

Poncho Stennett

“Good morning, Pittsburg. Good morning, Pittsburg Free Will Baptist Church. I want to thank each and every one of you.

Anybody's not here, anybody's meant for praying.

For me and my family. It's only by the grace of God that I'm here today.

August the 28th, last year, we finally cleared it up. I dehydrated and saw a roof laying on the concrete. Brain damage, multiple fractures on my ribs.

It's kind of beat up all over. 14 days in Cardinal Hospital, 84 landmarks and tape, and they brought me back to Hearn.

I feel, now like basically, it's brought me back to Hearn to die. But you know what? Those doctors, those case workers, they don't know God, and they didn't know me, and they didn't know my relationship with the Lord.

A few days after being there, I woke up, and I looked outside, and I went, where am I at? It was snowing.

And the nurse came in, and I spoke to her, and she kind of freaked out, because I spoke to her, and Christy came in. We cried. We asked her, how is it snowing outside?”

“It's 105 degrees. She said, honey, you were in an accident. You know, it's Thanksgiving.

Ninety-eight days. I was completely out of it.

But I woke up, and the next day I walked the halls, and I started going to therapy by the grace of God.

And then they called Christy in, and she was like, how in the world is it snowing outside? And I went to tell her all this, and I said, honey, I missed your sixtieth birthday. We're going to do something special for your birthday.

I missed my granddaughter's second birthday. I missed my son's birthday. I missed my sister's birthday.

I missed my own birthday. There's a thing I do at our church Sunday before Becquens Day. I didn't get to do that.

I missed my homecoming at church, and I said, I missed the concert at church. I said, hold, hold, hold, hold, wait a minute. Who won the election?”

“She told me Trump won the election, and from there, they started to come get me, take me to therapy, do this, do that. And all I want to do is go home. And not only did the Lord save me, He's been using me every day since then.

There's a girl come and got me one day to go to therapy, and Poncho, we're going to go down to the, you call it the green couch room, and you got three workouts to do today. Okay? We go down there, and take you over to do this, do that.

She says, now we're going to go to the table, and we're going to play a game so I can check out your brain. I go over, she's got a deck of cards laid out on the table, number side up. Abby said, you know what that is?

I said, yeah, that's the ace. You know what that's for? And I said, yeah, that takes the place of the one."

"Because we're going to serve one God, and one God only. She said, what's the two for? I said, the two is for the Bible is divided into two parts, the old and the new testament.

The three, I said, the father, the son, and the Holy Spirit. And four, for gospel, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. What's the five?

I said, the five virgins have trimmed the land. Five were wives, and five were foolish. I said, six was for the six days you created the heavens and the earth.

On the seventh day, you rested. She said, how much of this do you know? And I said, well, I can't remember it all, but I remember the jack is the jack grenade of the devil.

She said, we're good, we're done. So the next day, I ran into Abby in the hallway, and I prayed you learned anything yesterday. So I went home, I looked that up on the internet like she told me, and I printed out copies to go on Christmas cards for everybody in my family."

"I smelted the horse. I asked her, I said, did you get to the bottom of the page? What do you mean?

That's what if you add all the numbers up on the deck of cards, it turns out 365, the number of days in a year. There's 62 cards in a deck, number of weeks in a year. There's 12 suits.

That was wrong. I made a mistake. There's 12 face cards, 13 suits.

There's a part in there where it says there was a soldier that was in church, that at church service can't. And he got caught for playing cards in church. He was taken before the provost marshal.

The provost marshal, what do you have to say for yourself for playing cards in church, son? He said, well, I've been on the mark for six days. I had no prayer book, almanac, or Bible, and this serves as all.

Texas Tyler, 1948, wrote that and recorded it. He says, I was that soldier."

"So, you know, in my testimony, I went on to say, Christie, my wife, fought cancer four years ago. And I remembered our pastor preaching one Sunday. He said, you know, when I go to a nursing home or a hospital or somebody's home, and I see a hymnal, a bulletin, or some piece of literature from our church, I know that my sheep are doing their job, because they beat me there.

