



JERRY SAVELLE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
JULY - SEPTEMBER 2018

ADVENTURES IN FAITH

EXPERIENCING
GOD'S GLORY

by Jerry Savelle

PRESENCE,
POWER, AND
GOODNESS

by Carolyn Savelle

PURSUDE AND
POSSESS

by Ken Ledford

REST, IN
HIS GLORY

by Justin Bridges



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YOUR

Glory



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EXPERIENCING GOD'S

Glory

JERRY SAVELLE

I've come to greatly enjoy the sensation of the cool sand beneath my feet when I walk along the beach in the early morning. Experiencing the sound of the waves crashing against the shore and the scent of the salt air as the first rays of sunlight break the horizon always speaks to me of God's glory.

It was December 31 and my wife, Carolyn, and I were enjoying the first week of our annual vacation to Hawaii. As was my habit, I'd awakened around 5:30 in the morning to spend time alone at the beach just praying and listening to the Holy Spirit.

That morning the Lord said, "Everywhere you preach throughout the world this coming year, tell believers to keep these words on their lips and in their prayers: *God, show me Your glory.* Preach this everywhere you go."

I've experienced God's glory in my own life and ministry; however, I believe we've

reached the time when God wants to show us His glory in ways we've never before experienced it. I believe we are entering the days of greater glory that the Lord spoke about when He said, "*The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former*" (Haggai 2:9 KJV). I also believe the latter temple Haggai is talking about is the Body of Christ of this day. In other words, we are going to experience the glory of God as no other generation has experienced it.

But what, exactly, *is* the glory of God?

When Moses beseeched God saying, "*Please, show me Your glory*" (Exodus 33:18), God said, "*I will make all my goodness pass before you... I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion*" (verse 19). He went on to say, "*Behold, I make a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels such*

as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation; and all the people among whom you are shall see the works of the LORD. For it is an awesome thing that I will do with you” (Exodus 34:10).

It is clear in these verses that the glory of God is the manifestation of His presence, His power, and His goodness.

From the moment I came to the Lord in 1969, I went on a quest to know and experience His presence, His power, and His goodness. I'd never heard of those things because I hadn't grown up in circles where the glory of the God was spoken about or preached in church. My family had never attended meetings with preachers like William Branham or Oral Roberts, where miracles, signs, and wonders routinely took place.

I was so determined to experience the glory of God that I shut down my business and spent the next three months studying the Word for no less than eight hours each day. At the end of those three months, the power of God was in my hands, the Word of God was in my mouth, and the fire of God was in my eyes.

I stepped into ministry forty-nine years ago in the streets of Shreveport, Louisiana, where I ministered to drug addicts, prostitutes, alcoholics, and all sorts of down-and-outers. From day one I saw the Lord perform miracles and deliverances as He set people free, to the point that the local

police department asked me to come preach in their jails.

Miracles have been a part of my ministry from day one, and my unending quest for the glory of God has brought about the manifestation of that glory in my life and in my meetings on a consistent basis. I've learned that although God wants to manifest His glory in our midst, it doesn't just happen. We have a part to play. There are actually three prerequisites to experiencing the glory of God. We are to *hunger* for it, *pray* for it, and *believe* for it.

GOD, SHOW ME YOUR GLORY!

HUNGER FOR THE GLORY

If you're satisfied with the status quo, Christianity as usual, and services that are just the norm, then it's likely you'll never see any greater manifestations of the glory of God.

Jesus said, *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled”* (Matthew 5:6). The number one prerequisite to experiencing God's glory is to hunger for it. People who don't hunger for it have seen all of the glory they are going to see. Those who hunger for more of the glory of God will never be let down. Every major move of God that has taken place on this planet came because someone hungered for it.

It doesn't take a whole church to be hungry; with God, one person can be a majority. He said, *“So I*

sought for a man among them who would ... stand in the gap before Me” (Ezekiel 22:30). God didn't say He was looking for an entire denomination; He was looking for just one person so that He could honor their hunger.

The King James Version of Exodus 33:18 tells us Moses beseeched the Lord to show him His glory. The word *beseech* in this context means “to show hunger or a sense of urgency.” I sense an urgency in the Spirit that God is ready to move in ways He's always wanted to move, but He can't do it without violating His own Word. The manifestation of God's glory requires that someone first hunger for it.

To ask God to show us His glory may seem contrary to what we've learned about faith, specifically the fact that faith *believes* and *receives* at the time we pray. For me to keep the words *God, show me Your glory* on my lips as God had instructed me to do made it seem as if I didn't believe I'd received when I prayed. So I asked the Lord about it.

He said, “Well, do you want to see My glory every day?”

“Yes,” I answered.

“Then get up every day and say, ‘God, show me Your glory.’ When you ask Me to show you My glory, you are talking about receiving it that same day. Just keep doing it each day that you want to see my glory.”

When I take time each day to ask the Lord to show me His glory, I experience manifestations

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of His presence, His power, and His goodness in ways I could never and have never imagined. You too can experience His glory on a daily basis. All you have to do is ask, because the Word of God assures us that God is no respecter of persons (see Acts 10:34).

I was recently in Palm Coast, Florida, preaching a meeting with Richard Roberts, the son of Oral Roberts. On the last night of the meeting, after we'd preached together a message entitled "Show Us Your Glory," the gift of a word of knowledge began to operate in both of us.

I remember saying, "There is someone here tonight who was in a terrible automobile accident, which has caused severe pain in your neck and vertebrae. This happened some time ago, and you've never totally recovered. But tonight God wants to show you His glory."

A woman came forward and told me that fifteen months earlier she was severely injured when she and her husband had been driving to a restaurant for dinner. Another vehicle had slammed into them from behind. After the doctors had done all they could do, she was still in pain. I said, "Lord, show her Your glory," and then I laid my hands on her neck. The power of God immediately came on her and she was instantly healed.

Then Richard pointed in my direction and said, "Somebody over here is in severe back pain. I know it isn't Jerry, but it's somebody

real close." It turned out to be the usher who was assisting us. When Richard laid his hands on the man, the pain left immediately and he gave his testimony.

