

Jesse Rich Ministries

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"Called to reach the World with the Word of Faith"

Miracles Through Tithing and Giving

The Principle of Giving

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. John 3:16

Dear Friend and Partner,

In Mark 11:23-26, Jesus says, **For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.**

Jesus said in Luke 6:38, **Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.**

God said in Proverbs 3:9,10, **Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.**

God wants you and me, as believers, to excel in every area of our lives: spiritually, physically, financially, emotionally, socially, and be a blessing wherever we go. One way we can do that is by always being a blessing to others. Jesus taught us about giving. The scripture says in 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.** God gave us Jesus so we could have life. Jesus said, **...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly**

(John 10:10). God wants our lives to overflow with His blessings.

I grew up in poverty. And when I got saved, and baptized in the Holy Spirit and began to be taught about God's Word, (*or the Word of faith*), I found out that the Bible says in 2 Corinthians 8:9: **For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.**

I began to tithe, giving God the first 10 percent of my income, and God blessed the floor covering business I had at the time, and it flourished. God miraculously got me through problems and challenges that would come up financially, as well as in other areas in my life.

I took Malachi, Chapter 3, verses 10 through 12, where God said, **Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the LORD of hosts.** Think about that last part: And all people, or nations, shall call you blessed -- they'll see the blessings of God in your life.

All of us need to get our prayers answered, and we need scriptures like Mark 11:23 to work for us. But there's a big responsibility that **we** have to make sure that we always forgive others, no matter how they treat us, or what they say about us, and forgive others the way God has forgiven us, by not even remembering what they did to us. And that's not something that you can just do in the natural. It takes God's Word, prayer, the Holy Spirit and the Name of Jesus to walk in the God kind of love.

One way we can walk in love is to always be a blessing to someone else. Think of ways that we can be a blessing to other dear people, like being the first one to give. And when we give, it's going to be given to us (Luke 6:38). We diminish our life when we don't give what God wants us to give. The scripture teaches us that our youth is renewed like the eagle's (Psalm 103:5). When we give our life away, and do our part, God is able to bless our life back, and be a blessing to us.

Our life decreases when we withhold more than is meet. The Bible says withholding tendeth to poverty, but the liberal soul shall be made fat (*Proverbs 11:24, 25*). We are increased when we do what God leads us to do from His Word. One thing we can do from God's Word is give God the first 10% of our income. Many situations arise in our lives where we need God's help, and whatever we do for Jesus' sake and the gospel's sake, the Bible says that we'll receive a hundredfold now and in this time: houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and lands, with persecutions, and in the world to come, eternal life (*And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life Mark 10:29, 30*).

The devil will try to intimidate you by sending persecution your way. But just know this: It is just Satan's ploy to try to distract you from doing what the Word of God teaches you to do. If we want our life blessed, and for all the blessings that are recorded in the Word of God to manifest in our life, we have to know and have the knowledge of God's Word that these blessings belong to us. Then, we have to do what the Word of God tells us to do. For example, you'll be some place, somewhere, sometime, and the Lord will tell you to give something to someone: a suit, a dress, your car, money, friendship, or whatever it may be. And when you do that, just say, "*God, I'm doing this as unto You. And Jesus, You said, Give, and it shall be given unto me; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into my bosom. For with the same measure that I mete withal it shall be measured to me again.*" Luke 6:38

Back when I first got saved, I had a secular job. I did floor covering, and I was always working in people's homes. And, there was a radio minister that taught the Word of faith. One time, he did a meeting close to our hometown and this other guy and I went to it. He had a barometer there showing the financial status of the program in that area. He said that in order to pay the radio time for that station, people would need to give, or they'd have to pull the program.

Well, I had been a partner with his ministry in tithing and giving, and I didn't want to lose that program. So I found out what I could give, and I doubled up on my offering. I ended up giving my payroll

away. Problems came to me financially, but I reminded myself that I gave what God told me to give. Jesus said when we give, it's brought back to us, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over shall men give into our bosom.

As we act on God's Word, God is able to do something that only He can do. To every miracle, there's a man-ward side and a God-ward side. It's like the woman of Zarephath. (1 Kings 17: 8-16) When Elijah came to her, she and her son were starving to death, and he challenged her to give what she had. She did, and gave Elijah the last meal that she had, and Elijah ate it in that famine time. But as long as the famine lasted, she and her son were still able to eat on the return from her giving. So, she got a miracle for herself and her son, and at the same time, she learned to trust God.

Think about the first miracle Jesus did. He turned to the water into wine (John 2:1-11).out Those servants did what Jesus said to do. Mary said, ***Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.*** So, Jesus said, ***Fill the waterpots with water,*** and they filled them to the brim. Then Jesus said, ***Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast.*** And, as the servants did what Jesus said to do, the governor tasted that water that had been made wine, and said, *You saved the best wine until now.*

**How did that miracle take place?
It was by someone obeying God.**

Think about the five loaves and two fishes that the 5,000 men ate of, in addition to the women and children, in John 6:1-14. When Jesus said, ***Make the men sit down,*** the disciples asked about the loaves and fishes, ***...but what are they among so many?*** With faith and obedience, it brought about a miracle, and God was able to perform this miracle for them through their obedience to Him.

