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**THE KEY TO MULTIPLYING YOUR TALENTS**

Greetings in the name of the Beloved Lamb of God- Christ Jesus!

As always, our prayer is that this letter finds you blessed in every area of your life and family!

Well, last month, I began sharing on my mission's trip to India by giving an overview of what transpired from beginning to end. And, as I stated last month, one newsletter was not sufficient to give the details of all that transpired. I have concluded that it is going to take 4 months☺. This includes the overview that I gave last month and one month for each of my three stops. So this month I wanted to give you the details of my first stop while in South India, which was Bangalore!

My flight arrived in Bangalore on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at around 4:30 am. My host, who has become a very dear friend of mine- Rev. Jayraj Nathan- met me at the airport (where I was working on only 2 hours sleep from my entire flight, mind you). Then we hit the ground running! I preached that Sunday morning at a friend of mine's church, Pastor Noble, and the Lord prompted me to minister on the subject of rejoicing and how our perspective will oftentimes dictate our joy. The people received the Word very well. We then had lunch in Pastor's Noble's home- where his wife had prepared a delicious Indian cuisine for us. I just love Indian food (non spicy, of course)!☺

Then plans changed for what was supposed to be an afternoon English service... Once word got out that I was coming, another local pastor- Pastor Kumar- invited us to have a healing service in the evening at his church. He then invited many people to come and receive the healing power of God. And, friends, that service was awesome! I preached on faith for healing from all kinds of angles, and during the message I made the statement- "And you don't have to settle for those headaches! You don't have to settle for those back pains!" It turned out that almost everyone responded to the altar call for healing and most of the ailments were those exact things that I called out! Praise God! And I have since received word that the same power that was manifest in that meeting has started a revival in that local church body as healings and deliverances are still occurring today, but now through Pastor Kumar's congregation. Friends, that is better news to me than any manifestation of the Spirit that occurred through me while I was there because there will be much more fruit produced through these believers who "got" what I was teaching them and are now practicing it themselves. This is the beauty of discipleship!

Then on Monday & Tuesday, Jayraj and I held our Pastor's Conference where we ended up having close to 100 pastors present. As I stated last month, the Lord led me to teach on the communion of the Holy Spirit during my 6 sessions and it was phenomenal! You could tell that these pastors- who had already been baptized in the Holy Spirit- were eating up this new revelation that we can actually walk with the Holy Spirit after we have received Him. They openly received the Word that He is not just a feeling or a goose bump, but that He is a Person whom we can have fellowship with.

This two day conference was so refreshing where on several occasions we danced around during praise & worship and enjoyed the liberty that the Holy Spirit brought into that place. We also experienced various gifts of the Holy Spirit and one, in particular, is worth noting...

Toward the end of one of my teachings, I moved over into giving a message in tongues and then when I was done, I did not wait very long to give the interpretation I sensed was present. Now here is an interesting experience... Jayraj was my interpreter for the message I was teaching. So when I gave the interpretation, **I had to pause in the middle of my interpretation to let my interpreter interpret my interpretation**☺! Did you follow me there? Instead of being able to freely let the interpretation come forth, I had to pause at certain points so Jayraj could interpret it for the pastor's sake who did not speak much English. Now what was so awesome about it was that Jayraj told me during dinner that evening that he actually got the same interpretation that I did! So probably what was supposed to happen was I was supposed to give the message in tongues and then Jayraj - being my interpreter any ways - was supposed to interpret that message in tongues just like he was already interpreting my other message in English. But, any ways, God got the message across!

All in all, the Pastor's Conference for these two days was so incredible! You could tell that they were eating it up! And then to cap it off, after my last message to them on Tuesday, by the unction of the Holy Spirit, I got down on my knees and begged them to share the truths they had learned about the Holy Spirit with their flocks. The Lord pleaded through me for them to feed their sheep what they had just learned! To this, they gave their word. Again, this is the principle of discipleship!