God wants to show us His glory; He wants us to experience His presence, His power, and His goodness. But we must first hunger for it. I recall seeing this kind of hunger back in the early 1970s when Brother Kenneth E. Hagin was holding his camp

THOSE WHO
HUNGER FOR MORE
OF THE GLORY OF
GOD WILL NEVER
BE LET DOWN.

meetings. People came from all over the United States to be in those meetings, and as the people's hunger for God's glory grew, so did the anointing.

I remember Brother Oral Roberts telling me about his tent crusades. Although his tent could accommodate nearly twenty thousand people, there were still hundreds who could not get in. Wherever people were hungry for the glory of God, the glory manifested.

A few years after I got saved, one of my cousins who'd heard that

I was in the ministry came to me and said, "You don't have any fun now, do you?"

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"You used to be fun, but now you're a preacher. What could you possibly do that's fun? You just preach all the time; what fun is that?"

So I said, "Well, when was the last time you saw blind eyes open? Or the crippled walk? Or once deaf ears open? Instead of telling me I don't have fun, just follow me around sometime!"

As it turned out, he did start following me around; it was right after he was almost killed in a motorcycle accident. I went to the hospital and prayed for him, and God raised him up. He became part of our *Chariots of Light Christian Bikers* group and has been having fun ever since. He began to hunger for the glory of God, and God honored his hunger.

PRAY FOR THE GLORY

The Bible says, *Ye have not because ye ask not* (James 4:2 KJV). One of the great evangelists of days past, John Wesley, said it like this: "God does nothing except in response to believing prayer." The second prerequisite to experiencing the glory of God is that we *pray* for it. Prayer welcomes the presence of God.

In December 1900 at the Bethel Bible School in Topeka, Kansas, a small group of students set out to search the scriptures for evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

YOU TOO CAN
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After reading the book of Acts, they agreed that the indisputable proof of this experience was the evidence of speaking with other tongues. They too wanted this Bible experience, so on December 31, 1900, they gathered for a watch night service at the school.

At midnight Charles Parham, the leader of the school, laid hands on a young woman to receive the Holy Spirit. He said later, “I had scarcely repeated three dozen sentences when a glory fell upon her, a halo seemed to surround her head and face, and she began speaking in [another] language.” Within a few years the effects of that prayer meeting had spread to California and started the Azusa Street revival, from which many of the early day healing ministries were birthed. The nation was changed because a small group of people who hungered for the glory of God came together and prayed.

Moses was so hungry for the glory and the presence of God that when God told him to take His people into the Promised Land, he prayed, “*If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here*” (Exodus 33:15). In other words, Moses said, “If I can’t count on You manifesting Your presence, then this is as far as I go. I’m not going another step if I’m not assured that Your presence will be in manifestation.” He was hungry for it and he prayed for it.

In the early 1900s a young man named Evan Roberts went

into a chapel in his hometown of Loughor, Wales, where he prayed, “God, I’m not leaving this chapel until You move on my nation.” I’ve been to that chapel and I sat in the very place Evan Roberts sat. As a result of Roberts’s prayer, the Welch revival began. It was a move of God that gave birth to many churches. The Welch Revival came because one man hungered for the presence, the power, and the goodness of God—and then he prayed for it.

I speak at churches throughout the world each and every year. Many pastors tell me they want to see God’s glory, yet they do not make room for Him to move. They’ll hand me a program with a minute-by-minute detail of the service, which allows me exactly twenty minutes to deliver my message. God couldn’t move if He wanted to in places like that; He’s not on the program. Every time I was in attendance at a service when there was a move of God, it happened because the pastor agreed everything in that service was subject to change.

I was on my way to Toronto a number of years ago for a one-night meeting at a church that I’d never been to before. I was seated in my airplane when the Lord said, “Would you be willing to stay for as long as I want you to?”

“Well, Lord,” I said, “I’m willing to do anything You want me to do, but I’m scheduled to be in Riverside, California, tomorrow night and in

another place the next night.”

Then He said, “If I arrange with those pastors to release you from your commitment, will you stay in Toronto for as long as I want you to?”

“Yes, Sir. If you take care of it I’ll stay as long as You want me to.” And He did.

When I got to the church and met with the pastor in his office, he said, “Brother Jerry, I was praying today and the Lord told me to ask you if you’d be willing to stay for as long as He wants you to.”

I said, “Well, He asked me that on the way up here, and I made the commitment that I’d stay as long as He wants me to stay. So, Pastor, let’s go have church and see what happens.”

We had a powerful move of God that night, and at the end of the evening the pastor announced I would be back the next night. We had an even greater move of God the second night. Then something happened. People began coming straight from work to the church to pray. They’d get off at five o’clock, arrive at the church, and then spend nearly two hours praying in the Holy Spirit. When I’d walk into the building, it sounded like a beehive; the place was saturated

with the anointing of God.

I said to the pastor, “The only way my extended stay is going to work is if we agree that everything is subject to change according to God’s plan for each evening. If I don’t get to preach, I don’t get to preach. If we don’t get to receive an offering, we won’t do it. And if a singer doesn’t get to sing her favorite song, she won’t sing it.” He agreed with me, and I ended up staying there for twenty-one nights. The Lord told me to go home and rest for a few nights, so I did. But then the pastor said, “Come back,” so I returned for fourteen more nights. I went home to rest again and then returned for another nine nights. We had such a powerful move of God in that place because the people were hungry for God’s glory and they prayed.

If we want to experience the manifestation of God’s glory, not only must we *hunger* and *pray* for it, we must also *believe* for it.

BELIEVE FOR THE GLORY

As people of faith, we are familiar with the story of Jesus and the fig tree; how He demonstrated the power of faith. When the disciples marveled, saying, “*Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away*” (Mark 11:20), Jesus responded, “*Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them*” (verse 24).

Our choice to *believe* we receive

what we’ve asked of God is the key to its manifestation. To believe is to exercise our faith; it’s a principle that Jesus demonstrated over and over again.

When the centurion came to Jesus and asked Him to heal his servant, Jesus said, “*Go your way; as you have believed, so let it be done for you*” (Matthew 8:13). The Message translation says, “*Go. What you believed could happen has happened.*” Jesus talks a lot in all the gospels about the importance of believing. If we’re going to hunger and pray for God’s glory, then we must believe God will honor our requests. Remember, when Moses beseeched God to show him His glory, he was not denied. Moses believed, and God honored his request.

