

# The Praise Report

*Significant Revelation*

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## Amazing Journey with Jesus

**MARCEE JONES**

### **Case Background**

Yesterday, I had a scheduled Deliverance session, but the person “no-called/no-showed.” I understood then that God must have had alternate plans... try not to get upset and trust God when things do not turn out as planned.

I immediately reached out to one of the SigRev family members who had an amazing session: witches left, demons left, soul invaders were expelled and spiritual and financial gifts that were held up by the Kingdom of Darkness were released! Praise God!!

I exited my office (supplied by Mark and Marcee) and

when I went to the living room, I saw Marcee sad and in tears. She had just learned of the passing of a long-time and dear friend, Ms. Betty.

The Holy Spirit led me to pray for her and here is her testimony...

*P. Mark*

### **Monday May 2, 2022**

I pictured myself atop of Haleakala Mountain on Maui, Hawaii, which has a little over 10,000 ft. elevation. I had a beautiful view and felt just stillness; it was incredibly quiet and peaceful.

I closed my eyes and experienced a bright light at first, then I saw Jesus coming towards me. I embraced him with big hug and he said, "gotcha daughter." There was an overwhelming peace, calm, stillness feeling when I was within his presence.

Jesus took me by my hand and said, "come my daughter." Next, I was actually flying with Jesus while he held my hand. Then I saw a field of tall, beautiful, brightly colored, yellow sunflowers. They were all about 6 to 7-feet tall and just swaying back-and-forth. They were so beautiful.

As I walked through the sunflowers, I came upon a big mansion that was glowing with bright white light and pillars. This was unlike anything I ever experienced before. The color of the mansion was beautiful. As I was walking about the mansion, I saw

beautiful windows that looked like enormous paintings on the wall. There were enormous windows that reached up very high with bright sunlight shining through.

Then I saw my dad. When I did, I ran to him like a little girl and embraced him with a big hug and he called me, "baby girl." This was a special name which he called me before God called him home.

My dad looked so beautiful and of course handsome! He took me by my hand, and as we started walking, I saw my Grandmother Emma. The first thing I thought was that she was going to make me plant her carrots, sweet potatoes, and corn and collect eggs from the chickens on her farm. (I am really glad that she showed me how to plant vegetables.)

I embraced my Grandmother Emma with big hug and then kissed her on her cheek. My father prepared my favorite dish, Colorado Chili. It was the best I ever tasted!

Then, my dad took my hand again and said, "someone else is here to see you." I turned around, looked, and had to look twice to see that it was my best friend, Betty!

Betty and I have been friends for over 25 years. We shared a big embrace and even some bear hugs. It is just so amazing where they are; Heaven is just so beautiful. Betty told me that, "I'll see you later." I said, "yes you will."

Then, Jesus took me by my hand and walked me to the Throne Room. Initially, I could not see anything because I was looking down. Then, I looked up to see white, bright lights all around the Throne Room of Heaven.

I met with Abba the Father; he told me that he loved me and revealed why I was created and what my assignment was. The Lord said, “well done my daughter.”

I left the lap of the Creator, dropped to my knees, and prayed to him.

Thank you, Jesus!!

## Battle of the Bulge

AMBER RICE

The Battle of the Bulge, as some would call it, refers to the fight some of us deal with related to weight. I have been fighting this battle since I was a teenager. I would gain weight, lose a little, then gain, then lose. At some

“

*The very first thing I did this time that I did not do in previous attempts to win this battle is pray to God to help me...*

”

point, I ended up at 240 pounds on a 5’7.5” frame. Yes, I am claiming my half of an inch! I would try so hard, have some success, and then it would just all fall apart. One day I might go into all the details, but to keep this article short and easy to digest, let’s just say I accepted Jesus into my heart and he healed me of depression. I met my husband and he coached me down to 165 pounds! I had breakthrough! Praise Jesus! I wanted to keep it off, but life happens... marriage to a man who loves to cook soul food for his new bride is hard to resist; combine that with a miscarriage and another pregnancy delivering my beautiful baby boy, I was 205 pounds after everything settled out.

Recently, I have had some victory in the battle. It was different this time than previous times. It has always been by the grace of God, but this time it has been a lot easier... seriously! I was asked recently to write an article about it and said yes.

Therefore, here I am sharing how I lost 40 pounds so far.

### **Step 1: Acknowledge God in all of your ways and He will direct your path.**

Let me start by saying, I did not do this. I know it sounds cliché, but this is simply the most important part of the process. The very first thing I did this time that I did not do in previous attempts to win this battle is pray to God to help me do this. I am sure I had prayed in the past while working out... “God help me get through this workout,” but to start the journey this way was new. My husband recommended it and I cannot agree more with this. This step is critical, I believe, to experiencing weight loss with grace.

## Step 2:

**After asking God to help you with the process, submit yourself to His guidance!**

OOOOOhhhhhh, I know this seems like a hard one. Submit and obey... but I love that cookie dough ice cream! I am telling you this is life changing. Some go on fasts, as I have done in the past; we lose weight during the fast, all to gain it back by binge eating in the next meal or two when we break it. I am a nursing mom and fasting is not a great option for mom or baby. I believe the Holy Spirit reminded me of the scripture where God says obedience is better than sacrifice.

I said another prayer as time progressed in the process and that was this: “Holy Spirit, please guide me on what I should eat and help me to eat that way.” He surely did do it!

First thing He had me drop was a salty cheese flavored cracker (can I say Cheezits?) that my son loves to eat, and we have at our disposal every day! I was obedient to God’s prompting. That lasted for a little while and then I felt like it was okay to eat again. Now it is in smaller portions, and I don’t feel like I have to eat it just because it is there.

Whenever I might begin to feel that way, I know it is time to “step back from the Cheezits” for a while.

My previous diet consisted of junk foods, fried foods, meat, bread, fruit, and vegetables. Today, I can honestly say I still eat all of those things, but it has shifted. I am not a vegetarian (tried that once and



ended up gaining weight... you can still eat poorly and be a vegetarian!) however I eat more fruits and vegetables than anything else. The meats, breads, dairy, and junk food are so much less. I truly believe the Holy Spirit led me to this through daily choices. This is not something that I set out to do specifically, it is just where I have been led to date. It wasn’t through research; it was just following God’s voice.

## Step 3: Water, Water, Water.

So, this step I’ve done from the beginning. My husband, my coach, recommended it and it works!

So simple: drink two glasses of water BEFORE each meal. This will fill you up, so you eat less, cleanse your system, and won’t want to drink all of the sugary drinks!

Some folks may struggle to remember to do this. I do too. When starting, if you are like me and like to analyze things or check boxes, I recommend downloading an app that will give you reminders daily about your water intake and allow you to check the box off that you succeeded.

I believe it is key to celebrate your successes along the way, big or small, especially when you are building momentum!

**Step 4:  
Quit eating after 8pm (or another way to put it is: stop eating 2 to 4 hours before bedtime).**

This was another tip from my husband.

When getting started, I used an app to track my water habits as well as this habit. I didn't always get it right, but I got back up and hit the next target.

This leads me to Step 5.

**Step 5:  
Get back up again!**

I think many of us struggle with this concept. We make some mistakes and then we feel we blew it, so why not just blow it all the way.

