

# *Jesse Rich Ministries*

212.501.7999 March'06 Newsletter [www.JesseRichMinistries.com](http://www.JesseRichMinistries.com)

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

## *The Word, the Holy Spirit, and the Name of Jesus*

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. James 1:22

Dear Friend and Partner,

Jesus said, **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.** Mark 11:23,24

Whether we realize it or not, God wants our prayers answered more than we do, so He teaches us from His Word how we can approach Him.

**Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.** Hebrews 4:16

**How are we going to go to God boldly?**  
Number one, go scripturally, based on His Word.

**If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.** John 15:7

**And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.** John 16:23,24

**Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.** Philippians 2:9 -11

### **The scriptural way of praying is praying to God in Jesus' Name.**

I grew up in church, but I never heard that you're supposed to go to God in Jesus' Name. Nevertheless, that's what Jesus taught us. In the Old Testament, no one had prayed to God in Jesus' Name. They prayed to God, but no one had ever prayed to God in Jesus' Name.

When the New Covenant began, Jesus said, referring to when it started, **And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.** John 16:23,24

There are different kinds of prayer. There's a **prayer of petition**, which is **seeking God for guidance**. This is when you're trying to figure out what job to take, or what town to move to. We don't have any scripture in the Bible telling you where live, so in instances like these, you want to wait on God in prayer, which may take some time.

When I got saved, I began to seek God to find out what God wanted to me to do, and I'd put some extra time every day in prayer. At the time, I just had a floor covering job, so I'd say it this way, *"God, I'm willing to do this the rest of my life if You want me to. But I don't want to die and get to heaven, and then find out I never did do what I was supposed to do. So if there's anything else You want me to do, other than what I'm doing, I thank You that You reveal it to me."*

**How is the Lord going to reveal it to us?**

## -- In our heart by the Holy Spirit.

Someone may prophesy to you, or have a word for you,-- *and thank God for those things*-- but nevertheless, you still have to go by what you have in your spirit, no matter who prophesies to you.

### Being Led in Your Heart by the Holy Spirit

In the New Covenant, Roman 8:14 says, **For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.**

And Jesus let us know that the Holy Spirit will bear witness with your spirit that you're a child of God. **(The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: Romans 8:16)**

You've got to go by what you have in your heart. If you have peace in your heart about doing something, **follow peace**. If you don't have peace, find out what God wants you to do. That's when you have to wait on God in prayer. It's something we'll do the rest of our li. We always want to wait on God, and spend time with God, like Jesus did in the garden of Gethsemane. He was trying to find out what God wanted Him to do, and He got His answer.

### Prayer of Agreement

There's a prayer of agreement --like Jesus said, **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** (Matthew 18:19).

Many times, I'll tell you to contact my ministry if you've got a prayer request because I'd like to stand with you. And, sometimes I ask people to pray and agree with me about something. I'm asking them to stand in agreement, or, pray and agree with me for whenever it is. Praying in agreement is like the prayer of faith, which is prayed when you've got someone agreeing with you.

### Prayer of Faith

There's also the prayer of faith. It's sort of a quickie prayer-it takes just a few breaths, or few sentences, and you've got it prayed. That's where Jesus said in Mark 11:24, **Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**

Religious people usually get upset with the prayer of faith --they don't like you to tell them God expects you to believe that you received your request when you prayed. They want to keep "ding-donging" God over and over with the same thing.

But, with the prayer of faith, you believe it's done as soon as you say the word, "Amen," in Jesus' Name. From then on, just begin

to thank the Lord that you believe you've received. **You don't pray about it anymore.**

If you keep asking God for the same thing, you're doing it because of what you see and how you feel. *(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)* 2 Corinthians 5:7

Your faith will never grow and develop if you stay in that mode of going by sight or feelings. Eventually, you'll get so you're not getting your prayers answered. This is because you're going by your feelings and senses, and not going by faith. This is one reason the body of Christ hasn't grown and developed any more than it has.