Once again, the glory of God is a manifestation of His presence, His power, and His goodness. We can also see that God manifested His glory in a significant way when Jesus raised His friend Lazarus from the dead:

And some of them said, “Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days.”

Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you

would see the glory of God?” (John 11:37–40).

Notice that Jesus established *believing* as a prerequisite for seeing the glory of God. As we know, Jesus instructed that the stone be removed from the opening of the tomb, and then he cried with a loud voice, “*Lazarus, come forth!*” (verse 43). And that is just what Lazarus did.

We see Jesus reinforce the importance of believing in other instances as well. When two blind men came to Him and said, “*Son of David, have mercy on us!*” (Matthew 9:27), this happened: *And Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” Then He touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith let it be to you.” And their eyes were opened* (verses 28–29).

In the book of Mark we find another instance of Jesus demonstrating the prerequisite to believe. When His disciples were unable to cast out a demon from a boy, the boy’s father brought him to Jesus. Immediately, the boy fell to the ground, foaming at the mouth.

So [Jesus] asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?”

And he said, “From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

Jesus said to him, “If you can

believe, all things are possible to him who believes.”

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord I believe; help my unbelief!”

When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose (Mark 9:21–25).

All things are possible to the one who believes. When we hunger, pray, and believe God for anything that is in accordance with His Word, He will honor our request.

I realize most people don't have an international ministry and speak to thousands of people throughout the world as I do, but we are *all* called to experience and demonstrate the power of God in our own families, churches, communities, and spheres of influence. God is no respecter of persons. He has manifested His glory in behalf of others, and He will do the same for you—if you will hunger, pray, and believe to see His presence, His power, and His goodness.



JERRY SAVELLE

has been traveling the world teaching people how to win in life. Dr. Savelle has ministered in more than three thousand churches in twenty-six nations, and has overseas offices in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Tanzania and South Africa.

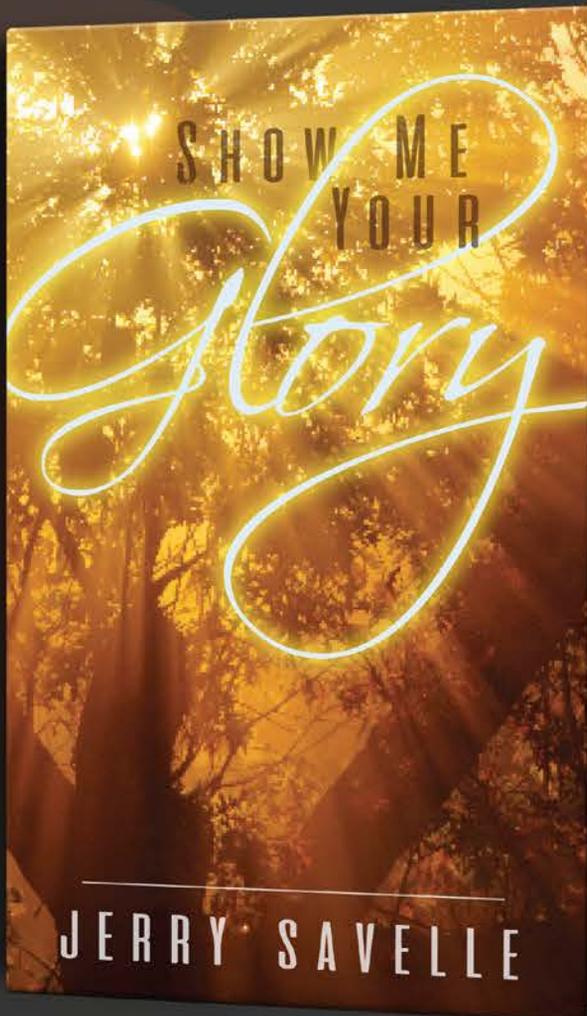
I WILL KEEP
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GOD'S PRESENCE
GOD'S POWER &
GOD'S GOODNESS
IN MY LIFE!



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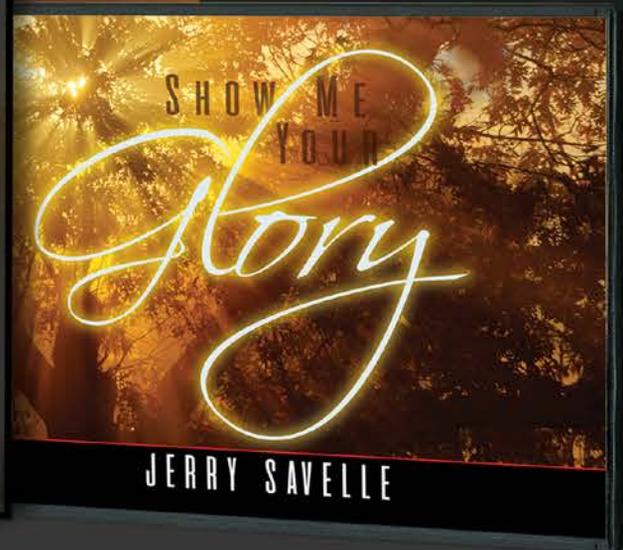
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PRESENCE, POWER, & GOODNESS

CAROLYN SAVELLE

When Jerry received the word from the Lord instructing His people to declare daily, “God, show me Your glory!” I took it to heart. To ensure this word became firmly established in my spirit, I wrote in on pink sticky tabs and posted them all over our house—on the bedroom door, on the stairs, on the refrigerator, and on just about every mirror on every wall. I was serious about getting this word inside me.

When Jerry saw the tabs he said, “Carolyn, I hate those little pink things plastered all over the house.” (Of course, he’d had professional bookmarks printed because he thought they looked nicer.) I said, “Jerry, you just leave me alone and leave my pink

sticky tabs alone. You’re leaving tomorrow and will be gone for two weeks. I give you my word, when you come back the sticky tabs will be gone because by then I’ll have that word from God down on the inside of me.”

