

"I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen." -Revelation 1:18

What's inside:

Page 6: Sandra's miracle testimony, Healed of Stage 4 Cancer



Page 11: "It Just Wasn't My Time" — Pastor Don Sturiano's Testimony



"They're Here!" When the Church Walks Into the Bars with the Light of Christ

Contact Pastor Phil Derstine www.christianretreat.org | pastorphil@christianretreat.org

For Over 30 Years, Pastor Phil Derstine Has Taken Christmas to the Forgotten Places of Manatee County on Christmas Eve.

By He's Alive News staff



On Christmas Eve, after most churches have held their candlelight services and while families are gathering around decorated trees, something extraordinary happens across Manatee County.

The doors of neighborhood bars swing open, and in walks the church!

With an accordion in his hands and candles under his arms, Pastor Phil Derstine, Sr pastor of The Family Church at Christian Retreat, steps into places few pastors ever go... bringing carols, prayer, and the undeniable presence of God into one of the darkest and loneliest corners of an otherwise very holy night.

For more than **30 consecutive Christmas Eves**, Pastor Phil has led teams into as many **open bars in Manatee County as they can find**, not to condemn, but to love... not to judge, but to heal... not to lecture, but to shine the light of Christ where it is needed most. And when he arrives, people cheer!

"They're here! They're here!" Called by God... at 30,000 Feet, How it started.

Pastor Phil Derstine did not grow up around bars, rebellion, or street life. He was raised in a pastor's home — sheltered, faithful, and unfamiliar with the underbelly of society. Then, on a return flight from a crusade in Honduras, everything changed.

Looking out the window over Cuba, Phil literally heard his name spoken — not once, but twice.

"Philip... Philip..."
"Now nobody calls me Philip, but my mother, and that's usually when I'm in trouble! So, it seemed a little out of place, but I heard my name being called so clearly that I actually unbuckled my seat belt, pulled up a little bit to look back and see who it was. I thought it was possibly somebody I knew. But everyone was sleeping."

No one was awake. And suddenly he knew.

God was speaking. "Take it to the streets."

He heard it twice, *"Take My message to the Streets."*

It was a call that would reshape his entire ministry.

Just weeks later, a police officer who attends his church approached him and said,

"Pastor, I'd like to take you with me to the streets sometime, when good people are asleep in their beds."

That night, Phil saw prostitution, drug deals, and broken humanity hidden beneath the calm surface of what he had considered *"sleepy"* Bradenton, and his heart was shattered.

He never went back to *"normal church"* again.

The Night the Bars Became Sanctuaries

In the process of this ministry to the bars on Christmas Eve, Pastor Phil noticed something that changed everything:

He noticed that bars tend to function like churches in several ways.

People gather there for comfort. For friendship. For counseling. For connection. For *"spirits,"* albeit the wrong ones.

So he asked a radical question: Why couldn't the church go there, too?

And he did!

With at first, fear and trembling, accordion in hand, Pastor Phil stepped into a bar on Christmas Eve and asked if they could sing carols.

They said yes. They sang. They prayed.

And something stunning happened.

Instead of driving people away... the bars welcomed them and even began expecting them each Christmas Eve.

Bar owners, along with patrons, expectantly await and proclaim, tonight is the night:

"The Carolers Are Coming!"

So when Pastor Phil and his ... **Continued on Page: 3**

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JESUS IS LORD!

HE'S ALIVE NEWS
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The Spirit Of Truth:
**HAPPY - BLESSED
 - NEW YEAR!!**



By Rev. Madeline Montez Duffany

scan: →



www.facebook.com/madeline.duffany

The Lord is showing my husband and me a clear message concerning stuff! Material stuff! As we mature physically and spiritually, our vision and priorities change. Jesus Christ becomes paramount in a Christian's life, especially if faith has grown as well as reliance on God's provision. Now, I know we are all enjoying our Christmas gifts. I'm not talking about that so much as referring to all the years of accumulated things. God wants us to have the desires of our hearts, and he gives us good things. Great things! Here's the dilemma. If keeping all your stuff becomes a burden and all your resources go to taking care of them, there is nothing much left over to

travel, go on mission trips, help your children and pastor, and help the needy. We had seven children to care for at one time, and we needed stuff! Now, we have seven grown children and eight grandchildren to whom we like to give gifts. I have four siblings, and Bob has four. We would like to send gifts to them also. The holidays place great demands on everyone, but the whole Christmas Season is about Jesus' birth! The greatest gift we can give is to tell others about our Savior! Too much stuff is not good. Remember how you used to covet your grandmother's China, etc.? I see a lot of it now in thrift stores! Listen. When we were

growing up, my Mom and Dad did what they could. They didn't have Social Security. The Mennonite Church gave us food baskets. Mom would go to the Salvation Army Store for holiday gifts. These days, children want expensive electronic devices. Everyone gets into debt. A lot of families have stopped going to church. There's a song we heard when we were growing up: Sixteen Tons, sung more recently by Merle Travis. It's about a coal miner who depended on the company store to survive. Everything was done on credit as the proprietor kept a balance of what was owed. "Sixteen tons and what do you get? Another day older and deeper in debt,

