prophetic insight.

PROPHECY- to foretell—a supernatural word that provides partial insight concerning your future—declaring the potential of a thing; creating life-expanding opportunities.

ASSIGNMENT- A task or post to which one has been appointed. A legal transfer, designation, project, mission, endeavor.

REVELATION-

IMPARTATION- anointings received and giftings released either by laying on of hands or association.

RHEMA-

THE VOICE- the voice of the Lord or the voice of the Holy Spirit.

PROPER PROGRESSION- A supernatural pattern designed to give the recipient of a prophesy the opportunity to experience the fulfillment of that word.

NOW WORD- A prophecy that comes to pass quickly.

FUTURE WORD- A prophecy that takes several months or years to be fulfilled.

CONFIRMING WORD- A prophecy that you have already heard or something—something that is already happening in your life.

NEW WORD- A prophecy that you have never heard or even thought about before.

PRIVATE PROPHECY- A prophecy given to an individual without a designated church leader to confirm.



PROPER PROGRESSION- A supernatural pattern designed to give the recipient of a prophecy the opportunity to experience the fulfillment of that word.

DEMARCATIION- Action of fixing the boundary or borderline

JEZEBEL- prophesy's outside of the local church setting—working their magic through witchcraft, rebellion, control, manipulation and deception. One who hates the voice of male authority.

FAMILIAR SPIRIT- attempting to give a prophecy out of our own thought processes.

FAMILIAR SPIRIT- attempting to give a prophecy out of our own thought processes.

MINSTREL- a prophetic musician.

SUCCESS- something you do.

SIGNIFICANCE- something you are

BREAKOUT- the ability to go over walls of opposition into realms of the supernatural.

FOUR INGREDIENTS FOR A SIGNIFICANT LIFE- Divine Calls, Divine Appointments, Divine Connections, Divine Assignments.

## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

### HOW TO FINISH

Our final and most important God Assignment is Heaven. Our final destination after we have completed our God Assignments on this earth. Everything we do in life should be accompanied with eternity in mind. As my pastor, Bob Nichols has often said, by “keeping the main thing the main thing.” Paul celebrated a strong finish by declaring, “I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith and I have FINISHED. Then he talks about the reward for finishing—eternity in Heaven.

Several years ago I gave my friend David Shibley a prophetic word that he would write a book about Heaven. Over lunch we day, he handed me an autographed copy of his new book, “Living As If Heaven Matters.” In his book he talks about our final God Assignment—Heaven, and the beautiful city that Jesus went away to prepare for us and the rewards that we will enjoy at the finish line. In his book, he asks the question, “What are you doing now that will still matter one hundred years from now?”

My mother and father taught me about Heaven, sharing their desires and longings to go there some day. I can still hear them singing in accapella, “How Beautiful Heaven Must Be.”

My parents taught me about Heaven, but my mother- in-law taught me even more. After a lengthy illness, she finally went into coma for several days. The Voice told me one day that Jean and I needed to interrupt our travel schedule so that we could go home and be with her mother—that she would be going home soon. We did and were able to spend some quality time at the hospital with her before she lapsed into unconsciousness.

Several days later, as Jean and I waited by her bedside, she suddenly sat up in bed, eyes wide-open, with excitement in her voice, she said, “I see Jesus and he’s coming to get me.” With those words, she laid back on her pillow and away she went—gone to her final assignment. She knew how to finish.

Art and Luann were faithful members of the church we pastored in Roswell. One night, they were returning home after visiting their daughter and grandchildren. It was late and Luann was sleeping as they made their way back to Roswell when suddenly she was awakened by a horrific crash, with the sound of grinding metal and flying glass. No one really knows exactly what happened, but the small pickup they were riding in suddenly came to an abrupt halt beneath a truck. Art was killed instantly and Luann was critically injured. After surgery and months of rehabilitation, Luann physically recovered, but the emotional pain lingered over the loss of her husband.

Luann attended the meetings I led in Roswell last year. As she sat on the second row, it was evident that she was still going through a major grieving process. One night as I began to give prophetic words over differential individuals, I heard The Voice speak to me concerning Luann, saying, “You’ll wake up one morning and the pain will all be gone. In a moments time. Just like that.” It was a Now Word, because only a few weeks later, Luann had a motorcycle accident and in a few minutes she was gone. She went to sleep in this life and woke up in Heaven. Just like that the pain was gone and she was with Art again—her God Assignments on this earth now finished.

One of the great authors in America, Eddie Hyatt, has been a friend of mine since we were teenagers. One of our first revival invitations in 1967 came from Eddie’s father, C.H. Hyatt, a Godly man and great influence in my life. Eddie tells the story of his

father's exodus to his final God Assignment. He said one morning, he said to his wife, "I'm going home today." Her response being, "what did you say Clarence?" He then said to her, "I'm going home, bye bye." With that he went to his bedroom, lay down, closed his eyes and went to Heaven. Even though he was not sick, he realized that his God Assignments on earth were finished—now his final God Assignment was about to begin.