Every time I walked by one of those notes I’d declare, “God, show me Your glory,” and then for good measure I’d add, “And show me Your presence, Your power, and Your goodness.” By the time Jerry got home I no longer needed those sticky tabs; I had my own revelation of God’s glory—His presence, power, and goodness.

The Bible says, *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who seeks God must believe that He is, and that He is*

a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). In other words, when we take the time to diligently seek God, He will reward us. If we don't seek God, guess what? No rewards.

When we choose to seek God by declaring daily, "God, show me Your glory," He rewards us with manifestations of His presence, His power, and His glory.

THE PRESENCE OF GOD

The Psalmist wrote these familiar words: *You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures evermore* (Psalm 16:11). Joy comes from the presence of God. Joy is not found in gambling; it is not found in drugs, alcohol, or pornography. Joy is never found in anything the world has to offer; it is only found in the presence of the Lord.

When you're depressed, when you're down, when you're in calamity, trials, or trouble, all you need to do is enter the presence of God. In His presence is fullness of joy.

When God created the first man and woman, He placed them in the garden, where He walked with them in the cool of the day (see Genesis 3:8). The garden was the place where He fellowshiped

with them. For me, the best time to fellowship with God is in the morning. I purpose to give the first fruit of my day to Him as a tithe of my time; however, if I become distracted my good intentions of spending time with God can get snatched away.

Some mornings I get up to feed the dogs, but then I notice their pans are dirty so I take them to the sink and wash them before adding the food. One of our dogs sheds so badly that the garage needs to be swept, so I do that. Then I realize I need to put a load of laundry in

JOY COMES FROM THE PRESENCE OF GOD

the wash, and before I know it the morning is gone and I've not spent any time with the Lord. Spending time in the presence of God must be a priority in our lives if we want to experience all He has for us.

In the first verse of Isaiah 43 God identifies Himself as the one who created and formed us, and then He says, *"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine. When you pass through the waters I will*

be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior" (verses 1-3). God is ours and we are His; we are called by His name.

My two children are mine; they were planned and I named them. Jerriann is named after her daddy and she has my middle name. Terri Lynn is a beautiful name that I love; it rhymes with Jerriann. Just as I named my children, so God names us; we are His. We are special to Him; therefore, when we go through troubled waters or rivers that are flooded, guess what? He is going to be by our side. He will hold our hand. He will care for us. He will provide for us. God has promised He will never leave us for forsake us; He is always there by our side.

The point is, God wants us to be in His presence and He wants to be in ours, which is why we declare, "God, show me Your glory."

THE POWER OF GOD

I've heard it said that God has two dwellings: one in heaven, the other in a thankful heart. I believe thankfulness actually connects us to the power of God, which is

exactly what happened when Jesus encountered ten lepers who wanted to be healed.

And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole (Luke 17:14–19 KJV).

The leper who returned to give thanks was made completely whole. Where leprosy may have consumed part of his ear or his fingers, they were restored because of his thankfulness, which connected him to the power of God.

The word *power* means “strength, might, authority, energy, force, influence, sway, and supply.” When we declare, “God, show me Your glory,” we will see these manifestations of His power. We can expect to experience God’s power to be poured out in our lives.

The book of Exodus describes astounding demonstrations of God’s power being poured out in behalf of the children of Israel. When Pharaoh refused to obey God’s word to let His people go, which He spoke through Moses, God sent ten different plagues upon the land of Egypt and its people.

**GOD WANTS US
TO BE IN HIS
PRESENCE AND
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“GOD, SHOW ME
YOUR GLORY.”**

On the night when the final and worst plague of all—the death of the firstborn in all Egypt—was to occur, God commanded Moses to have every family take a lamb and kill it. They were then to apply its blood to their doorposts and the lintels of their houses so that the death angel would pass them by, which it did.

That night—the night of the first Passover—the children of Israel experienced a mass healing

before God brought them out of Egypt. The Bible says, *He also brought them out with silver and gold, and there was none feeble among His tribes (Psalm 105:37).* There were over two and one-half million people coming out of Egypt, yet there was not one feeble among them. They were all healed and strong because they had experienced God’s presence and His power.

The Bible describes the display of God’s glory in His creation of the heavens: *By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth (Psalm 33:6); The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork (Psalm 19:1).* The apostle Paul said, *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse (Romans 1:20).*

God wants us to tap into the power of the Godhead, which is a manifestation of His glory. I especially enjoy reading this word from God in The Passion Translation of the Bible: *“You will find true success when you find me, for I have insight into wise plans that are designed just for you. I hold in my hands living-understanding,*

courage, and strength. They are ready and waiting for you. Unending wealth and glory come to those who discover where I dwell. The riches of righteousness and a long, satisfying life will be given to them” (Proverbs 6:14, 18 TPT). Where does God dwell? In heaven and in a thankful heart.

THE GOODNESS OF GOD

The word *goodness* comes from the root word *God*. It means “excellent, fine, valuable, desirable, favorable, beneficial, full, entire, and complete.” That’s what *goodness* means. When the goodness of God is poured out on us, it’s excellent, it’s fine, it’s valuable, it’s desirable, it’s favorable, it’s beneficial, it’s full, and it’s entire. In other words, we are complete.

God wants to pour out His goodness on us.

The Bible has much to say about the goodness of God; here are some of my favorite verses:

You are good, and do good; teach me your statutes (Psalm 119:68).

Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever (Psalm 107:1).

The Lord is good to all, and His

tender mercies are over all His works (Psalm 145:9)

Oh, how great is Your goodness, which You have laid up for those who fear You, which You have prepared for those who trust in You in the presence of the sons of men! (Psalm 31:19).

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him! (Psalm 34:8).

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly (Psalm 84:11).

The goodness of God is one of the manifestations of His glory. His goodness doesn’t run out, just as his power and love never run out. The Bible says, *His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness* (2 Peter 1:3 NIV).

I believe as we take the word of the Lord to heart—declaring daily, “God, show me Your glory!”—we will enter into manifestations of God’s presence, power, and goodness like never before.

The Lord says, “*Now, therefore, listen to me, my children, for blessed*

are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, and do not disdain it. Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoever finds me finds life, and obtains favor from the Lord...” (Proverbs 8:32–35).

God’s manifested presence, power, and glory are waiting for us. All we have to do is declare, “God, show me Your glory!”