When Christie had cancer, there were men in that church that called me. I said, what? How's Christie doing?

How's he? The big question is, how are you doing? Anybody driving back for St. Luke?

You know? And then whenever I got hurt, the women in that church shared the same thing with Christie. She told him, don't give up on him.

We're praying for him, and he's going to make it."

"You know, and I don't know what I would do without Christian friends and church family that have prayed for me, including everyone you hear, all over the country. I've had calls from all over the country, people to pray for me. You know, so I told you a little bit, you know, how you used me there.

I've been so much more active in church. I've been to help prepare pre-funeral dinners. I've been to St. Louis hospitals twice.

I was one of the deacons and the pastor to visit people on surgery. I've been to Vanderbilt in Nashville, Tennessee. The other kid, Keith, back there, he went with us.

See that one? And I've been to Carbondale on my own, sitting with people. Sick, heart attacks, whatever.

God just changed my life, because this is where He wants me to be. That's what He wants me to do. Carbondale Hospital, one day I was visiting with a gentleman, the man with the patient next to him.

I got wondering, he said, what's your name? I told him, he said, my church has been praying for you. And I can get it out of my pocket."

"I've been packing since then. The guy handed me this.

King Hughes from your church. I said, what is that? He said, that's a mustard seed.

I know that story. I said, my church has been praying for you. Hard.

I asked him what church he belonged to. He's here. You know, God just keeps touching me.

Seems like every day. You know, if you want to find this Matthew 20, 21, 17, 20, 21, we'll tell you about the mustard seed. The face of a mustard seed.

My wife had that face. Cannot give up.

I think back on all the years that I've been alive, 64 years. And I look back on all the times that God has looked over me. Riding a motorcycle like a crazy man.

I've been in a boat of 118 miles an hour. Motorcycle 160, 140 in a car. I've totaled a car."

"I was less than 10 years old, I fell off a boat dock with nobody around and caught my feet in a rope on the edge. Managed to pull myself back up. I've never told anybody ever that until I pulled a friend in the hospital about three weeks ago, and I had to go by and tell my mother in case he told it.

She never knew it, but I know I was less than 10 years old because I know when we moved.

When we look at Hebrews 13, it talks about yesterday, today, and forever. Jesus will be there, and He's been there. Well, I can't look at it that way, because I look at it as last week, this week, and forever.

You talk about something happened last month. I look at it as last month, this month, and forever. I go all the way back to by the year, by the decade, because five decades ago was when I fell off that dock, and He was there with me.

He saved me. I could have drowned. I was just the old guy.

Eddie? Oh, I was working on construction through in Marion. Eddie was inside[...]"

"I got saved April 24, 1979. But I think it had to be somewhere about 83, 84. We were working around each other, and I had drifted from the Lord.

And I lost my temper with the guy that was working with me, and I used some words I said in the years. Eddie come running out the back of that building, Poncho Stennett, I want to hear you talk like that again. I was so ashamed of myself then.

I forgot that, brother. I think I told you that four or five years ago, I heard you say somewhere, you know.

A week ago, last Thursday, I was out on a job site. A man and woman, a man turned, or a woman, I'll get it up, a woman come walking across the field, carrying a little boy. And she had some questions asked about what was going on in the lots behind her house.

We'd been over driving space, getting ready to start a few more houses. That's a little boy in her hands. I said, hey little man, how old are you?

He said, I'm five. Okay. I said, are you going to kindergarten next year?"

"He said, no, I just got out of kindergarten. I just want to push great. He said, what's your name?

He said, Ty. K-I-E. These moms say his name is Mukai.

He said, I said Ty, K-I-E. So I sit there and talk to the mother just a little bit. And this little guy, five years old, in her arms.

Let's see, a five-year-old, he looks at me and says, Do you know Jesus?

I said, Buddy, I know Jesus. Jesus saved my life. I said, I was in a bad accident.

And I was asleep for 98 days. And the old guy says, Sir, how did you eat if you were asleep? I said, Well, they fed me kind of like through a straw or a tube.

