

# **Your Awesome Wonders as His Glory Shines through You**

## **Key Promise: Psa 66:5**

Come and see what (wonders) our God has done, what awesome miracles he performs for people! *NLT*

**How you can experience His Wonders and Awesome miracles as you let His glory shine through you.**

How you can experience more wonders and awesome miracles in your life, relationships and business as you let His glory shine through you. Turn from 'self' to 'others' and allow our lives to be used as channels of His Grace and Glory.

Matt 5:13-16

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

<sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. *NKJV*

## **I. REACH OUT TO ‘’**

Jas 4:1-3

<sup>1</sup>Where do you think all these appalling wars and quarrels come from? Do you think they just happen? Think again. They come about because you want your own way, and fight for it deep inside yourselves. *MESS*

Phil 2:3-4

<sup>4</sup>Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. *NLT*

Turn from self to 'others' in the ; in the  and in your

John 12:24

I am telling you the truth: a grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. If it does die, then it produces many grains. *TEV*

**What is the purpose of being the salt and light of the world?**

**God calls you to become a miracle for someone else.**

There are people you meet out there not by **accident**. God puts them across your path on **purpose** so you can be the answer to their prayers and you can be their miracle.

Prov 11:24-25

One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. <sup>25</sup>A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed. *NIV*

Matt 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. *NKJV*

## II. REACH OUT DESPITE YOUR

Matt 9:9-10

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" *NIV*

**What are some of the shortcomings Matthew could have?**

Your job is **not** to remodel or change anyone. Your job is to bring people to Christ.

2 Cor 5:19

"For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation." *NLT*

**How did Matthew bring people to Christ?**

1 Cor 5:9-11

### III. REACH OUT IN AND

Luke 5:17-26

<sup>18</sup>Some men came carrying a **paralytic** on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.

<sup>19</sup>When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

<sup>20</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

<sup>25</sup>Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.

<sup>26</sup>Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

Luke 14:23

"Go out into the highways and hedges, and **compel** them to come in, that my house *may be filled*." KJV

**What is the key to this amazing miracle?**

**1. Reach out in  ways**

People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

## ***But I don't know their needs ...***

John 4:35-36

Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! <sup>36</sup>And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.  
*NKJV*

## ***Pray for opportunities and***

Col 4:3

“**PRAY** that God will give us an **opportunity** to tell people his message.” *NCV*

## ***Present***

***the way He wants to be presented***

**Point them to Christ as the Answer, not yourself.**

The simplest way is to share the **FIVE Blessings** of the Cross and your personal **testimony**.

## **2. Reach out**

Luke 5:19

## ***They did something***

*They worked together as a*

A small team of FOUR in a cell group is a powerful evangelistic outreach team.

*They made  to reach out*

*They reached out despite the*

*What are some of the blessings of reaching out?*

Gal 6:9

“Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of **blessing** if we don't get discouraged and give up.” *LB*

Acts 20:24

The **most important** thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me, to tell people the Good News about God's grace. *NCV*

Dan 12:3

Those who are wise (receive & release insights) will shine as bright as the sky, and those who LEAD many to (His) righteousness will SHINE like the stars **forever**. *NLT*

Luke 16:9

“Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. In this way, your generosity stores up a **reward** for you in heaven.” *NLT*

Prov 11:30

The seeds of good deeds become a **tree** of life; a **wise** person wins friends.  
*NLT*

Psa 66:1-5

<sup>1</sup>Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth! <sup>2</sup>Sing about the glory of his name! Tell the world how glorious he is.

<sup>5</sup>Come and see what (wonders) our God has done, what awesome miracles he performs for people! *NLT*

## IV. REACH OUT WITH

Gal 4:19

My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you...  
*NKJV*

Mark 3:14

Then He appointed twelve, that they might be **with Him** and that He might send them out to preach. *NKJV*

Studies have shown that a new convert will stay in a care group and church only if:

- He is followed through with friendly, warm personal contact within the first 24 hours.
- He is visited at home or at work within the first 7 days.
- He can make 2 new friends within the first 2 weeks of coming to a Christian gathering. So introduce friends to them.
- He is assisted to attend Care Group and church for 7 weeks. Only then will he come by himself. Go the extra mile and provide the transport.
- He receives the Word. Make sure he goes through the Kingdom Series.

Look for people in all the services.

**Greet, Sit, Eat** – with someone new in church, especially non-believers. Introduce friends to them.



## ***Adventure this week:***

1. Memorize Psa 66:5 and write the verse from memory here:

2. Join the Matthew Team and reach out to make friends with new people in church and people that appear lonely. See your Zone Pastor to sign up for the Matthew Team.

3. Make a list of 7 people in need:

**Crisis** - sickness, examination, financial problem

**Changes** and adjustments - new job, new home, new baby, new school, divorce

**Stress** - finance, boss, work, projects and assignments

#### 4. Pray daily for them.

Pray for opportunities to share Jesus' love.

Seek to be a miracle unto others and experience a miracle yourself!

Invite them for special events: sports, parties, etc.

Pray for the right **opening** to share the Five Blessings of the Cross and your personal testimony.