Why not just give up... that voice says you are always going to be this way so why not just be this way. As Christians, we know that voice is not God's. In these moments, I had to listen to God's voice, His encouragement. "Get back up!"

The fact is, as long as you are breathing, you still have the opportunity to win this battle.

That is it!

I encourage you, if you have tried this before but feel like you failed, "Get back up!" You can do this!!!

So to recap: pray... ask the Holy Spirit to help you to do this and might as well repent if you have not been good to your body, pray... ask

God to lead you and give you the ability to obey His leading, drink your water, quit eating after 8pm, and finally, never give up!!!

For those of you interested, here is a look at my day-to-day.

**Breakfast:** Oatmeal from scratch - I put whatever I want in it.

**Snacks:** fruit salad, Craisins, freeze dried fruit, Cheezits, or nuts

*Note: The Fruit Salad was a game changer! My husband suggested it one day and I am so glad he did (Thank you baby.) Love my fruit salad; I make one every couple of days and eat off of it until I run out and need to make a new one. I put whatever I want in it... grapes, mangos, strawberries, pears, plums, nectarines, peaches, papaya, coconut, oranges, tangerines, clementines, pineapple, apples, blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, kiwi, and always lemon juice to keep everything fresh!*

**Lunch and Dinner:** Green Giant Vegetable Steamers and some sort of protein (a couple of nuggets or a piece of fish)

*Note: I haven't really worked out yet. I've walked here and there, but not consistently yet. I am hoping to add exercise into the journey soon.*

# Dear Mama

**Q:** *It seems like everyone in family has been broke. Everytime I get money, something dramatic happens and I get separated from the money. How do I stop this!!!??*

**A:** When we see this behavior repeatedly throughout the family, it is a clear sign of generational curses. It must be broken through true deliverance. During one of my sessions at LFM, it was revealed that a demon called “Confusion” was in my mother’s family line for 5 generations. He was sent to confuse our finances. As a matter of fact, I remember him laughing and bragging about it. Now that I have been delivered from that, I MAKE SURE TO NOT get back in agreement with it.

I thank God for the Holy Spirit leading and guiding us. I am one of the people who doesn’t eat the end slices of the loaf of bread. I will give it to the dogs, or just throw it away. One day, while in the process of doing that, I heard the Holy Spirit say, “Take the bread and put it in the freezer so on days that you don’t have bread you can eat from it.” As he continues to give me revelations, what he was instructing me to do is to start saving money (that’s why he used bread as an example because he is aware that we coined the term bread and money).

Seek the Lord and he will help you to get free from all the financial burdens. Put on your helmet of SALVATION and you will have the mind of Christ concerning all things.

Think on these scriptures:

## Matthew 6:25-33

*“Therefore, I say unto you, take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore, take no thought, saying, what shall we eat? or, what shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”*

*-Mama Vee*

**Q:** *I try to read my Bible but either I get sleepy, distracted or have real trouble with focusing. What do you recommend?*

**A:** The Bible is the way to know God, his character, and to be in relationship with our Heavenly Father. For those who want and seek true intimacy with him, they crave, thrive off, the living word of God. When we indulge in it (even if for just a moment), we get some revelation from the Holy Spirit which always is



a revelation for where you are in that moment of time, or season of your life.

The more we read, the more we grow and mature in the things of God. The more we mature, the more he gives understanding and mysteries are revealed. So why would one think for just one moment that the enemy (Satan just for clarity) would allow any Christian the time or place needed to get into the word? If God is revealing mysteries to you, then you are a threat. The more you read, the more you put application to the word in your life, then you become even more of a threat to the kingdom of darkness. Have you noticed you have time for everything except reading your

Bible? Most people would say “reading my Bible and praying.” I do agree, as I have been experiencing this for the last few months. Yet, we can still separate the two because praying you literally can do in connection to doing other things. You can drive, cook, and exercise while praying; yet, getting quiet and reading your word takes intention and being on purpose. You cannot read while multi-tasking as reading requires your undivided attention for understanding.

The ruler of darkness cannot have you actually getting into your word. You then learn about who he is, and his tactics. **2 Corinthians 2:11**, tells us to “*not be ignorant of his tactics or devices*” or “*he will take advantage of you.*” **1 Peter 5:8** says, “*be sober, vigilant because your enemy the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about seeking who he can devour.*” If you are in your word, then you also understand that God gave you power to walk on serpents and scorpions, **Luke 10:19**, and power overcome the enemy. The god of this world will go through great lengths to keep you thinking hell and he does not exist- in fear of him overpowering you; keep you thinking he is powerless and not a threat to you because you’re not a threat to him. Which, by the way, are all lies. You get what I am saying? Satan has so many tactics or strategies to stop your growth and relationship with God- such as distractions, temptations, disappointments, betrayal, accusations, and criticism- all designed to wear down the saints. The main tactic he uses to keep us out of the word are distractions! You are just too busy; you get sleepy and tired when reading or everything starts as soon as you sit down to read. Your mind starts racing with what’s for dinner, what needs to be done, or other random thoughts. How about suddenly everybody and their mama wants to call you to talk, people drop by, even the dog has an urge to go out and pee. Distractions causes your focus to be completely off. You cannot concentrate to remember anything you have read, let alone try to keep reading, only to realize you were asleep for about 2 minutes; then you put everything to the side and go on to take a nap or go to bed without reading.

Here's what I recommend assisting in battling these distractions:

1) Go to bed earlier so you can be refreshed. The Bible is specific about spending time w/God in the early morning (**Psalm 63:1**), your body and mind are rested. For me, I can quiet my mind before anyone gets up; before the hustle and bustle of the day, and there's something about being in silence with the Father that magnifies his presence and hearing him in the stillness.

2) If you just cannot spend time with him in the morning, set aside time in your day. I recommend 30-60 minutes, but not at the end of the day when you're tired, worn out.

3) Don't study while in the bed. Get in a comfortable place, where it's well lit and you're forced to sit up. In other words, don't be too comfortable and start with prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to assist with your focus and to take over the atmosphere.

4) Be intentional and determined about reading.

5) Get on a schedule and stick to it; this helps with consistency. Be on purpose for 90 days and see what happens.

6) Limit all (as many as possible) distractions. Turn off you phone or at the least put it on vibrate. Let the family know this is your time with God and to not disturb. Be firm and committed; as long as no one is dead or the house is not burning down, they will be alright.

7) If you're just starting and you set aside an

hour but you only get 15 minutes of focused reading, just keep pushing; do not let condemnation set in, then you will take yourself out of any time in the word. The more you push through, the more your focused time will increase; even pass the time you have allotted.

8) And last but not least, if you do all this and still no progress, seek deliverance. There is something that needs to be dealt with like the spirit of distraction, procrastination, hinderance, tiredness or fatigue. The list can go on, but you get the point. Get your freedom and pick up where you left off.

*Mana O*



## First Baptist Episode 3

**ANONYMOUS**

Three days had passed without one single word from Calvin. Then, suddenly, at 4PM, Shay's cellphone vibrated, and her caller ID read "private." Instinctively, Shay answered with "hey" in one of those grown woman type voices and her sooter said, "I love that all red outfit on you." She looked down to remind herself that she was sporting red



jeans, a red “Blessed” T-shirt, a red First Baptist baseball cap, red Fendi belt, red plastic hoops, red bangles and red, low-top K-Swisses.