### An Example of How to Pray the Prayer of Faith

For instance, if you're going to pray for healing, get some healing scriptures that go along with what you're trying to believe God for. 1 Peter 2:24, **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.**

Matthew 8:17: **That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.**

These are excellent to use for healing, then wrap it up by quoting Mark 11:24: **Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**

Here's an example how you can pray the prayer of faith: *"God, You said that Jesus Himself took my infirmities and bore my sicknesses and by His stripes I am healed. And Jesus said in Mark 11:24, 'What things soever ye desire,' and I desire healing, 'when ye pray, believe that ye receive them,' and I believe I receive my healing now, in the Name of Jesus."*

From then on, whenever you take your medicine or not, or go to the doctor or not, just keep thanking God that you believe you received what you prayed for when you prayed. After you pray the prayer of faith, it would be good just to mark the date on the calendar so you know whenever it was that you prayed and believed you received it in Jesus' Name.

### Our New Covenant Rules and Benefits

Jesus Christ said in John 16:23,24, **...Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto (meaning, up until now) have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.**

The disciples, and all the people that preceded them, had never prayed to God in Jesus' Name. But in the New Covenant, we have a new way of praying: We pray to God in Jesus' Name.

A lot of things are new in the New Covenant. For one, when you receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you become born-again. That's new-- you become a new creature in Christ Jesus. 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, **Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

You **don't** become a new creature in Christ when you join a church. You **don't** become a new creature in Christ when you take communion, and you **don't** become a new creature in Christ when you get water baptized.

**The only way you become a new creature is by being born-again, or becoming saved.** When you do that, spiritually speaking, you become brand new, and you come into the family of God. You have access to God now through the Name of Jesus. You have rights and privileges now that you didn't have before, in the Name of Jesus.

Why? Because you're in a new family: You're in the family of God. Now you have a covenant with God that was ratified through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. And when you approach God, you approach God in Jesus' Name.

**Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.** Philippians 2:9 -11

The Word of God says that the Name of Jesus is above every name. At the Name of Jesus, every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, of things in earth and things under the earth. We can see that Name of Jesus is above every name. All the power God has is invested in that Name. All the power anyone is ever going to need is in the Name of Jesus.

### **What causes the Name of Jesus to work?**

1. Faith in His Name.
2. Believing in His Name.
3. Just taking God's Word at face value.

Say to the Lord, *"God, You said the Name of Jesus is above every name, and I thank You that it is, and I prayed in Jesus' Name, and I believe it's done."*

### **What should I do after I pray?**

Do what did Jesus do after He prayed, or gave the faith decree.

Jesus acted like God heard Him. In John 11:41,42 Jesus acted like the mountain was moved: (...**Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always...**)

Philippians 4:6 says, **Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

One translation says, and **don't worry** about anything.

### **How are you going to keep from worrying?**

The same way you keep from doubting:

1. Stay in the Word,
2. Cast down imaginations that are contrary to what you prayed about,
3. Talk like you got what you prayed for,
4. Act like you got what you prayed for.

Don't say things like, *"I believe I've got it; I'm just waiting for the manifestation."* You're not waiting for anything! You believe you've got it!

With the prayer of faith, you either believe it's done, or you don't believe it's done – **there's no in between**. If you believe you're healed, act like you're healed. Quit telling people what the doctor said, and quit talking your feelings! Quit acting like a baby. Act like an adult. Adults don't whine, moan, groan or complain. They rejoice and believe they've received what they prayed for when they prayed.

### **The Man from the Station isn't Coming**

A lady came up to me after a service one time, and told me she believed she was healed – she was just waiting for the manifestation. I said, *"Sister, the man from the station is never going to get here. You're not in faith; you're in hope."* She said, *"Well, my pastor told me to say that."*

I said, *"Well your pastor doesn't know anything about faith. Out of one side of your mouth, you're saying you believe you've got your healing, and the other side of your mouth, you're saying you don't have it yet! You're trying to make yourself look good around your Christian friends who are wondering why you don't have your healing yet. Faith has nothing to do with looks. Jesus never told you to tell people that you're waiting for the manifestation."*

Jesus did tell you to walk by faith and not by sight. **(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)** 2 Corinthians 5:7

God's Word teaches you to call those things that be not as though they were: **(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.** Romans 4:17

God's Word teaches you that if you believe you've got it, thank God for it. **Be careful for nothing but in everything by prayer and thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.** Philippians 4:6

### Abraham's Example of Believing God's Word

We need to thank God that we've received – that's what Abraham did: **<sup>17</sup>(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. <sup>18</sup>Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.**

**<sup>19</sup>And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: <sup>20</sup>He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; <sup>21</sup>And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. <sup>22</sup>And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.** Romans 4:17-22

Abraham became fully persuaded that what God had said, God would do, and God would perform what He said He would. And Abraham just kept giving glory to God. That's what we do, as believers – we just keep glorifying God. We believe it's done.