I got a hole right here in my belt, and I went like that, and I kind of pulled my shirt up, and his mother nodded, and I pulled my shirt up, and he showed me the hole. And he turned for me, and just hugged his mother in tears. For a five-year-old to ask you that, why can't we do that as grown[...]"

"Last Saturday, Kristi and I were at the store working. We had a guy come by to sign a contract. And he tells Kristi his story about losing his dad and losing something he lost his friend.

Anyway, he moved back from South Carolina to be around family, and he got back here to find out that they were dealers and users. And he was looking for a place to stay, trying to figure

things out, and ran in his ex-fiance from 11 years ago. Neither one of them had ever done anything different.

And he stands there and he talks to Kristi for a little while. And he said, I got a feeling that you're church people. Where do you go to church at?

He said, I haven't been able to go to church in three weeks, and I'm stark. He told me where he lived and I said, you live about five blocks from a good church. I said, I was saved and baptized there.

I drifted and I moved on. We just talked and talked and talked. He said, before I leave, can you guys do me a favor?"

"Hey, man, what's up? Would you pray for me? And before I got a word out, my wife started praying for him.

We pray every night when we eat, but I'm always the one that prays. The man touched my heart. And I give him the address and time at church and everything.

He didn't show up, but I call him on Monday. He said, well, I don't have a car yet, and I'm getting a car Wednesday. He said, I got to go to church.

See, God just took people in my life. Different times. Everybody I run into, what's a hug?

I got to have a hug. That calls me the miracle man.

And I asked Christy the other day, I said, we went three years, we didn't go to church anywhere. Nowhere. It wouldn't darken the door of the church.

And I said, if we hadn't gotten involved seven years ago, where were we at? Where would I be? If I hadn't get in, start praising God, worshiping God again, going to church, doing the right thing, I don't think I'd be here."

"Because I turned for a while. John Hortini tells us about there are rooms in my father's house. And I will go and build a place for you.

I've thought about that a lot. And I think about, if somebody prepares a ball field, prepares a racetrack, somebody comes in and cleans this church all up, and he shows up to proof, and nobody shows up. How's the Lord going to feel when nobody shows up in heaven?

Because we don't lean the right way.

We don't ask the Lord to forgive us for our sins, and take them into our life, and profess faith, and be baptized. This is the kind of thing that's gone in my heart.

Everything's like I've got hurt. It's never touched me like this before.

I know how bad this has hurt my wife, and the things she had to do. I told her if I did live, I'd be crippled and blind. There's a 95% chance I'd never make it.

I said, those people don't know him, and they didn't know me."

"I've worked all my life hard. We've got three businesses. And Saturday night before I came home, my mom, doctor, Christy was there, our pastor was there.

And I think the pastor was there to be the referee if somebody needed to be. My wife, sold her home. I had five, old hot rod cars, work truck, play truck.

God's blessed me with a lot of talent, that I've been able to build fancy motorcycles, hot rod cars, homes. I've been blessed with so much talent, and sometimes it's not good, because people expect so much out of you. But with all that talent, I've provided a lot of things for my family, nice things.

And she couldn't live in the house, because we built it together and she couldn't live there without me.

Hard to cope with for a little bit, hard to take, but you know what? It's all just stuff. Now, I'm still here by the grace of God.

Three days ago, I met my best friend in life.

36 years ago, last March 8th, pink, I got to marry my best friend.”

“She's my rock. And I know she's been through it all. My grandson got hurt last June, I got hurt in all this.

And our son, the day I woke up, had a stroke, thirty years old. But we survived it. We had a young man stand up at church the other day, said, you know, the pastor was preaching on people giving up on God.

Because bad things happen. Well, guess what? Bad things happen to good people.

But they happen for a reason.

A young man stood up and he said, you know, Christy had cancer four years ago. Poncho's accident, he wasn't supposed to be here. Their son had a stroke, a martial arts stroke.

He said, Buck, they're here every Sunday morning, every Sunday night, and every Wednesday night.

Can't give up on God. He's the only hope you've got.

It's a miracle, and I'm thankful for that miracle that God gave me another chance. I'm just trying to give back what I can give back one day at a time.”

