

Dear Friends.

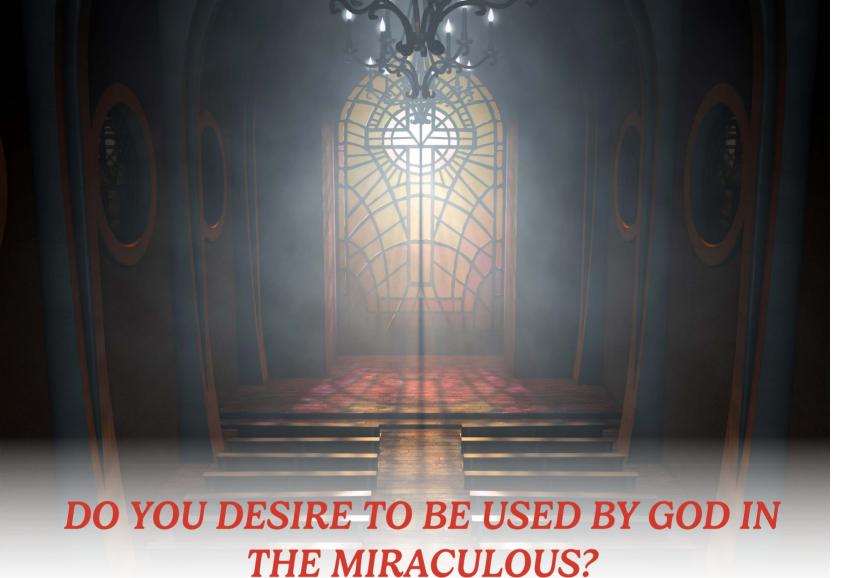
In this newsletter I am sharing with you something that I call, "For those who desire to be used by God in the miraculous." I am believing God that this will equip you, strengthen you, and help you in your desire to be used by our Lord, for His Glory.

As this letter is printed, I am travelling and preaching overseas. We had two Gospel Crusades scheduled for Asia, but had to postpone them until the latter part of this year. The persecution of the Gospel in the region where we are working has intensified. Our team leader, his wife, and his mother have been charged by the authorities for the "criminal offence" of praying for the sick. Please pray for them that they will have favor in the courts. Pray also for us, that the Lord will continue to grant us great boldness to preach the Gospel to the lost.

Cancelling our two Crusades in Asia has led me to go to preach in Beirut, Lebanon and in Surabaya, Indonesia.

Thank you for your generous support and your prayers that enable us to continue to reach out with the Gospel!

In Christ, Christopher Alam www.pentecostalfire.com



These days many people desire to be used by God in the miraculous. When I was a young Christian in the non-Pentecostal circles that I was part of in the 1970s, a very commonly held belief was that, "healings and miracles are not for our age, because they ended with the Apostles of Jesus." In fact, the belief was that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit had all been done away with.

The Charismatic movement came just before I received Christ, and they along with the Pentecostal denominations, were the only ones who believed that Jesus could heal the sick. Even they believed that often it was not God's will to heal the sick. Because no matter what God said in His Word, His will did not always line up with His Word. Here was a major contradiction, which meant that even if we prayed, we could not really expect people to be healed, "unless God wanted to heal them." Furthermore, although everybody could pray for the sick, God preferred to use only certain "special, anointed" people to work His miracles.

Then, as the ministry of the pure and simple teaching of Faith in the Word of God came to the forefront in the early 1980s, people began to receive a clearer understanding of the fact that healing flows from the Atonement and that it is for everybody. Also, that there is in fact a ministry for EVERY believer. God can use ANYBODY who makes himself or herself available to Him, to heal the sick and to perform miracles.

Yes, there are those specially called and anointed to minister with the power of God, and they are graced by God to carry powerful gifts for healings and miracle, but there is also a "general ministry" for believers; that God can and will use anybody who puts himself or herself into His hands, by faith.

As a result, I have seen how more and more people in our day desire to be used by God in the Supernatural.

So, my friends, if we desire to be used by God in the miraculous, here are some things that I have learnt, that I want to share with those who desire to be used by God.

1. THE POWER OF THE ATONEMENT

"Surely, he has borne our sicknesses and suffered our pain: and we considered him stricken, smitten of God, and cast down. But he was wounded for our rebellions; he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and by his stripes healing was provided for us". Isaiah 53:4-5 (Jubilee Bible)

Every gift of God, be it salvation or healing of body and mind, flows from the Cross. It was upon the Cross that our Lord Jesus purchased our redemption and physically bore upon His own body all of our sins and diseases. It is therefore important for us to ALWAYS keep the narrative of what our Lord Jesus did for us upon the Cross as the main theme, at the front and center of everything.

