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What is the anointing #1...#4

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What is the anointing #1

2013-02-23, John Fenn, www.supernaturalhousechurch.org

Hi all,

I'm old enough to remember when microwave ovens were first sold in stores, and I remember the first time I saw one used. They were very expensive when they first came out, and the only people we knew who had this new technology were wealthy friends who became close after my dad left. They were so close we kids called them 'Uncle Del and Aunt Betsy'.

They had 5 children, roughly the same ages as we 4, the oldest was their son Trip, who was about my age and my good friend. Trip isn't his real name, but they gave him his grandfather's and dad's name, so he was the 3rd, thus 'triple', which became 'Trip'. If you knew his real name you'd understand why he prefers 'Trip'.

They had a big house with a stairway on each end of the house leading to the full basement which is where we usually played, with one stairway just off the kitchen. I'll never forget being there one day when Aunt Betsy decided to make BLT sandwiches for lunch (bacon, lettuce, tomato), microwaving the bacon. I excused my self from play several times to come up and down those stairs just to watch the process.

I couldn't believe she could put bacon on a paper plate, cover it with a paper napkin, press a button, and a couple minutes later have 'fried' bacon. She explained it over and over to me because I thought surely I am missing a step - it can't be THAT easy! I stood and watched several batches cook from start to finish just to be sure Aunt Betsy wasn't joking.

Prayer and Presence or formula?

To this day I don't know how microwave ovens work, but I use ours regularly. Barb doesn't because the rapid heating has been shown to destroy nutrients, so she thaws, warms and cooks on the stove or counter top toaster oven. But I'm a guy so what do I care about a few exploding vitamins!

If someone could time travel back to around 1910 and explain to a house wife that one day a small box would sit on kitchen counters, and people would press a button, then invisible rays would cook the food in mere seconds, she would think they'd come from Mars!

Mentally I know how they cook: Light in a wave length beyond our ability to see, microwaves, heats water molecules within the food. But really all I know is I press a button and 2 minutes later my popcorn is popped. It isn't important that I know how it works, just that it does.

It is generally the same with prayer. I don't always know the mechanics of how it works, but it does. Some people approach prayer like a technician trying to figure out that microwave, theologically taking prayer apart piece by piece trying to figure out how it works, thinking there must be a single part to discover that will make all the bad in life go away.

And if God the Father were a robot that might be the case, but in fact He is a living being and Judge of all, thus much of what He does and the reasoning behind it remains within Him alone. As Deuteronomy 29:29 says: The secret things belong to the Lord our God; but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of His (this) law.

What is the anointing?

This series **is not** about you and I sitting down to take apart the microwave in a search of the key that makes it all work, but rather how to enjoy the presence of the microwave in our lives. It isn't about trying to figure out how God answers prayer, but rather understanding that in His presence there is no darkness, no fear, no lack, no frailty nor infirmity, so that if we can enter His presence **He** will figure out the mechanics required to answer that prayer and meet that need in our lives.

In His presence there is no lack, therefore His presence is our objective. (In life, and in our meetings)

Power and authority

In Luke 5:17 the religious leaders from all over the land came to hear Jesus teach, and the text says: "And the power of the Lord was [present] to heal them." (Amplified Version)

The reason the Amplified Version (and others) put 'present' in brackets and 'them' in italics is because these are implied in the Greek, not written. Literally the text says: "**And the power of the Lord was to heal**." The 'present' and 'them' were inserted to convey the thought, and aren't incorrect, just in my opinion, unnecessary.



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They rather dilute the impact of the sentence as Luke wrote it: "The power of the Lord was to heal."

By stating 'the power of the Lord was to heal', Luke puts a personality behind the power, that the power had a will to heal. And that is exactly correct. The power is the Father, and Jesus is the authority to use that power. Another translation is this: "And the power of Jehovah was to heal."

Stop in the name of the law

The word 'power' here is 'dunamis'. It is often used in conjunction with authority, or 'exousia' in Greek. It is important to know the difference. 'Dynamite' is derived from 'dunamis', so we understand power.

The word authority or 'exousia' comes from 'exesti' which means "it is lawful", thus using the name of Jesus must be in a spiritually lawful way to have the power of the Father behind it. To use His name as a curse word has no power behind it. To name a boy in Spanish 'Jesus'' (hey-soos) has no power with it.