Saint Peter, don't you call me cause I can't go; I owe my soul to the company store!" Ecc. 1:9. That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. 1Joshua 7:11. Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. For they have even taken some of the accursed things and have both stolen and deceived, and they have also put it among their own stuff. Ezekiel 12:7. "So I did as I was commanded. I brought out my belongings by day, as though going into captivity, and at evening I dug through.. **Continued on Page: 4**

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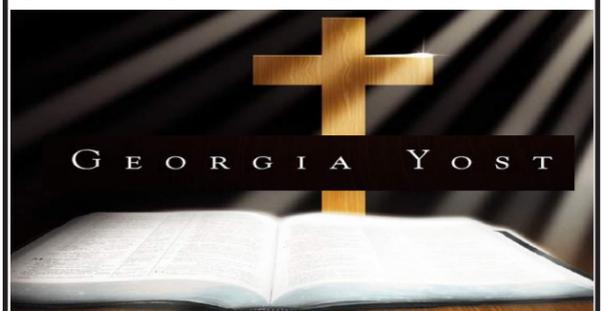


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HOW TO BE EFFECTIVE IN
 GOD'S ARMY



A NEW YEAR AND A NEW BEGINNING FOR YOU!

By Sarah Jansson | Apostolic/Prophetic Ministry
Heart of Mercy Ministries | www.heartofmercy.net

sarah_jansson@hotmail.com | Donate to Heart of Mercy: www.paypal.com/paypalme/HMercy



2026- All things have passed away, and all things have become new, the Word tells us. So, are you ready to surrender all so that the manifestations of God's promises can come to pass in your life this year?

In the very beginning of this new year, we must completely surrender ourselves to God! One cannot put New Wine into old wine skins. When one is birthing into a new season, as with childbirth, they must leave the place where they are at, to enter into a new place, a new season, and receive a new mantle upon their lives. They cannot take any part of the comfort of the womb or place where they have been with them into the realm where they are being birthed.

All the doubts, unbelief, fears, and hindrances must go! Many of the comforts of the old womb, even like some past relationships, must go! Many of the former seasons must go, to make way for the new place one is being born into. One must press into a deeper place in the Presence of YAH - YESHUA to shed off the old and receive a new mantle and position that has been prepared for that one in such a time as this. Eyes of a Seer to see deeper into the Spirit realm, deeper and clearer than ever before. This is the time to rise up, stand up, spread those Eagles' wings, and fly.

No matter what the circumstances you are dealing with, or you are in, keep your eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of

your faith. He is our soon-coming King, Lamb of God, and bridegroom,

God has given His remnant the keys of authority, it's in your heart, and it's in your mouth...

With these keys, you will walk in the fullness of all God has for you in 2026. With these keys, you will tear the devil's kingdom down.... No weapon formed against you will prevail. These are the keys to the Kingdom within you, and for your life and the lives of those around you

Today is a NEW day for you! This week is a NEW week! You are who the Word says you are! You can do what the Word says you can do! You can have what the Word says you can have if you will draw near to His Holy Spirit, surrender all of you to the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in your life. Take the time at the beginning of this year, and sit at His feet, and drink from the cup in His hands, lean against Him, and breathe and feel His heartbeat. Lay everything down and purpose to draw closer and closer to Him than you ever have before, and allow Him to speak into your life.

You do not have to be attached to your past with all its problems; your past has passed away, and you can walk in the newness of life that God has for you this year. All old things have passed away, All things have become NEW!

from what you were, things you did yesterday, and all the things people said about you. Allow Jesus Christ and His Kingdom purposes to become priority in 2026. Spend time at His feet and allow His holy vision and purposes for you in 2026 to become clearer than ever before. As you spend time in His Presence, He will burn His fire and holy calling into your heart, with the steps you are to start taking to see it come to pass.

Today, all things have become NEW IN CHRIST and His Word YOU ARE WHO THE WORD SAYS YOU ARE. No buts. YOU CAN DO ALL THE WORD SAYS YOU CAN DO! LET THE NEW MAN IN YOU RISE UP IN CHRIST JESUS. Humble yourself under the Mighty hand of God. Resist the devil, and he shall flee....

RISE UP, IT'S 2026. IT'S A NEW YEAR FOR YOU! GOD HAS BIG THINGS FOR YOU THIS YEAR TO WALK IN.

Go through the doors of....Consecration.....to receiving; Revelation.....to Anticipation to Acceleration of your divine purpose this year. You are well able to take the land God is giving you this year...

You can do all things through Christ Jesus, who strengthens you. Who infuses strength into your inner man, by the Holy Spirit who lives within you. Christ in you, the hope of glory.

DECREE, DECREE, DECREE...
2026 A New Day.... Get

Ready! A New Year... Get Ready! A New Season...Get Ready! A New Start.....Get Ready! A New Beginning....Get Ready! 2026 ALL THINGS HAVE BECOME NEW!!! Have passed away. All old things have passed away

2026- The page of your life has been turned. A New book has been opened. A New page has started. Forget those things that lie behind.

2026- Moving Forward to the Blessings that lie ahead. Move towards the mark of the high calling...

2026- The year for the Eagles to soar... Strong, Overcoming, and Soaring ALL IN JESUS CHRIST.

New Year's Resolutions???

