

*Seven Secrets  
of  
Successful Living*

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*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

One Year Later...	5
Pressure	9
Presence	13
Prayer	15
Praise	19
Peace	23
Power	25
Provision	29
Procedure	31
The Final Secret	33

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

## ***One Year Later...***

**N**early a year ago, I was attending a conference in Los Angeles. A number of famous preachers were there, ministering the truths of the Word of God with great power. However, I believe I received as much or more benefit from a message the Lord gave me in secret prayer than I received at any of the special seminars. There as I lay upon the bed, 20 stories above downtown Los Angeles, the Holy Spirit gave me a message. Through these pages, it reaches you. I believe it will revolutionize your life.

Would you like that?

Would you like to change things?

This publication was written with you in mind.

You see, God gave me this message to share with you, not to keep for myself, alone. In January of 1986 the Lord Jesus gave me seven words to share with you. I like to think of them as *secrets*. Let's consider them, *Seven Secrets of Successful Living*.

These principles from God's Word will have a profoundly beautiful effect upon your life. Through them, you can change things.

## *Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

When the Lord shared these vital truths with me, I knew He desired me to share them with others. I believe I have ministered on them about half a dozen times in the last 12 months. As far as I can tell, each time I have revealed them, under the unction of the Holy Spirit, mighty things have taken place.

### **Outpouring Overseas**

I remember preaching on them in Darlington, England in June. After the message, a young man approached me in the prayer line. He requested prayer about a hernia he had been suffering with for some time. I prayed a short prayer and he fell, “under the Power.” Later, after he came to himself, I asked him:

“How’s the hernia?”

“What hernia?!” he replied with the glow of God’s Spirit upon his face!

So, you see, the Lord has a way of confirming the Word with signs following (Mk. 16:20).

### **Hometown Highlights**

Again, I remember preparing to preach about the *Seven Secrets of Successful Living* in a certain church in Ohio. As I prayed in my study before leaving for the service (I was a guest speaker there that morning), suddenly, I saw into the future. In the vision, I was in the prayer line ministering when I called a certain young woman to the front. I had never seen her before. In a moment she fell, “under the Power.” I sensed she received something wonderful from the Lord. I think it was about at the close of the altar service, later that morning, that I “recognized” a young lady I had never seen before, about half way back in the crowd. I called her to the front and asked her if she believed God could reveal her person to a preacher she had never met, in secret prayer. She affirmed that it was possible. I then asked her if she was believing God for anything in particular. Before she could

*One Year Later...*

answer fully, she began to quiver and shake under the Power of God (she was about eight feet from me). Suddenly, she fell, “under the Power.” About 20 minutes later, as I was leaving the meeting, she approached me and informed me she was only in town for a brief visit, had not planned to visit that church until the last minute, and would be leaving in a few days for her home in Hawaii.

In addition, she related how she was involved in a prison ministry from a Spirit-filled Episcopal church there. Before she left, I had received an invitation to share the Word of God in Hawaii at a future date.

Isn't God marvelous?

And so, today, nearly a year after receiving these wonderful truths from God's Word, ministered to me by the Holy Spirit, I commit them to print in the sincere desire that they will bless you as they have blessed others. May the Holy Spirit open the eyes of our understanding to the great provisions He has arranged for us, His dear children. It is my sincere desire to be a blessing to you in the following pages by sharing with you these *Seven Secrets of Successful Living*.

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

## ***Pressure***

***“In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (Jn. 16:33).***

I would like to tell you there will be no more struggles in your Christian life; it would be thrilling to announce an end of all tribulation, persecution, temptation and trouble in your experience. However, as a man of God, I cannot do that. The Savior, Himself, not only declared the certainty of difficulty in our life in union with Him, but He, too, experienced all of the contrary winds of life.

*“Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered” (Hb. 5:8).*

If the Son of God had to “learn what He knew” in experience, we will have to do likewise. For example, it is one thing for us to “know” we must forgive our enemies; it is quite another to have the Word “become flesh” in our lives by our practicing the principle daily.

This brings us to our first “secret”: *pressure*.

Let’s face it; as believers, we all face pressure. The Word of God informs us we shall face it from the world, the flesh and the Devil.