To use the name of Jesus in any way aside from the Father's intended use (the power), will net a zero result. Nothing will happen no matter how much we sputter and shout religious sounding prayers and commands - The name of Jesus must be used only in conjunction with the Father's power.

When a police officer holds up his or her hand at an intersection and traffic comes to a stop, it is exousia, authority, that stops those cars. If a car tried to run down that officer, ignoring the authority, the officer could pull his or her service weapon off their belt and fire shots at the car - the gun is the power, or dunamis.

Authority is of no use unless you have the power to back it up. A parent can exercise their authority to a child to tell them not to do something, but if that child disrespects parental authority mom and dad had better use power to back it up.

Jesus is the authority, but the Father is the power. This is why one of my favorite passages, Hebrews 1:1-3 says this:

"God (Father) in many times and in many ways spoke in times past to the fathers by the prophets, but now in these last days He has spoken to us by <u>His Son</u>, whom He (Father) appointed heir of all things and by whom He (Father) made the worlds;

Who, being the brightness of His (Father's) glory, and express image of His (Father's) person, and upholding all things by the **Word of His (Father's) power**, when He had purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."

The power behind the authority

<u>Jesus</u> is the <u>Word of the Power</u>. This is why Jesus said in John 5:19 and 30 that He only did and spoke what He saw and heard from the Father. The Father is the power, Jesus is the authority, the Word of that power. The Father - the power - initiates all action, therefore His will must be determined before using the Name.

Many Christians think Jesus is the source of power, so they speak His name 50 times in a long and drawn out prayer, usually a prayer partly directed to God and partly directed to the devil, in which they speak the name of Jesus, bind the devil, plead the blood, command angels, and generally reveal they are like a blindfolded child swinging at a birthday piñata, not sure where the target is but knowing if they hit it they get the spiritual candy.

Don't make a move, don't say a word unless....

The name of Jesus is the most powerful name in the universe WHEN the power of the Father is used with it. If you speak the name, but the power of the Majesty on High isn't behind it, nothing happens. We have the authority to use the name, but as in Jesus' time and in Acts, the power and the name must be together for anything to happen.

So you can see where I'm going - the anointing is the manifested presence and therefore power of the Father. When His presence is manifest, that is felt, perceived, discerned, then using the name of Jesus releases the Father's power, resulting in the Father's desired result.

This is why (as I've said before) I don't care for 'prayer lines' - because I have to linger before each person, find where His power (will/anointing) is, and then do/pray accordingly. That takes time and concentration. It is much more efficient to teach people how to perceive the anointing - His presence and power - and receive on their own.

So that is why I'm not talking about taking the microwave apart piece by piece, but rather defining, explaining, and leading you into a how-to know 'the anointing', for once in that Presence, there is fullness of joy and every need is met.



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Until next week then, blessings, John Fenn

What is the anointing # 2

2013-03-02, John Fenn, www.supernaturalhousechurch.org

Hi all.

Last week I shared from Luke 5:17 while Jesus was teaching 'the power of the Lord was to heal'. I also shared how the Father is the power while Jesus is the authority to release His power.

Anointed

The word used for non-sacred anointing is 'aleipho' as seen in Mark 16:1 when the ladies took spices to anoint (they thought) the dead body of Jesus. It is also used in Luke 7:38 to describe the woman washing Jesus' feet with her hair and perfume.

But the word 'Chrio' means 'sacred anointing' which is where we get the word 'Christ' and is used just for anointing that comes from God the Father. Jesus used it of Himself in Luke 4:18:

"The Spirit of the Lord (Father) is upon me **because He** has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

Notice that - The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because He has anointed me to preach....

There is always purpose, always a 'because' attached to the anointing. At the Cornerstone is of course the Anointed One, Christ, who came with purpose to earth to die for our sins.

But in our daily devotions and walk with Him, His anointing which revels His purpose in our lives, even if just for that day, is what we seek. And in a meeting, whether home church or auditorium, our meetings should be marked by a desire to have His anointing, which reveals His purpose in that meeting.

My starting point in Luke 5:17 says while Jesus was teaching the power was to heal - purpose revealed, but it was in another direction than teaching. Jesus adjusted to go with the power present to heal.

Going in another direction

I had entered the Wednesday night service late so I sat in a side section. Almost immediately the Father opened my eyes to His realm. I saw a tall angel standing on the platform behind the worship leader, and the Father said He wanted to heal and deliver people, so I knew the angel had a role to play in that, but didn't know how or what.