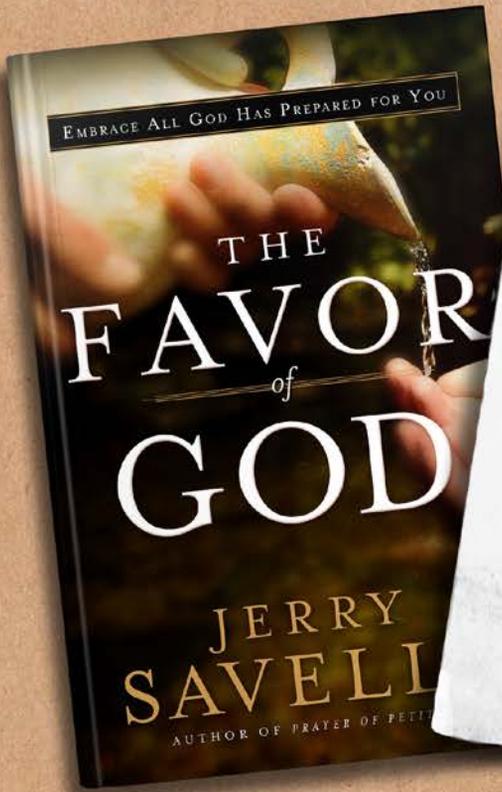
CAROLYN SAVELLE

heard the voice of God calling her into ministry at the age of eight. Her teachings have blessed thousands and made a profound impact on the lives of people throughout the world. Get more information about her and her ministry at WWW.JERRYSAVELLE.ORG

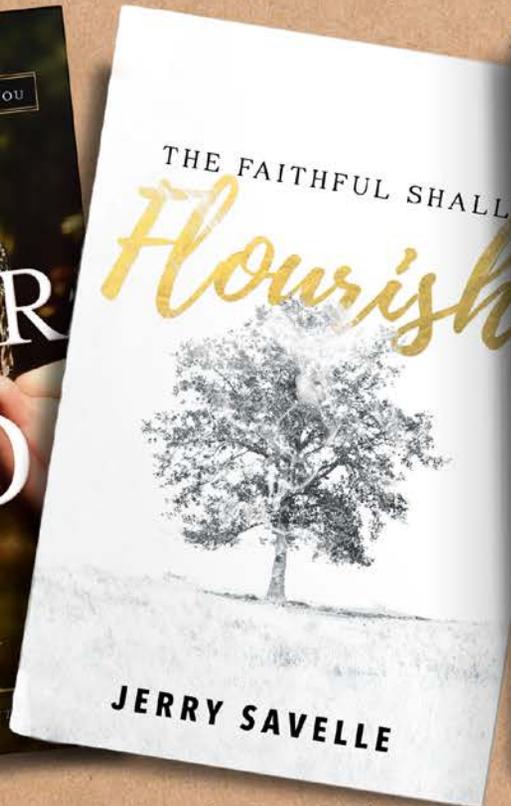
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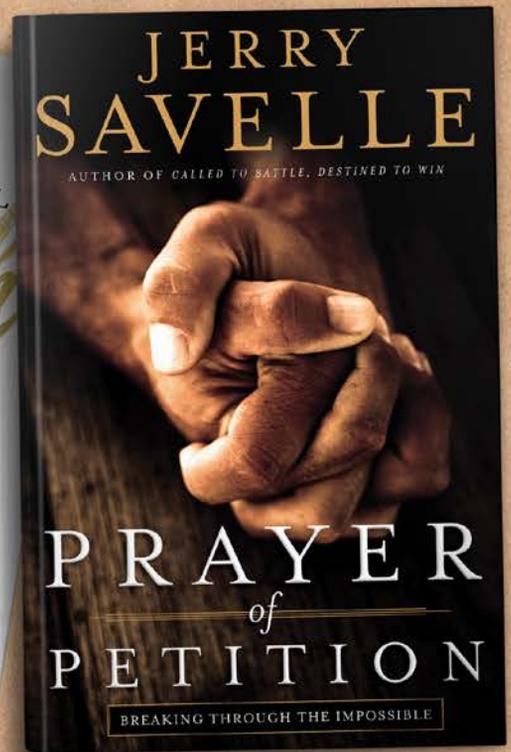
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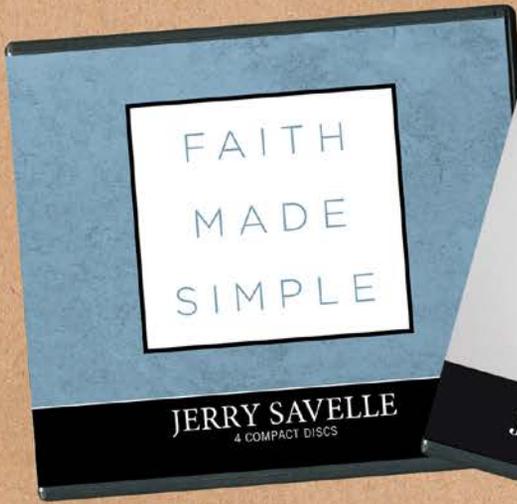
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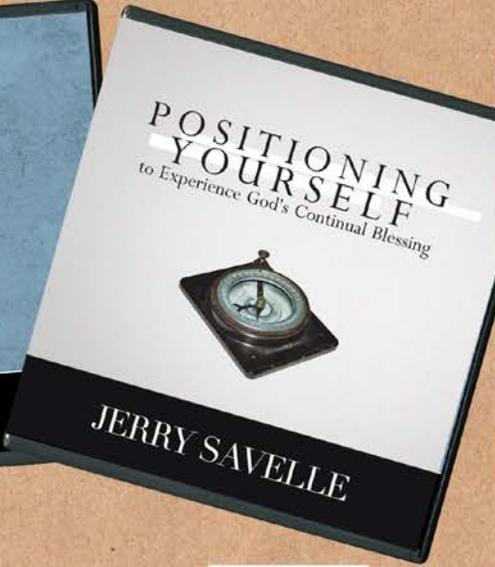
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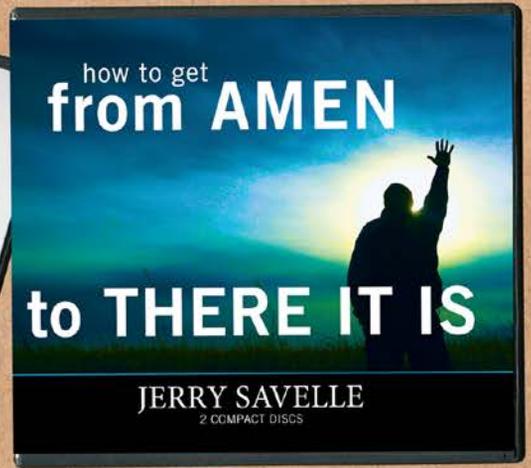
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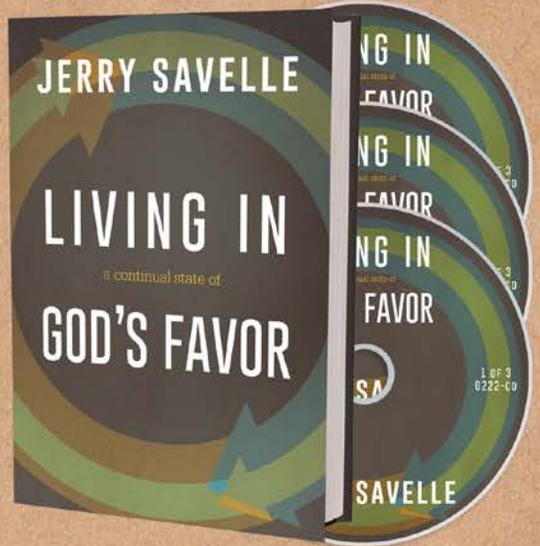