She asked the lawman how he knew what she had on. He quickly replied, “look out of the window.” She looked out the window and there he stood, leaning against an old-school, candied-apple red Chevy Camaro.

The voice said, “*you knew he drove a muscle car.*” Calvin wore all red too. Who even knew that a red-faced Cellini Rolex even existed?

Shay said, “you know I don’t get off until 5 o’clock.” He responded, “I do, that’s why I got here early so I can watch you work for a while.” She said, “you know that’s kind of weird.” He answered, “what’s weird is living life without you. I feel incomplete. I feel like a nomad, with no place to go. I have just roamed and roamed. Woman, I shall never be at home, I cannot find rest until you say 'I do' to me.”

She closed her phone and tried to concentrate on the 10th graders there for Social Studies tutoring for the next 58 minutes but it was just so hard. One of the school children, Tracy, asked, “who is that Ms. M?” Shay responded, “that, Tee, is either a blessing or a curse.” No additional questions were asked, or comments made.

At exactly 5 o’clock, Shay went outside where Calvin remained unmoved. The sun was out, so were his “guns.” His arms looked like two

bronze colored lamb shanks. On his right shoulder was a long scar, like something she imagined every pirate might have. His large arm portrayed the following tat. She pondered if perhaps it was carved or burned into his broad left extremity:

## NOWWIV

Calvin greeted Shay with a most passionate kiss. It was unlike Myron’s safe, grilled-cheese-eating, dog-vest having, benignly unimposing cheek-peck, but with a kiss that made the acrylic on her pinky toes rattle. This was a kiss that made her reevaluate her WHOLE life. You know, the type of kiss that will have a lady feeding a man seedless grapes one at a time while dinner is cooking, the dishwasher and washer and dryer are all humming simultaneously, and as his feet are resting on the ottoman while he's relaxing watching Monday Night Football. This was the type of kiss that Granny Mae warned her about. Yes, ladies, it was one of those “uh-oh” or “what have I done?” kisses.

Though it was Wednesday, Shay felt like she could not pass on the opportunity to spend more time with this man. She called the Assistant Choir Director, Lee, and asked him to manage things this evening as “something came up.”

As expected, Spade opened the young woman’s car door and when he put the key in the ignition, Tupac could be heard screaming, “I ain’t a killer but don’t push me (volume

10).” Calvin hit a few buttons and MercyMe was then heard singing, “I can only imagine (volume 3).”

Shay and Spade ventured toward the little Italian restaurant off Third, on the corner of Valentine Rd., near Costco. The constable appeared to pay little attention to the posted speed limits on the drive over. When they walked in, Salvatore, the restaurateur, asked Calvin if he would like his normal booth. Calvin nodded to affirm, and the trio continued on.

They sat in the booth, but by this time Shay’s curiosity had willed its way to the front of the impromptu date. Shay asked Calvin what happened to his arm and he replied, “when I was younger, I cut my arm on a razor wire escaping from a boy’s home.” He offered no more, nor did she ask. The voice whispered to her heart, “*poor guy.*”

“What does your tattoo mean?,” the choir director inquired. The cop said, “I was branded then I had it overlain with ink; it means that there will be no World War 4.” Shay gulped and said, “that’s really heavy.”

There existed a sense of unrest, possibly due to the nature of their not so casual banter. Then, to change the atmosphere, Shay’s favorite pizza, on cue, happened to make its way out. T’was a personal pan pizza with anchovies on one side, pepperoni on one side, and mushrooms down the middle and it was delivered to her piping hot. A cup of loganberry was chilled and brought to her in a thermal cup. She took a quick look at

## Good Medicine

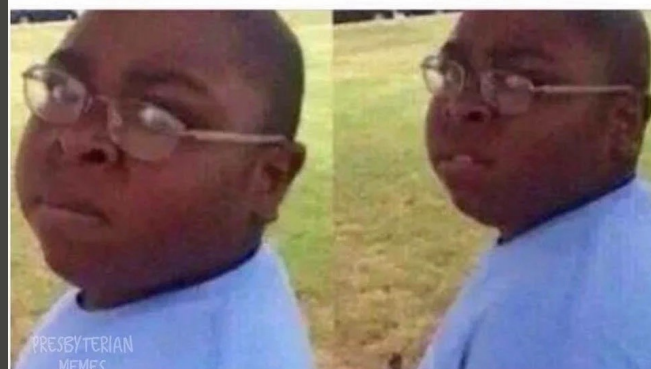
One night, a lady came home from her weekly prayer meeting, found she was being robbed, and shouted out: "Acts 2:38: 'Repent & be baptized & your sins will be forgiven.'" The robber quickly gave up & the lady rang the police. While handcuffing the criminal, a policeman said, "Gee mate, you gave up pretty easily. How come you gave up so quickly?" The robber said, "She said she had an axe and two 38's!"

\*A Christian couple who waited until marriage returns from their honeymoon\*  
Their friends:

@thenormalpentecostal



**Isaac looking at Abraham the whole walk back down the mountain**



the menu and saw that Loganberry, her preferred drink of choice, was nowhere to be found. Calvin said, “I took care of that for you baby. I will always take care of you.”

The melody, “All My Life,” by K-Ci & JoJo, could be heard bellowing throughout the Italian Bistro. The voice suggested that there was no coincidence that this song is playing.

The couple talked and laughed, but this time Shay lay well within her faculties and thus asked the brawny man for his telephone number. And his response was, “I will do you one better.” He then rendered a carefully wrapped gift box, the wrapping paper was hot pink, her favorite color, of course. The voice said, “*he misses no details.*”

The beautifully decorated box stowed an iPhone 14. She, being an android user, never understood that the iPhone 14 had not been released to the public yet. She took the ivory-colored phone, due to be released sometime in September and he said, “try it out, press number one.” As instructed, she pressed number one and it immediately rang to his phone; the caller ID read, 'Mi Amor.'

Spade then said, “text me baby-girl.” Therefore, she sent him an emoji of a heart and he showed it to her on his phone and then he sent her a text of two hearts with the inscription, “I am no longer a lonely heart.”

After exiting the eatery, Calvin taxied Shay back to her car that sat unmoved at the high

school and he then prepared to depart the school grounds. She longed for what may be regarded as a slightly naughty goodbye kiss, but after opening her car door and helping her in, he simply stroked her left hand and took his leave.

Shay could barely wait to get home to call Janis, and the sisters began to ask where this man has been all Shay’s life. Janis asked Shay, “have you heard from Myron?” At which time Shay responded, “who?” And they both chuckled.

Unexpectedly, Shay received a call from Mother Simms of First Baptist, however, she allowed the call to roll to voicemail. She later checked the voicemail and Mother Simms simply said, “Matthew 7:15.” Shay thought that the old woman must have called the wrong church member because she did not request any scriptures of Mother Simms.

Spade was advancing all over Shay’s mind and it was proving to be a fruitless battle to capture her thoughts. In an effort to alter her focus, she looked through her emails and saw something from Myron titled, “I am an Accountant, what’s your superpower?”