For example, if we prayed over our food, then we believe our food is sanctified by the Word of God and by prayer according to 1 Timothy 4:4,5: **For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.**

### The Shame of Blame and Spiritual Laziness Check and See if You Fit the Bill

Saying you're waiting for the manifestation is very detrimental to your faith. It puts up a red flag to Satan that you're not in faith. If Satan has brought an attack against you of sickness and disease, or anything else, he's not leaving you, or fleeing from you, as long as you're not fully persuaded in what you say you believe.

Everybody wants to blame God that they didn't receive what they prayed for. They adopt the religious "*If-it-be-Thy-will*" syndrome. They'd rather blame God for why they didn't get what they wanted, than take on the responsibility themselves of getting into the Word of God day and night.

**This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.** Joshua 1:8

**Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.** Psalm 1:1,2

### Is Your Faith is Getting Results?

If what you believe isn't getting any results, or precious few results, you aren't any different from the denominational and religious people you make fun of. It's time to analyze your walk with God and your kind of faith to see if they are getting any results: Is your faith moving mountains? Is your faith producing financial prosperity and good health? Are you walking in the spirit, and being led by the spirit every moment of your life? Or, are you just going to church and watching Christian T.V.?

It's a pathetic shame that so many Christians think more of going to church than they think of getting into the Word until the Word gets in them. Preachers used to criticize me for making statements like that when I didn't pastor. They said I was a traveling minister. Well, I *still* travel... And God gave more work to do: I pastor 4 churches, and have a Bible school. And I'll still stand by what I said: ***Too many Christians think more of their church than they do of serving God and pleasing Him.***

And, if you're waiting for your church to grow you spiritually, it's not going to happen! Thank God for pastors who feed the sheep on the Word of God – God knows we need them! But you still have to spend time in the Word every day, and spend time in prayer every day in order to grow and develop spiritually *yourself*.

**This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.** Joshua 1:8

**My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.** Prov. 4:20-22

You are not going to keep cancer, or any other disease that Satan has, off of you by going to church. ***It's not going to***

**work!** You are not going to keep cancer, or any other disease that Satan has, off of you by keeping the commandments, or by performing any other kind of religious duty, as good as those can be.

If you don't stay strong spiritually, and keep your spiritual resistance up, Satan will take you out with long continuance and sore sickness and long continuance... If you don't keep your spiritual resistance up, you'll get so your body won't perform like it used to.

***You've got to constantly confess the Word day and night, and every day – not every other day – not when you feel like it – but every day, pray in tongues an hour or two, just to stay in shape spiritually, and just so you can hear God's voice and follow Him.***

### International Faith

When I had been saved a few months, I went on a missionary trip to another country. No matter how much American food you take with you, or how many containers of macaroni and cheese, or packs of crackers, or Cheetos, Fritos or Doritos, no matter how much bottled water you take with you – sooner or later, you're going to run out of American food. You're going to have to eat the food of that country. Well, on that trip, I ended up getting sick.

I had heard many horror stories about Americans going over there and dying of something like the bong-a-dong do-goo rash. And boy, I had all the symptoms! My pastor was so concerned. He came to me one night and wanted to know if I was OK. In other words, he was kind of scared... He's thinking, *Is Brother Rich going to live through this?*

I realized right there in the jungle, that I needed to learn to pray the prayer of faith over my food. Up until that time, I just had American faith. But I needed international faith in God's Word. I realized that sooner or later, I'd have to eat the food those people ate, even if I wasn't accustomed to it. 1 Timothy 4:4,5 says that our food is sanctified by the Word of God and by prayer. So, whether it's praying over our food, or saying grace, or giving thanks for our food, we've still got to do it by faith.