On a side note, I was able to spend a little time with a friend of mine who lives in Bangalore named Jeevan. He was extremely gracious to me, and I was so blessed by an offer that he made for me and my family to come stay at his home next time I came to Bangalore. He just built this home which has an upper room designated for prayer and a guest house where a whole family can stay in. Does that remind you of anything in the Bible☺? Thanks be to God who specializes in making a way in the wilderness! Hallelujah!

Then on Wednesday & Thursday, we held a School of Evangelism where I was specifically ministering to local missionaries/evangelists who go into local Indian villages and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Well, these two days were very special to me because I was not very confident in some of the subjects that I was assigned to minister by Jayraj. But I can attest that God certainly blessed these two days as well!

On Wednesday, I had three sessions where I was to teach on "the Word of God in the Ministry", "the Lordship in the Ministry", and "the Testimony in the Ministry." And I'll tell you, God manifested His strength in my weakness! Hallelujah! He gave me exactly what I was to share on in all three sessions early that morning and they all tied together perfectly- revolving around the importance of God's Word in our life and ministry! It was beautiful to see the Lord working all things together like that and definitely, without a shadow of a doubt, speaking to His beloved laborers.

Then after the classes on Wednesday, we had a time of ministry to where Jayraj and I spoke into each of these minister's lives and, as it was during the whole trip, the Lord hit the nail right on the head!

There were a couple of lady ministers there who had traveled 14 hours by bus to get to these

meetings, and the Lord led me to honor them in a couple of ways: one being that He led me to get down on the floor and place my hands on their feet and say, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace!" Then one of the ladies showed us how one of her feet was injured (to which I was unaware). So I asked her- "Shouldn't beautiful feet be perfect?" Then I prayed for her healing. God is so good! My friend, Trinity, told me afterwards that this was probably the most special moment in their life to have a man of God- much less a "white" man of God- get on the floor before them and physically touch their feet. God certainly knows how to honor, doesn't He?

Then on Thursday, which would end up being my last day in Bangalore, I was able to teach these evangelists two more times... So in the first session, I taught on the importance and benefit of praying in other tongues. I was specifically mindful of how they spent much time on the road traveling from village to village and how the Apostle Paul did the same. So I reminded them of how Paul said that he prayed in tongues more than them all (i.e. the Corinthian church) and then I asked them, "When do you suppose he did this?" While he was on the road traveling, of course! Then as I made that point as well as taught them that when we pray in other tongues it produces revelation knowledge in us, the Holy Spirit made a profound statement. He said, **"If you want to have more revelation knowledge than them all, then you need to pray in tongues more than them all!"** I could see the light bulbs going off! Then in the last class, we had the grand finale as we talked about the hope and reward that we have in the ministry for serving God faithfully. It was a powerful time of "preaching" and certainly full of fireworks!

So, in essence, my time in Bangalore was absolutely phenomenal! I could not have imagined a better start to my trip! In fact, the only way to completely describe this time would be to say that it simply felt like I was living out the Book of Acts. There was a consistent flow of the supernatural power of God as we went to and fro. Praise God for His indescribable gift and for the additional gifts that accompany us as we seek first the kingdom of God!

And this leads me into this month's teaching... I want to share with you what the Lord has been in the process of revealing to me even before I ever left to go to India.

In the past few months, I have experienced such an increase in my life of the gifts of the Spirit such as prophecy, word of knowledge, and word of wisdom as well as the other signs that are supposed to follow the believer.

Well, it was not just because I was overseas because I have ministered in places like India and Russia before. In fact, I had been seeing an increase in results even before I ever left to go to India. It also was not because I was praying more, was any more "holy" or anything else that I was doing different. So as I thought about it, I wondered: What was the difference? And the conclusion I came to was this: I have simply been practicing.