If you want God to use you in healing the sick, the Cross is what you build upon; and not on the gifts of the Holy Spirit or on your "success" or experiences in seeing people healed. Remember that when people are healed, it is ONLY because our Lord Jesus was whipped, beaten, bruised, and nailed to the Cross for us, and NOT because of "our ministry" or the "anointing upon our life!"

This is why the Bible declares in Isaiah 53:4-5 and 1 Peter 2:24, "By His stripes we have been Healed!"

Pontius Pilate handed our Lord Jesus to the Roman soldiers to be flogged. The Romans had a most cruel instrument of torture that they used when flogging people. It was called a "flagrum." A flagrum was a robust whip with nine belts of ox-hide covered with sharp hooks and barbs of metal and bone. They took off Jesus's outward garments and tied him up and began to whip him. With each cut of the flagrum, pieces of skin and flesh were torn off his back. His back was torn open and his precious Blood flowed from his deep wounds. The Psalmist wrote, "Plowmen have plowed my back and made their furrows long" Psalm 129:3. His back looked like a ploughed field.

It is because of the nine-tailed Roman "flagrum" whip that tore open His back. It is because of horrific punishment that He endured in our stead, that we are healed!

That is why no preaching of the Cross is complete without what Jesus did for us upon the whipping post. It is part and parcel of the Gospel. It must be preached!

2. ALWAYS BE A STICKLER FOR THE WORD OF GOD

If you want God to use you long-term in healing the sick, I mean REALLY use you, then begin by STUDYING what the Word of God says about healing. Study what the Old Testament says about healing, and the accounts of God healing the sick in the Old Testament. Then study the healing ministry of Jesus, and the healing ministries of the Apostles in the book of Acts. Build a strong Biblical doctrinal foundation for what you believe and then practice those things.

In other words, although it is exciting to be in a healing ministry, remember that a solid healing ministry is built upon you being a dedicated student of the Word of God. Those whose knowledge of the Word of God is shallow do not last in the long run. Be strong in doctrine!

Be a student of the Word. This way you shall always stand on solid Biblical ground. When I am called upon to pray for sick people, I always make sure to speak out what the Word of God says. It builds faith in those who listen, and it helps them to receive their healing.

"The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." John 6:63

"He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." Psalm 107:20

The Word of God coming out of our mouth brings the Life of God Himself into the hearer.

3. BE STRONG IN PRAYER

If you want to be used by God in a healing ministry, develop good prayer habits, praying in the Spirit and praying with your understanding. It is in these times of prayer that God speaks to us and leads and directs us by His Holy Spirit. God's ways of dealing with us differ from individual to individual, but prayer is a common denominator for all of us. Always be talking to God – that is what prayer is!

4. DO NOT DRAW ATTENTION TO YOURSELF, BUT TO JESUS ALONE

The Apostle Paul said, "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake." 2 Cor 4:5

If you study the way that God used the Apostles in the Book of Acts, you will notice that they never drew attention to themselves, but to Jesus alone. I made a covenant with God many years ago, that if He ever used me, I would never use what He did to draw attention to myself, but to Jesus alone.

If you make this covenant with God and always pray "Lord, hide me behind the Cross, and let them see no man but Jesus alone as crucified and risen," God will use you in mighty ways to touch people.

Remember what the Lord Jesus said in John 16:14 about the Holy Spirit, "He shall glorify me!"

5. ALWAYS PUT THE GOSPEL AND THE SALVATION OF SINNERS IN THE FOREFRONT, EVEN BEFORE THE MIRACULOUS

In the Gospels, Salvation and healing go hand in hand. Sin and disease came to humankind together at the fall of man, and the remedy of for both sin and disease are found at the Cross. Jesus paid the same price for our Salvation as He did for our healing.

That being said, there is one thing that we should always remember: healing for the body is for THIS life only, but SALVATION is for eternity. So, although healing of the mind and body are very important because of the price that Jesus paid to make it available to us, Salvation is always more important.

So, let your focus always be on the forgiveness of sin, and if dealing with Christians, bringing them to conviction, consecration, and a closer walk with God. Put these things before healing. Remember that if your main desire is to see people walking with Jesus, miracles will always follow the Word that you preach.