## *Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

In order to change things, we must come to grips with the reality of the tribulations confronting us on a daily basis. Only as we face them—each and every one of them—with a sure knowledge of God’s Word, can we effectively live lives which both glorify God and bring fulfillment to ourselves and others.

The first word the Holy Spirit gave me in January of 1986, the first *secret* of successful living, is *pressure*: facing it, and dealing with it in the Power of God.

Admittedly, our pressures differ from individual to individual. As I sat in my hotel room, 20 floors above downtown Los Angeles, I realized that what would cause difficulty to the hotel manager in the lobby below would be altogether different in quality from the trials facing the cab driver outside. The result, however, was the same: *pressure*.

Similarly with us, what may be a great trial for you may seem unimportant to me, and vice versa. The point is to recognize this fact of pressure, and deal with it accordingly. The Word of God gives us the ability to face and conquer pressure of any kind.

### **The World**

*“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world” (I Jn. 2:15).*

The first direction from which we face pressure is the world. By the word, *world*, we refer to the evil world system presided over by the Devil (I Jn. 5:19).

How well I remember returning to our hotel from lunch near Hollywood. We requested that we might tour the main streets on the way back.

How the spirit of the “world” screamed at us to turn back from our new life in Christ to one of earthly power, sensuality and greed. How pitiful to see the street corners full of those trapped

## *Pressure*

by the sinister influence of the, “prince of the power of the air.” The “call of the world,” is an ever-present source of nagging pressure attempting to exert its baneful intoxication upon us.

### **The Flesh**

*“This I say then, walk in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh” (Gal. 5:16).*

Not only does the world provide a real arena of temptation to us to turn back to its glitter, glamour and gold, but even our own human nature cries out for sinful fulfillment of illegitimate desires.

Although Christians do not possess a “sin nature,” we do retain our human nature, even after the New Birth. The text just quoted does *not* say we will not *have* the desire of the flesh as we walk in the Spirit, only that we will not *fulfill* it. There is a world of difference. Before conversion we had a human nature motivated by the unholy spirit (Eph. 2:1ff.); and after conversion we possess a human nature motivated by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:4). In both cases, we still retain our human nature, with all of its intricate and manifold potentialities for either holy or sinful self-expression. Which shall it be? Only we can decide.

*“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof” (Rom. 6:12).*

### **The Devil**

*“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the Devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking someone whom he may devour” (I Pet. 5:8).*

As if the world and the flesh were not enough to cause us pressure, we also have a malevolent spiritual foe in the Devil with whom to contend. He is every bit as cunning today as he was in his first assault upon Adam and Eve nearly 6,000 years ago. If

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

anything, he is more determined than ever to keep the unsaved from finding salvation through Jesus Christ, and Christians from living in victory. The same evil spirit who dogged the Master's steps will, likewise, follow us.

It remains for us to resist him, steadfast in the faith (I Pet. 5:9). We must put on the whole armor of God, and having overcome all, to stand (Eph. 6:10-18).

Pressure.

We all face it, in varying degrees of intensity. We must face it, accept it as a part of our lives as disciples, and deal with it in the Power of God. Only in this way can we truly be successful.

## ***Presence***

“**L**o, I am with you always, even unto the end of the *world*” (Mt. 28:20).

Having discovered the first secret of successful living—facing and accepting pressure as inevitable in our Christian lives—we must move to our next word:

### **Presence**

The text quoted above illustrates the second vital truth the Holy Spirit is revealing to us in our study. In spite of the pressure of the world, the flesh and the Devil, we are assured of Christ’s Presence *with us* in the very midst of any and every temptation, trial, tribulation or persecution which we may endure for His Name.

The story goes that a preacher was in a state of panic aboard a 747 jet, 35,000 feet in the air. A well-meaning believer attempted to reassure the dear brother with the Lord’s promise quoted above.

“Don’t you know the Lord promised us, ‘Lo, I am with you always, even to the end’?”

“That’s just it,” the preacher replied. “I’m not low, I’m high, and this *is* the end!”

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

Praise God, we don't have to worry about God abandoning us in the midst of the trials of life. He is blessedly with us. The Word of God assures us of God's Presence toward us in a number of directions:

He is *for* us (Rom. 8:31).

