

Releasing the Miraculous: Be the Miracle!

“And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches , that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were healed.”
Acts 5: 12 -16 NKJV

There is hope for the hurting. There is joy for the depressed at heart. There is peace for those in torment. There is restoration for those who have gone astray. There is direction for those who have lost their compass. There is healing for those who are broken in body. There is acceptance for those who have been rejected. There is forgiveness for those who live with guilt and shame. There is deliverance for those who are captive. There is sight for the blind physically and spiritually. There is an answer for the world’s needs.

And his name is **Jesus**.

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4: 12 NKJV

He is the Prince of Peace, the bright and morning star; He is the Great Redeemer, the healer, the baptizer in the Spirit, the gift giver and the captain of our salvation. He is the Great High Priest before the Father God and the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He served with humility, but is crowned today with honor. He is the lover of my soul, my precious savior. He is the joy in a child’s laugh, the sweet smelling fragrance of a spring morning.

His name tells the story.

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
Philippians 2: 5-11 NKJV

Now we see that Jesus is the answer and that He has THE NAME that redeems from the curse of the law. THE NAME that is the trumpet of the Jubilee that blares that this is the day of salvation, THE NAME that unlocks the locks and chains off of peoples lives. We know that Jesus can do anything, He is all powerful. But how does He effect and gain entrance into peoples lives, how does He infect people with the message that makes free and revelation knowledge that makes paupers into millionaires and the feeble strong? How does he extend His hand into the lives of those who are destitute are at the edge of eternity and how does he bring light to those in darkness and sight to the blind?

“So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

John 20: 21 NKJV

It is through his body here on earth that he works through, but many in the world hear about what Jesus can do and even have witnessed what He can do in others lives. But to them there seems to be a power shortage. Like the cord is just not long enough or maybe God has favorites and only blesses some people. Even God himself posed this question to Moses.

“And the Lord said to Moses, Has the Lord’s arm been shortened?..”

Numbers 11: 23 NKJV

Now to illustrate my point, may I share a story from my life that may put a twist on this that maybe we have not seen before.

When I was a kid cable television was just coming out. Now I know many of you have never known a life without it, but there was a day when not very many people had access to cable television. Where I lived there was no remote possibility that we would be getting cable. None. And to me this was very disheartening. I would sit and listen at the playground about how many cartoons they were able to see and how they saw Batman on television while I would wrestle with the rabbit ears and hopefully get 2, 6 & 8. That was all there was and when the President was on your night was shot! How I dreamed of Deputy Dog and Howdy Doody and Bozo the Clown. But it wasn’t available. I would spend the night with friends who had cable and would stare at the television like a crazed lunatic clicking the cable box from one channel to the next. When I would come home it was like I needed to detox from the sensory overload. I found myself on many occasions holding something that looked like a cable box, pointing it at my TV and hoping that new channels would magically appear. I was waiting in anticipation that some good man or woman would drive up and put cable in my house. But my vigils at my window only compensated me with more pain and disappointment.

Like this sad story, there are people that have heard about the power of God, they have even listened to others tell their tales and have even spent the night with someone who had access to God. They sit in there cubicle, their office, their locker, their desk, their window, their kitchen table, their bed and wait for a cable that will bring them to what they desire.

As Christians we spend a lot of our time trying to stay connected to God that we fail to fulfill our job as connectors. It is time for us to stop looking for the miracles and start being the miracle!

I know this is a paradigm shift. We have been so busy trying to live right and grow spiritually that we overlook the disparaging need before us which is the lost. We must ask ourselves this question, "Is God presently available at my place of employment, have I made my neighbors aware that they can access God right next door and that they can have God 24/7 in all His many channels right in their very home as well?"

God is calling us to release his miraculous power into the lives that we come into contact with. In my youth there would be signs advertising the fact that cable was available in this housing addition or neighborhood. Are we hoarding the power for ourselves? The Bible states that "freely as we have received give."

I believe that we should be doing the things found within our text. Connecting people with the only thing that can fill the lonely heart and that is Jesus Christ.

"But if our gospel is hidden it is hidden to them that are lost, In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves servants for Jesus' sake.

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we having this treasure in earthen vessels that the Excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us."

2 Corinthians 4: 3- 7 NKJV

How do we connect people to the miraculous power of God?

1. Prayer. Acts 4: 23- 31
2. Understand the power in expectancy. Acts 3:1- 11
3. Get Bold! Ephesians 3: 7-12
4. Understand the difference between the miraculous and the spectacular. We may not always see the spectacular, but we will always see the miraculous. (Naaman)
5. Understand the power of praise. Acts 16: 25-29 Spiritual activity can never be bound. Praise is the language of the expectant heart
6. Understand where the arena of the miraculous is located. Mark 16: 20