The email included two coupons for UniverSoul Circus tickets. Shay offered absolutely no response and then tried to divert her concentrations to a recording of Bishop Jinx’s most recent sermon.

Bishop Jinx is like the 5th generation leader

of First Baptist. His suits used to fit two sizes ago and he still wears a process. His four front teeth are all gold, and he often smells like Brut by Faberge', Old Spice, or lime peels. This guy consistently confuses meanings and tenses of words. Like more than one man is 'mens' and more than one woman is 'womens.' If someone is not at home, he will ask, "what time do you respect him?" Shrimp are scrimps, and streets are screets... I am not even going to attempt to tackle how he pronounces "orange." You get the picture.

Bishop, Theodore Dexter Jinx, III, possesses a plaid Member's Only jacket, a black leather fanny-pack, and drives a 2004 Cadillac Seville. He is known to workout Thursdays between 2:20 and 2:35 PM at the Planet Fitness on Liberman Dr. in Colquitt Township. While there, he usually sits on the exercise bike and uses his flip phone. Though there's a few small rhinestones on the base of the phone case, you dare not tell this man that he is not the epitome of masculinity.

Jinx is unapologetic and is known for kind of saying whatever comes up. The sermon Shay accessed was titled, "If his name is Pootin, just what do ya'll think he's made of?" Last month, for the usher board anniversary, he preached a sermon about the Gadarene demoniac, which he entitled, "A Nude Dude in a Rude Mood." When he tendered the title, you could tell that he felt good about himself, somewhat accomplished, but those in attendance kind of sat there like deer in headlights. But that's our beloved Bishop Jinx.

Before she could be thoroughly entertained, or repulsed, by the bishop and evidence his most recent linguistic masterpiece, the doorbell rang. Her doorbell-cam showed a silhouette of a delivery person from A-1 Courier, LLC. Shay signed for a 5 oz. parcel and discovered that it was a letter from an Attorney's office demanding her presence on the following Tuesday at 9:15AM sharp.

She contacted the office; they confirmed her appointment but were unable, or unwilling, to release any additional information over the telephone. The Administrative Assistant, Meagan, warned that Shay is to only speak with the specific Attorney listed in the notice about the matter.

Shay conducted internet research to determine that this particular firm was known to specialize in child custody matters, wills, and inheritances. The Attorney with whom she was scheduled was Alton Betancourt, the firm's main partner.

Shay asked that a substitute teacher cover for her on Tuesday and she made her way to the offices of Betancourt, Klaven & Schmidt. She reluctantly parked her VDubb next to the Rolls, Bentleys, and Bugattis sited about the large lot whose signs advertised \$35 an hour parking rates. She was sure to take her ticket to be validated upstairs.

Betancourt, Klaven & Schmidt's office was located on the penthouse level (125th Floor) of the Fleshinger Building, far above

Channel 24's corporate headquarters, and in the same building where Governor Lungren has his luxurious apartment. Shay was extremely impressed with all of it.

At exactly 9:15AM, Betancourt, Klaven & Schmidt's Administrative Assistant, Meagan, who favored a young Little Kim, before all "the work," said, "Attorney Betancourt will see you now." His was a large corner office that offered her a complete view of all the tri-city area. The office smelled of lavender and money. After she melted into his grand, plush office chairs, Betancourt handed her a large manilla envelope. Shay opened the envelope and read the first few paragraphs of the communique. Her eyes bucked, she smiled widely, but then began to weep uncontrollably.

Wait to see what happens on the next edition of First Baptist.

## The Encounter

**MAMA VEE**

*Depression is having feelings of severe despondency and dejection. An example used in the Oxford languages dictionary is: "self-doubt creeps in and that swiftly turns to depression."*

### Tiffani

I don't know why God keep waking me up to endure this life. I feel like I am living in a scene of the movie, "Groundhog Day." I am reliving the same torment every day. I barely have enough energy to get out of the bed. Nothing seems to change, so I ask myself why I do I even try. I have given up thinking that anything will change. I believe in God, but it doesn't seem like he believes in me. I see other

## Sounds of Praise

♪ ♪ *Nothing's too hard for You,  
let it be our song. Nothing's too  
hard for You, we declare it for  
generations* ♪ ♪

-Shauna Williams

♪ ♪ *Dog, Big Dog on campus.  
I ain't worried about nothing my  
Daddy will handle it.  
Who is that? Yarweh!  
You know what's up! We ain't  
worried about demons,  
them demons fear us!* ♪ ♪

-Mario Williams

♪ ♪ *They bring my past up  
That's fine  
I talk to Jesus in my past time  
It took some time,  
now I realize  
He unveiled my eyes  
They bring my past up  
That's fine  
I heard of Jesus through the  
Grapevine  
Gave him some time  
now I realize  
That he changed my life.* ♪ ♪

-Talia Byars



people get blessed while I am over here barely breathing. I am tired, I wish my life would end now to stop all the pain. I am 25-years-old but when I look in the mirror, I see a 75-year-old looking back at me. My family keeps talking about my disheveled look. I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING BUT VOID on the inside. There is no need to do my hair or put on makeup when all I see is misery around me. Let me share with you how I got to this place.

## **The Beginning**

I was born on April 20, 1996 to an unwed mom and a street hustler. My momma was a teen mom, having two children by the age of 18. My brother Mario was the first and I am the baby of the family. She didn't have an example on how to be a mother because my Grandmomma died when she was 5-years-old. I honor her because she sacrificed so much to make sure we had what we needed but it's a different story when it comes to my daddy. I dont know

much about him because every time I saw him it was from the back because he was always walking out the door. I remember packing my little pink Power Puff Girls suitcase and leaving it by the door because my daddy said he was coming to get me. That suitcase is probably still sitting at that door filled with all the lies and broken promises my daddy gave me.

## **Trapped in Darkness**

Here I am again... lost. I wonder why God continues to wake me up but then I hear the laughter from my three beautiful blessings. My six-year-old son, DeMario, and my three-year-old twins Terrell and Destiny. They mean the world to me. That's why I get up and push-on every day. I smile in their presence and cry when I am alone. I never wanted to be a single mother, but my kids' daddy made it clear that he wasn't interested in raising a family. Just like my daddy, I watched his back as he left out the door. I don't know why I miss him because all he did was beat me and lie to me. I met him at the club; oh my bad, did I forget to mention that I am dancer? I got to pay the bills somehow. I am so tired of this life that I am living or should I say existing. I am not living at all. I decided to call my BFF TeKirah to talk out what is in my head. Since third grade, she has always been the one who truly gets me. We are totally different. She grew up in a two-parent home with parents who taught her about the importance of living for the Lord. I always wanted a family like that. She answers the phone, "Hello Holy Ghost diva," that's her nickname for me. She always talks about the power in her tongue. I responded, "Girl you know ain't nothing holy about me but my socks, stop playing." She begins to laugh and says, "As always you are a whole fool. Listen, I am

glad you called me because I want to invite you to church with me.” Turning my nose up at the phone, I said, “I am allergic to all them big hats and Crisco they always putting on our heads; furthermore, I only know how to dance one way and IT AIN’T HOLY at all.” I almost laughed my wig and lashes off. She says, “I don’t go to that church anymore. The church I go to now has changed my walk with the Lord.” Chiming in, I said, “I hope you can swim cause Jesus is the only one who can walk on water.” Letting out a breath (knowing that I crack jokes to avoid the serious stuff), she says, “Tiff, I am being serious. Will you please come?” I responded, “I will think about it.” We hung up the phone before I realize that I didn’t talk about nothing that I called her for. I guess I will figure it out in my head.

