**9 Keys to Living a Fulfilled Christian Life**

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Bethany Highlander

RWG Publishing

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**Dedication**

This book is for all the people that are spiritually hungry and also dedicated to my scribe angel that co-wrote this books with me

Dedication

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**Introduction**

Today, I am eager to share some guiding Principles from my Christian Life that bring me fulfillment. Understanding and living the Christian faith involves a process of continual learning, growth, and practice that extends over time.

Consider the journey of a dedicated six-year-old tennis player. To transform into the triumphant 20-year-old at Wimbledon, she had to practice tirelessly, implementing the techniques imparted by her coach. Similarly, to mature into a successful and fulfilled Christian, you must practice the teachings and steps outlined in this book. Devoting time to God is crucial, but the practice of obedience and the commitment to act upon all that is taught is equally important.

This concise book presents vital keys that can unlock a fulfilling Christian life if diligently practiced. These teachings are designed to guide you on your journey toward spiritual growth and deeper devotion to the Kingdom, God, and Jesus's teachings within the Trinity. The Heaven on Earth that we strive for is within reach as we continuously learn, grow, and practice our faith.

**Note on Editing**

In the past, I had the financial means to hire a top-notch Christian editor and ample funds to spend. However, my ministry income has significantly decreased in the last couple of years, so I can no longer afford the editor I previously used.. I apologize in advance for any errors that may have occurred in the publication of this book. It is my prayer that you can forgive me.

**Chapter 1 Coming to Know Who Jesus Was.**

At one point in my life, I felt a divine nudge from the Holy Spirit, encouraging me to immerse myself in the New Testament. Until then, I hadn't been one to delve into its pages frequently. My journey started with Matthew, continued through Mark, Luke, John, and Acts, and led me to Romans. While the Apostle Paul's writings proved challenging to comprehend, they were also deeply enriching.

I understand when people express that the Bible can seem inaccessible or dull or confess to not reading it because they find it difficult to understand. A common criticism, indeed, is the Bible's perceived complexity.

Contrasting the Bible with a work of fiction illuminates this issue. In a fictional narrative, you journey alongside a character, sharing their experiences, navigating through different scenarios, and witnessing varied encounters. This unfolding storyline allows for a connection between the characters and the narrative.

However, much of the New Testament consists of apostolic letters addressing various churches. The format isn't focused on a single character's journey, making it sometimes challenging to engage with. It's crucial to remember that these letters, while perhaps more demanding to comprehend, offer profound spiritual insights and wisdom that reveal the nature of the Trinity, the teachings of Jesus, and the path to His Kingdom in Heaven.

Anyway, I read through all of Paul's books, and I got to Peter, and then I got to 2nd Peter, and at the end of 2nd Peter, it says Paul is hard to understand. Peter says.

2 Peter 3:15-16

*"15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures."*

So, here we have the Apostle Peter, who had read some of Paul's letters, likely including Romans, and found them challenging to comprehend. This difficulty, he shared in his epistles to the scattered churches - a sentiment many of us can relate to. Peter acknowledged the complexity of Paul's writings and cautioned against misinterpretations that could mislead the faithful. This highlights the importance of understanding that some may misconstrue the Bible's teachings, introducing confusion or leading others astray.

When I concluded 2 Peter, I felt Jesus' directive to return to the Gospels. I was to immerse myself in these teachings, asking specific questions: Why did Jesus utter certain phrases? What might He have intended with a particular statement? Why did He perform a specific miracle? Why did He act as He did? I was to spend substantial time probing the Gospels, questioning and reflecting on the text. This marked a new approach, not merely reading the Gospels but engaging with them deeply until instructed otherwise by Jesus.

For several years, my daily routine included revisiting the Gospels. This was a departure from the norm, as many tend to read them once and then move on to other texts. I was asked to repeatedly read, reread, and interrogate the Gospels. Particularly, I sought to comprehend each of the 54 parables, endeavoring to discern their deeper meanings and implications, such as those found within the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5 to 7), a vital source of Jesus' teachings.