Before our final God Assignment begins, we must be alert to our present assignments—knowing that we must faithfully finish each God Assignment given to us. Over the years of my ministry, the Holy Spirit has taught me to start well, but finish stronger. I have not always been successful. I remember when, after serving as pastor for eight years in Del City, Oklahoma, The Voice said to me, "you have taken this church as far as you can take it—now it's time to leave." Even though I didn't know where our next assignment would be, I knew that this one was over—but it was up to me to make a strong finish—which I didn't. Our finish at the church was weak, followed by a lot of hurt and disappointed. For several years I had said to Jean, "if we ever leave this church, I will never say a formal goodbye, remembering our previous experience and all the tears I had cried, even for several months after leaving there. So remembering the pain of departure, I purposed to not go through that ordeal another time.

I eventually carried out my promise—we moved from Del City to Texas with no goodbyes. Foolishly, I had announced to the congregation following my resignation, that there would no "going away parties" or "farewell sermon." There would be no official passing of the baton to my associate, who was going to be my successor. I had made it easy on myself, but very difficult on a congregation of people that loved me and had stood with Jean and I for over eight years—a good start, but a poor finish.

The Holy Spirit doesn't always correct us immediately. He often waits for the appropriate time to take us to the woodshed. On day several months after our move, The Voice gently spoke to me concerning my inordinate departure from Del City. He revealed to me that I had left inordinately and that I should have given the people, as well as myself, the opportunity to grieve over our departure. The congregation had been denied an opportunity to officially say goodbye—share a story, give a hug, or a kiss, have a picture made together—final expressions of love and appreciation, etc. Like water spilt on the ground, that opportunity was gone. When I realized what I had done, I wept bitterly—then returning to Del City, broken, I stood before the church and repented and repented with tears for leaving inappropriately—that followed by asking the congregation to forgive me. It was evident they had responded to my forgiveness, along with an official release and blessings at the conclusion of the service. This was followed by additional expressions of love and appreciation. Even though it wasn't what it could have been, we realized that opportunities do come around again—that He really is the God of the second time (Jonah 3). Each of us must give special recognition to starting and finishing. Making a good start by knowing and understanding our God Assignments there in there geographical assignment--willing to go the second miles if necessary.

Understanding the different demarcations of our lives is very important. A friend of mine once said The Voice had spoke to him that when he turned fifty, he would no longer serve as a pastor. So when he hit the half-century mark, he knew he had finished his God Assignment—knowing his demarcation in advance.

Another friend of mine has had a similar experience, having received a prophetic message that when he turns sixty, he will step aside from his place of leadership and

move into another season—knowing his demarcation in advance. Giving him an advantage to finish his God Assignment strong.

R.T. Kendall, a friend of mine and former pastor of the world famous Westminster Chapel in London, told me several years before his departure that he resign as pastor once he had served his congregation for twenty five years—he did and now has a very successful traveling ministry in the states. He understood his demarcation in advance, giving him an opportunity to successfully finish his God Assignment in England.

Everyone doesn't necessarily have executive privilege to finish in that manner. Sometimes our God Assignment can end rather quickly—sometimes very quickly.

Last November, Dr. David Remedios and myself journeyed to England at the invitation of John Noble, Phil Collins, Roger Ellis and Gerald Coates. It was a very busy, but enjoyable time—sharing the gospel, giving prophetic words, hanging out with my friends and making memories.

My final service was scheduled at Revelation Church in Chichester, a place where I had ministered many times. A church led by Roger Ellis. As I was sitting on the front row, enjoying the worship, when suddenly I knew there was a shift in the service. Suddenly I heard The Voice quietly say to me, “Your England Assignment is finished.” It caught me totally by surprise. If only I had known this demarcation in advance—but this prophetic communication came with absolutely no warning. I immediately knew in my spirit I had to make the announcement that very night. I thought it was going to be quite difficult, so I prefaced my prophetic announcement by sharing my twenty-year England Journey, rehearsing some of the wonderful events Jean and I had experienced since

1990—the friendships that had been made, the relationships that had been developed, all of the local churches I had ministered in, the revival on Marsham Street, the day of prayer and music in Wembley Stadium, ministering at Grapevine, living for a brief time in Rustington, etc. I told how that very day Maggie Ellis, had taken me on a tour of the Life Center, an amazing ministry for those who have been sexually abused. Maggie had started the Life Center as a result of a prophetic word that I had given ten years before. It was an amazing opportunity to see first hand what had been accomplished in so such a short period of time—to see the prophetic word I have given hanging on the wall of the center. I even shared about the time I was invited to minister at Aston University in Birmingham, with Martin Smith and Delirious leading the worship and the service concluding with me being “crowd surfed” by a group of 900 youth leaders in attendance. Then I shared a short message on assignments, made my announcement, expressed appreciate to several of my friends in attendance—then concluded by personally praying for every person standing in the building. Then it was over—another God Assignment finished. It’s important to know when to start and when to finish.

Wisdom would speak and say that even though we may not have prophetic insight or predetermine when each God Assignment will be finished, we can elect to be diligent to cross the border as strong and successful as possible—contemplating in advance what measures we need to take to finish each demarcation in our life.

Of course, history tells us of many who started, but never finished—including many that I know personally. There are a lot of Satanic traps along the way; including disappointments, misunderstandings, moral failures, strongholds, unforgiveness, broken dreams and a myriad of other things that can happen on the road from Jerusalem to

Jericho. But at the end of the day, each of us must purpose in our hearts that we are here at this time in history to make a difference—that difference being the ability to discern our God Assignments—knowing how to start and how to finish.

“And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance—I hope you dance.”