



# Ministering Healing & Deliverance in the Local Church

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**“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.” Jude 3**

*You cannot read the New Testament without concluding that healing and signs and wonders were at the core of both Jesus’ and the early church’s ministry. As we read those accounts in the Gospels, the book of Acts, and the Epistles and read about what God has done through modern Pentecostal history, we can feel like Gideon before the Angel of the Lord saying, “... where are all His wonders that our fathers told us about...?” The answer to our cry to see God’s power is us: We must position ourselves and stir ourselves to move in the anointing God has given us. The question is, “Are we willing to cross the hurdles we must cross to get there?” The path will be filled with obstacles and set-backs. However, the passionate contenders will possess the promises of Scripture. Like Israel, we have an inheritance if we will fight for it and believe.*

## I. How To Position Ourselves For The Miraculous

A. Develop an orthodoxy that includes the miraculous.

1. The authority of the Scripture:

*“And these signs will follow those who believe...” Mk. 16:17*

*“Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name.’” Lk. 10:17*

*“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to the Father.” John 14:12*

*“So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord: ...grant to your servants that with all boldness they may speak your word, by stretching out your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of your Holy servant Jesus.” Acts 4:29-30*

*“And through the hands of the Apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people...” Acts 5:12*

*“Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.” Acts 14:3*

*“...to make the Gentiles obedient in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God...” Ro. 15:19*

*“How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will?” (Heb. 2:3-4)*

2. Trust the attitude of the early church Fathers toward the miraculous.

a. Justin Martyr (100-165 A.D.) *“For numberless demoniacs throughout the whole world, and in your city, many of our Christian men exorcising them in the name of Jesus Christ, who was crucified under Pontius Pilate, have healed and do heal...”*

b. Novation (210-280) *“This is the He (speaking of the Spirit) who places prophets in the church, instructs teachers, directs tongues, gives powers and healings...and orders and arranges whatever other gifts there are of charismata...”*

c. Antony (251-356) *“We must not boast of casting out devils, not be elated at the healing of diseases, nor should we admire only the man who casts out devils, and count that one useless who does not...”*

d. Augustine (354-430) *“It is sometimes objected that the miracles, which Christians claim to have occurred, no longer happen. The truth is even today miracles are being wrought in the name of Christ.”*

B.. Embrace what motivates God to reveal Himself in signs, wonders, and miracles.

1. Jesus is as compassionate in His Heavenly ministry as He was in his earthly ministry.

a.. Compassion = Two words:

b. Com = with

c. Passion = to suffer

d. He took on our human nature so that as High Priest He could exhibit compassion.

*“Therefore, in all things he had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered being tested, He is able to aid those who are tempted.” (Heb. 2:17-18)*

*“For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted like us, yet without sin.” (Heb.4:15)*

2. The Son of God became a man to destroy the works of the devil.

a. Sin (Ro. 6:23; I Jn. 3:9; Lk. 10:18; I Jn. 3:8)

b. Sickness (Mt. 8:16-17; Is. 53:4)

1. Grievs = sicknesses

2. Sorrows = pains

*Note:* Matthew described Jesus’ healing ministry by pointing to what He would carry in His body on the cross – our sicknesses and sins. Sickness came into the human race as a result of sin.

c. Poverty (Mk. 8:1-2, 6-8; Mt. 25:35-37; Acts 4:34)

d. Bondages (Is. 61:1-3)

D. Discern what spiritual gifts God wants to exhibit through you on a regular basis and give yourself to those gifts.

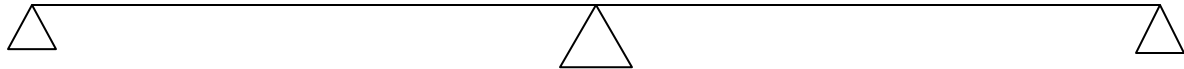
C. Stir yourself to be used by God in the miraculous on a 24/7 basis.

*“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.” II Tim. 1:6*

*“...be ready in season and out of season...” II Tim. 4:2*

## HUMAN WILL

## SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD



“Do not neglect the gift that is in you...” II Tim. 4:14

“Stir up the gift that is in you...” II Tim. 1:6

“...the same Spirit works all these things distributing to each one individually as He wills...”  
I Co. 12:11

“...but holy man of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.  
II Pe. 1:21

E. Seek to know God.

1. Accept that God wants to speak with you. (Jn. 10:3)

a. God wants to give you daily bread. (Mt. 6:11; 4:4)

b. God wants to direct you Himself. (Ps. 23:2-3)

c. God desires to be personally involved with the details of your life on a continual basis. (Mt. 10:30; Ps. 139:4-5)

d. God is the lover of my soul. John 14:23

2. Allow God to interact with you by seeking Him, listening to Him, and yielding to

His direction. (Jn. 16:13-14)

3. The miraculous will naturally flow out of your intimacy with the Father.

F. Study the principles that men and women of God in church history learned before you.

1. John Alexander Dowie = Remain with the original, anointed plan of God for our lives and allow Him to administrate it.

2. Maria Woodworth-Etter = Believe God for signs and wonders to come through you and don't let setbacks hinder you.

3. Evan Roberts = We must be emotionally stable to handle the anointing and guard ourselves against relationships that will manipulate us with their agenda.

4. Charles Parham = He was never moved from his calling because of slander waged against him. Be faithful in light of life's conflicts.

5. William Seymour = God works through the heart of a man or woman of God but sound doctrine and spiritual Fathering sustain us.

6. John G. Lake = Advocate for the supernatural. Never turn away a cry for help but do not neglect your family. Faith righteousness positions us for dominion.

7. Smith Wigglesworth = God doesn't have favorites. Only believe! Be a person moved by compassion.

8. Aimee Semple McPherson = Stay in the middle of the road.

9. Kathryn Kuhlman = We need to fellowship with the Holy Spirit and be willing to respond to His leading.

10. William Branham = Do what God says to do, nothing more and nothing less.

Great error comes from not having both the word and the Spirit working together in our lives.

11. Jack Coe = Never allow your past to hold you back. Never compete with someone else to show your worth.

12. A.A. Allen = Pay the price to pursue the call but guard yourself emotionally and don't stand alone.

## **II. Pastoral Tension With Signs and Wonders**

A. Tackling the problem scriptures.

- B. Contending and failing.
- C. Balancing sovereignty and faith.
- D. Healing wounded faith.
  
- E. Overcoming the cynic.
- F. Passing the motive test.
- G. Developing a lifestyle of fasting.
- H. Persevering in the face of evidence.
- I. Posturing in faith and resisting human effort