Never give up! If the first attempt fails, follow up with another creative and innovative way of sharing Christ.

Keep in touch. Keep calling or visiting him and inviting him for various meetings of the church.

Circumstances may be more conducive for your friends to be receptive sometime later.

Reach out to the 'highways and by-ways'.

#### 5. Care for the people that you have reached.

Call, visit, introduce friends to them, bring them to care group, make sure they receive the Word.

Welcome them in church – greet, sit, eat.

# Today's Articles

## Sharing your Testimony

It is a **personal** story of how you came to know Christ and what He has done in your life.

### *A good testimony should be:*

#### **Positive**

Focus more on the **goodness** of God and not on how bad your past was.

#### **Concise**

Do not add in unnecessary technical or medical terms.

#### **Christ-centred**

Focus on what Christ has done.

### *Share a five-minute testimony:*

What was your life like **BEFORE** you believed? (1 minute)

For example, your pains and disappointments, fears, etc.

What **MOVED** you to receive Christ? (2 minutes)

How were you blessed **AFTER** you believed? (2 minutes)

# Planning Effective House Parties

Christmas, Easter, Birthdays, Anniversaries, New Year, Thanksgiving, etc., are great occasions to shine!

Keep it small, perhaps only 15. Get two or three believing friends to plan with you. Draw up a guest list: close friends, colleagues, relatives.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Tell the Christians ahead of time about their roles so that they will not just chit chat among themselves. Pray fervently.

Keep the refreshments **simple**. You do not want to spend too much time in the kitchen, **neglecting prayer** and **hospitality**. The key is to have a **personal** touch. It is better to have the refreshments after the message. **Pray** with **expectation** before the meeting.

Plan to avoid **distractions**: Get people to babysit. Remove the receiver from the **phone**. Seat the people properly during the sharing time so that they can see and hear the one sharing.

Get one or two to share **personal testimonies**. Each testimony should not be more than five minutes. Each person may focus on one of the Five Blessings of the Cross.

Get someone to share the FIVE BLESSINGS OF THE CROSS.

If appropriate, ask for a response. Lead the person to receive Christ:

"Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus Christ to die for me. I receive Jesus into my life and thank you that because of what Christ did, I have complete forgiveness of all my sins. Help me to know you more and more each day. Amen"

End **early** to allow enough time for interaction between Christians and non-Christians. This is the time to share more about Christ.

# Who is Jesus?

The Bible tells us that Jesus is BOTH GOD and MAN at one time.

Many cults deny either the fact of Christ's divinity or humanity.

## 1. Jesus is fully man

Heb 4:14-15

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are -- yet was without sin. *NIV*

1 John 4:1-3

<sup>1</sup>Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God. *NIV*

## *He is the perfect man*

Humanity at its fullest and best. Man as man should be.

### **Why is the humanity of Jesus important?**

Because He is a man, He is qualified to die for us. A chicken or even a donkey cannot represent man and be our sacrifice.

The manhood of Jesus puts Him on our level. He experienced suffering, weariness, temptation just as we do. Therefore He understands and feels with us in our trials and difficulties.

## *He was born miraculously*

He was born of a virgin.

Matt 1:23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"-which means, "God with us." *NIV*

Jesus' 'gene' is from God – not a human father.

## *He is sinless*

1 Peter 2:22 He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. *NIV*

## **2. Jesus Christ is God**

John 20:27-29

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." *NIV*

## *He is the Son of God*

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *NKJV*

### **How could God have a son?**

The word "son" in the Scriptures is sometimes used literally: i.e. biological sonship. eg. James is the son of Zebedee.

But the word "son" is also used figuratively, i.e. to describe nature, character. Hence, when the Bible says: "John is the son of thunder", it tells us that John's nature is very violent, hot tempered and easily aroused.

In the same way, when we say that "Jesus is the SON of GOD" we are saying that Jesus has the very nature, character of God.

Note the term: "Only begotten". The Greek word, "monogenes" comes from two words *mono* and *genes*. Mono means: "same, one and only." Genes means: "kind or variety." Here is where we get our English word "gene".

Hence, the word monogenes means that Jesus is the only one on earth with the genes (nature, character) of God.

Col 1:16-17

For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. *NIV*

Jesus Christ holds all things by His power.

### ***Jesus works supernatural miracles.***

Matt 8:27

The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!" *NIV*

John 11:38-44

Lazarus was raised from death.

### ***Jesus rose from the dead***

1 Cor 15:5-8

... and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup>After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup>and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. *NIV*

### 3. Jesus Christ Himself claims He is God

John 10:30-33

I and the Father are one." <sup>31</sup> Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, <sup>32</sup> but Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" <sup>33</sup> "We are not stoning you for any of these," replied the Jews, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God." *NIV*

John 8:58

"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" *NIV*

Many people are ready to accept Jesus as merely a great moral teacher. This is not a possible choice. Why?

A man who says the sort of things Jesus claims and promises is either a liar and lunatic or is really what he claims to be - God!

Someone who lived, **taught**, **impacted** lives and **resurrected** as Jesus did, can such a person be a lunatic? Can he be a liar?

It would take more than a Jesus to invent a Jesus. Jesus is indeed what He claims to be!