So many changes need to be made? So many new dreams and visions to accomplish? Where do you start? (Prayer and fasting) --Psalms 51- Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Col.1- That I be filled with the full, deep, and clear knowledge of His will, in all s spiritual wisdom and understanding. That I would walk in a manner worthy of Him, pleasing Him, and desiring to please Him in all things. Bearing fruit in every good work, increasing in the knowledge of God. Decreeing what Jesus said: Not my will, Oh Lord, but thy will be done in my life.

Eph, that this year I will be(manifest) as a body wholly filled and flooded with You God yourself, having the richest mea-

Continued on Page: 6



By Chris Vercelli

A very drunk couple walked by us while we were ministering at Bayfront Park the other night, and they stopped and started dancing to the music.

We started talking to them about the Lord, and we found out that they had been going to church together for several months. We also found out that they were not married, that they were living together, and that they go out "partying" most weekends.

I raised the question, "What do you think Jesus thinks about your lifestyle?" and the man thought about it for about 10 seconds and said (like he was just guessing) "That maybe I might have to ask Him for forgiveness one day."

We started talking to them about the TRUE gospel,

and we lovingly called them out for their sexual sin and their drunkenness. We also told them that the Word makes it clear that we must turn from sin and truly make Jesus our Lord, or else we cannot partake in His free gift of forgiveness and eternal life.

Praise God, even though this was "news" to them, they both showed signs of repentance, and they both asked Jesus to forgive their sin and be their Lord. The woman was even crying, and she later testified on the microphone that she met God for the first time that night.

They also seemed to supernaturally sober up while talking to us, and before they left, they gave us the drink that they were sharing.

I was grateful to see such a shift, but honestly, I was pretty sad about the fact that people can go to church for months (one of the biggest non-denominational churches in town, actually) and not have sin confronted even once.

Pray for the American Church to get bold in the days to come.
— at Bayfront Park.

"They're Here!" When the Church Walks Into the Bars with the Light of Christ

From Page 1 ... teams walked through the door, applause broke out.

People weren't rejecting the light; they were starving for it.

When Heaven Fell Inside a Bar

This year, something different happened that Pastor Phil says he will never forget.

In one particular bar out on the island, we were received so warmly that a powerful presence of God was ushered in during the song Silent Night. As I looked around, I saw candles glowing, faces fully engaged, and I could feel the peace of God settling over the room. When we came to the words, "sleep in heavenly peace," a sacred hush fell over the entire place. I then spoke out and said, "I feel like either praying or preaching." At that moment, one of the patrons responded, "I'll pray." Pastor invited him to go ahead, and he stood and prayed a prayer over the entire bar.

A patron of the bar prayed for the entire room, and the Spirit of God moved.

From that moment on, prayers flowed from table to table, patrons, bartenders, and strangers, all receiving personal ministry on Christmas Eve.

"Most of the People in Here Are Afraid of You"

Several years ago, I had an experience in a bar that deeply marked me. It was a particularly rough place, now closed, called the Southern Comfort Saloon, a well-known cowboy bar. Bars, I've learned, are much like churches in that they have their own "denominations." There are sports bars, biker bars, Spanish bars, etc., and this one was definitely a cowboy bar.

I wasn't unfamiliar with this location. I had been inside before on a night when there had actually been gunfire, so I was

understandably nervous bringing my team there that Christmas Eve, especially since everyone in my group that year was there for the first time, and several were older individuals.

When we arrived, live music was already playing, so we had to wait before taking the stage. Once we were invited up, I instinctively said, "We're going to start with Jingle Bells, a song you all know," thinking it would help warm the room to us. Suddenly, a bold man seated in the front row called out, "Come on, sing about Jesus! We know why you're here!"

His words stopped me in my tracks. After we finished singing, I made my way to him. What he said next shocked me.

"Pastor, you're not afraid of us, are you?"

When I told him no, he replied, "Let me tell you something, most of the people in here are afraid of you."

That moment opened my eyes. The world is not rejecting the church; in many ways, they are intimidated by us. They don't know how to approach us. They see us as "good people," but not as people who would truly want them. And yet, they are desperately hungry for the light we carry.

And suddenly, Pastor Phil realized: The world isn't rejecting the church; they're waiting for it.

Four Teams. Twenty-Five Bars. One Gospel.

Every Christmas Eve, Pastor Phil organizes several teams that try to cover every open bar in Manatee County. Sometimes spending 30 minutes at each location, singing, praying, and ministering until after ...

Continued on Page:4

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Psalms 146:8 (TLV)
"ADONAI opens the eyes of the blind. ADONAI raises up those who are bowed down."

ADONAI, open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth You have for me. May I not be blind to see the work of righteousness in me.

You calm every fear and stop every way that is not in your plan.

I rest assured in the love and care of ADONAI.

My confidence is in my God, who has only good thoughts towards me. My vision is clear as I walk

in the kingdom of God. Open my eyes to see beyond circumstances to your hand, fashioning me to fit more perfectly in your kingdom plan.

You raise me up out of the horrible pit of doubt and unbelief. The discouragement that blinds my eyes to the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

You raise me above it all! My eyes are open to the beautiful treasure hidden. I am no longer bowed down in the heavy weights but lifted up as I bow in worship to

ADONAI. Thank you! Beloved, in the mighty name of ADONAI, the mighty name of Jesus, may your blind eyes be open to see clearly the path ahead is ordered by the Lord. Walk in faith. He raises you up as you bow low. The atmosphere is a heavenly joy! He opens the gate of righteousness for you! In Jesus name, Open! In Jesus name I live.