I was fascinated because this angel had beautiful wings and he stood about 12' (3m) tall. His wings extended from his back upwards another 3' or so before the 'knuckle joint' of the wing turned the flow back and down. I was drawn by what we would call in a hawk or eagle, the 'flight feathers' - those longest of feathers at the tips of the wings. This angel's flight feathers were more than 3' long. What a beautiful sight!

The power of the Lord was to heal and deliver, but I wondered if the worship leader would perceive this. The angel stood still until a song or two later the worship leader interrupted the worship and said this: "The power of the Lord is here tonight to heal and deliver people, so if you need that let us worship with all our hearts..."

Oh those wings!

With those words the angel started to move those giant wings upward in what seemed slow motion, then downward with slow force, pushing if it had been in the natural, air forward and over the congregation. What I saw was the glory cloud of the Lord as I often seen it: Each particle is a different color, as if in a fog but each droplet is a different color of the rainbow and hundreds of hues in between, flowing over the crowd.

Then again, those massive wings were brought back, and then downward with greater force and speed this time, and the next even faster, and with each downward beat this multi-faceted cloud of glory washed over the congregation - this went on as long as the people were truly worshipping (more about that in a minute), and once done the angel's flapping slowed and stopped, and then he disappeared from sight altogether as we stood in holy silence, soaking in the Father's presence. Later the pastor had those who were healed that night testify, and there were about 20 or so who



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spoke.

The power to heal was in a totally different direction than the worship leader had planned - are we brave enough to step into the unknown and trust our ability to perceive His anointing (presence) and go in the direction of the power?

Ministering to the Lord

In Acts 13:1-2 we find 5 men getting together to seek the Lord:

"As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, 'Separate Barnabus and Saul to me for the work to which I've called them'."

They were seeking the Lord's direction...but what does 'ministered to the Lord' mean? And can we put ourselves in such a position in our daily devotions?

Of your own expense

The word 'ministered' here is 'leitourgeo', where we get 'liturgy'. The meaning in the first century is the key to understanding it, as it is not even close to the repetitive thing called 'The Liturgy' in Roman Catholic and Anglican services of today.

In Paul's time it meant: "To supply public office at one's own expense; public service at one's own expense."

In ancient Greek the city office holders were not paid a salary, they paid their own salary for the privilege of serving the people. Therefore the use of this word as they 'ministered to the Lord' indicates these 5 men were focusing 100% on Him, giving of themselves in complete devotion (also noted by their fasting). THAT is why the presence of the Holy Spirit came upon them and gave them direction.

'Me' generation

They were worshipping the Father and Lord <u>at their expense</u> - meaning no prayers to 'open my eyes', no 'draw me close to you', no prayer requests for themselves or their family, nothing 'me' oriented at all - they were giving to Him of themselves at their expense and focused therefore 100% on Him and Him alone.

It is the same principle of David in II Samuel 24:24 when Araunah offered the king his land for free, but David responded: "I will not offer to the Lord that which costs me nothing."

This principle governs our lives, or is to. For instance, tithes and offerings are supposed to cost you something. That is why the widow's 2 mites were greater giving than the rich who gave of their excess. It is why Jesus commented that if we merely love those who love us, it is nothing - but loving those who hate us or speak ill of us, that is like the Father and His love.

Our lives in the Lord are supposed to cost us. That is what renewing the mind and being a disciple is all about - the laying down of our lives, counting ourselves dead to our former sin, and giving all to be like Him.

But in this 'me' generation it is no wonder the songs we call 'worship' are mostly 'me' focused. These men were not 'me' focused - they ministered to the Lord - they gave of themselves to Him.

How to worship and know His presence, His anointing

How did they minister to the Lord? The Bible answers the Bible, so look at true worship seen around the throne in heaven. From Revelation 4:8, 11 before the Father's throne (the Father is seen in all of chapter 4):

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come. You are worthy O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power. For you have created all things and for your pleasure they are now, and were then created."

Followed in 5:9-10 by the worship of the Lamb, Christ, who came to Him who sits on the throne to take the book from His right hand and opens the seals:

"You are worthy to take the book and to open the seals thereof; for you were killed, and have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every kindred and tongue and people and nation; and have made us a kingdom of priests to our God and we will reign on the earth." and v 13: "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever."