“I played in a play at church this week. Twelve skits we did in four days. Them little kids.

That young heart, that young mind, a lot of times knows more than what we know. But I just know that it's my job now to witness the people. I got a couple that we invited to church about three years ago, and he's been saved and baptized.

But neither of these boys have, and his wife hasn't. And I've been on them hard. And my thing is, it's my job, because when I get to heaven, I want to see them there.

I just heard the other day, you know, there's only one thing worse than going to hell.

If you get to hell, then there's all your family and friends.

There's only one thing better than going to heaven. And that's when you get to heaven, and all your friends and family are there. Okay?

And it's our job as Christians to witness to them. Give them the Word and make them understand where God's at in their life."

"Again, I just want to thank each and every one of you for all that you've done for our family, prayers, everything. A lot of you here I know. I haven't seen some of you in years.

And I'm glad to be here. You know, it's been something I didn't finish on. I thank the Lord that I am still here, and my wife didn't have to spend our thirty-six year wedding anniversary alone.

I know that there will be a day. The STRI. 1 are going to pass first, and the other one will have to leave without the other.

About four or five years ago, we both re-dedicated our lives and we got bad ties together. And I know that we will meet again in another place.

You all listened this morning. What I have been through and how God has changed my life. How God gave me my life back.

Everybody is sitting out there this morning. You have not been saved from baptized. Let me encourage you to do the right thing.

Live your life to the Lord. For you know where you are going. You know how you are going to finish."

"Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth. That word is Bible. Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth.

Well, you got news to read it, folks. I thank you for this opportunity to come speak. Love you all."

Larry Hearn

"Where's Judy Holm? She here today? I watched her testimony last Sunday afternoon.

It was a blessing. But, I have notes.

We've all had storms in our lives. If you haven't, get ready.

On Friday, May the 30th, around 8:30 a.m., when ours came to us, Susan, and Tonya, and Jamie.

Each one of us had a storm that Friday morning, and each one was different. Each one of us had our own story about that storm. Just like Poncho, he's got his own story about it, and each one of us had our own story about it.

But for me, and I'm not talking to Susan, I'm not told by anybody this, this is just between, this is what the Lord has laid on my heart about this storm that we just had.

And I believe it's true, because the Holy Spirit has confirmed this in my heart. But for me, I think this storm started June the 8th, 2024."

"That's when a young Christian man, that's the young Christian girl to be his wife. And that young Christian girl was my granddaughter, Morrison. And James Smith was the young Christian man.

Why do I think this is then? Let me ask you a question. Who does Satan know?

What does Satan like to destroy the most? It's family, isn't it? That's his main goal, to destroy families.

Christian or not? I believe that. I'll do it.

And I think he started his plan right then to not let that happen. Postpone it or whatever. This is what the Holy Spirit is compressing on me.

Back 6 months or so ago, we were down in Tennessee. The grandson had an operation, and they asked me to do their wedding.

I was on cloud nine to get to do my grandmother's wedding. I'm not a preacher, nothing like that. But I was...

Well, anyway, so the first thing I did, I made sure that I could do it. I went straight to the courthouse and checked her out. They said, you're good to go."

"So, man, I started making preparations. And I was excited, I was honored. And I was scared for the...

You know, I wanted to do it right. But I had six months to make up this thing, this ceremony. And I asked them all kinds of questions, you know, because I wanted to make it personal for them.

And I went to my guy with two guys back there, brother Eddie. And I asked him, I said, you know, for a few pointers, and he overwhelmed me with stuff, you know. I mean, it was...

So anyway, we put all this together, and I think I've read over this 50 times or more. I don't know. You know, just making sure it was right.

I printed off a copy, and they gave it to Brother Eddie, and I said, I want you to read this. All's good. All's good.

It was good."

"So finally, the wedding week arrived, and Tonya and Jamie had came down there early, that Wednesday before. And they was, we were going to do the final thing, until on Thursday, getting the wedding venue all right and everything, for just, you know, just right for the wedding. They were staying with us in our camper.

And Colin and Andrew and the kids were coming Friday.