Sharilee Rudolph
Fruitful4him@outlook.com



"We Can't Bring Everyone to Jesus — But We Can Bring Jesus to Everyone"

- Jean Brown Nikolich

I wanted to find out what the root cause of some health issues was, so I called and made an appointment in Sarasota to have very intensive blood work done. When the day came, everyone kept asking me, "Why are you going all the way to Sarasota? Why don't you just get it done here in Palmetto or Bradenton?"

I tried calling to change the appointment, but my phone just wouldn't work right. So I finally said, "You know what — forget it. I'm just going to keep the appointment and go." When I arrived, the lady working there was not very pleasant. She was

not full of cheer at all. She was short with me, but I didn't react — I just stayed polite and kind.

I soon realized that she was the only one working there. She ran the front desk, drew the blood, and handled everything in the office. As we talked, I made a simple comment — something like, "Oh, praise God," or "Thank You, Jesus."

She stopped and looked at me. "You're a believer," she said.

"Yes, ma'am, I sure am," I replied — and I began to just love on her.

Suddenly, her whole personality changed. She said, "You have no idea how much I needed to

hear words about God today — words of affirmation."

When I walked out, the same woman who had been so harsh when I first came in hugged me and even kissed me on the cheek.

Then she said something I will never forget: "Miss Jean, now I know why you drove all the way here from Palmetto — because I needed you today."

So many times, we go about our normal, everyday tasks. But even in those ordinary moments, God is present. He has divine appointments for us — if we will simply carry His light.

We can't bring everyone to Jesus — but we can bring Jesus to everyone.

HAPPY - BLESSED - NEW YEAR!!

From Page 2 ...the wall with my hand. I brought them out at twilight, and I bore them on my shoulder in their sight."

Ezekiel the prophet was commanded to make a bundle for a journey to portray the futile attempt of King Zedekiah to escape. Ezekiel got his 'stuff' together....

Gen. 31:37. "Whereas thou hast searched all my stuff, what hast thou found of all thy household stuff? Set it here before my brethren and thy brethren, that they may judge betwixt us both."

Jacob was angry with Laban, his father-in-law, the father of Rachel, who stole her father's idols.

Laban searched through all the tents and personal belongings for his idols. Instead of being sad that he would not see his daughter and grandchildren anymore, he was more interested in material things. Jacob said, "You have searched all my stuff. What have you found in all your house

hold stuff?" Jacob referred to the images as "stuff".

Gen. 45:16. "And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, Joseph's brethren are come: and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants."

Pharaoh was pleased that Joseph's brothers had come to Egypt, and he told them to load up their households and come to him. He said, "I will give you everything that you will need of the good of the land of Egypt. You shall eat the fat of the land."

Gen. 45:20. "Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours."

Do you understand this? All the wealth and stuff we have accumulated will never compare to all the Spiritual wealth, health, knowledge, and grace that is already ours.

God gives us the desires of our hearts: houses, lands, wealth, and what

we need to sojourn here on earth. Even so, we worry and stress, and our "stuff" controls us. Our debts and our regrets at not being able at times to give gifts like we would like to.

Recently, I was gifted money from someone, and I was overjoyed to go buy groceries for my family. There is something beautiful in seeing all the colorful fruits and vegetables and dairy products all on display! How wonderful it is to be born again and to see things through the eyes of Jesus: family and friends; God's majestic universe; birds and animals; beautiful Gulf waters of varying colors; big churches and little churches; and to hear praise and worship to our God and Savior! Happy New Year! Blessed New Vision!

This is God's Word
The Spirit of Truth
Pastor Madeline Montez
Duffany

"They're Here!" When the Church Walks Into the Bars with the Light of Christ

From Page: 3 ...midnight.

His accordion — bought for him by his father, the Late Rev Gerald Ders-tine, 60 years ago and stamped "Guaranteed for Life" pave the way into the areas most Christians dare not go.

Salvation prayers are prayed. Healing prayers are offered.

Tears are shed. Hope is restored.

And heaven touches earth — in places where the love of God is needed most, especially Christmas Eve.

"Why Wouldn't We Go?"

"I always tell people, we're not trying to sneak up on anyone or hide what we're doing. We are very clear about why we are there," Pastor Phil

says. "And what we do in the bars is really just a sampling of what the church can do everywhere."

Over the past year, Christian Retreat has been taking that mission beyond Christmas Eve through what they call Ignite Weekends. Powerful God-encounter gatherings designed not only to draw people closer to the Lord, but to activate believers to step beyond the church walls. Participants are taught, encouraged, and then sent out into public places like the University Town Center Mall, where they are lovingly scattered throughout to simply approach people and offer prayer.

"We've been doing this all year," Pastor Phil says, "and we're going to continue, because it's simply the right thing to do."

It is a living picture of the Gospel in action, not hidden, not timid, and not confined to church buildings, but boldly carried into everyday life, where hurting people are waiting for hope.

Pastor Phil sums it up simply:

"If we believe this Gospel... why wouldn't we go into the world and bring good news to the perishing?"

He believes a spiritual awakening is rising in 2026 and that the church is being called out of comfort and into the streets.