If you want an example of worship in modern music, listen to Michael W. Smith's 'Agnus Dei' off his 'Worship' album. Ignore the exhortation to the crowd at a couple points, and ignore the clapping at the end. (Clapping isn't worship, but an exclamation of joy in thanksgiving, but it isn't worship ie He isn't Elvis, He is God and should be worshipped, not



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applauded)

Amy Grant also has a nice version of 'Agnus Dei' off a Christmas album of hers. Also check out various versions of 'Revelation Song' - Kari Jobe, Maranatha Music, Phillips, Craig & Dean, or 'Women of Faith Worship Team'.

I don't care that I can run through a troop or leap over a wall, nor that I am blessed to be a blessing. I am so in love with the Father and the Lord that I don't care if my eyes are open or if He draws me near - my heart cries out 'Holy, holy, holy are you O Lord. Worthy, worthy, worthy are you O Lord'....and there is His presence, there is true worship, true manifest anointing...and in Him there is NO lack...so worship Him, enter His presence, and more next week. Blessings.

John Fenn

www.cwowi.org

Traditions of men #3

2013-03-09, John Fenn, www.supernaturalhousechurch.org

Hi all,

Last week I shared about the anointing in worship, entering His presence, giving of ourselves in worship.

That isn't to say I don't enjoy songs of thanks and praise, for I do. I love songs with lyrics of dedication and pouring my heart to the Father - but for me, I don't get a sense of His direction (anointing) until I stop singing about my heart and my desires and my neediness, and start focusing 100% on Him alone. THEN in that communion, in that exchange of thoughts and feelings, His presence is felt heaviest. In those moments, when we stop singing to Him about ourselves, He starts singing and speaking to us about His love for us. But to get there, you have to stop with 'self' and focus on Him.

Power of attorney

Everyone expected my grandfather to die before grandma, but that is not what happened. You know how they tell you before surgery there is a 1 in 27,000 chance you'll be allergic to the medicine? Grandma was that 1 out of 27,000 who had a bad reaction and never woke up.

My grandfather was devastated and his mental condition started deteriorating almost overnight as he gave up the will to live. Today we recognize Alzheimer's Disease, but back then it was 'senility'. He gave mom 'power of attorney' before it got too bad, and she retained power of attorney until his death a couple of years later.

'Power of attorney' is the authority to act for another person in legal or financial matters and is expected to be used in the same fashion as the person giving you that authority would wish. It isn't for personal gain, but rather always aware you are doing what that person would want. It is what the Father first gave to Jesus, and now has given to us so as Christ's body so that we have the authority to act on His behalf in the earth.

Faith, power, authority

This series started by talking about how when Jesus was teaching, 'the power was to heal', from Luke 5:17, showing the power is the Father, and Jesus is the authority to use that power.

Jesus said of Himself in John 5:19 and 30: "Truly, truly I tell you that the Son can do nothing of Himself, but only what He sees the Father doing; for whatever He does, that the Son does likewise. I can of myself do nothing; as I hear, I judge..."

In Acts 2:22, Peter, who had been with Jesus about 3 1/2 years, said this: "Jesus of Nazareth, attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs which God did through Him..."

In His closing prayer in John 17 before going to the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus said this to the Father: "I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do. I have manifested your name to the men you gave me out of the world. I have given them the words which you gave me." (4, 6, 8,14)

The body of Christ

The Father was the power behind everything Jesus said and did, giving Jesus authority to act on His behalf, which is the power of attorney in modern speech.

Jesus said this before His ascension: "All authority is given to me in heaven and on earth. <u>Therefore you go</u> and make disciples in all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, <u>teaching them to</u>



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observe and do whatsoever I've commanded you..." v19-20

All authority is given to Me...therefore you go...We have the authority to use the name of Jesus to cast out demons, to lay hands on the sick, to go boldly to the Father in prayer on behalf of others.

But I've clearly shown by chapter and verse the authority to use the name of Jesus MUST be in conjunction with the power of the Father - the anointing - else the name is spoken in vain with no power released at all.

What does this mean on a day to day basis?

If the anointing is the manifestation of the Father's presence and revelation of His will in a given situation, what does that mean for you and I?

We take our clue starting with the scripture I started this series with, Luke 5:17: "As Jesus was teaching the power was to heal..."

Notice - Jesus was doing something else when suddenly the Power was to go in another direction. That means our church thinking is all wrong. The anointing isn't something you feel in a service, it isn't something you have to 'go to' with others to get. The anointing or the power to do something happens in daily life when we are in the midst of something else.