### **First Encounter**

I am exhausted in the physical and the spiritual. I am tired of this lifestyle, but I don’t know how to get out. I am so depressed. Hip-Hop music is my therapy. I like to turn it up as loud as I can stand to block out all the voices in my head. What is going on with this radio? I can’t turn the station, it’s stuck on the gospel station Love LFM. I haven’t listened to gospel music since my momma used to make us go to church on Easter back in the day. I can’t believe what I am hearing. It’s a song called, “Be Healed” by a gospel artist called Canton Jones. I can’t stop crying. In one ear I hear a soft voice saying God can heal all the broken places in my soul. In the other ear I am being reminded that nothing can fix what is wrong with me. I have been broken since my daddy left me. God can’t do for me what my own daddy didn’t want to do. That was to love me.

“

*She says, “I don’t go to that church anymore. The church I go to now has changed my walk with the Lord.”*

”

### **Second Encounter**

I am running late for work. I overslept because I had a weird dream that I was on my way to work when this young couple approached me asking if I needed prayer. I hesitated because I didn’t understand why they were so happy to pray for me in front of a strip club. They smiled and said they loved to be the hand and feet of Jesus. The young lady prayed for me, and the young man passed me a card inviting me to a church called Significant Revelation. I asked for their names, but I woke up before they told me.

### **Third Encounter**

I can’t wait to get home to a hot shower and my babies. They are the only peace I have. One thing that is consistent in my life is being greeted by my daughter, Destiny, as soon as she hears my keys unlocking the door. I am so grateful for Ms. Dana; she is the best nanny ever. I don’t know what I would have done without her. “Thank you

again Ms. Dana, here is the money I owe you. Drive safe going home. I will see you tonight.” Dana responds, “Thank you Tiffani. I baked the Red Velvet cake you like and some cookies for the little ones. Don’t forget that I am bringing Gavin over tomorrow for a play date. See you later.” I peeped in the room to check on Terrell. He is sleep clinging onto his Elmo (I bought it for him for Christmas; I put his dad’s name on the card).

Since I was a little girl, I must sleep with the tv on. As I drift off to sleep, I hear something from my tv that was unbelievable. There, as I clear my eyes of the sleep, I hear a lady named Mama Vee preaching a sermon from Significant Revelation, the same church from my dream. It felt like she was talking directly to me. She began by saying, “Who do you say that I am?” I was drawn to her words because I realized that I don’t know who God is supposed to be to me and I don’t feel worthy to ask God who he says that I am. The more I hear her speaking, I am at a lost of words. I really want to find out the answers to those questions. I want to know who Jesus is and who he says that I am. I must go to this church.

### **The Encounter of Healing**

My heart is pounding while my thoughts are racing. How did I end up in the parking lot of a church that I heard about in a dream? I have finally gathered the nerves to get out of the car. As I approach the church’s front door, a nice young man greeted me as he opened the door to let me in, “Hi, my name is CP, and I am so honored that you are joining us today for service.” His smile is so welcoming.

Most of the time when a man smiles at me like that it always has strings attached. I exhale a breath before entering the church. I see another set of smiles coming from the ushers. “Hey, my name is Talia and this is Malisa, let us help you find a seat.” Everyone is so nice here. I have never been in an environment like this.

I decided to sit next to a group of people so that I can blend in. “Hey, my name is Patricia and this is GiGi.” GiGi then says, “Girl, this church is about to change your life. The Holy spirit is truly in this place.” I felt someone tapping my shoulder. As I look around, I am speechless. It’s the couple from my dream. “Hey, I am Hampton, and this is Cierra.” Some lady they call Auntie Yo reaches in and gives me a hug that felt like the hug of an angel. I am so emotional. Cierra and Hampton say to me, “We will see you after service, Mama Q is about to tear this service up when she speaks. You are going to enjoy her message.”

She starts to speak about ten virgins from the bible. Five were ready with their oil and another five didn’t have any oil to go in with the Bridegroom. I begin to talk to the Lord. “Lord Jesus, I don’t have any oil at all. I am tired of feeling like the walking dead. I am ready to give you my life today. If you are the reason I am here, please give me a sign.” At that moment, I heard the most angelic voices singing, “Be healed” from the worship team, Proverbs 31, featuring one of the members named Mario. I look and on the first row I see TeKirah. This must be the



# *I'm A Christian Soldier*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
On the battlefield for my Lord.  
My purpose is to save souls  
Without gun, knife, or sword.*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
Working on God's plan.  
My purpose is to save souls  
As I'm bound for the Promiseland.*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
Plagued constantly by the devil's tease.  
My purpose is to save souls  
Thus, my work is never done with ease.*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
Following the teachings of the Son.  
My purpose is to save souls  
With each rise of the morning sun.*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
Working for my starry crown.  
My purpose is to save souls  
As I'm heavenly bound.*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
Warding off the devil every day.  
My purpose is to save souls  
Converting some to the Christian-way.*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
Here to help all mankind.  
My purpose is to save souls  
And Jesus is constantly at my side.*

*I'm a Christian Soldier  
Setting an example for the rest.  
My purpose is to save souls  
And for my God I try to do my best.*

church she was talking about. I knew that was the sign I needed. When we locked eyes, all we could do is cry. She sits beside me and hug me tightly. I couldn't move. I decided to let the song minister to me like I should have done when I first heard it in my car.

As I go to the front of the church, everyone surrounds me and I hear the Pastor say, "I am Pastor Mark, today is the first day..." The entire congregation says, "of the rest of your life!" The Pastor says, "I believe the Holy Spirit has given Brit a word for you." Brit starts by saying, "I see huge wings of an angel covering you. You thought that people didn't see you, but that's not true. God has had you HIDDEN under his wings so that the enemy couldn't do everything he wanted to do to you. He is showing me an acronym for the word hidden. You are going to a **HIGHER** level. **I** have **DESIGNED** it to be. It is by my **DIVINE** purpose that YOU move **EXPEDIOUSLY** into this **NEW** place. Be blessed sis."

Pastor Mark asked the camera man, Gov, to speak over me. "I decree that as of today, the Lord is making himself known to you. He is filling your cup with his presence. I decree that you are a giant slayer; not only the giant, but you will slay the lion and the bear. I decree that **Matthew 6:33** will be your portion. You will be the lender and not the borrower. I decree and declare all these things over you and seal it with a bloodline of Christ, in Jesus' name." I truly believe that I will never be the same. Thank you, Lord, for accepting me with flaws and all.

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# Greater Love

BILL VAUGHN

With the coming of Memorial Day this weekend, I am reminded of Jesus' words regarding love and sacrifice:

## John 15:13

*"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."*

Memorial Day is a holiday that is observed in America to honor those in our military who have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives in service to our country. I am personally grateful to those who gave their all, and to their families and loved ones who experienced such great loss. My prayers go out to them, and I pray that God's peace beyond all understanding comes to them and brings them comfort.