And for over three decades, he has been answering that call.

Every single Christmas Eve.

Contact Pastor Phil Ders-tine:

www.christianretreat.org

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https://www.christianretreat.org/the-family-church

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New Year's Blessings for you

By Rev. Dr. Samuel Massey | samueljohnmiracle@gmail.com



Are you worried about your future? Are you anxious about what this New Year has in store for you? Do you worry saying, "Will I be able to settle my children's marriage at least this year? Will I get a Good Job? Will I get a Life Partner? Will I be Healed from Sickness? Will my children's family Members be saved? Will I be able to settle all my debts this year? Oh, I am going to get retired this year; then what will I do for my livelihood?" These kinds of thoughts may burden your heart as we near the end of this year. But when you have the presence of our loving Lord Jesus, this kind of confusion will vanish from your mind.

My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest" (Exodus 33:14). *I do not know how long I should wait for a job. When will my business bring profit to me? How is my future going to be?"* God is eagerly waiting to render His helping hand to all those who lament like this.

"The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail." (Isaiah 58:11)

You may be desperately wandering without jobs, with no means of living. Fix your eyes on Jesus, who bled on the streets of Jerusalem.

Beloved sisters in tears, cast away by your husband and walking wearily to your parents, look up to Jesus who walks ahead of you with bleeding feet. He will give you Shelter.

And you brother, who is walking so fast with tear-stained eyes, resolved to commit suicide, halt! Wipe your eyes a little and look ahead. See Jesus, the Son of the carpenter of Nazareth, carrying the cruel cross, bleeding all the way. He will cheerfully carry your cross as well.

And you childless sister, scorned by your husband and others! Look ahead at the bleeding Jesus. Didn't He tear open the Virgin's womb

to be born there? He can do such a miracle for you. Seek shelter at His feet.

Yes, the precious blood of Jesus flooded the streets of Jerusalem as a life stream for sinners and the destitute. Beloved in Christ! Commit your life to Him. Let His Precious blood cleanse your ways, assuring you life, peace, joy. Be of Good Courage!!!!

Are you languishing in some incurable disease? Do you suffer from unbearable pain? There is just one cure for you. Believe that the wounds inflicted on Jesus were for every disease of yours. Believe that the compassion of Christ will pierce through you. He will heal you in His mercy. As He Himself bore these diseases on His person on the Cross, He surely knows and feels your pain and sickness. He will heal you. His Compassion is Changeless.

The Holy Scripture clearly says that Lord Jesus Christ is the remover of our needs.

If we read Luke 5:4-5, we find that when the Lord Jesus sojourned in this world. One day, He went to the shore and got into Simon Peter's boat and preached the good news to the people. Though Simon Peter toiled all night, he caught nothing. So, he was totally broken-hearted. According to the promise, "Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7), the compassionate Lord Jesus knew the broken heart of Peter. After He stopped preaching, He looked at Peter and said, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." Peter obeyed His words and let down the net and caught a great number of fish.

Dear friend, cast all your care upon God, for He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7). Many times, we think that God heals only the physical ailments and saves the people. But what does the Scripture say? He turns our deficiency into sufficiency and longs to meet all our needs. He says, "I will die, but I will be with

you to perform miracles." We should never forget this truth: Jesus Christ is a miracle worker. He will remove your poverty permanently and make you blessed. Is this Jesus with you? If not, implore Him in tears, "Lord, You have promised, 'I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you.' Hence, come into my heart today. Come home and dwell with me." He will certainly come into your heart and wipe away all your tears. He will dwell with you permanently. He will never leave you comfortless.

Are you tormented by evil spirits, the devil, or black magic works? Jesus, who came to destroy the works of the devil, will command, "Come out, unclean spirit! And they will come out. You will be set free from all oppression, bondage, fear, and torment. Invite Jesus to come into your heart. He will come immediately. All devil, evil spirits will run away seeing Jesus, the Victorious, Conqueror Over Death, Devil, Disease, and Depression. He will give you Victory. Give Him Thanks and Praise.

Thank you, Jesus. Fellow messengers of Christ! Are you frustrated that your efforts to sow the seeds of the gospel, street by street has been fruitless? Faint not! You have cast the seeds of the Gospel not on barren streets, but along streets enriched by the blood of Christ. You will see the yield at the appointed time. Be patient until then.

Prayer:
Loving Heavenly Father, I am troubled in my heart, thinking about how this new year is going to be for me. The worries about my loved ones and the fear of my future press me down. Lord, in this new year, You please go before me and straighten my ways. Teach me Your way every day and show me the way I need to walk. Let Your holy presence lead me every moment. I praise You for removing all my worries that weigh down my heart. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.
With love & Prayers
Yours Loving Brother in Christ,
Rev. Dr Samuel Massey
B.E (Elect), M.B.A
(Marketing & Finance),
C-DAC, Ph.D

The Holy Spirit Revealed the Cause — and God Brought Healing

By Bob & Madeline Duffany

Madeline wants to brag on Jesus about what God recently did for Bob.

For quite a while, Bob had been experiencing severe pain in his legs — especially at night. He struggled to sleep because of the aching. We tried everything we could think of. I even rubbed mentholated ointment on his legs, which made them freezing cold and helped just a little, but the pain kept coming back.