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PURSUE & POSSESS

KEN LEDFORD

As a leader at Jerry Savelle Ministries Intl., I fully understand the importance of approaching each day through prayer and seeking God's wisdom, guidance, and favor in all this ministry does throughout the world.

On Tuesday, February 27, during my morning prayer time I heard God say these two words: *pursue* and *possess*. After meditating on what God had said, I believed He was talking to me about His glory. I remembered that the Lord had instructed Dr. Savelle to tell us to keep these words in the forefront of our minds and in our mouths: *God, show me Your glory.*

The following Sunday morning my pastor preached about pursuing God. He said, "What you pursue, you will become." We could say, "What you pursue, you will possess"; however, God had already stated it succinctly: Pursue and Possess.

Sometimes I think we put the entire responsibility for the outcome of our faith on God. We are waiting and saying, "God, show me Your glory," when we were made to be in God's glory (His presence) all the time. Adam

and Eve were clothed in the glory; it wasn't until they sinned that they first realized they were naked.

The Bible says, *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God* (Romans 3:23). According to this verse it's not God who is keeping His glory from us; rather, it's sin that causes us to fall short of the glory.

The Best Invitation We Ever Received.

God has called us into His glory, and we are invited into relationship to be partakers of His divine nature: *His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust* (2 Peter 1:3-4).

The Message says it like this: *Everything that goes into a life of pleasing God has been miraculously given to us by getting to know, personally and intimately, the One*

who invited us to God. The best invitation we ever received! We were also given absolutely terrific promises to pass on to you—your tickets to participation in the life of God after you turned your back on a world corrupted by lust.

We find two important truths in these verses. First, God has *already* given us all things that pertain to life and godliness; we receive them by becoming acquainted with Him and having a personal relationship with Him, which comes through the knowledge of Him who called us by His glory. The Message Bible says this is the best invitation we ever received. God has already done His part by extending the invitation; we do our part by turning our backs on sin and pursuing Him.

The second truth revealed in these verses is the fact that through these exceeding great and precious promises we might be partakers of the divine nature. God is saying that as we see that these promises are part of His nature, we can be partakers of His divine nature. By faith we receive and become partakers. What flows through God flows through us, because we were made in His image and likeness.

DELIBERATE PURSUIT IS PROGRESSIVE

Pursuit is proof of desire; therefore, we understand that deliberate pursuit is progressive. The Bible is filled with examples of this kind of pursuit, saying we

advance from faith to faith and from glory to glory (see Romans 1:17 and 2 Corinthians 3:18).

The Psalmist said, *Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise* (Psalm 100:4), demonstrating the progression of proceeding deeper into God's presence and a deliberate shift in priorities. To *enter* is a command; our proper response is "I will." To enter God's gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise is a deliberate and progressive shift that only we can choose to make, saying, "I *will* enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart. I *will* enter into His courts with praise."

There is a measure of God's presence in our thanksgiving;

**WE WERE
MADE TO
BE IN
GOD'S
GLORY ALL
THE TIME.**

therefore, thanksgiving is a dimension of His glory. There is yet another dimension of His presence in our praise and a deeper dimension of His glory.

The Word of God speaks of

the Lord's righteousness and judgment, saying, *He made known His ways unto Moses, His acts to the children of Israel* (Psalm 103:7). Moses clearly wanted to know more than God's acts; he wanted to know God's ways, which is why he said, "Please, show me Your glory" (Exodus 33:18). When we, like Moses, seek God's presence and glory, we arrive at the place where we have to deliberately decide to persist and pursue deeper. This is where we make the divine shift away from God's acts—His signs, wonders, and miracles, which are wonderful—to the deeper level of knowing His ways. To know God's ways is to know Him. His acts are what He does; His ways are who He is.

Whenever God reveals to us something about His nature, He always extends an invitation to know Him in that particular way. For instance, when God says, "I'm your Provider," He doesn't intend that we walk away without experiencing His provision. In other words, when we see Him relationally as our Provider, we must experience Him in that same way.

Never is the understanding of God's nature revealed to us just to make us more theologically sound. Although being theologically sound is important, it is secondary to actually knowing God in the way He has revealed His nature to us.

Let's say God healed your body this week; that healing was

an example of His acts. But what happens when you reach the point in your relationship with Him that healing your body is not enough? The children of Israel were accustomed to finding manna on the ground every morning, but after a while they grew tired of it. Although they wanted much more of God, they never progressed past knowing the *acts* of God; therefore, they never discovered the *ways* of God.