He is *with* us (Mt. 28:20).

He is *in* us (Col. 1:27).

He is *upon* us (Acts 1:8).

Our God is before us and behind us and "in Him we live, and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28)!

It is not the pressure which really wrecks our Christian experience; it is the lie of the Devil that we must deal with it *alone*, unaided. Praise God, it is not 'our' trouble; it is *our* trouble! When the enemy comes in like the flood, the Spirit of Yahweh will put him to flight (Isa. 59:19, Hb., margin)!

Are *you* aware of this mighty God in the midst of *you*? Somehow, troubles don't loom so large, temptations don't seem so intense, persecutions don't fall so heavily, if we can experience His Presence. The Divine Indwelling makes all the difference (see my book, *Light for Living*).

I remember how my Son used to be afraid of the dark at times. It always amazed me that his fears were relieved if I laid in his bed *with* him in the dark room. Was the problem really the darkness? Resolve to take stock, not only of the pressures of life, but also of the Lord's Presence *with* you right there in the thick of it. Whatever you are not in the situation: *HE IS!*

His Name is "I AM." You fill in what it is you need in every crisis. He will be that. You will never be defeated; rather, you will triumph in tribulation.

## ***Prayer***

**“*P*ray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17).**

The realization of the Lord’s Presence ushers us quite naturally into the third secret of successful living:

### **Prayer**

The knowledge of God’s indwelling Presence gives us the confidence to approach Him for needed help in prayer. We have that access. It was made possible through the Blood of Jesus Christ, shed on our behalf nearly 2,000 years ago (see my books, ***Plead the Blood!***; and ***What Price, Freedom?***).

*“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus” (Heb. 10:19).*

Not only do we have access into His Presence, but, through the Holy Spirit, God has “access” into ours.

*“For through him we both have access by one spirit unto the father” (Eph. 2:18).*

The glorious Presence of God is not only in Heaven; it is *in us!*

The Father dwells in us (Eph. 4:6).

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

The Son dwells in us (Col. 1:27).

The Spirit dwells in us (I Cor. 3:16).

The Triune Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is Personally present *in us!*

Who wouldn't want to pray?!

The 'sin question' has been answered for us by the Blood of Jesus Christ, and we stand before God, justified—not guilty—of wrong-doing (Rom. 5:1; 8:1).

Beloved, let us take our place in prayer!

The Way has been made (Heb. 10:20); the invitation has been extended (Heb. 4:16).

What are we waiting for?

*“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not” (Jer. 33:3).*

We are all too aware of our needs; we need a revelation of that which we don't know: God's Divine supply!

He is blessedly able to do exceeding abundantly above that which we ask or think; but this is according to the power of God which is working in us through prayer (Eph. 3:20).

The Holy Spirit of Christ within us will pray the perfect prayer through us, if we let Him (Rom. 8:26-28). This will cause everything—even pressure—to work together into good (see my book, *Prayer in the Spirit: the Missing Link [Diploma in Ministry]*).

Let's unleash prayer's mighty power to bring the Divine supply to our human needs.

## *Prayer*

This was the practice of the Early Church.

Prayer brought the infilling of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:14; 8:15).

Prayer brought needed boldness to speak the Word (Acts 4:24-31).

Prayer brought required guidance to God's men (Acts 10:9-10; 22:17-18).

Prayer saved them from premature death (Acts 12:5-7).

Prayer brought deliverance from imprisonment, that the work of God might continue (Acts 16:25-26).

Prayer brought "great grace" resulting in a proliferation of signs, wonders and miracles, testifying to the truth of the Gospel, and meeting the needs of humanity (Acts 4:29-30, 33; 5:12-16).

Does it sound to you like the pressures of the world, the flesh and the Devil stopped the ministry of the Early Church?

A thousand times, *no!*

They faced their difficulties with the knowledge of God's Presence and by calling upon Him in prayer. This procedure changed things!

Let's follow their example.

Let's come boldly to the Throne of Grace.

Let's allow God to deal with our problems *for* us, and "trouble, trouble," instead of allowing trouble to, "trouble us."

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

## ***Praise***

“**T**hat we should be to the praise of his glory” (Eph. 1:12).