Then the Holy Spirit spoke to me. He showed me that one of the new medications Bob had been prescribed might be causing the problem.

I asked him, "Bob, what is the newest medication you've been taking — something you weren't on before?" He said it was called amlodipine.

As we learned more, we discovered that this medication works by relaxing the walls of the blood vessels, so the heart doesn't have to work as hard — and Bob had been taking it along with his blood pressure medicine.

During that time, Bob would wake up in the middle of the night with aching, twitching legs. He developed a rash around his ankles and halfway



up his calves. It became so uncomfortable that he couldn't even wear socks. He had trouble walking, and the pain affected his knees and overall mobility.

I told him, "You really need to check this out."

So Bob looked up the side effects. There were about 50 listed — and several of them described exactly what he was experiencing: rashes and itching on the ankles and calves, pain from the knees down, and severe discomfort in the lower legs.

Normally, you're not supposed to stop that med-

ication suddenly — but Bob prayed and told the Lord he was going to stop taking it and trust Him.

And he did. Within days, the pain began to lift. Now, he only feels an occasional residual sensation as the remaining medication leaves his system — but the rash, itching, and severe pain are gone.

Today Bob can walk well again. "Hallelujah!" he says. "I thank God for my wife and for the Holy Spirit who revealed what was really happening."



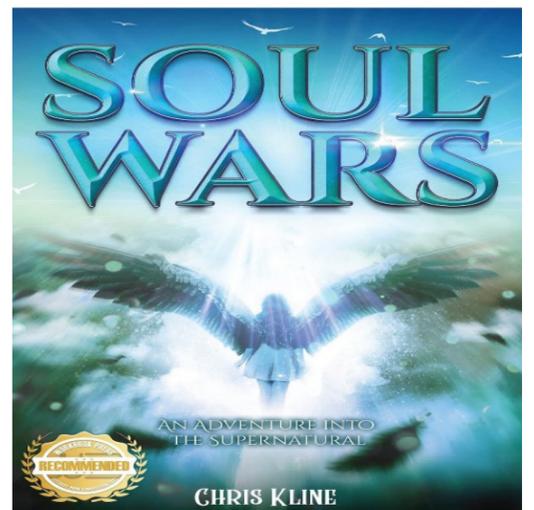
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CHRIS KLINE

From California to Bradenton — God Paved the Way

By Dorothy & David Vicente



Our move to Florida really began last year, around Christmas of 2024. At the time, our house in California was a fixer-upper — and Dave and I were not into construction. That's just not our forte, and we didn't have the thousands of dollars it would have taken to fix everything. People from our church at that time began approaching us. One man even told us that a friend he worked for would offer to buy our house, but the offer was almost \$200,000 under market value. I smiled and said thank you, but I knew that wasn't right. Other "We Buy Houses" companies were also offering far below what the house was worth. That's when I finally got the courage to call a real estate agent. I thought, "Well, it can't hurt." God had already put a number in my heart, and when I told Ashley and David what it was, I felt peace about it. When the agent came and asked

what we thought the house was worth, I told her the figure God had given me. She smiled and said, "We're going to start at this price — and we'll see what happens. Sometimes there are bidding wars." Sure enough, the house was shown for just one day — one open house — and it sold far above the original listing price. By the time we signed the papers, it had sold for the exact number God had shown me. Hallelujah! When we came to Florida, we had to live with Chuck, Arlyn, and Dad for a few months, and they graciously opened their home to us. Finding a house didn't happen overnight. We looked at so many homes — and even when we tried to put bids in, it was roadblock after roadblock. The real estate agent kept telling us, "No, they won't accept that. No, that won't work." Then Chuck and Daniel accidentally found a

house that was for sale by owner. They simply drove by and noticed it. When Ashley, David, and I went to look at it, we realized something amazing — God had given each of us exactly what we had been hoping for. David wanted a fireplace — and there it was. Ashley wanted a kitchen window that looked out into the yard — and it was there. I wanted a big picture window and needed two bathrooms — and we had that too. It wasn't a big house, but it was such a blessing to us — truly beautiful, and clearly from the hand of God. It took time. It wasn't overnight — but God did it. And we just want to thank the Lord for bringing us to Bradenton, because He paved the way for us in the natural. We could not have done it on our own. We thank God for 2025 — and we look forward to 2026.

Sandra's miracle testimony, Healed of Stage 4 Cancer

By Sandra Idabor, Ohio

I want to share my PRAISE report with all of you. Last September, I began experiencing shortness of breath. I found it difficult to walk from my entry door to the living room, just a distance of about ten steps, without becoming breathless. Initially, I thought it might be due to recent weight gain. I visited my primary care physician, who conducted several lab tests. One particular test called D-Dimer indicated that I might have cancer in my lungs, breast, or colon. He then referred me for a mammogram, and the results confirmed metastatic breast cancer, Stage 4. The cancer cells were producing fluids that were accumulating in my lungs, which explained the shortness of breath. I began seeing a pulmonologist who performed a thoracentesis procedure to remove the fluid from my lungs. I also performed the procedure at home every other day. Additionally, I started consulting with a breast oncologist, who prescribed medication to fight the cancer. This medication cost \$18,000 per month, but she was able to enroll me in a program through my employer, the hospital, which reduced the cost to \$1,800 per month. My insurance covers this amount. To date, I have undergone seven thoracentesis



Sandra Idabor, Ohio

procedures, including two outpatient surgeries and one inpatient stay due to a lung infection, as well as PET scans, MRIs, and CAT scans. Yet, despite all the medical interventions -BUT GOD! The prayers of the righteous avail much! I cannot THANK YOU all enough for keeping me in your prayers! I read and listened to healing scriptures, declaring, "By HIS STRIPES, I am healed." I have stayed rooted in the Word of GOD and have refused to let my faith falter.