While those who are working on the "front lines" of the current health crisis are NOT working in a military war footing, I can't help but see the similarities of the love and sacrifice that Jesus referred to in **John 15**. There are many people who are working in public and serving their fellow man, and each does so knowing that he or she could become very sick or possibly die as a result. It is a sobering thought to think of the healthcare workers caring for those that ARE infected with COVID 19. One accidental lapse in protection can have dramatic consequences, yet these folks go in, and through their selfless acts of service, love people who need it on a daily basis!



That is the type of amazing love that Jesus was speaking of!

There are countless others who are stepping up in this time of crisis in our nation. I want to personally thank the first responders, national guard and active duty military personnel, government officials, food service providers, store workers, clergy, salesmen and women, and the countless others who choose to step out of their comfort zones to help their fellow man. May God bless you and keep you safe in the palm of His hand!

In these disturbing times, I encourage all who read this to take time to examine your beliefs, and to take some time to pray and communicate with God. If you don't know or believe in God, I encourage you to be still and listen for His voice. He loves you very much. In fact, Jesus was God's perfect example of the "Greater love" of **John 15**. Jesus gave His life on the cross so that mankind could be forgiven for all of our wrongs and be with him forever when we die. I pray that His perfect love touches each of you now, and that you will come to know Him personally! Have a great Memorial Day weekend and please take a moment to remember the sacrifices of others. Many have paid the ultimate price!

# A Dream Given to Chris Reed

DAN JOHNSON

A dream was given to Chris Reed, Senior Pastor of Morningstar Ministries, concerning being prepared in the coming days. This dream came on March 25, 2022.

The dream, as shared by Chris, can be seen on YouTube. There are several videos that can be viewed that share the content of the dream. One of the titles is "Chris Reed and the dream of the fifty-dollar bill."

<https://youtu.be/1lN7yyhurek>

He has said that the dream is one the most vivid and detailed dreams he has had. I encourage everyone to view at least one of the videos to receive what it is about as there are several parts to the dream and each one is critically important.

I want to mention as well that Rick Joyner (founder of Morningstar Ministries) began to speak into this starting about a decade ago, as well as John Paul Jackson (founder of Streams Ministries) and his word (The Perfect Storm).

Jim Baker has also begun to hear this and release warnings as well.

As I began to process this, I felt an urgency to share with those I have connected to as well. A point Chris makes is not to be in fear, but God will see His people through this. Having said that, we do have a responsibility to put back some food, water, and at least to have cash in hand. Because of Daniel's word concerning the coming drought all of Egypt, other peoples around them were saved from starvation. I am reminded of **2 Chronicles, chapter 20**; when Jehosaphat was facing insurmountable odds, he sought the Lord. The word of the Lord came through Jahaziel to not be afraid for the battle is God's. They were told to go down against the enemy, position themselves, and stand still and see the salvation of the Lord who was with them. King Jehosaphat and the people bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord and went out with singing and praise and were told to believe in the Lord and His prophets and they would prosper. Read this chapter until it gets in your spirit. This is a time to sincerely press into the Lord, repent, and pursue Him with all your heart (**Matthew 22: 36 – 38**).

On election day 2020, I heard the Lord say He was allowing things to go this direction in order to expose all things. The enemy has taken over every aspect of society (the 7 mountains of society are government, media, business, arts and entertainment, finance, family, and religion). Can you say WOKE? There is way too much to list here concerning each of these separately. America is not what it used to be and



## May Birthdays

**Dana Williams** May 2nd

**Cierra Jackson** May 9th

*Happy Birthday!!!*

the freedoms that have been paid for with the blood of patriots is slipping away. I believe what is coming is the ultimate wake-up call for this nation.

Unfortunately, the Church has been asleep and has not been what God intended as the *ekklēsia*, which is the governing body of heaven on earth. Adam and Eve gave up all dominion granted to them by God. Jesus came as the second Adam to restore all things. How pitifully that the price He paid has been wasted. The Lord's prayer was that the kingdom come to earth as it is in heaven. By the way, for those Christians that don't believe we should be involved in politics, the kingdom Jesus spoke of is the government of Heaven. That's another message altogether.

Everything will be shaken, and the true Body of Christ will be the example to those around us as the sons and daughters of the One true and living God. We are on the precipice of the greatest move of God known to man. God is not done with this nation and there is much healing that needs to come to deal with all the divisions that have been perpetrated by the one who

”

*I believe what is coming is the ultimate wake-up call for this nation.*

“

comes to do nothing but steal, kill, and destroy (**John 10: 10**). We are all imperfect people for sure (For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God; Being justified freely his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus). The Heart of the Father is that none should perish but come to the saving grace of Jesus Christ and receive eternal life. I will say here as well that there are many believers that need to repent for the selfish and self-centered, escapist mentality that they can be rescued from bad stuff by being raptured out of here. Become a part of what God's plan is, or you may be truly left behind. There's only two ways to see this: from an earthly, fleshly perspective, or a kingdom of Heaven perspective. Selah.

May the season ahead be one where we move into the greatest possible relationship with our Father, to fully know the absolute presence and power of Jesus' sacrifice, and be so led by Holy Spirit that we know him, according to Jesus' words in **John 14: 26**; to know him as Comforter and Teacher and bringing all things concerning Jesus to remembrance.

I humbly and respectfully submit this to everyone who may see it and may you hear what the Spirit is saying.

Sincerely,  
Dan Johnson

## Are You Prepared?

PASTOR NOE

*“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...”*  
-Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities

I believe it's obvious to everybody that the world is becoming increasingly chaotic as evil has been allowed to flourish. Even in the U.S., evil is reigning at every level, in every direction.

In the 2010s, John Paul Jackson, a seasoned and much respected prophet, was allowed to speak on what he called, 'The Perfect Storm:' (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzPJjOzZorg>; <https://www.vinefellowshipnetwork.org/documents/storm-word-jpj.pdf>). This was a warning from Yah/God that if the country did not change, there would be disaster on the horizon for the U.S. Unfortunately, not enough people listened.

What would be coming would be on 5 major fronts: religion, politics, economics, war, and geo-physical. The combination of these elements would not be short-lived but be repeated in waves. Because Yah's/God's people as a whole have allowed evil to reign, judgment is upon us. While many reading this article are trying to do godly good, there are those in authority, from the office of the President of the United States down to the local dog catcher, that side with the enemy (spiritual and physical). Those that are in authority are many times making decisions to benefit themselves over the American people even though they may tell you otherwise.

If you don't follow the mainstream media, you'll see that there are many indicators showing that worldwide famine is on the horizon within months. This will then lead to riots - along with many other disasters (as stated previously). There are numerous other indicators in every direction that times are going to get tough ahead, but I'm not here to focus on that.