Well, Friday, again, May 8th, 830 a.m., I think, I know Satan tried to put a stop to that wedding that morning with that tornado. I believe it. You're not going to convince me any other way.

He didn't want it to happen.



We were, I was laying in bed, I was talking to Kevin Bailey. Him and Carla was headed down to Gatlinburg, and they were on the road, maybe 100 or 50 miles from us, and I was talking to him. And Susan come in, and she said, it's getting windy.

She had just got up, and the girls were down in the other, I don't know, living room kitchen and bedroom thing, it's all one. Anyway, she said, it's getting windy. So I looked, and I thought, ah, it's not that bad.

"We kept on talking, and pretty soon the trailer started shaking. I remember Jamie, she said, Mom, is this normal? Susan said, no honey, it's not.

And I looked out the window, and I seen the roof of a barn, a big barn. It just took off. That quit, folks, that quit.

We started rolling and rolling and rolling. I don't, it was just, do I remember that? No, I don't remember that.

So when we stopped, you know, and get everything collected and everything, it was, it was like, you start hollering, are you okay? Are you okay? You know, Kevin says he heard all that on the phone.

Me hollering for the girls, for Susan and everything.

No doubt, in my mind, the Lord had a hedge around my family.

That morning, no doubt. Keith, you got some pictures.

That right there, that was where I was, in that bedroom. That was my bedroom. Is that supposed to be opened up?

No, it's not. No, it's not.

That's where my girls and my wife were. Just keep going, yeah. They were in that mess right there."

"Every one of them. I think Tommy was sitting up on that window when we got out, when we got done. She climbed up there and was sitting up there, yelling for help.

Go ahead. Susan and Jamie crawled out of that hole. Was that supposed to be there?

No. The door is face down. You tell me God wasn't there.

No doubt about it, I believe it in my heart that Todd had his arms around me that morning. To further on, to go on, like I said, we were at a wedding. This is where the God thing started.

I'm not supposed to tell this, but I was laying in bed and I was in my underwear. And I, yeah. So he has a humor too, see, okay?

But I thought, I'm not going out there with no clothes on. So I was right there. I mean, clothes all around me, all over, you know.

And luckily, I got my pair of pants on and a shirt before I crawled out that hole. And, uh...

I looked down, I had to look down to get out."

"I'd bought a suit for this wedding. I don't own a suit, you know. I'd bought a suit for this wedding, and I had that wedding ceremony.

I piped it all up and had it printed out in a binder, like Eddie does, made it look nice. It was in the drawer, in the test drawers there. It was in the drawer, my suit was hanging up over by the bedroom door going out the hallway, the opposite end of this hole.

I started to crawl out of that hole, to step out of that opening, right there on the ground.

Where's my suit? And that binder, together, right there. You tell me that ain't a God thing.

Brother Eddie says, coincidence. I don't think so. I just don't think so.

So right then, I had a decision to make. In storms, we got decisions that we have to make when you're in a storm, okay? It doesn't matter what kind of storm you're in, you're going to have to make decisions."

"And are we in the right frame of mind when we're in a storm to make a decision? Not always, we're not. You know, we grabbed it the first thing that comes along.

But I had a decision to make.

And when we make decisions in storms, they not only affect right to moment, but they affect people around us, they affect how long we're going to be in a storm, or, you know, even after it's over, your future. The decisions that we make in a storm, we have to do that. We were talking about that in Sunday School class this morning, about storms and stuff.

And if I didn't make the right decision, I could have left that tooth there, and the binder there, and walked out of there, and would have had a perfectly good excuse to call off that wedding or postpone it. I mean, we, you know, tornado.

It would have...

Well, I couldn't do that. I had to pick up that suit and that binder because my granddaughter was counting on me. Was counting on me."

"I looked like a crazy person coming up out of the field there in the high weeds carrying the suit and binder. But I did not care. I didn't care.

Not only did God protect us from the storm, which is a miracle in itself, it really is. But we begin to see his hand work from that moment on.

You know, I don't want to see this again, but when we would come out there, Poncho was sitting up on top of the camper. Jamie and Susan, they were out. They were up by the truck by then, I think, when I got there.