When I was a child, going to church was always so boring--every Sunday you'd have to endure it. One Sunday, I came to church, and there was a lady sitting on the platform up where the minister normally sat. I had never seen that before. I had never seen anyone up there, sitting in that seat. Right away, that got my attention. The minister got up and introduced the lady. Her name was Miss Wasson and she had been a missionary in Africa to a tribe back in the jungles. He said she went there this summer and he wanted her to share some of her experiences.

We had never had anyone share except for when the pastor was on vacation, and then the associate would take over. So, this lady got up and began to tell a story about her vacation Bible school, where they had 50 children in attendance. Well, I perked up, because as a child, I went to

vacation Bible school, and it was two weeks, and Miss Wasson said the one she did in Africa was for two weeks. She explained that on Monday it started, and 50 children showed up, and she told the children if they would show up every day for the next 2 weeks, on the last day, each one would get a Dixie cup full of Kool-Aid. Well, I could relate to that... I knew what a Dixie cup was, and I knew what Kool-Aid was, and what kid doesn't like Kool-Aid?

And she said, that the last day of those two weeks of vacation Bible school, more than a thousand children's showed up! Apparently, the word had gotten out that if you show up today, you'll get Kool-Aid. Well, that really wasn't what was said... What was said was, if you show up every day, you'll get Kool-Aid on the last day.

Miss Wasson said, "My assistant asked, 'What are we going to do with all these children? How are we going to know which ones came faithfully?' We knew some, but not all of them. And what about the ones that didn't come? We can't just send the children away."

They just had two pitchers of Kool-Aid there that they split between each other. And Miss Wasson said, "All I know is that Jesus prayed over the loaves and fishes, and God was able to feed the 5,000. Let's just lift this Kool-Aid up to God and pray over it and believe that it will go to all these 1,000 children."

So they passed these cups around, and every little child had a Kool-Aid mustache around its mouth showing they had some Kool-Aid. And it was just enough to go around that all those 1,000 children got Kool-Aid!

This got my attention. I was stunned! Our minister immediately got up and interrupted her, because he was so uncomfortable and distressed about what she had shared, because we never heard about miracles. I thought they had passed away. And this lady got up and shared something I could relate to. That is the only message I ever remember as a child that was preached in church. It's as fresh to me today as if it just happened yesterday. I often think of Miss Wasson and how she referred to that story in John, chapter 6, where Jesus was able to feed the 5,000. She was trying to say, and didn't get to finish her message, that if God did those miracles **then**, He'll do those miracles **today**.

What is it that you need God to do for you? What kind of miracle do you need God to do in your life? Is it a miracle healing? Is it restoration of a family member, or child, or loved one, or husband, or wife, or ministry, or something you lost, or that the devil took from you?

How's that going to happen?

It is with miracle faith based in God's Word and upon God's Word.

If God wrote this Bible,

and I believe that He did,

- and if Jesus Christ came to this earth,

and I believe that He did,

- and if Jesus Christ died, and took the sins of the world upon Himself,

- and if He came and died and was resurrected from the dead,

and I believe that happened,

- if that same Jesus Who walked the shores of Galilee and did these miracles,

- if the same God that honored His Word, and backed His Word, is still alive today,

and I believe He is,

then, **what He did in the Bible, He will do today for you and me!**

All we have to do is act like those people did--we have to act in child-like faith. And so, I want you to think about what it is that you need God to do in your life. A financial miracle? A healing? A breakthrough in your life? Restoration of something?

Job lost everything. He lost his children, he lost his wife and his health, but God restored everything to him, and gave him twice as much as he had before. And Job had 10 more children, and he got a new wife and lived another 140 years and was well stricken in years when he went home to be with Lord.

People in the Bible ran across difficulties and trouble. That's why we need God in our life -- because we get in trouble. Sometimes we get in trouble because we did right, and sometimes we get in trouble because we did wrong, but nevertheless, God is here to deliver us out of trouble. He is here to help us out.

How are we going to receive from Him?

It is by going to His Word first, and doing what His Word says to do.

It is by activating our covenant by being a doer of the Word of God.

And when we tithe, and when we give, and support the gospel, God is able to come through for us and do the miracles we need in our lives. Every one of us is going to need a miracle sooner or later. Many people need one today. And I want you to know God is just waiting to pour His blessings out on your life, and in your life, and through your life, if you'll just hang on to your faith, and not let go of it.

Though Job lost almost everything, he didn't lose his faith in God, and his heart was perfect before the Lord. He said, **For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.** (Job

3:25). Fear will cause things to happen in our lives that God never intended to happen. And these things will overtake us if we don't keep ourselves built up in the Word of God.

I got a hold of the scripture where Jesus said in Luke 6:38, **Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.**

There's another testimony in Luke 5. In verse 1, it says these people came to hear the Word of God. And, any place in the New Testament, or in the Bible where the people did what God told them to do, based on His Word and from His Word, they would receive a miracle from God. And every one of us at one time or another, needs a miracle from God. Every day of my life, I need God to do something for me that is beyond me.