## Sounds of Praise

♪ ♪ *Your Yoke is Easy*  
*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.*

*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.*

*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.*

*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.*

*You said come unto me, all who are weary. Come unto me, and I'll give you rest.*

*You said come unto me, all who are weary. Come unto me, and I'll give you rest.*

*Your yoke is easy, easy, easy*  
*Your yoke is easy, easy, easy*  
*Your yoke is easy, easy, easy*  
*Your yoke is easy, easy, and Your burden is light.*

*Light, light, light shine bright*  
*Bright through the night*  
*Light, light, light shine bright*  
*Right through the night*

*Light, light, light shine bright*  
*Bright through the night*  
*Light, light, light shine bright*  
*Right through the night*

*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.*

*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.*

*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.*

*Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light. ♪ ♪*

- Amber Rice

Some people may believe that Yeshua/Jesus will take care of everything and that they don't have to worry about anything. What I see in the Bible, and even from history, is that many disciples have died for His name (**Matthew 10:16-25; Acts 5:41, 9:16; 2 Corinthians 11:23**; etcetera). While I don't want this for anybody, the truth of the matter is that we could be in the last days with these truths upon us.

As you know, we are not to fear (**2 Timothy 1:7**), but the Bible has much to say about how we should respond in times as to not be foolish either. I'm sure many of you are familiar with the Parable of the 10 virgins in **Matthew 25:1-13**. This is a parable of those that did not prepare when they knew a time was coming that they would have to be ready. They were called foolish.

Some may say that I have weak faith; I'm not bothered by that. I've heard of many pastors that died during the COVID that stated that Yah/God told them this or that or that they believed He was with them (reference **Jeremiah 14:14**). Sometimes people have a presumptuous faith more so in what they want to believe rather than what Yah/God has actually stated.

I believe that our Yah/God is supernatural and that working by the supernatural will be needed for the future. But that doesn't mean that we won't have our part to play. As I've heard it said before, "Yah/God will do what you can't do, but He won't do what He's called you to do." We are called to partner with Him while letting Him lead.

### Genesis 2:15

*"The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."*



Think about this: Adam and Eve were more than likely at the height of human creation walking in all spiritual purity and giftings. There was no sin in the world. I can believe living in all their spiritual giftings, with all kinds of signs and wonders, was just normal for them. Their spiritual discernment was probably off the charts. Yah/God still had them physically work in the garden. They still suffered from a bad decision.

So, while yes, we should be doing the good works that He has prepared for us to do (**Ephesians 2:10**), you  
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need to be preparing to take care of your ‘family.’

### 1 Timothy 5:8

*“And if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the belief and is worse than an unbeliever.”*

More specifically, I believe that you should be considering getting canned goods and dried food as well as asking how to get water, what happens if the Internet/communications go down, etcetera. You may need to ask yourself what goods or services you can provide if you can’t leave your home.

I pray it doesn’t come to that, but it very well could, and I believe it will - to what degree I don’t know. In case you are wondering, I don’t believe in the ‘Rapture’ as it is popularly known. I believe that we are in this world to be a light, even to the point of suffering along with those that are lost for those that make it. I don’t believe we’ll be



taken away, at least not the way many people want it be. If I’m wrong, then I’ll be happy for me but sad for those left behind (**Philippians 1:21-24**). Either way, I leave that decision up to Yah/God but I have to prepare for the long-haul.

### Proverbs 22:3

*“A clever one foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple go on and are punished.”*

So, this is just my way of saying I believe you’d be smart to start preparing now if you haven’t been. He’ll take care of you, however He does that, but the more you are prepared the easier you may experience what is coming. Of course, miracles will occur as well but we don’t know when or how those miracles will occur.

In **1 Kings 17**, Elijah lived through the drought and filled up the widow’s jars with oil by the word of Yah/God. In my honest opinion, I believe depending solely on miracles to get you through and not doing your preparations is probably not a great idea as it could be a form of ‘testing Him’ (**Luke 4:12; Deuteronomy 6:16**).

I pray this helps.

Peace & Blessings, Noe

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## Strongholds vs Truth

SHAUNA WILLIAMS

The thing about strongholds (wrong thinking patterns based on lies) is that things will come along that reinforce the lie. That’s why we

MUST know truth. If we know the truth, we can recognize the lie when it presents itself through the words/actions of others, or life experiences.

For example, if I'm desiring to pull down lies regarding my value/worth being set in Christ alone and someone comes along and speaks the very lie I'm trying to pull down (i.e. you're not enough), because I know truth- that I am completely accepted in Christ, and that I do not have to perfect to be loved- I can take those words and discard them, REGARDLESS of the person's declaration/actions making the lie SEEM true.

This is completely an ACTIVE PROCESS! One we must commit and sell out to DAILY! It won't happen on its own. I'm DECIDING to no longer compromise with TRUTH, to take my thoughts captive and MAKE them submit to Christ. It's so much easier to continue the way we've been going, but FREEDOM is in the renewing of your mind. Join me in committing to change?

- 1) **Is there a stronghold you have committed to tearing down?**
- 2) **What do you do when confronted with the lie?**

## **2 Corinthians 10:5**

*"We are destroying sophisticated arguments and every exalted and proud thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought and purpose captive to the obedience of Christ."*

## **Romans 12:2**

*"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."*

# **Forgiveness**

**PASTOR MARK**

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you about unforgiveness.

I work in the ministry of inner healing and deliverance. By doing so, I, and our team, have been blessed with the privilege of counseling and ministering to many believers week in and week out. We have determined that one of, if not the most, proficient entry point accessed by the Kingdom of Darkness in the life of the everyday Christian is via the sin of unforgiveness.

I can't tell you how many times I have heard, "Pastor Mark, you don't know what they did to me." I get it; I used to be the worst when I first came to the ministry. I was not talking to my ex-wife, stepson, father, or grandmother... what kind of hateful so and so doesn't talk to their granny? This guy. The devil sold me on the fact that I was justified in feeling the way I did and reacting the way I did because of what they said or did... "they started it."

Oh, he would get me on the lie that you have "the right to defend yourself" and that it's acceptable if you pay/get them back.



# The “Why Me Prayer”

*Many-a-day I ask myself, “Why me?,” as do many people. This question is only asked when our life has gone Haywire, out-of-control, or at a time when we no longer understand what’s going on around us. This is also the time when we seem to pray the most and hardest ever, praying the “WHY ME PRAYER.”*

*Dear Lord,  
I thank you for allowing me:  
one more breath to take,  
one more step to walk,  
one more word to talk, and  
one more view to see,  
but why did you allow me to get hurt, WHY ME?*

*I thank you for allowing me:  
to have nice clothes to wear,  
to have a nice home to live in,  
to have a car to drive in, and  
to have just enough money to live comfortably,  
but why did you allow me to get hurt, WHY ME?*

*I thank you for allowing me:  
a pair of good parents to teach me right,  
some good friends thru thick-n-thin,  
a good job that is satisfying and rewarding, and good health  
until this present day,  
but why did you allow me to get hurt, WHY ME?*

*Why me, why me, what have I done to deserve such?  
I know I’m not the best nor am I the worst, but WHY ME?  
I know you must keep me and billions of others in line, but WHY  
ME?  
I know in order to teach certain lessons unorthodox methods may  
be warranted, but WHY ME?*

*Oh, well Lord, I hope I’ve learned my lessons and able to carry  
out Your mission. Thanks for all You’ve done.*

*Sincerely,*

*ME*

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This is a motto that I lived my life by but it proved to be in direct contradiction to the following scripture:

## **Romans 12:19**

*“Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.”*

Based on my experience, research, and understanding of God’s word, I believe that there exists millions of Christians in Hell today because of the sin of unforgiveness. When you fail to forgive, you are literally making a choice and therefore operating in willful sin. The bible tells us that the wages of sin are... what?