How do we voice these prayers prayed in God’s Presence in the midst of the pressure surrounding us? We pray in a spirit of:

### **Praise**

It is the “attitude of gratitude” which makes our prayer lives so successful. As a matter of fact, praise is the next, secret of successful living.

Why is praise so intimately connected with our victory over the pressures of life? Because praise, as someone has written, is the “language of faith;” and “faith is the victory!”

“*Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, **before ye ask him***” (Mt. 6:8).

Praise God!

What an incentive to prayer! Our God knows all about our needs before we even voice our petitions! If we, being human and finite creatures, plan ahead for, and bless our children with, all that they need and desire according to our means, *how much more* shall our Heavenly Father—the Great Creator of the universe—plan ahead and provide for all our needs, wants and highest

aspirations!

Remember, one of the Lord's Names is, "Yahweh-yireh," the God Who sees ahead and provides (see my book, *The Presence of God*).

The same God Who provided a Garden of Eden ("delights," Hb.) for Adam and Eve, Who provided the Promised Land for the Children of Israel—before they ever left Egypt—this same Yahweh ("I AM") has provided for us.

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Eph. 1:3).*

Praise God!

All we need now, or ever will need in the future, is already provided for us in the redemption which is ours in Christ Jesus. In the face of all the world, the flesh and the Devil can mount against us, we must recognize the Presence of the Master with us and in us, and call upon His grace in prayer *with praise*, knowing that the supply to the need is already in our "spiritual bank account," to be withdrawn by prayer and faith.

It was prayer, followed by *praise* that resulted in Paul and Silas being delivered from prison (Acts 16:25-26).

We are reminded by Paul to let our requests be made known *with thanksgiving* (Phil. 4:6; Col. 4:2).

In the Letter to the Hebrews, we are told:

*"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks unto his Name" (Heb. 13:15).*

According to Paul's revelation of the Plan of God in Eph.

## *Praise*

1:12, we are to, “exist to the praise of His glory.”

Praising God in word and deed is our reason for being as kings and priests unto Him.

This praise and thanksgiving to God is quite spontaneous and natural when we realize—spiritually—that all of the trials, temptations, tribulations and persecutions of life are more than conquered through Him Who loved us enough to send His Son to die for us, and then to live in us in the Person of the Holy Spirit.

We can have the experience Isaiah prophesied:

*“And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I shall answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear” (Isa. 65:24).*

There is nothing in the whole wide world that we can do to change things in our lives. Only God is wise enough and powerful enough to meet the pressures we face daily. Let’s let Him!

Let’s meet pressure in His *presence*, call upon Him in Holy Ghost-*prayer*, and tarry in our prayer closet until we, ‘pray through’ and the assurance is dropped into our hearts that the Divine supply is on the way to our need, until the *praise* of God is welling up from within for Who He is and what He has done on our behalf!

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

## ***Peace***

**“*T*hese things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace” (Jn. 16:33).**

The fifth secret of successful living is:

### **Peace**

It is one thing to have peace *with* God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, but quite another to enjoy the peace *of* God ruling and reigning in our hearts in the everyday experience of living. Is this miracle possible?

Absolutely *yes*!

We can have the blessed tranquility and serenity we admire so much in the lifestyle of the Lord Jesus in our own lives continually, even in the midst of the contrary circumstances of life in a fallen, sin-dominated, Satan-ruled world system.

This blessing of soul-peace is part and parcel of a life sustained by grace.

It is the natural outcome of all we have said thus far. Listen to the words of Paul, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit:

*“Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in everything by prayer*

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

*and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:6-7).*

This peace is un-earthly. It is other-worldly. It is entirely supernatural, a miracle which demonstrates the working of the grace of God in a human heart.

Do *you* desire that?

Does *your* heart crave this blessed experience of a Heaven-sent peace which drives away the anxieties of life?

Would *you* enjoy tranquility in tribulation?

Do *you* want serenity amidst circumstances?

Can *you* open your heart to receive such a blessing?

Just cease from your own works—your plans and thoughts and strivings with pressure—and enter into God’s marvelous *rest* (Heb. 4:9).