THE NATURE OF GOD

So what are we to do when we've seen and experienced God's acts, but we want to pursue that deeper relationship of knowing Him? Like Moses, we are to cry out, "Lord, show me what You are like. Show me Your nature!" So now, instead of just being satisfied with a healing every once in a while, we are pursuing God to know Him as our Healer.

It's a wonderful thing to experience God's healing, but healing is merely a sign that points us to who God is: He is our Healer. When we know Him as our Healer, we will never have to be healed again because we know Him as the God of our health. That's who He is. He can't help Himself; healing is His nature.

When we know Him as the God who provides, His provision is the sign that points us to Him as God our provider. It's impossible for Him *not* to give, because giving is His nature.

Instead of being satisfied with

watching God perform signs and wonders, we should pursue Him until we possess the very nature of who He is. God's signs and wonders are real, but they point to something greater: they point to our God who is even more real. While our faithful journey is progressive, the goal is to keep *pursuing* God until we know Him. When we see who He is, then we know who we are supposed to be. Say this with me: "God, show me Your ways that I might know You."

One thing we can do to pursue the ways of God is to become more familiar with the nature of God. When we study the Hebrew names of God and their meanings, those names reveal God's nature. For instance, the name Jehovah-Rapha means "The Lord that healeth." Jehovah-Jireh means "The Lord will provide." When we begin to see God's nature in His names, our faith will rise to new levels. It's easier to believe God will do something for us when we know it's His nature to do so. I'll say it again: God can't help Himself; it's who He is.

We pursue healing to know the Healer. We pursue provision to know the Provider. We pursue love to know the Lover. Don't become comfortable along the journey of pursuing God's nature—go all the way!

How do you know God today? Do you know only His acts, or do you know His ways? If you've known only His acts but you want to know His ways, then spend some

time meditating on these three truths:

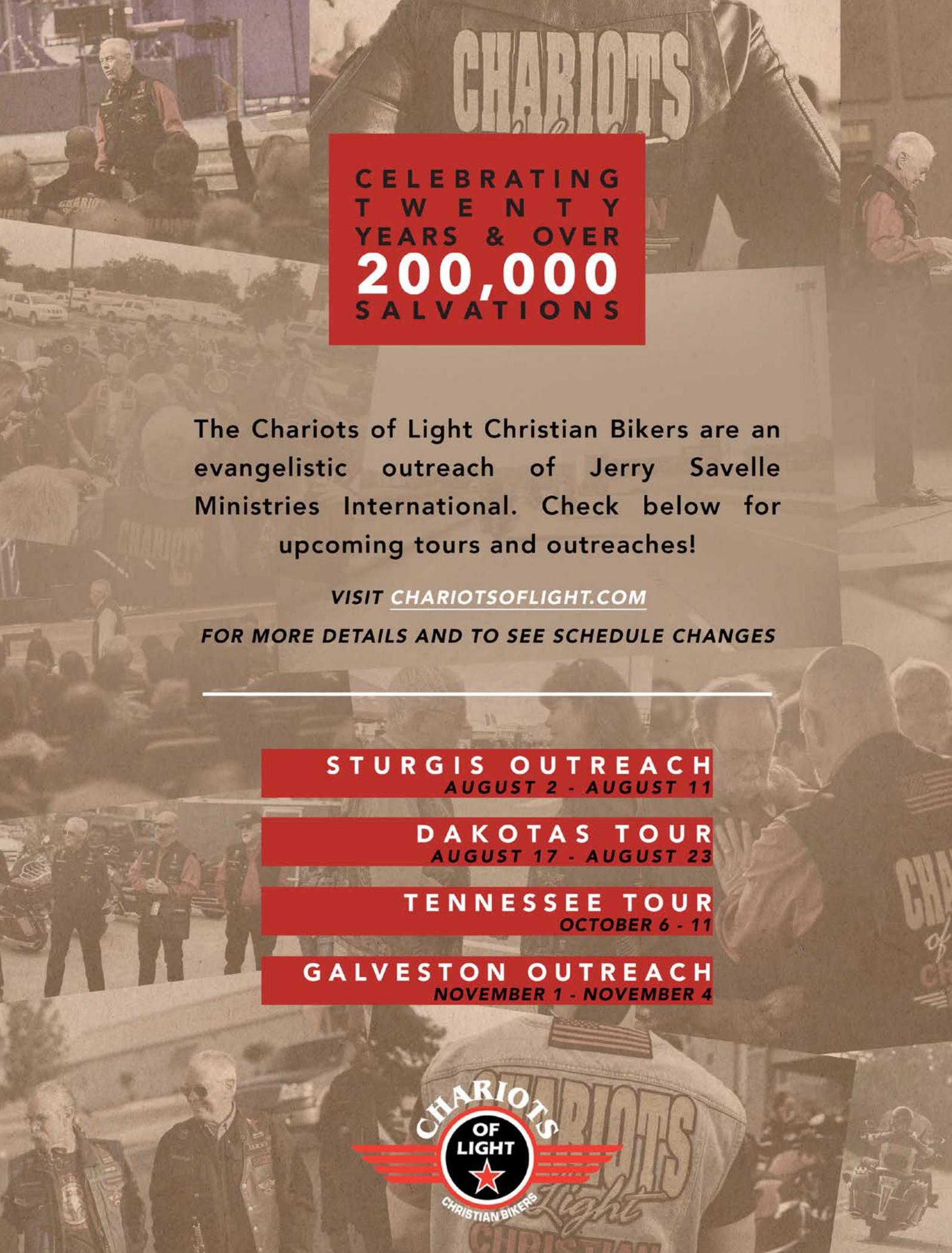
- You will always release the reality of the world that you are most aware of or most accustomed to; therefore, immerse yourself in God's nature.
- God can't help but act in accordance with His nature— that's who He is!
- What you pursue, you possess. Deliberately pursue God's ways, His nature, and Him.

Pursue and possess His glory—
amen!



KEN LEDFORD

serves As Assistant Executive
General Manager of Jerry Savelle
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Heritage of Faith Christian Center was founded by Dr. Jerry & Carolyn Savelle in 2000. Dr. Savelle began as Senior Pastor until he passed it to HFCC's current Pastor, Justin Bridges. Heritage Of Faith continues to be the Savelles' church home and they would love for you to call it your home also!