The enemy would try to fill my mind with thoughts of despair, convincing me that I had only one year left to live and that I needed to arrange for my dogs to be refused and decide who would inherit my house. I rebuked those ugly lies and rejected those thoughts and emotions. BUT GOD!! **1Pet 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.*

A NEW YEAR AND A NEW BEGINNING FOR YOU!

From Page:3 ...sure of Your divine Presence, filled unto overflowing unto all the fullness of You God (THEN EVERYTHING ELSE MY FRIEND WILL FALL INTO PROPER PLACE) ... These are the times that we are in, my friend: These are the times of purification and refining for those that are in the household of God that you would come out as pure silver and 24 karat gold, uncompromisingly righteous, upright in right standing with God, not just a word but in manifestation, ready to do great exploits for the kingdom of God and his glory. **The Word of the Lord for the beginning of the New Year** He will sit as a REFINER and PURIFIER of silver, and HE WILL PURIFY THE PRIESTS, the sons of Levi, and REFINE THEM like gold and silver, that they may offer the Lord offerings in righteousness. HUMBLE YOURSELVES UNDER THE MIGHTY HAND OF GOD, IN THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW YEAR, that He may exalt you in due time. 3rd REALM LIVING-in this place, the Word of God dictates what we see, what we see with our spiritual eyes, what we hear, that will always line up with the Word of God, what we speak, which is

the law of life in Christ, Jesus, not our circumstances. We don't go to what we see, hear, or feel naturally. The word of God does not line up with our circumstances, but we call our circumstances to line up with the Word of God! The blood of Christ speaks, the blood has a voice, and by the power of the blood of Christ and the word of our testimony, we walk as Overcomers over all manner of evil that nothing shall by any means hurt us. When we come to know who the Holy Spirit is within us, and all he is inside of us, and we surrender to that secret place within us, we will walk hand-in-hand in his victory, as Overcomers! We don't go by what other people say. What our circumstances are trying to tell us, we command them to line up under the power of the Word of God that lives within us. There was only one way, there is only one truth that is not void of power, and that is the Word of God. We hold a two-edged sword in our mouths when we declare with Authority by the power of the Holy Spirit, and by the power of the blood of Christ that speaks, the shield of faith, we will manifest all the glory that he died and rose again for us to walk

in, when He said, "It is finished!" And so, we stand immovable on the solid rock of Christ, knowing that as He is, so we in the world. And by his Holy Spirit who lives within us, we declare and decree, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, and he has anointed me to preach the good news, To heal is sick, (even if that's me) and cast out devils, to open the eyes of the blind, to open prison doors, and set the captives free to the glory of God! And so, I will hear well done on that day when I stand before him, enter into the joy of the Lord! So, my friend, be faithful, only to the Word of God, doing all to stand, continue to stand, and see the full salvation of God in your life that he paid for 2000 years ago. Many Blessings, Sarah Jansson G.C.M.A. S.W. FL Regional Coordinator for: Southwest Florida Chapter of GCMA and Vice President of Heart of Mercy Ministries, an Apostolic/ Prophetic Ministry (Equipping the Saints for the work of the ministries) on the full counsel of God's Word **Donate to Heart of Mercy:**

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DOING THE RIGHT THING

By Rhonda Jackson

Did you notice that Jesus always sent people out two by two? Except there was one time, and it happened when John asked Jesus at the last supper, who is the one who will betray you. John 13:26-27 (NKJV) Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. 27 Now, after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." Even in the Old Testament, it says for a man to leave his mother and father to become one flesh with his wife. Also in Ecclesiastes 4:12 (KJV) And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken. Companionship has many advantages, and God did not create us to live without fellowship. We all need love, help, and support from friends, family, and fellow believers. Besides having daily companionship with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They make us strong, so that our faith is not easily broken. Plus, the many blessings we receive from them.

Jesus giving the piece of bread to Judas might have been a final appeal to persuade him to turn from the dark side. Judas refused to change his mind, and Satan took control of him. But not of the situation, since Jesus said do quickly. His words once more indicate His control. He would die as He directed, and not as His opponents determined. Judas left the upper room with no friends, no one saying, "Hey, where are you going?" or even why. He isolated himself from all those who could have helped him. If only he let someone know what was running through his head. He could have been saved. Selfishness is defined as a lack of consideration for other people. Their main concern is what is best for them and how this benefits them. How can they make the most money? How can they get the most pleasure? Doing all without regard for other people's thoughts or feelings. They are never happy; they cannot get enough to make them happy. Selfish behavior is lonely like Judas, but the other 11 disciples had unity, which brings blessings to build the kingdom of God. Ever look at the trees that are hanging on the side of the mountains or bluffs? Their roots are intertwined with each other to make each other stronger. Like that of a threefold cord with the LORD, intertwined with us. We are a team, we