### Faith to Believe God Exists

Whatever we do, if we are going to please God, we've got to do it by faith. It's impossible to please God without faith. Hebrews 11:6 says, **But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

We have to believe that God exists, even though we've never seen Him. Thomas said, *I'm not going to believe unless I see.*

Then Jesus appeared a few days later, and when Thomas saw the Lord, he said, *"My Lord and my God."* Jesus said, *"Thomas you believe because you've seen. Blessed are they who believe and have not seen Me."* John 20:25- 29 says,

**The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.**

**And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.**

**And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.**

It takes more faith to believe God exists when you haven't seen God. That's why you've got to believe that God exists. If you saw God, you wouldn't have to believe He exists, you would know it. God is going to ask us to believe that He exists, even though we have never seen Him.

### How are we going to believe?

Know it from the Word of God.

That's why some people say, I don't believe in God. They've never really heard the Word preached. Or they did, and got away from it. Faith comes by hearing -- remember Romans 10:17? **So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

If faith could come, then it could leave. Faith could leave by not hearing the Word. This is why we need to always hear the Word.

### Living by Every Word of God

Sometimes we've thought, *'Well, I've heard that before,'* (referring to something preached). But how many times

have we eaten the same foods over and over again? We ate these foods because we enjoyed them, or because we thought we needed to get the nutritional value of certain foods that we thought our body needed.

With God's Word, there are no new scriptures. God's already said what we need, and He gave us His Word. It may be new to us, but it's not new to God! There's nothing new to Him. What we need to do is get in the Word all the time. I know it's a lot of work, but nevertheless, all of us, as believers, need to maintain our spiritual life. The scripture says in 1 Timothy 4: 8 **For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.**

**Just like you can exercise and develop physically, you can exercise spiritually and develop spiritually by:**

1. **Holding fast to your confession of faith,**
2. **Praising God and thanking God,**
3. **Letting your requests be made known to God.**

Once you've prayed the prayer of faith, or given the faith decree, just begin to thank the Lord that you believe it's done, in Jesus' Name. Believe that you've got it, in the Name of Jesus and that you believe God heard you when you prayed, and it's over with, in Jesus' Name. (...**Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always...** John 11:41,42)

### **A Miracle from Faith in God's Word**

Before I went into the ministry, I had a guy working for me when I did floor covering. One time, he ended up installing some vinyl flooring in a new home, and the vinyl had a 9-inch flaw in it, and this flaw was 48 feet in length. As the installation company, I was responsible for the goods, because the installer had installed a visible flaw. I didn't have any money because I had given my payroll to help a certain ministry a few days before, and now I had this huge problem!

When I came in and saw the flaw, I just read Mark 11:23 to the floor: *(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).*

I also read Malachi 3:10-12: *(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 delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts).*

I read these scriptures to the floor in front of this guy who installed it – he was looking at me like I was nuts -- as if the Bible had gone to my head. Nevertheless, I did it.

Early the next morning, my phone rang, and the first thought that came to me was, *'Now that's the contractor, and he found that flaw and you're in trouble!'*

I just rebuked that thought. I said, *"In Jesus' Name, I rebuke that. And Satan, if you want to know about that floor, you go talk to the Lord. I've turned it over to the Lord. I've cast all my cares upon Him. 1 Peter 5:7 says **Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.** And I've turned it over on the Lord in Jesus' Name. I'm a child of God, and I'm a tither, and I believe the devourer is rebuked for my sake."* (That phone call turned out to be a wrong number.)

After I prayed, I never mentioned the word, "flaw" again. The thoughts kept coming to me about the flaw, and I just kept casting down imaginations (*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;*) *Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 2 Corinthians 10:4,5*) and I just kept saying, *"I believe it's taken care of, in Jesus' Name,"* or words to that effect.

Finally, about two weeks went by, and we were back in that same area doing more new homes. We were looking for the tile cutter, and come to find out, we had left it down at that house that had the flaw. I told the guy that I was working with, *"I'll go down and get it."* He wanted to go with me, because he wanted to see the floor.

So we went over to the house -- he got there before I did -- and crawled the whole 48-foot length of that vinyl flooring, and the flaw was gone! God had miraculously removed it!