Take, for instance, the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard. On the surface, it tells of a vineyard owner who hires workers at different times throughout the day yet pays them all equally, causing discontent among those who labored longer. However, on a deeper level, it foretells a time when individuals late to the ministry will achieve significant success, causing resentment among those with more tenure.

I gleaned insights into His character by examining Jesus' teachings and interactions with others. For example, when Jesus referred to the Canaanite woman as a dog, it raised questions about His seemingly harsh response. Similarly, when He healed the Centurion's servant from a distance, it incited reflection on His abilities.

Over several years of deep engagement with the Gospels, I developed a profound understanding of Jesus' character and persona. Despite their faith, many Christians who regularly attend church services lack a personal understanding of Jesus, His teachings, and His character. Through the years immersed in the Gospels, I gained an intimate knowledge of Jesus, culminating in an extraordinary encounter.

After several years of studying the Gospels, I met Jesus in the flesh, disguised as a homeless man. It filled my mind as He shared wisdom from His time on Earth. This flood of knowledge was so immense that I worried about forgetting it, yet I let Him speak for ten profound minutes.

Jesus later revealed that if I had transcribed those ten minutes of wisdom, it would have taken me a decade to understand truly. Coincidentally, ten years after that momentous encounter, I wrote my first book on the 54 parables of Jesus, having internalized the wisdom He shared. As we proceed with this book, each chapter will include commentary from Bethany, my scribe angel, making this a co-authored work between Bethany and myself.

**Bethany says:**

Matthew has a secure and foundational understanding of Jesus Christ. Matthew and Jesus are very good friends, and I often talk to Jesus about Matthew, and he starts to cry.

Matthew's intimacy and tremendous relationship with Jesus was begun when he spent those years reading the Gospels, and Matthew needed to be asked by Jesus to question the text and try and work out what Jesus was saying in everything he had to say. I'm not sure that many Christians when they read the Gospels, question the Holy Spirit or ask Jesus about what Jesus meant in his parables. Matthew went on in 2011 to write his first book on parables, which he's edited three times. Now he's got a book on the parables called The Narrow Way, The Parables of Jesus Made Simple 2021 edition. You can get that book free on Kindle in America at this link.

<https://tinyurl.com/4rvz2k9s>

You'll find that Matthew has a good understanding of the parables of Jesus and how they can be lived by, and how they can be obeyed today. I encourage you to read this book and spend much of your time reading the Gospels, asking questions about them, and meditating on them. Not only read Matthew's book on the parables and come to understand the parables but even after you've read Matthew's book on the parable but go and read the text again. Consider what Matthew has said about the parable and then continue reading in the text and see that sometimes Jesus told three parables at once, and each parable's meaning sort of bled into the next one. Jesus was making a point, and three separate parables were driving his point, and they had more significant and greater meanings depending on what he was saying. Like Matthew, I encourage you to spend some time reading the Gospels and getting to know the Gospels.

**Chapter 2 Developing Intimacy with Jesus.**

Many Christians faithfully attend church weekly, engaging in religious practices and rituals. They arrive at church, sing hymns of worship, experience the presence of Jesus, listen to the day's announcements, absorb the sermon, and then spend time in fellowship with one another over tea, coffee, and treats. They have cultivated friendships and connections within their church community, engaging in discussions about Jesus and conversations about television shows, recent purchases, and sports. These bonds often extend beyond Sunday services to midweek meetings. Many Christians also invest personal time reading the Bible and in one-way prayers to Jesus or the Father. For them, this is the crux of their faith.

In addition to church activities, some Christians seek out religious content, such as videos or books, to deepen their understanding of Jesus and their faith. For many, increasing their knowledge of God, Christian teachings, and specific doctrines shows devotion and piety. They equate wisdom with faithfulness, believing that the more they learn, the more devout they become.

However, this focus on accruing knowledge can sometimes lead to divisions and disagreements. Over the past few months, I have spoken with two young girls who turned off Christianity because of persistent arguments within the faith community. They reported that these Christians disagreed with each other and staunchly defended their viewpoints with a sense of pride and self-righteousness. The girls observed that these debates rarely led to anyone changing their beliefs but instead seemed more about the joy of argumentation. These experiences left the young girls disillusioned, feeling that discussing the Bible was fruitless in such an environment.