As the faith of God is dropped into your heart as you are in secret prayer, as the Holy Spirit prays the Will of God through you for your situation (Rom. 8:26-27), as the ‘high praises’ of God well up in your soul as you anticipate God, ‘coming on the scene,’ you will finally be engulfed in a peace which the world cannot offer nor take away. This peace is not in ourselves; it is *in Him* (Jn. 16:33).

## ***Power***

“***B***ut ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you” (Acts 1:8).

Perhaps you can imagine by now the result of this type of relationship and fellowship with the Holy Trinity. The Early Church was born in a wave of apostolic power that shook the then-known world. The disciples witnessed with such power to the death and resurrection of Christ that thousands were added to the Church in a single service. Not only that, but great manifestations of power were wrought in the Name of Jesus and by His Spirit.

How was this possible?

How did this Move of God begin, continue, and escalate *in the midst of pressure* from an unbelieving world of religious and irreligious sinners?

The power of the Holy Spirit had come *upon* God’s people. They lived in a conscious awareness of His Divine *presence* in *prayer* and *praise*. This resulted in a *peace* of heart, mind and personality which testified to a world in darkness that the Light of Life—the Lord Jesus Christ—was literally living within, and shining without, for all the world to see.

Men saw the countenances of Christians appearing as angels

(Acts 6:15).

Many times, the believers were used by God to answer their own prayers.

*“And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus” (Acts 4:29-30).*

What was God’s response to this prayer?

*“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken were they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:31).*

One chapter later, we read this report:

*“And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people” (Acts 5:12).*

The Lord, “stretched forth His Hand,” by the believers “stretching forth theirs.”

Why?

Because, through the Holy Spirit, God Almighty, was now walking and talking on the inside of His people (II Cor. 6:16).

Did they receive the requested boldness?

*“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all” (Acts 4:33).*

Great power, and great grace, were given in response to the disciples facing the *pressure* of the moment in the *presence* of

## *Power*

God, taking their place in *prayer* and *praise*, resulting in the peace and assurance of God, Himself, as He released His *power* to bring the supply to the need.

As my good friend, Dr. Brian Graham, remarked during a message recently, we Christians have been given both the right and the might to represent Him. That is, we have both the legal authority to dislodge the Devil from our lives and the lives of others (Lk. 10:19, Gk.), as well as the spiritual energy (power) to enforce that authority in Christ's stead (Acts 1:8, see my book, *Seven Keys of Successful Ministry [Diploma in the Deaconate]*).

How well I remember ministering in the light of some of these truths during the Summer of 1983 (before God had formally 'spoken' them to me) while in the North of Australia conducting a crusade.

At the close of a two-week series of healing meetings, I was asked to pray for a young man I had prayed for in nearly every service. As a matter of fact, I had already prayed for him this particular morning. He was confined to a wheelchair and had not received his healing. I was confused as the pastor requested that I pray for him again. Just as I was going to decline, I noticed Steve was slumped back in the chair, his lifeless head resting against the pastor's wife as she stood behind him with a member of the choir (both were nurses). As I approached them, I noticed his face was grey and his eyes were set. As the band played and the congregation sang (unaware of what was happening in the front of the auditorium), the pastor's wife said through a strained smile:

"There's no heartbeat, breathing, pulse or diaphragm movement."

Terrified, I asked, "Should we call an ambulance?"

"Has anything like this ever happened to him before?"

She nodded, “No,” and continued to pray in the Spirit along with the other sister. Presently, I joined them in intercession in other tongues.

Talk about pressure!

But praise God for His *presence*—for the Christ-life in our lives—which we then responded to in *prayer*. Soon, a sense of *praise* and *peace* settled in my soul. Suddenly, these words, “floated up from within my spirit”:

*“Let there be life.*

*“Let there be a manifestation of abundant life for spirit, soul and body.”*

As I voiced them, he coughed and then laughed. What rejoicing commenced then!

Later, after the service, I asked Mrs. Jack, “what... happened... was he really... *dead*?”

She smiled and said, “As a nurse, I’ve seen death plenty of times; if he wasn’t dead, it was the best imitation I’ve ever seen!”