I never remember telling anybody about that miracle, but that dear person did. He went out and told other contractors what God had done to the floor.

I suppose if I would have told them, they'd have thought I was some religious fanatic, and they wouldn't have believed me anyway. But the guy that told the story wasn't even saved, and he went out and told other people.

I'd have contractors come up to me in places, like if I'd be in a convenience store, they'd stand next to me reverently. One contractor said, *"I want you to know I heard what He (pointing up to God-) did to the floor, and I believe God can do those things,"* or words to that effect.

The miraculous power of God was able to change that flooring. I wasn't a preacher -- I was just a floor covering mechanic.... But I needed God's help. We, as children of God, get in trouble. Sometimes, we get in trouble because we did wrong, or we got into trouble because we did what God wanted us to do, and the devil came and stirred up persecution and brought tests and trials against us. Or, trouble comes -- we don't know why, but it comes just because of Satan, who comes to steal, kill, and destroy (***The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*** John 10:10).

### Keeping Your Heart Filled with God's Word

Nevertheless, the Bible is not going to do any of us any good unless we get the Word of God inside our heart, and build our spirit up with God's Word.

### How's that going to happen?

By taking the time to meditate upon the Word day and night, and by getting the Word of God inside our spirit man.

Jesus said, **...out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh** (Matthew 12:34). What is in us in abundance will come out of our mouth. If fear, worry and worldly things are in there, that is what we're going to talk about. If we've got God's Word abiding inside of our heart, that's what will come out of our mouth. This is why we need to make sure that every day of our life, we start the day out in God's Word.

### How are we going to do that?

Well, you can read the Bible to yourself out loud.

When you read the Bible, realize that this is God speaking to you. In my meetings, I'll lead a confession and say, *"Say this with me: the Bible is God's Word."* And the people will say, *"The Bible is God's Word."* I'll continue the confession with the congregation following after me, *"I am what God's Word says I am. I can do what God's Word says I can do, and I have what God's Word says I have."*

Until you can get to the place that you believe the Bible is God's written Word, you'll have a difficult time receiving from God, or even believing in God. It's in God's Word where He reveals to us Who He is, what He has done, what He will do, what He can do, and what He has already done for us.

### How are we going to know that?

1. By going to the Word, and building ourselves up in God's Word.
2. By meditating on God's promises and working the Word so we get it built up inside of us that we automatically go to the Word when problems arise.

That night when the guy had already laid that vinyl flooring, my mind went blank. Here's this huge problem! And I just went outside, I brought my Bible in, and I read scriptures to the floor. I was just reacting. But thank God, I was reacting on the Word.

That miracle with the vinyl didn't happen because I was super Christian, and it didn't happen because I was super religious, or super spiritual. It's like Peter said in Acts 3:12 & 16: **And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.** The only reason this miracle happened was because I was listening to the Word of God, and listening to faith building tapes.

### Do What it Takes to Get the Word in Your Heart

Do you have any faith building tapes of a preacher who's preaching the Word of faith? If you don't, you need to get a fistful of them! You need to carry a cassette tape player, DVD player, CD player, or an IPOD around with you, or get some other way that you can listen to the Word, and get the

Word of God inside of you. Do whatever it takes! Even if you've got an eight track, go back and dig those up!

Whatever it takes, get the Word inside of you. Build yourself up in God's Word. And every day, listen to the Word. While you're working, running your errands, while you're sitting there, or lying in bed, have that tape player going – have that IPOD going. Listen to faith building tapes on your CD player over, and over, and over again.

There are some messages that I've heard preached and taught and read for years, but I keep listening to them. The tapes that I carry in my backpack, or on my IPOD, are scriptures I've heard for years. I started the day out today with them, and Lord willing, when I go to bed tonight, if Jesus tarries, I will listen to them again, just to remind myself of what the Word says.

So often people will say, *"I've already heard that."* Well good! Keep listening to it. It will build your spirit man up. Get that realization of the Word inside your heart, because doubt comes to us all the time. Unbelief comes to us. If we're in the world, Satan is going to bring all the junk he has against us.