We have all heard the term “foothold.” Allow me to offer you an illustration; let this deliverance minister paint a picture. Let’s say, when you were in the world the opening in the door for the enemy to have a legal right to your life was extremely wide, but you changed your life: stopped fornicating, committing adultery, hitting blunts, drinking excessively, robbing folks, cussing, disrespecting your parents/teachers/selves, talking about folks, scheming, stealing, cheating, etc. These are only

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examples of certain sins, but in your case, I am talking about whatsoever you were doing when you were sinning... you gave all that sin up but cannot forgive someone. That is the foothold that the enemy has and that is the legal right that he will exploit to affect your life. That will be the reason that the door will never, ever close. It simply can't... and what's worse, it is you who has given the devourer the weapon to use against you.

Remember, not forgiving is a choice and any sin, especially willful sin, gives the enemy a legal right to impact your life: health, finances, relationships, mind, job, etc.

Anyone know the Lord's prayer? Does it not say forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us? We are literally praying to God that he treats us like we treat others... more specifically, we are praying that he forgives us in the manner with which we forgive others.

There are countless scriptures about forgiveness, but here's a few that I want you to be extra careful to listen to the language and the depth of. In order for you to gain the blessing of being forgiven, there is a part that you have to play; in other words, there is a transaction:

#### **Matthew 6:14**

*"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you" ... So what happens if you don't?*

#### **Colossians 3:13**

*"bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."*

#### **Luke 6:37**

*"Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven."*

#### **Mark 11:25**

*"And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses."*

If those scriptures fail to grasp your attention, let me offer you this: when you get a moment, read **Matthew 18:21-35 (The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant)**. Jesus tell us exactly what happens when we don't forgive: I will just share the last 3 verses:

*"Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?" And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."*

My question is who do you think are the tortures of this world? Many churches teach that Christians can't have demons. That's simply not biblical; the bible is not Burger King, you can't have it your way. If you believe in heaven, you should believe in Hell



because it's in the Bible. If you believe in God, you should believe in the Devil, because it's in the Bible. If there are Angels, then there are Demons; that's what the bible says. Generational curses, the Spirit of Fear, witchcraft, and spiritual warfare, etc., are all true.

It's there is in your Bible; **Ephesians 6:12** is true:

*“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”*

Jesus tells us that we will have tribulation, and Paul tells the Corinthians that Satan is the God of this world; therefore, this is not your home, you are only passing through. When you don't forgive, you are literally giving the Kingdom of Darkness a green light to move within your life.

“Pastor Mark, I get it. What do I need to do?” We say a prayer now, and then make a list of

everyone you need to forgive and you pray for them every single day. You ask God to bless them and their households, you pray until you believe it and that there is nothing else negative remaining there... you pray, and you ask the Holy Spirit to remove everything and anything that's not of God operating within this scenario!

Repeat after me, “Dear Lord Jesus, I repent for ever being in unforgiveness. Today, I chose to forgive \_\_\_\_ (list their names), myself, and anyone and everyone who ever:

- Hurt me
- Talked about me
- Offended me
- Lied to Me
- Lied on me
- Cheated me
- Cheated on me
- Betrayed me
- Backstabbed me
- Disappointed me
- Rejected me
- Injured me
- Neglected me
- Or harmed me in any way

Lord, I chose to forgive them, and I pray blessings over them, their households, their families, bloodlines, and all future generations.

Lord, I ask that you not hold the sin that they committed against me, against them. Bless them Lord more than they could ever imagine! Lord, I ask again that you forgive me for ever being in unforgiveness. I cover this prayer in the blood of Jesus, in Jesus'

name I pray, Amen, Amen, and Amen.”

Before closing, there’s a couple things, I would like to leave with you. Know that today is the first day of the rest of your life and remember that God always allows U-turns. Do not run from past sins, own them; and when the Devil reminds you of them, say, “that’s what I used to do, but God saved me.” Then remind the adversary that he used to live in heaven with God but that he blew it and that there is nothing that he can do about it now... his goose is cooked!

The Bible says that not only are we here in the physical, but in Jesus, spiritually, we are seated in the heavenlies (refer to **Ephesians 2:6/Colossians 3:1**) and specifically to the right hand of the Father. So now, when you react to things, I want you to imagine how you would respond if you kept in mind that God was there to the left of you.

That means, the next time someone comes out their mouth the wrong way: the person at work who historically rubs you the

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*So now, when you react to things, I want you to imagine how you would respond if you kept in mind that God was there to the left of you.*

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wrong way, a family member who knows what buttons to push and pushes them, even baby-momma drama, don’t react like you used to. In fact, don’t respond right away, pray; turn to your left, if operating in heaven, or force your eyes upward, if dealing it from earth. But focus on God, not the stimuli in front of you... do like me: repeat aloud, or in your head, **Ephesians 6:12, Ephesians 6:12, Ephesians 6:12...** then, once you are cool, forgive them and pray blessings over their lives, Amen?

**Unforgiveness** is the poison that the enemy has you drinking while telling you that the other person is getting sick.

God bless you all!

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## Returning to the Nest *What I Learned from a Fledgling*

**SHAUNA WILLIAMS**

During a season of living back home, a robin made her nest 6-feet from my mother's front door. She nestled it securely between the bricks and water drain, something that brought inconvenience to both parties, but mostly her, as anytime the door opened, she would fly from the nest in fear. But despite this issue, Mama Robin managed to successfully lay and hatch her eggs. It wasn’t long before we were able to hear faint cheeps, and a little longer when we could see necks and heads. Then, just a little longer when the bodies of the 3 baby birds began to noticeably overcrowd the nest.

I can't say exactly when they became fledglings and made the first flight, or awkward fall, from the nest but it happened, as one day the nest was completely empty- nothing left but the bits of plastic bag, sticks and strings that they had called home. We looked for the fledglings in the yard often. Once, I thought I saw one, mama bird close behind, but when I looked again they were gone. While observing each step of this cycle of nature, I could hear the lesson of The Teacher, Holy Spirit: *"We all have to leave the nest eventually."*



The most significant lesson came a week or so after the fledglings left the nest. Arriving home and walking onto the porch, I noticed, just near the nest, the body of one of the fledglings. It had previously not been there. Again, The Teacher seemed to speak. I knew this was not a lesson or precaution on attempting to LEAVE the nest, but one of the attempt to RETURN. I 'heard' the warning of this sad picture: *"Don't return to comfort."* This was something I needed to see. Desiring the familiarity of old seasons and the comfort of the known, I had run home in fear of change and development. I was bruised from failure and thoughts of future failure. Returning home, to my nest, had been MY solution to the "problem" of growing.

The truth about promotion, and the "new" we so often desire, is that new seasons require a shift FROM the old, INTO the new. That shift will often challenge us in uncomfortable ways but it's all meant for our good. God desires to bring us to, and walk with us through, this shift. Eventually the nest phase is over. Permanently. It has to end for the new to

come. We aren't being beckoned back, but led FORWARD, from glory to glory, BY FAITH.

### Phillipians 3:13

*"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead"*

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