This Bible secret of Divine *power* makes possible the impossible: even the raising of the dead! A better translation of Acts 1:8 is, “But ye shall receive the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon you.” That is, the Holy Spirit, Himself, *is* the Power! We certainly don’t “use Him;” He uses us.

This experience of power makes possible the manifestation of the nine gifts of the Spirit in our lives (see my lesson, ***The Miracle of Ministry [Diploma in Discipleship]***).

Through the Holy Spirit’s ministry within us and through us, we can be used of God to literally, ‘answer our own prayers,’ and change things for God’s glory and humanity’s good.

## ***Provision***

“**B**ut my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:19).

Here is the final secret of successful living:

### **Provision**

We have, by God’s grace, come full-circle, from the pressure of tribulation to the abundant supply of God’s storehouse of grace and glory.

How marvelous that our God can triumph over all *through us*. He can lead us every step of the way: from vexation to victory, from struggling to serenity, from pressure to provision!

Every problem can be solved; every question can be answered; every mountain can be moved!

Our God is *able*!

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

## ***Procedure***

“**B**ut be ye doers of the Word” (Ja. 1:22).

As we close our study, let me encourage you to put these secrets into practice in your life, to the glory of God. Begin using them to transform stumbling-blocks into stepping-stones. Your best days as a child of God are just ahead. Every indication points to the same joy and victory for you as has been the portion of many others who have received and believed these *Seven Secrets of Successful Living*.

Begin today to enjoy a whole new dimension of life, living in the companionship of the Son of God.

As these truths penetrate your spirit and revitalize your life, as you move from victim to victor, write and let me know. I'll be looking for your letter in the mail.

May God's richest and best be yours.

*Seven Secrets of Successful Living*

## ***The Final Secret***

“**K**now more definitely and accurately and thoroughly, that *mystic secret of God [which is] Christ, the anointed one*” (Col. 2:2, Amplified).

### **When You Need Salvation**

As we come to the close of our study , I want to provide you with the opportunity of becoming *personally* acquainted with the Lord Jesus Christ. A personal relationship with God can only be initiated through a living, *individual* act of faith, apart from any “good works” or religious observances we may feel appropriate or necessary. It is faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and faith *alone* which will secure our eternal salvation. If you have never experienced the miracle of the new birth, or if you are uncertain of your personal salvation, please pray the following prayer *aloud* and *from your heart*.

*"Dear God, I confess that I have sinned. But I believe that you sent Jesus to the Earth. I believe that He lived a sinless life. I believe that He died in my place; I believe He shed His Blood to forgive my sin; and I believe that He was buried and raised from the dead in order that I may have Eternal Life. Lord Jesus, I surrender my heart and my will to you. Come into my heart; come into my life; and make me the kind of person you want me to be. By your grace, I'll live for you, all the days of my life. Thank you, Jesus,*

*for coming into my heart. Thank you, Jesus, for saving my soul."*

If you were sincere as you prayed the preceding prayer, you are now a child of God! Tell someone *publicly* of your decision!

### **When You Need a Miracle**

As we have seen, the atoning work of Jesus Christ upon the cross purchased a *full* salvation, redeeming us: spirit, soul *and* body. All of the blessings of the atonement come *from* the Blood of Christ but are received by us *through* faith. This faith comes by *hearing* (spiritually) and this spiritual hearing is given to us through a *spoken word from God* (Rom. 10:17, Gk., see my books, *Faith's Formula* and *Creative Faith*). When once this faith has been received into our hearts, we must then *act* on the word or *believe* by means of corresponding actions.

Over the past 30 years of ministry, the Lord has used me as an instrument of His healing and delivering power in a number of different ways including the "laying on of hands," anointing with oil, etc.. We have also had excellent results through the use of "prayer cloths" sent to the sick and afflicted (feel free to write and request one). Just recently, a young woman requested one for her little niece who had fallen from a porch deck, suffering severe injuries to her head and brain. Physicians offered little hope for recovery. After taking the cloth to the little girl and praying for her, she came out of the coma, is awake and aware and currently undergoing physical therapy. She is expected to make a complete recovery.