What we've got to do is keep activating God's Word and the covenant we have by actively acting on the Word of God. That's what James 1:22 is talking about: **But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.**

When a believer becomes deceived, it's because they're not hearing the Word, or doing the Word. James 1:1-8 says,

**1James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. 2My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.**

**5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.**

We can become double minded. We can be really strong with the Word one moment, and full of doubt and unbelief the next moment. I've stepped out for God before in Jesus' Name, and I had no doubt at all! And then the next day, I was full of doubt and unbelief.

## Why?

Because fear and doubt and unbelief came.

That's when you've got to go back, and get back into the Word, make sure your mouth is speaking the Word of God, make sure you're listening to the Word of God, and make sure you're praying in the Holy Ghost. Remember, Jude said, **But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost** (Jude 20).

Faith comes by hearing the Word, but you've also got to pray in the Holy Ghost to keep yourself built up, spiritually speaking.

## Receiving the Infilling of the Holy Spirit

If you haven't received the in filling of the Holy Spirit, do so. Jesus said, **If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?** Luke 11:13

**Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.**

**And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.** Romans 8:26-28

All you have to do is ask, step out in faith, receive, and begin to pray in the spirit. As you speak in tongues and pray in the spirit, you'll begin to build yourself up. I may be on the subway, train, plane, bus, in the back of a cab, or traveling around, taking the gospel out, but under my breath, I'll just keep praying in the spirit and reminding myself of what the Word says.

Wherever you are, you can build yourself up. As you're walking around, and doing the errands that you've got to do, stay built up by praying in the Holy Ghost. As you do, your spirit man will become energized and built up spiritually. We need to be people that hear the Word, do the Word, and act on the Word.

Sometimes, we've heard the Word, but we weren't acting like it's true. Other times, we were acting on the Word, but we weren't listening to the Word, so our spirit man got low. **No, it takes both.**

We pray the prayer of faith in Jesus' Name, and we just believe that because it's the Name of Jesus, and because it's God's Word, it's a settled issue, and it's done.

### How to Answer Doubt and Unbelief When it Comes

If anyone brings what you're believing God for up to you, just say, *"I believe I received."*

If they say, *"Well, how do you feel?"* Your response is, *"I don't go by how I feel – I believe I received my healing when I prayed."*

Or, you can say, *"People laid hands on me and I believe I received it then."* Or, *"I spoke to my body and I believe it's healed in Jesus' Name."*

If they ask you, *"So you believe it's done in Jesus' Name?"* Say, *"Absolutely."*

If they come back with, *"Well, do you feel any better?"* You tell them, *"I don't go by how I feel."*

If they tell you, *"I don't know if you look any better ...you don't look too well."* Say, *"Well, I'm not moved by how I look. I'm not going by how I feel. This has nothing to do with my physical senses. This has to do with God's Word."*

People who haven't renewed their mind to God's Word are not going to understand what in the world you're talking about. When you're around believers and you talk faith, they look at you as though you're lying, or they'll be confused, and won't understand. You're simply calling those things that be not as though they were, as God does, according to Romans 4:17: **...even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.**

### Acting Like Jesus Did, and Talking Like He Did

A believer speaks about those things that don't exist as though they do exist. When Jesus said, *"Lazarus come forth,"* He was acting as though Lazarus was alive. Jesus had apparently already prayed about it, because He said when they told Him Lazarus was dead, **...Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always...** John 11:41,42

That's how Jesus expects us to act. He expects us to talk and act the same way He did. He is our supreme, perfect example. The way Jesus acted in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John is how you and I are supposed to act as believers, as the church. Jesus was the body of Christ then, and we are the body of Christ now. He's the head of the body of Christ today, and we're the body. Once we become born-again - *once we got saved – once we received the Lord as our Savior,* we have a right to that Name of Jesus, and we can use the Name of Jesus.

### The Difference Between Us and Them: Going by God's Word... Only.

Authority in Jesus' Name is going to be the distinguishing difference between us, believers who are single-minded on God's Word and the people who have doubt and unbelief.