are a part of the body, Jesus' body, the Church. God's grace and love for humankind extend beyond His own people to lost people everywhere. Beyond the boundaries of Israel to embrace the nations of the world. God's compassion and love reached out to all the world. This truth was fully seen when God sent His Son, Jesus, to die for all people, and when Jesus sent forth His disciples into the entire world to preach the gospel and make disciples of all nations. It is Him who can do all things. It is Him, Him doing the impossible. It is about Him-possible, not impossible. Lately, I started feeling bitter and angry at work again, at a different person. It only took a few hours, and I repented. I needed to face the truth that she has a soul and is one of God's kids, no matter what. Last month, I bought her a present and continue to do extra things for her to feel the love of Jesus. Romans 12:21 (AMP) Do not be overcome and conquered by evil, but overcome evil with good. I know the truth, the truth will set me free, especially when my heart is in the right place. Because I want to do good and not feel like I have to. Judas drifted from his original faith and formed plans to betray Him. Judas had the same choices as the other eleven disciples. He believed and was a trusted familiar friend of Jesus. Judas

later turned away by his own choice. He did not have to betray Jesus. The betrayal of Jesus was prophesied only by occurrence, and not by a person. Judas's choice to turn to the enemy's side resulted in tragedy for himself. This tragedy is a warning to every follower of Christ not to reject the Spirit's warning about the

world and not turn away from Christ. When you get right down to it, only two things can determine your destiny: your choice and your response to God. When you choose to do what is right, you influence others. Unfortunately, one wrong choice can overshadow

a lifetime of service to the Lord. Choosing to do right is not always easy, but God's grace is sufficient to see you through to finish well. Be joyful during our journey here on earth, Psalm 118:24. This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. It will take you so much farther.

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“It Just Wasn’t My Time” — Pastor Don Sturiano’s Testimony of God’s Power, Mercy, and Rescue

By Pastor Don Sturiano | pastordon@kingdomlifechristianchurch.org | www.kingdomlifechristianchurch.org

Editor’s Note: This testimony was written shortly after Pastor Don was released from the hospital. The wonderful news is that he was already back preaching the first Sunday of the new year. Testimonies never get old!

Greetings, precious lovers of Jesus!

It is just over five weeks since I was in the ER undergoing emergency bowel surgery. I have since learned that if I had not made it to the ER that day, I would not have made it to the next day. One vivid memory I have is being wheeled into the operating room and experiencing an overwhelming peace — even after my wonderful surgeon told me that my condition might not allow me to make it through surgery.

I was in the ICU for a little over two weeks and then transferred to a rehabilitation hospital for approximately a week and a half.

All the doctors were amazed at how quickly my recovery was progressing, which resulted in my early discharge. I am now home and recovering well.

I was brought to the ER on Sunday, November 2. I had to be intubated with a breathing tube down my throat for seven days and kept under sedation with medication that literally kept me paralyzed, because I was physically fighting back.

The surgery itself was a success. However, because I aspirated —

which produced a severe case of pneumonia — the doctors could not complete another related issue. I was scheduled to return for an outpatient surgery in six to eight weeks to “button everything up.” Please agree with me that, miraculously, this surgery will not be needed.

The good news is that I am up and walking, engaging in light activities, and all of my vital signs remain consistently good. I am gaining strength each day.

Our church leadership team has done an outstanding job leading, ministering, and loving the church family during this time.

While I was in the ICU, Trish and our son Jake led a woman to Jesus who was dying in the ICU unit across from me. She is in Heaven now. God used my battle as an opportunity for them to evangelize!

On Tuesday, November 3, while I was still under sedation, my condition remained deeply concerning. All the numbers were going in the wrong direction, and the news Trish received was not good. Then, on Wednesday evening, the church organized a worship and prayer meeting for my recovery. Trish said the meeting was greatly attended — including church family, people who had moved to other counties, the Chief of Police, a retired Chief, our beloved Mayor, and many people from the City of

Bradenton family that I so dearly love. Thank you all! Then — Thursday morning — Trish returned to the hospital and was told that my numbers had jumped 70% in the right direction. Thank You, Jesus! My vocal cords were seriously strained from the seven days of the breathing tube, but they are now recovering well, and I am already preaching again! The Holy Spirit has given me what may be one of the most powerful messages I have received



from Him in my 40 years of being a lover of Jesus, titled “Higher,” which I can send you upon request.

There is a level of His Presence, a depth of revelation in His Word, and a glorious supernatural transformation that can only be found when you walk with Him through the shadow of the valley of death.

Below are five pictures:

1. All the machines I was connected to following surgery that kept me alive
2. Trish’s hand on mine, praying when

things were at their worst

3. The Police Chief and two Captains visiting me at the rehabilitation hospital

4. Being discharged from rehab to go home just three-and-a-half weeks later

5. Recovering at home less than a week after being discharged — truly miraculous

It just wasn’t my time to graduate to Heaven. I have much more to do for Jesus!

Psalm 103:1–5 (KJV)
Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Thank you all for your prayers and messages of love and faith. For the love of Jesus and His Kingdom, Don Sturiano

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

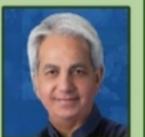
Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;



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