And within ten minutes, maybe, I never seen so many first responders in my life. I mean, the neighbors, Poncho was hollering for help. The neighbors were coming.

There were houses that had been hit, too. You know, they had dropped everything, but, you know. First responders, Poncho said, there was every kind of police car you could think of.

A bar truck. You look up that road, and it was bumper to bumper."

“For my family, there were seven or eight ambulances out there. And later on during the week, I talked to a lady, and I'll tell you about her in a minute, but I talked to her and she said that her husband was over the, some do the ambulances for the county, and they were on vacation, and she says, our phones blew up. You know, it was crazy.

We went, they took us to the hospital, and I swear, it was Sweetwater Hospital. They stopped, it was like, quit what you're doing and take care of us. I never seen, it was just amazing.

All that to say this. Jamie had a black eye, Susan had a lip that was cut, Tonya had a couple of broken ribs and a little thing with her back. Now it's a little thing, it was a big thing then though.

But, scraped some bruises out of that mess. We walked away out of that hospital that day.”

“We shouldn't, we shouldn't, you know, that's just not what should have happened. But it did, by the grace of God. Like Poncho, you know, he was there that day.

I'm getting close. I also felt sorry for Kyle and Andrew because they were back here and they were getting calls about it, you know. They had to fix our trip.

I could, you know, the Lord had his hand on them also, driving that day.

But the little things started happening, the things that you think that, you know, wow, that could only be God, you know. Eight, let me get all this right now. Aidan and Cooper, my other grandstand, Connor and Sean and James, they all went back to the camper and started looking for the stuff that we, you know, personalize.

And this is when God, he, I had, they found every one of our cell phones, still worked. And they had poured down rain earlier. They all worked.”

“I had no glasses, no teeth, and no hearing aids. I was in a mess. Plus, you know, all this other going on, but they found my glasses, they found my bottom teeth, and they found one hearing aid, and it still worked.

All the girls' purses, they found. Most of the stuff was in there.

But Susan had three rings. She takes the rings off. We got a little box that we set on our cabin, or our dresser in the camper.

And that's where we put stuff when we go to bed. My billfold and everything. She took the rings in there, and they were gone.

Can you imagine three rings in that mess? They found two of them. She had a necklace.

It was her mother's that was in a little box. She had brought it, because every one of our girls has wore that necklace in their weddings, and she wanted our granddaughter to wear that necklace also. They found it.”

“She had one ring missing.

My buddy Aidan, he found it outside, partially under the camper in the big tall grass.

A little ring.

Found it. You know, that's a God thing, people. That's all it is.

It really is. You know, he cares about not only the big things in their life, but he also cares about the little things in their life. Those are big, but I mean, the minute things.

He's a God that cares about his period, really, you know, all of it.

After we were released from the hospital, we went and had a wedding rehearsal. I was having a little problem talking with just my bottom teeth. And they were making fun of me, because I told them, I said, we're getting ready to have a wing ceremony.

And they didn't want to know what flavor of wings we were having. So, but anyway, through it all, we met some really nice people. You know, and we were interviewed.

We were celebrities for a little while. We were interviewed three times by the TV stations there. Susan and I made it a point every time to give God the glory for it."

"It had nothing to do with us. It was all God. And that, you know, that's exactly right.

It was all God.

We made some really good, close friends, you know, made friends. They were, I told them one time, I said, we picked a good spot to have a bad thing to happen right there, you know. But there's good people everywhere, you know, there's just, we had all these tornadoes.

Judy, was there a lot of people, good people that you come in contact with? Yes, there was. Amen.

They are people, yeah. So they're here, they're everywhere. But I want to finish with these thoughts here about this tornado.

They talked about this tornado that hit our camper and hit the houses around there.

I want to compare them with storms in our lives. Okay, I got to..."

"This storm that we were in was being watched by Nashville Weather Center and Morristown Weather Center. They was watching it. When we're in our storms of our lives, God's got us, God's watching us.

It don't matter what kind of storm you're in, He's got it, folks. Don't never feel alone. He sings his songs, don't you?