When should we expect 'the anointing'?

Consider that Jesus said He only did what He saw the Father do, yet **most of His miracles were interruptions to what He was doing**, not something He planned. That means as He went about His daily routine He was <u>constantly on the lookout for what the Father was doing</u> and saying.

We really do have it all wrong don't we? We've been trained to go to church or a meeting with a special speaker and then we'll experience anointed teaching and anointed worship - meaning we felt the power of God or sensed Him moving in a particular way. Praise God for those times, but why are we trained to look ONLY there for 'the anointing', when the example in scripture is the anointing happened in daily life?

Consider John 2:1-11 where Jesus was merely a guest at a wedding, when because of someone's oversight, He graciously turned water into wine. Look at these other interruptions:

A leper came up to Jesus as He walked down a mountain, and was healed. Matthew 8:1-4
As He entered Capernaum a Roman Centurion stopped Him on behalf of a beloved servant. Mt 8:5-13
As He entered Peter's mother's house He discovered Peter's mother in law in bed with a fever, and healed her. Mt 8:14

As He was sleeping on a boat the disciples awakened Him because there was a storm and they were afraid of sinking, so He woke up, told the wind and waves to be guiet, and they did. Matthew 8:23-27

I could go on and on - as He left Jericho blind Bartimaeus called out to Him, interrupting His departure, but was healed. Mark 10:46-52

In Matthew 9:27-31 two blind men followed Him into someone's house where He was going to have dinner, but were healed.

In Mark 5:21-43 Jairus came to Him and got Him to follow Him to his house to lay hands on his daughter, for the first unplanned miracle, and while He was going a woman with a chronic hemorrhaging condition touched His clothes and got healed - it goes on and on like this through the gospels.

Maybe we could say that was just for Jesus, but in Acts 3:1-7 Peter and John are on their way to the temple when a lame beggar asked for money but ended up getting healed. And what about Philip minding his own business in Acts 8:26 when an angel tells him to take the desert highway down by Gaza, where he discovers an Ethiopian official who is about to be born again!

Then we have Peter hanging around on the roof waiting for lunch and seeing a vision in Acts 10, which led to going to the Roman Cornelius' house where he brought them Jesus and the baptism with the Holy Spirit. And I don't think Paul planned for Eutychus to fall asleep while he taught, but when the young man fell 3 floors to his death, Paul raised him from the dead, then went back upstairs and taught until dawn! Acts 20:6-12

Can you adjust?

So you see, Acts really is normal Christianity, and most all we see around us is abnormal Christianity. We've been



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trained to look for the anointing at church, even in our home churches, when the Bible actually demonstrates the anointing, that is the manifest power, presence, and revelation of the Father's will, happens during the course of life!

Can we adjust to that? I was in a store and saw out of the corner of my eye, a shorter woman struggling to get something from a high shelf. I would have just kept walking but felt impressed to stop and help her. Reversing direction, an interruption to what I was doing, I stopped to help her and ended up praying for her sore shoulder. She said it felt suddenly better, and thanked me, and I went on about my business.

I was approached in a parking lot by a young woman asking for just a cup of coffee, I would have turned her down as I had many beggars, but felt prompted to stop and talk to her. I ended up paying \$20 to the local coffee shop that she could have credit for several coffees there, and all I did was encourage her to pray as that was about all she was open to at the time - and when I complained to the Father how I wished I could have led her in a prayer of salvation, He replied, "You did what I asked you to do, and that's all she could receive today."

Our power of attorney in Christ is just like the power of attorney in the natural world - it is meant to be exercised in daily life, not to be locked away in some auditorium once or twice a week.

Should not these exceptions to our schedules be the norm, rather than the exception? And why does this happen, why should we be looking for the anointing in our daily life not only when we 'go to meeting'? Because I John 2:27:

"As for you, the anointing you have received of Him remains in you, and you don't need anyone to teach you. (This isn't throwing away being taught, but rather emphasizing the Holy Spirit in us teaches us). His anointing teaches you all things and is the truth and not a lie, and just as it has taught you, remain in Him."

And we'll pick it up with that next week, blessings, John Fenn www.cwowi.org

Traditions of men #4

2013-03-16, John Fenn, www.supernaturalhousechurch.org

Hi all

I ended last week talking about I John 2:27 which says the anointing we have of Him abides in us. That means I don't first look for His manifest presence and revealed will in a meeting called 'church', but I look inside myself to Him throughout my day, that I may follow where He leads.