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REST IN HIS GLORY

JUSTIN BRIDGES

“Show me Your glory. Show me Your glory,” exclaimed Moses. More than likely this was a cry from his heart, with a sense of desperation, as Moses realized he was inadequate in his human abilities. He had come to the end of himself; he realized he needed the strength, grace, and ability of another one far greater than himself.

Put yourself in Moses’s shoes, taking on the responsibility of leading and directing millions of God’s people into the Promised Land. When faced with an impossible situation, Moses was confronted with his human limitations as a leader; from that reality came forth the cry, “Show me Your glory.” At that moment Moses knew within himself that he needed something or someone greater in order to fulfill his assignment. “Show me Your glory” was a heart cry to God signifying Moses’s decision to cease from

his own strength and to rely instead on the strength of another: God.

Each of us has an assignment—whether in business, family, or ministry. So often we can “hit the wall,” so to speak, when we can’t go another step without God, without His glory, His power, His presence, and His goodness.

In reality, Jesus had a similar heart cry when He realized that apart from the Father He could do nothing. That is why He was insistent with John the Baptist, saying to him, “You must baptize Me.” Jesus knew He lacked the ability to get the job done as a man; He had to cease from His own strength and rely on the strength of another: His Father.

To cease from one’s own strength and rely on the strength of another is ultimately the message of the gospel. Man, at the core of his nature, is broken; he cannot count

on himself for salvation and righteousness. Man has to totally cease from his ability and instead rely on another for his salvation, to be made righteous and acceptable. Like Moses, man's heart cry must be "Show me Your glory."

If we want to see the glory of God, we can do so by looking at Jesus: *For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shown in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ* (2 Corinthians 4:6). We gain knowledge (understanding) of the glory of God by looking at Jesus. As we look throughout scripture at Jesus, we see the glory of God in action. Jesus said, "*He who has seen Me has seen the Father*" (John 14:9). Paul said in his letter to the Colossians that Jesus is the visible representation of an invisible God.

**TO CEASE FROM
ONE'S OWN STRENGTH
AND RELY ON THE
STRENGTH OF ANOTHER
IS ULTIMATELY THE
MESSAGE OF THE
GOSPEL**

we find the story of Jesus being confronted by the religious leaders of His day. He and His disciples had gone through the grain fields to gather food on the Sabbath. The religious leaders were angry; Jesus was destroying their traditions and their comfort zones. They demanded to know why Jesus and His disciples were gathering grain, which wasn't lawful on the Sabbath. Jesus said, "*Have you never read what David did when he was in*

need and hungry, he and those with him: how he went into the house of God ... and ate the showbread, which is not lawful to eat except for the priests, and also gave some to those who were with him?" And He said to them, "*The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath*" (Mark 2:25-27).

Jesus explained that the Sabbath was to be a blessing to man. A simple example we could use today would be the light bulb; the light bulb was made for man, not man for the light bulb. We can't do anything to make the light bulb better; we can only use it to be a blessing in our lives. The bottom line is this: the Sabbath was meant to be a blessing to man, not a curse or a religious tradition that focuses on a particular day.

The book of Exodus tells the story of creation. The Bible says, *For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it* (Exodus 20:11). We see the Lord blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, meaning He set it apart for a special purpose. He blessed the seventh day. When God blesses something, it is to bring about two things: fruitfulness and dominion.

I believe when we truly understand the Sabbath and receive what it represents, it will bring fruitfulness and dominion to our lives.

There have been many heated conflicts over whether Christians should go to church on Saturday or Sunday. If our focus is about a particular day, we are totally missing the point of the Sabbath. The Sabbath isn't about a particular day of the week; it's about ceasing from personal efforts. The Bible says, *Therefore let no one sit in judgment on you in matters of food and drink, or with regard to a feast day or a New Moon or a Sabbath. Such [things] are only the shadow of things that are to come, and they have only a symbolic value. But the reality (the substance, the solid*

fact of what is foreshadowed, the body of it belongs to Christ (Colossians 2:16–17 AMP).

The Sabbath was just a picture. A picture is great, but ultimately it doesn't satisfy. For instance, if my wife is out of town I may click on my phone throughout the day to see her picture. But when we are together, I don't look at her picture. Why? Because a picture is incomplete; it doesn't satisfy. Why focus on the picture when I can have the real thing? Likewise, when I look at Jesus I see He is the *picture* of the Sabbath; therefore, I can receive what the Sabbath was intended for—rest.

ENTER GOD'S REST

God's Word says, *There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His* (Hebrews 4:9–10). God didn't cease from His work because He was tired, worn out, or fatigued. He ceased because He was *finished*. There is a rest available to us because Jesus declared, "It is finished!" Behold Jesus and enter into His rest.

Jesus said, *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light"* (Matthew 11:28–30). There is a rest we receive and a rest we find. To come unto Jesus is to cease from our own abilities and rely on the strength of another.

As I studied my Bible recently, I asked the Holy Spirit to show me how rest connects to Moses's declaration, "Show me Your glory!" He reminded me that the glory of God is the

manifested presence, power, and goodness of God. Then He took me to Exodus 33:14, where God said to Moses, *"My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."*

When we receive and enter into God's rest, not only do we cease from our own efforts and rely on the strength of another, we settle down and quiet down; we catch our breath. The Hebrew [We need to be clear what the author is referring to when he says "The Hebrew." If it is a particular word in Hebrew, we need to cite it; if not we should reword this sentence] gives us a picture of a camel kneeling down. A camel kneels down for two reasons: first, to rest its legs and, second, so its owner can loosen and remove the burdens the animal has carried.

Just as Jesus ceased from His own strength and relied on the strength of another, His Father, you can rely on Jesus to do the same for you. I invite you today to cease from your own works and enter into the rest that Jesus has already provided for you. After all, He is your Sabbath rest.

To listen to Justin Bridges message about Sabbath Rest and receive additional insight, click [HERE!](#)



JUSTIN BRIDGES

and his wife, Annette, are Senior Pastors of Heritage of Faith Christian Center in Crowley, TX

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