About never being alone. He's there. He's there.

You can look right down to Deuteronomy 31.8. First, groups reverse it. That matches that.

Second thing about this storm, they said, this storm was considered to be weak, too weak to produce anything.

I want to give you this about the storm in your life. Don't underestimate your enemy. Don't do it.

We're no master Satan, but Jesus, if you got in, that's the guy that we need, right there. Don't underestimate it. First Corinthians 10 and 12.

Third thing, this storm formed really quick with no warning. They couldn't put out a warning for us. I mean, it was just, actually, girls, it was just super quick and done.”

“Storms in our life, sometimes they come with no warning, and we got to be ready. We got to be ready. John 10 verse 10.

Number four, came down in that area, and it didn't last very long at all. I mean, you know what, I thought I was getting to think, what is this campus? I live here in Southern Illinois.

I go down to a little country road in East Tennessee. We've had all these storms around us here, and I'm 400 miles away, and it picks that spot. You know, you think folks storms in life do the same thing.

And you know what, sometimes people don't understand that. It's your storm. We're in it.

And people don't understand what you're going through. You know that? Psalms 138 and 8 talks about it.

Matthew 10 and 30 talks about that.

They said, this storm... Oh, no, they said they haven't had a tornado in this area for 20 or 30 years. It was no threat.

I've learned in life, never say never. Never say never, folks, because it could be you. I found that out, it could be me, it was.”

“You know, it was our family. Matthew 16, 22 talked about that. And the number 6 thing that I want to talk about here is the weather forecaster.

I heard him, he said it was sneaky. The storm was sneaky, they called it on that thing. Sneaky.

Remember how we let Satan just creep into our lives, just a little. You know, he's sneaky. But I want to tell you something about sneaky, Satan, he's a thief.

He is a liar, and his only purpose is to steal, kill, and destroy. Remember that. During our storms, we're going to make decisions, like I talked about.

Our choice is important as it affects us. Remember, when we were in great school, we had these drills. We had to get under our desks.

Be prepared. You know, be prepared.

I give this advice to my granddaughter and grandson. When I should have said, you may kiss the bride, I told him, I said, no, wait, hang on a minute. I got to give you some advice that me and grandma found true in our marriage.”

“And I believe it applies to storms in our lives also. And people are going to give you a lot of advice. Take Job, his friends gave him a lot of advice when he was in his trouble.

I'm sure if you had been affected by any storms, those people would give you a lot of advice how to, you know, how you should handle everything. But in Matthew, chapter 6, verse 30, it says this, But see first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. I'm going to add verse 34 to Storms in Life.

Take therefore no thought for your morrow, for morrow shall take thought of itself, sufficient until the day of the evil thereof.

Something I found out, I told them, I said, put Jesus first. Put Jesus first. Are you in a storm?

If you're in a storm right now, put Jesus first. Have you just come out of a storm? Put Jesus first.

You're going to be in one. I want to have the band come and sing a song that we all know.”

“And I want you to concentrate on the words of this song. I know we listen to songs all the time, and I do. And sometimes I listen to the words, and sometimes I just get caught up in the whole thing.

But listen to the words in this song that they're going to sing.

And go ahead. I want to... during the original song, I remember the singer, he was telling the audience these things here.

And it says, Just to begin to raise your own hallelujah.

I can't do it for you. There's a song written on your heart, only you can sing. When you sing, the enemy flees.

When you sing, prison walls come falling down. When you sing, heaven invades the earth. So just begin to lift up your hallelujah.

It says, raise it like a banner, raise it like a flag, raise it in the middle of the storm. Let it rise, let it rise like a symphony to the king. Everything in you, Jesus, re-raises it all up.”

“Would you understand, it's kind of hard, I found this in my... It's kind of hard to praise Jesus sitting down. And like I said, we all know this song, and I just want you to listen to the words of it.

It's, Susan and I heard this song, I don't know, seven or eight years ago, she was in the hospital having... And then we was going through a storm at the time. I remember in the middle of the night, sitting on her hospital bed, we played this song on our radio or on our phone, and we were just praising God right there, in the middle of the storm.”