Carrabba's or Abuelo's?

In Tulsa there is a street, 71st, that has more than 3 miles (5 km) of stores and restaurants along it. Along that street our favorite Mexican restaurant is Abuelo's, and our favorite Italian restaurant is Carrabba's. They are right next to each other along 71st, and are our 'go to' restaurants on our 'date days'. One 'date day' Barb asked me where I wanted to have dinner.

Now understand that we've been married close to 35 years, and we dated 4 years before that, AND we had the same friends and went to the same birthday parties and since about age 8. When we were 12 she was at my Confirmation Service in the Episcopal church. So I know when Barb asks 'Where do you want to have dinner?', she is really saying "I already know where I want to have dinner and this question is a test to see if you and I are thinking the same thing."

The trouble is, I **am** in tune with her thinking, which I knew that night to be Abuelo's. But I was asking myself if I should tell her I was really hungry for Carrabba's Filet Marsala, one of the best steaks in town? Or do I tell her I ate Mexican yesterday when I had lunch with one of the men from our church? I knew she would give up what she wanted for me if I told her, but as much as I wanted Filet Marsala, I wanted to please her more.

Good thing I love Mexican food because that's what we ate that night.

Reading this will be the only way she'll discover I wanted Italian that night because love doesn't push its own way. Often that means changing direction to meet a need or desire while remaining silent about what you would prefer. God is love, so if I do that for my wife, how much more does He change direction for us?

Prophecy or of her own spirit?

She played an instrument in our worship team, and was often used by the Lord to prophesy to the congregation. But just as often what she said wasn't a prophecy for the congregation, but was born of her soul, out of something the



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Lord had taught her that week that was still stirring in her, and she felt 'led' to put a 'Thus saith the Lord' on it and prophesy to everyone. Often she would jump in with her 'word' just before the legitimate prophecy or tongues/interpretation was about to be spoken by someone else.

I was the pastor, and our worship leader would also know what was God and what wasn't, and quite often when she gave one of her prophecy's he and I would look at each other, and patiently wait until she was done before allowing that someone to speak with what the Lord REALLY wanted to say.

You know I never said a word to her about it, because even though what she said wasn't intended by the Lord for that moment, it still blessed people and wasn't unscriptural in content - it just wasn't what He had planned for that time. But<u>He always seemed able to go with the flow</u> in a service, so I learned to as well.

I was in a service as guest speaker and the worship team couldn't settle on true worship, but would have a song that was all about Him - Holy, Holy - and then switch back to lyrics exclaiming what a pitifully needy people we are, and then back again to focus on Him. I felt teased and it was hard to stay focused.

The Lord appeared to me that night during one of their songs focused on Him, and I expressed my frustration with the worship and the fact 2/3 of the congregation seemed uninterested. He replied, "It's OK, I'll do what I can tonight, and the next time you come back it will be different, and I'll do more then." He then walked around and spoke to a few people, and then disappeared. I remained amazed at His graciousness.

Interruptions to His schedule - go with the flow

Acts 10:38 says the Father "anointed Jesus of Nazareth who went about doing good, and healing all who were oppressed of the devil."

Jesus was anointed to do good. And now we are His body on the earth, the only Jesus most people will ever see. We are anointed to do good.

We have to take off the religious glasses, take the anointing out of Sunday morning, and realize the anointing may ask us to change directions for something as simple and 'non-spiritual' as taking a plate of cookies to a neighbor, or checking in on a neighbor who has been sick, or calling someone who has been on your heart recently. Went about doing good...anointed to do good...

Went about doing good

He turned water into wine and did it anonymously in a way that gave honor to the host and hostess. He fed 5,000 and 4,000 men respectively, not counting women and children, after they had taken the time and effort to come into the wilderness to listen to Him all the way until dinner time.

He blessed children when they came to Him, even though His disciples tried to send them away. He paid rent for the use of a fishing boat by giving Peter, James, and John enough fish to nearly sink their boats and break their net. (Luke 5:1-10)

In general, He served people wherever their were needs - as pointed out last week - going with people to heal them, their children, their servants, when they interrupted His journeys. He went about doing good, ate meals with the unloved, hated, or unclean, and was anointed by the Father to do that. And He did that because He said, He did what He saw the Father doing - willing to change directions with grace.