The information which follows details yet another way God has instructed me to be of assistance to seeking, suffering humanity. I trust you will take a few moments to read carefully the next few pages. Because of the Blood of Jesus shed on your behalf, you may be just *minutes from your miracle!*

## **Divine Impartation**

I have included the following information in this book as well as on our ministry website, at the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Sometime ago, the Holy Spirit informed me that I was about to enter a new phase of ministry. I have been praying diligently that this transition will be smooth and successful. I believe part of it has to do with a renewed emphasis upon the supernatural.

As I have written in other volumes, during my 30 years of ministry I have seen about every conceivable kind of miracle, from opening of blind eyes, to creative ones like making barren wombs fertile and even raising the dead.

Miracles began to take place in my ministry from the beginning (September, 1974), but they increased in frequency and depth after an encounter I had in the summer of 1982. My family and I had spent six weeks in Australia in the spring of that year in an attempt to gain sponsorship from some full-gospel organization there so that we might return to the nation as full-time missionaries. I ministered about 20 times in six weeks in various churches of various denominations. While I was attending a chapel service at L.I.F.E. Bible college in Strathfield, a suburb of Sydney, the Spirit of the Lord impressed me that when I returned to the States, I must see a particular man of God in person before returning to Australia in September.

To make a long story short, this man of God (one of the key ministers in the *Voice of Healing* Revival of the 50's) came to Cincinnati for a week of meetings just prior to our leaving for Australia. I was able to arrange a private conference with the gentleman (after having told him on the phone of my encounter in Australia). While he was cordial and willing to answer my questions, give general advice, etc., it seemed nothing special was taking place during that week of his meetings which I attended. I was a little discouraged when the time for the last meeting—a morning teaching seminar—arrived. After teaching on the subject

of faith, he said, “I’m not going to pray for people today. Instead, I’m going to stand here and anyone with a need, just come up and shake hands with me in faith for your miracle.” As I anticipated going up to the front of the auditorium, I assumed he would stop and pray for me, speak a prophetic word over me, etc. However as I filed past him, *nothing happened!*

I returned to my seat, having shaken hands with him, feeling very dejected, knowing he would be leaving the city that afternoon and I would be leaving the country in a few weeks. I couldn’t understand how or where I’d “missed it.”

### **A Question of Faith**

Just then the Holy Spirit spoke clearly to my heart, “*Did you do what I instructed you?*” I knew I did. “*Did you release your faith when you shook hands with the man of God?*” I knew I did. “*Do you believe you received?*” I sat for a moment and realized I did. Suddenly, my right palm began to tingle and burn. I asked the man of God what it meant as I left the building. He calmly replied, “Ask God.” I did and He gave me the verses in Mt. 16:17-19 about the *Keys of the Kingdom* and the power to “bind and loose.” My hand tingled and burned for nearly 24 hours.

### **Divine Confirmation**

Upon my arrival in Australia, miracles became startling and commonplace. I ministered in 55 churches, three Bible colleges and several auditoriums during that first 14 months (I’ve made three additional short trips there since). We were eyewitnesses to healings of: blindness, deafness, cancer, short limbs being lengthened, crippled limbs being made straight, arthritis, diabetes, heart conditions and deliverances from all manner of addictions.

Five months after I arrived in the country I received a long-distance phone call from some colleagues in the ministry to the effect that this mighty man of God had gone to Heaven. Only God could have known and thus orchestrated our meeting in order to