For several years now, I have been laying my hands on people and speaking healing over their bodies every chance I have gotten. I have not shun to pray for people and to speak words of encouragement and exhortation into their lives. I have even continued to practice even when I failed to see many results. Simply put, I have been boldly putting myself in a position to be used of God and not sitting

back and waiting for God to use me in these things. I have been acting on the Word for a few years now by praying for people every chance I got- not being timid and shy or waiting for God to “lead” me to do these things.

And this is a problem so many of God’s children have... **They are waiting on God when, in fact, God is waiting on them!** God has already told us to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation! God has already told us to lay hands on the sick and they will recover! God has already told us to do all of these things, yet the majority of the church is sitting on their hands waiting for a sign from God to begin doing these things. Well, here is your sign- God’s Word! God has already spoken because it is already written!

You see, God is a God of the green light, not the red light! What do I mean by that? I mean, He is not a God who wants us sitting at that proverbial red light, waiting on Him to turn the light green for us. No, He wants us moving on the green light already given to us in His Word while being open to the red lights that the Holy Spirit might give us in certain situations. This is a big difference in mentalities.

I mean, if Jesus healed *them all*, then that ought to tell us that God certainly is not going to be leading us to *not* pray for the majority of sick people that come across our path. No, it should actually be a rare thing that the Spirit *not* lead us to pray for someone who is sick and ailing! The Spirit and the Word agree! So if you are consistently being “led” to not pray for someone who is sick, then I question what you are being “led” by- because it is *not* God’s Spirit.

I hope that this does not sound like I am being mean or that I am angry. It is just big on my heart right now that we, as the church, are missing our “God moments.” We are passing by those that are lame like the man at the gate called beautiful, and are denying them their moment to receive God’s will for their life. And at the same time, we are denying God’s moment to be glorified! My brothers and sisters, **we need to get off our hands and start putting those hands on people!** And as I said, when you start acting by faith on the Word like this, you will see an increase in results as you are faithful to His Word! Do the Scriptures not say, “He who is faithful in little will be made ruler over much”? Do you want to be made ruler over more of the works of the devil? Then become faithful with the Great Commission to share the good news of the kingdom and to heal the sick by taking advantage of every opportunity that comes across your path! Don’t pass by on the other side of the road when you see the need right in front of you! This is the principle Jesus taught us in the Parable of the Good Samaritan where He made the point that loving our neighbor is loving the one who God brings across our path on a daily basis. And how can we express God’s love much more than getting them delivered from the yoke of Satan!?!

Now let’s look at another parable of Jesus that further teaches this principle I am attempting to share with you this month... In Matthew 25:14-30, we have the Parable of the Talents. In this parable, we see how the Lord entrusted to each of His servants a certain amount of talents. And I noticed this just today as I am writing this, but have you ever noticed that the two in this parable that were entrusted with multiple talents were the ones who ended up multiplying their talents? Yes, it was the one who was entrusted with one talent that never multiplied his, but rather buried it in fear of his master.

Now do you suppose that the Master might have had a little intuition as to who would be the good stewards of what they were entrusted with and who would not? I guarantee you that He did. He saw their hearts. He knew who was wise and who was foolish. He knew who was most likely to produce more with what they had. So he gave to each according to their own ability (see Matthew 25:15). What does this mean- "according to their own ability"? It means that the master saw and understood what they were all three capable of. So he distributed to each one very intentionally and specifically. This means that when God sees your faithfulness and He counts you worthy to be a carrier of the keys of the kingdom, He will entrust you with more. You see, God is not stupid. He is the wisest investor in history! And when He finds someone whom He knows will be a good steward of His gospel and His power, He will show Himself strong through them. He counted Paul worthy! He took this man who was giving 110% for the work of Satan and said, "I can use this man! All He needs is a little change in perspective and philosophy and that 110% he is giving to Satan, He will give it to Me."

Now understand me... I am not talking about our salvation and God's love for us. That is the same towards us all and has zero to do with our works. What I am referring to is our hearts and how we are used by Him. We must be faithful with our gifts and then we will begin to see an increase in those gifts.