Concerned for the heart, not doctrine

I had spoken at a traditional church and the pastor was now taking me and others out to eat at a Mexican restaurant. There were 8 of us total. As the waitress moved back and forth bringing drinks and chips and salsa and such, I noticed her accent was Spanish, but not Mexican Spanish, so I asked her where she was from. She replied with heavy accent, Argentina, that she was going to school nearby to become a nurse.

As she headed to the kitchen for yet more chips and salsa, I casually asked; "Do you have anything for her Father?"

Immediately, as if He was waiting for me to ask, I saw a large rectangular 'window' for lack of a better term, or like a large TV, in the air. I saw a 5 or 6 year old girl who I knew intuitively was our now 20 something year old waitress, riding a small horse. I only saw the horse from the head up, and the little girl from the mid-section up, but could see she was bouncing up and down as she rode. Behind her stood a man who was beaming with joy, who I guessed was her father, thrilled just watching her ride.

Having a good time



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What is the anointing #1...#4

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The Father spoke to me as I watched: "Tell her that her father is with me, and that he is having a wonderful time, like when she used to ride her horse and he would watch her ride and they would play together." Then the scene vanished.

On her next trip to our table I asked her about her family, and she became somber. She explained she missed her family, and her father had died about 6 months earlier, as she wiped away her tears. But, she explained, she knew he was in heaven and now she can pray to him everyday and he is watching over her, so in some ways she felt closer to him now. I could tell of course being from Argentina and making that statement, she was raised Roman Catholic.

Because the Father gave me instructions, and He chose not to address her obvious theological error, neither did I, but I did ask her if her father had been a praying man. She was most emphatic that yes he was, and that he went to Mass all the time and lit candles for people he prayed for.

When I told her what I saw and heard she started crying, and explained through her tears it was a toy horse on springs, and when she was little she and her dad would play together and make believe as she rode her horse on various adventures. That he was in heaven having a wonderful time put her heart at ease, as well as ease the guilt she felt at not being home with her mother and family after his death.

Went about doing good....anointed to do good...

A story like that may assault some spiritual sensibilities that He would be so gracious to someone in such serious error as praying to her dead father, but love and therefore the Father's anointing, meets needs and overlooks things unnecessary for that moment. He can correct her later in another way. When Jesus told the woman caught in adultery that He didn't condemn her, but to not sin again in that way, He didn't chide her for opening the door on the adulterous relationship. He just met the need, said what was needed, and moved on.

When Jesus said He is 'meek and lowly in heart, come learn of me', He meant it. We are to become meek and lowly of heart like Him, and learn of Him. Walk in love, follow the anointing, and don't add to it.

What He said to Chris

I speak of our handicapped son, Chris, fairly often in this space. He is 33, but mentally about 4 due to the umbilical cord wrapped around his neck in a slip knot during labor, which cut off oxygen which resulted in brain damage at birth, and lacking normal growth of his legs as well.

One of the things Chris has been robbed of is the concept of time. While he is learning gradually, most often when I tell him I have to go tell people about Jesus and will see him in about 10 days, he says, "OK, see you in the morning" or "See you next week!"

So getting him to understand "By His stripes you WERE healed", has proved fruitless. He doesn't understand next week, let alone the concept of his healing being paid for 2,000 years ago. But what he does know is this: "When I get to heaven, no more wheelchair" and "When I get to heaven I'm going to run."

One day he came crawling down the hallway, which he does 'Army man' style, as he can't get up on all fours, so he pulls himself along with his arms. "Dad! Dad! Know what Jesus told me?!" I said, "No Chris, what did the Lord tell you?"

"Jesus told me He's going to walk through the mountains with me! Yep, that's what He said. He's going to walk through the mountains with me! Yahoo! (laughing in joy) That will be fun, yep, He's going to walk through the mountains with me."

Who was anointed...went about doing good....

He did good to my son by giving him that promise of a future walk with him.

The anointing is within us, and that presence is that of our humble, meek, down to earth, Father and Lord. Don't let time at church be the only time you look for that sense of 'the anointing', but when we awaken each day, say 'Good morning Father', and look down inside you to see where that ever present anointing would have you pray or have you do that day...it may be as simple as a cup of water to a child, some clothes to the needy, a visit to a sick person or prisoner - we are anointed to do good because Jesus is STILL anointed to go about doing good, and continues to do so, through us.

A new subject next week, blessings, John Fenn www.cwowi.org