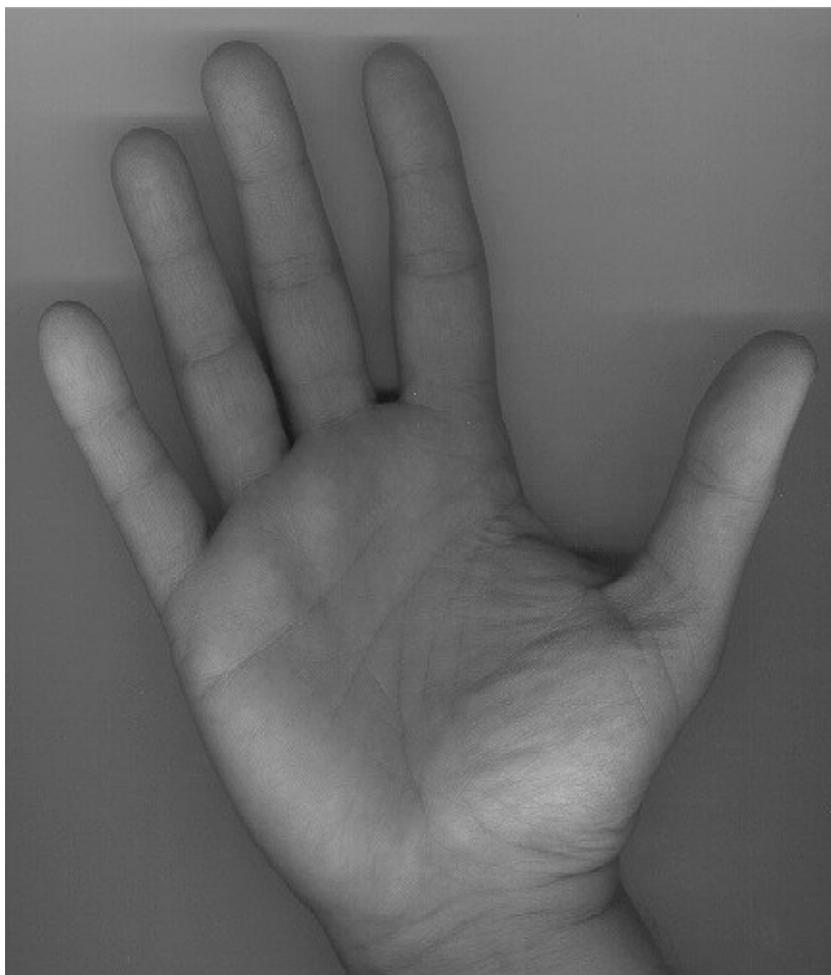
effect a *Divine Impartation*.

### **Your Point of Contact**

As I have prayed about my authority to *bind and loose*, the Holy Spirit impressed me to scan an image of my right hand and place it on our website as a point of contact for anyone requiring a *miracle*. I am including that image in this publication in the hope of providing the supernatural relief and release you desire to receive from God.

If you believe the natural can become *supernatural* when God gets involved, you, too, can receive your miracle. Moses' rod could become a serpent, opened the Red Sea and brought water from a rock. Elisha's mantle opened the Jordan River. His dead bones resurrected a dead army commander. Peter's shadow, Paul's handkerchiefs and Jesus' clothing were *natural* things that became *supernatural* conduits of Divine Power when God got involved. I urge you to release your faith to God as you place your hand on the photograph of mine on the following page and expect a *miracle*! As the Spirit of the Lord meets your need *by means of a miracle*, be sure to write and testify. Let's pray:

*“Father, we come to you in Jesus' Name. Thank you for the keys of the Kingdom, that whatsoever I bind on the earth shall have been bound in Heaven, whatsoever I loose on the earth shall have been loosed in Heaven. Thank you for the commission to use these keys to set people free. I join my faith with this precious one reading this book. I loose them from sickness, disease, pain, infirmity and bondages of any and all kinds. Let them be released from anything and everything that is not of God. May their symptoms be removed from their person as far as the east is from the west. Send Your Word and deliver them from all affliction. Bring them into the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel.”*



That's it, my friend! Now begin to rejoice & praise God!

*“By the **hands** of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people...” (Acts 5:12)*

*“And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven” (Matthew 16:19).*

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The Man Who Wasn't There

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR...

**D**r. Joseph Kostelnik is founder and president of Gospel Truth Ministries, an apostolic ministry with a three-fold vision: a local church (**White Oak Chapel**), training up and sending out of ministers of the Word (**The Prophetic Voice Institute**), and short-term mission trips to foreign fields as God leads.

He holds a B.A. from Point Park University, an M.Div. from Asbury Theological Seminary, a Th.D. and Ph.D. from International Seminary, an honorary D.D. from Kingsway Christian College & Theological Seminary and an honorary Litt.D. from International Seminary.

He has served as: pastor, assistant pastor, evangelist, Bible teacher, missionary, author, educator, and media minister. He has ministered in the United States as well as overseas, including: England, Scotland, Australia, France, Greece, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Crete, Haiti and New Zealand and his ministry is marked by the miraculous.

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