6. HAVE A GENUINE LOVE FOR PEOPLE

We do not pray for the sick just because we love to see miracles. Miracles do not affirm us, nor do they "make" us anything. You can see miracles and still be lost (Matthew 7:22-23). I have a saying that goes "Miracles authenticate the Message, but Christlikeness authenticates the messenger."

One of the driving forces behind a good ministry of healing is having a genuine love and compassion for people, for those who are lost, and for those who suffer from diseases and are afflicted by satan in their minds and their bodies.

The Bible says, "The love of God is poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us." Romans 5:5

This means that when we receive the Holy Spirit, God also pours His Love into our hearts!

Just like the "outward" evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in us is the speaking with other tongues; the "inward" evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit are the fruits of the Holy Spirit in Galatians 5. The foremost of these fruits is LOVE.

If we have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, we have the love of God in us, and that love becomes the driving force in all that we do. It is because of this compelling love of God that we share the Gospel with those that are lost. It is because of this love that we minister to the sick. This same love causes us to lay down our lives for our brethren.

May we all be driven, moved, and compelled by this love. The love of God is a powerful driving force within us, and God uses it through us to do great things for His Glory.

7. THE WORD, THE NAME, THE SPIRIT

When we carefully study the healing ministries of the Apostles in the Book of Acts, we find that there were THREE important Keys to the power that they had. These were:

- a. They spoke the Word.
- b. They walked in an awareness of the Power of the Name of our Lord Jesus, and they

boldly used the Name in the face of death, demons, and diseases. The Name of Jesus worked for them because they had walked with Jesus. (Acts 4:13)

c. The were full of the Holy Spirit. At Pentecost and after Pentecost, they stayed full of the Holy Spirit. They were dependent upon the Holy Spirit and walked with Him. The Holy Spirit energized them and brought the miracles. They would pray until the Holy Ghost would fall upon them. (Acts 4:31)

8. SEEK TO WALK WITH THOSE WHO ARE STRONG IN THE WORD AND IN THE HOLY GHOST, WHO WALK IN HUMILITY AND ARE FREE FROM THE LOVE OF MONEY

Wherever in life we are today, it is to a great extent the result of who we have allowed to influence our lives, our thoughts, speech, and actions. We may not be very aware of this, but it would do us good to recognize this dynamic.

It is because of this that although I minister to all people, I am very choosy about who I spend time with and who I allow into my life. I choose the company of those who walk with God and who flow in the Power of God. I choose to be around those who reflect the love and the character of Christ, who are full of Faith and the Holy Ghost. I avoid flamboyant and flashy people who love money and have inflated egos. I prefer the company of the humble, those who are small in their own eyes.

Why? The answer is simple. It is because I want to be like them. My goal is to be as much like Jesus as possible; thus, I walk with those who reflect Him. The more I can be like Jesus, the more God can use me.

This is an important key for us if we want to be used by God.

9. CONTEND FOR PENTECOSTAL POWER

We must contend for and press forward for Pentecostal Power. These things are not for the "passive" who sit around and wait for things to happen. God moves when we move, and if we set our Faith in motion, and begin to speak, move, and act on God's Word, things happen! If we press into seeking God, into prayer, into Faith, into acting according to the Word of God, the Holy Spirit will move with miracles!

We must seek the deeper things of God, seek His Face, seek His Power, "covet earnestly the best Gifts" (1 Corinthians 12:31), and set our hearts and minds to walk the walk of love and sacrifice. We will see how God uses us to bring healing and deliverance to others.

LASTLY, there are volumes that can be said and written about this subject, but these are some of the basics that I am sharing from my heart. **May the Lord use us all and may our lives be for His Glory!**



PASTOR CHRISTOPHER'S ITINERARY:

2-3 March, Dagenham, ENGLAND

5-6 March, Nice, FRANCE

7-10 March, Zagreb, CROATIA

15-17 March, Tallinn, ESTONIA

4 April, Worship Center Youth Auditorium, Lancaster, PA, 70th Birthday special service.

7-8 April, More Life Church, Newark, OH

14 April, Living Word Family Church, Saint Joseph, IL

21 April, Miracle Life Church, Lusaka, ZAMBIA

23-28 April, CRUSADE Zengeza, ZIMBABWE

1-5 May, CRUSADE Mbare, ZIMBABWE

Testimonies of Fire Podcast

Be sure to check out our podcast! This is a collection of Pastor Christopher's teachings as well as in season updates on the ministry and crusades that are happening throughout the year.



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