We have to get to the place where we're **single-minded on God's Word** and no longer double minded, no longer tossed to and fro, but **single-minded,** and **know what the Word says,** and **do what the Word of God says to do,** and **act according to God's Word,** and **remind ourselves, "This is what the Word says, I've built my life on God's Word, I've prayed I've believed."**

When we tell people we're saved, or born-again, the only proof we have is God's Word, other than an inward witness. The only tangible proof we have is that **we did what God's Word said to do.**

I wish someone had told me that when I got saved, because when I got saved, or born-again, the thought would come to me that I wasn't born again. The thought would say, *"Now those people in the church where you got saved are born again, but you're not."*

All these thoughts were coming to me: my past sins, past mistakes, and everything that I had done would come back to me, as if it had been on a recorder on playback. I didn't know it, but this was just the devil bringing doubt and unbelief to me. I never got that settled until I got enough Word inside of me. And you won't, either.

Until you get enough of the Word in you, you can't combat the thoughts and ideas come to your mind. Your biggest battle is going to be with your mind and keeping your flesh under, because your emotions can get the best of you – If you're not careful, you'll be dominated by your emotions.

Through emotions, you'll allow people to guilt trip you, put condemnation on you, control and manipulate you, and keep you from going on for God. As a believer, you can't afford to allow anyone to keep you from going on for God, no matter what they think.

### The Trials of Stepping Out for God

I remember when I prayed and sought the Lord and God told me to go to Bible school. He told me He was going to put me in the ministry, so I headed in that direction.

The people in my church threw a walleyed fit! They came up to me and asked me questions like, "Did you clear this with the pastor? What makes you think you should go there?" I had already prayed about it, and I believed, in Jesus' Name, that it was God Who spoke to me.

And then, you've got the people who practice witchcraft on you. They're hoping if you do go, you'll fail, and have to come back, and lick your wounds in front of them. Many times, you've got to be able to overcome other people's jealousies to follow God. Even in the ministry, you're always going to be combating and facing jealousy.

### Stay With the Word, the Holy Spirit, and the Name of Jesus

I want to encourage you to get a hold of God's promises. Get yourself prayed up and seek the Lord. Spend time with God in prayer and seek the Lord until you know what God wants you to do. And then, boldly step out for Him and do whatever He tells you to do.

Your relatives, parents, siblings, church members, friends, people down at the gas station, at the mall, or co-workers that you're with, or employees – they may not agree with what you do -- they may not think you should do it. But you no longer confer with flesh and blood, as Paul said, **But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:** Galatians 1:15,16.

Once you get it settled with God's Word and in prayer what you're supposed to do, you follow the Lord. It's one thing to step out for God and have some regrets that you did, because of your emotions and because you miss people and things, and you wonder how God's going to meet the need. That's one thing - that stuff's going to come to everyone. The only way that's going to be settled (*the wondering*) is by becoming single-minded on God's Word.

### Paying the Price Vs. the Cost

There's a big difference between that and **not** doing what God told you do, and **not** paying the price, and **not** obeying the Lord, and **not** stepping out for Him, and **not** following Him!

People say it really costs to serve God. **No, it pays to serve God; it costs not to serve Him!** The cost comes in when you don't do what He tells you do.

If you'll do what God said to do, and you're willing to be obedient, you'll eat the good of the land, as God told Isaiah in 1:19: **If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:**

### The Blessing of Blessing Others

Look, I know this sounds like a lot of work, but the sooner you get started, the sooner you get built up spiritually and the more effective your faith will become developed. And, when your faith is developed, the more effective you're going to be in receiving from God and helping others receive what they need from God.

For instance, when I started confessing Philippians 4:19, (*But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus*), and confessing by faith that my rent was paid in Jesus' Name, I had no idea at the time, that someday, I'd be helping others to take the Word of God and apply it to their lives, also.

So, keep listening to your faith tapes– they'll keep you encouraged. Stay faithful in tithing and giving, walking in love, and just keep doing the Word, **and God will always come through!**

The Word always works. We just have to keep working the Word by being doers of the Word, as it says in James 1:22: **But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.**

God bless you,

Brother Rich

Jesse Rich Ministries  
P.O. Box 237170  
New York, NY 10023  
PHONE: (212) 501-7999

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Email:  
[JesseRichMinistries.com/contact.htm](mailto:JesseRichMinistries.com/contact.htm)  
Website: [www.JesseRichMinistries.com](http://www.JesseRichMinistries.com)