But as I have personally experienced myself and witnessed in others, the main reason that we do not feel confident to step out in faith and let God flow through us is because we fear missing God. In other words, the primary reason we do not go out on a limb is because we are scared that it might not be God's will, plan, or timing. In other words, we want to be sure it is God's. But this is not how it works! You have to step out in faith first and then you will come to that place of seeing and understanding. But what so many Christians want is they want to know, see, and understand everything before they step out. Just as it is in the natural, **in the kingdom of God, you are going to have to go out on a limb in order to get the best fruit!**

But why do we fear missing God like this? It is partly because we fear failure. We are scared of falling flat on our face. But thank God Peter did not think like this. He stepped out of the boat, not fearing that He might sink. And that is the mentality that we need to adopt- not being afraid of falling flat on our face! Sure, we might fail. Sure, we might miss it sometimes if we live our lives like this. But what do you suppose God would rather you miss it in? Do you think He would rather you miss it in *not* praying for people or do you think He would rather you miss it *in* praying for people? I guarantee you He would rather you try to walk and fall down than never attempting to walk at all. This is simply a fact of life for any young child... They fall down several times before they truly learn to walk. Do we frown upon them when they fall? No, we understand that in order for them to learn to walk, they might fall a few times. Likewise, in order for us to learn to walk with God and walk in the miraculous, we might have to fall on our face a few times! And that is ok, because this is how we learn to soar!

You know, it has been said that the way a mother eagle teaches her young to fly is by pushing her chicks out of the nest. And it is during their fall that they learn to fly. Now this is frightening thing, but what does it require? Faith! It requires faith on behalf of their mother to push them out of their comfort zone and risk them never learning to fly during their quick plummet to the earth. But we need to understand that God is a God of faith too, and He believes in us! He believes that we can mount up with wings as the eagle and learn to soar with Him!

Now the awesome thing about our God is that He does not want to push us out of our nests. He lets us choose to make that leap ourselves, just as He did not push Peter out of the boat, but let him make that leap of faith of his own initiative. God, likewise, will wait for us to jump out of that comfort zone- our proverbial “nest”- and learn to operate in the gifts and talents that He has given us stewardship over.

But there is another reason why so many of God’s children fear stepping out in faith to pray for someone or speak into their life... It is because not only do they fear failure, but because they fear God!

Do you remember in the Parable of the Talents *why* the one who only had been entrusted with one talent buried his talent? It was because he “feared” his master (see verse 25). In other words, he had an incorrect view of him. In verse 24, he said that he “knew he was a hard man, reaping where he had not sown, and gathering where he had not scattered seed.” Friends, this is exactly why so many fail to grow in the operation of the gifts of the Spirit and in the gifts pertaining to their calling. It is because they have an incorrect view of God. They think He will be “hard” on them if they fail or do something wrong. This incorrect view of God keeps His children from growing. But, again, is this the way God truly is? Is He hard on us, and going to come down on us if we make a poor investment with the talents He has entrusted us with? No, God is not sitting up in heaven with a scowl on his face waiting for us to mess up so that He can pour out his wrath and fury on us! No! Just like with any of us who know how to give good gifts to our children, our Heavenly Father is blessed with our good intentions! He is pleased when we, as His children, make the effort to multiply the gifts He has given to us! What actually displeases Him is when we do not try- making the effort to walk in the gifts He has given to us. That is what God does not want to see.

So I encourage you, begin to put into practice this truth by practicing praying for people and laying your hands on the sick. For as you are faithful in your stewardship of the gifts He has put on the inside of you, you *will* be made ruler over much! It is simply a principle of the kingdom that as you are faithful to put yourself in position for God to flow through you that He will multiply those talents! Amen!

Next month, we will continue with more testimonies from my trip to India by looking at what occurred during my visit to Madurai, which was my second stop, and the Lord has put on my heart to share with you a message that He gave me on the spot during one of my meetings there. It all flows together perfectly and I believe will be a great encouragement to you. Until next month, be very blessed!

Victoriously,