Luke 5:1 says, **And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret.** In this testimony, the people didn't come to hear Jesus sing, perform, or entertain... they came to hear the Word of God.

Continuing with verse 2, the Bible goes on to say, **And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing *their* nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.** Now think about this: they took in so many fish that they went from having nothing, to where their nets were breaking from so many fish.

How did all this happen?

It happened by Peter doing what Jesus told him to do.

Peter said **Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.** It goes on and says in verse 7, **And they beckoned unto *their* partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.**

Now, we not only have nets breaking, but we have ships sinking!

Because why?

Because of the abundance.

Remember, Jesus said in John 10:10, **...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**

God is known as El Shaddai, the God it is more than enough. When Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes, He not only fed the 5,000, but there was more left over so that it took 12 baskets to hold the fragments that were left over. You can see now that God is very extravagant. He's not just barely getting by... He has more than enough. Ask yourself this question: Do I have more than enough in every area of my life? Do I have more than enough in my finances, good health, joy, peace, and victory?

If we come up short in one of these areas -- *and we may* -- we have to get to the place where we have abundance. Jesus wants us to have abundance spiritually, physically and financially. God was not only interested in these people's spiritual life, He was interested in these people eating, and He was interested in Peter's fishing business. So what does He do? He tells Peter what to do. Peter said, **Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing:** If Peter had stopped there, we would never have had the miracle. But Peter went on to say, **nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.**

How did Mary conceive and have that miracle baby Jesus when she had never known a man? The angel told Mary the Holy Spirit would come upon her and she was going to conceive. And she said, **Be it unto me according to thy word.** That's how she got her miracle. That's how we have Jesus today. How He came is through a miracle birth -- *the virgin birth.* God is a miracle performer.

One time, a man walked up to me in a bank as I was leaving and said, *"I don't believe in miracles."* As far as I know, I didn't know the man, or had ever met him. I guess he was looking forward to telling me off. I looked at him and said, *"Sir, do you know why you don't believe in them?"*

And he looked dumbfounded and said, *"No."* And I said, *"Because you can't do one. Only God can. And you want to live your life so that you are solely dependent on you, when God wants you to be dependent on Him."*

That's why He gave us His Word, so we'll learn that He created us and made us to need Him. You can't live your life without needing God. Sooner or later, you'll come to some area of your life that you'll need God. And you'll need God to do what His Word says He'll do in your life. And He can, if you'll respect God and honor God.

One way you can honor God is by putting Him first. In your finances, give God the first 10% of your money. You can't

go up to God and hand Him money, but you can go to your storehouse, and tithe and give and support the gospel. In doing so, God will open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing.

God wants to use all of us. He's inviting all of us to participate. He gave Peter an opportunity and used Peter's boat so Jesus could be in a position where people could hear and see Him. After Jesus was done using Peter's boat, He got Peter a miracle -- He knew Peter's need. And if God can get you and me to do His Word, He can get you and me a miracle. He's no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34).

I can relate to Peter. I did floor covering before I went into the ministry, and I knew that if Peter could obey God and get his miracle, and if I would do what God told me to do, God would do a miracle in my life, in my finances, in my job, and in my business.

God is a miracle worker ... When is the last time that you had a miracle breakthrough in your life? Physically, emotionally, financially, or in your relationships, or with your friends, or in your ministry? Every day of my life, living in New York City, or wherever I am, I'm with people who need miracles. On every train, on every bus, in every subway, every place that you are, there's someone there that needs a miracle.

I walked in the bank one day, and it was just filled with people! The line was so long. The teller behind the window asked if I would pray for her. She needed a miracle. And before I got out of the bank, every teller had written on a note, *"I need a miracle from God. This is what I need: I need rent money, favor with my landlord, I have a child that needs to be healed."* And some of the people there in line had needs in their life, too. Most of these people I had never seen before, but wherever we go, there's somebody we're around who needs a miracle from God. All that God is waiting for us to do is reach out with our faith, our love and our compassion, and agree with them in prayer. Jesus said in Matthew 18:19, **Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.**

All of us need to plant seeds -- *good seeds*. We give to God when we bless other people, and God honors that back. When we leave a gratuity, or a tip, God sees that. We do it unto God, and as unto Jesus. As we do, we can say, *"God bless you,"* and *"Praise the Lord."*

I walked into a coffee shop the other day, and they said, *"How are you today?"* I said, *"I'm prosperous today."* They said, *"What did you do, win the lottery?"* I said, *"No, I got saved, and born-again and Jesus is my Savior and God is my Father, and He owns everything. That's why I'm prosperous."*

So, you can share the gospel with anyone, and as you do, that will be a seed that you can plant in their life.

Your Partner in faith,

Pastor Rich

Jesse Rich Ministries

P.O. Box 237170

New York, NY 10023

PHONE: (212) 501-7999

Email:

JesseRichMinistries.com/contact.htm

[Website: www.JesseRichMinistries.com](http://www.JesseRichMinistries.com)