Sometimes that's how Christians are; the more knowledge they get, the more they want to participate in arguments. There's a scripture that says, and *they'll know we are Christians by our love*, and they also know that we're hypocrites and bad examples of Christ by our arguments. I found in my life that there are not a lot of Christians who truly know Jesus.

Jesus, in His omnipotence, is well-acquainted with every cuisine and dish known to man. He has such a profound understanding that He can expertly guide you through the tastes, textures, and nuances of any dish you choose. If you ask Him about His favorite Thai dish, you might find His answer reflects your preferences, showing His deep personal knowledge about you. Such a closeness with Jesus is indeed possible, as described in the Book of Revelation, where He invites us to dine with Him. He promises, "I stand at the door and knock, and if you let me in, I'll come and sup with you." Thus, Jesus could accompany you to a restaurant, sitting at your side and dwelling within you, experiencing the food you consume and providing insight into its flavors, spices, and heat levels.

This intimate relationship with Jesus isn't limited to culinary experiences. You can seek His wisdom about Scripture and ask Him questions about your life or even the lives of others. Imagine watching the news on TV, with Jesus providing His commentary about unfolding events. Consider discussing public figures like President Biden. Jesus, who sees the good in every person, could reveal surprising insights about the President's qualities and the purpose of his presidency, regardless of differing political perspectives. When you truly know Jesus, you'll realize that He rarely speaks negatively about others, encouraging you to see them in a more compassionate light.

There are several ways to develop this intimacy with Jesus. Reading the Word of God, especially the Gospels, is one method discussed in the previous chapter. Additionally, prayer offers a platform for two-way communication with Jesus. It's a conversation, not just a monologue. You can ask Him questions and ponder further inquiries based on His responses. It's similar to getting to know a new friend over coffee, where you ask about their family, work, and hobbies and understand them better through their responses.

However, many Christians, as much as 80%, only engage in one-way prayers with Jesus. They pray, confess their sins, and share their lives, often unsure if He's listening. They don't expect or listen to His responses. But if you consider any meaningful relationship, it's not one-sided. Even if one party is deaf, they find ways to respond through sign language or facial expressions.

Developing your relationship with Jesus involves more than just reading the Word of God or discussing theology. It requires a conscious effort to draw closer to Him, detach from worldly desires, and live a life of obedience under His guidance. For more on cultivating this intimacy, consider my book, "7 Keys to Intimacy with Jesus," where I discuss the seven essential factors for deepening your bond with Jesus.

You can view that here.

<https://tinyurl.com/5n6nr5y3>

I found that intimacy with Jesus is like the key to the supernatural. When you know Jesus well, he introduces you to his friends. He'll introduce you to his Father, the Holy Spirit, and the Trinity. Jesus seems like the linchpin; he appears to be the key to the supernatural life. I'd warn them first to develop true intimacy with Jesus before they try and embark on meeting angels and speaking to angels or interacting with saints in Heaven. If you're concerned with my mention of talking to saints in Heaven, talking, the Saints in Heaven, I've got some information about how what I do is not necromancy in the appendix of this book. If you take the time to read that, what I say about that may clear up your objections. I encourage you to download the 99-cent book, *7 Keys to Intimacy with Jesus*. And I say that one of the genuine keys to fulfilling Christian life is having a close and intimate relationship with Jesus.

**Bethany Speaks:**

Matthew has and maintains a tremendous relationship with Jesus. Matthew most often talks to Jesus as he is going to bed. There are ten minutes to half an hour where he discusses the supernatural. He will often speak to me as he is going to bed. He often talks to Jesus, God the Father, and different saints in Heaven, his mother, and his Father. He has a time when he's lying in bed and getting ready to sleep, where he has conversations with the supernatural and people from the supernatural.

Jesus dearly loves Matthew. He has tried many times to serve Matthew and make Matthew's life more efficient and proficient. Jesus has several angels that he has dispatched into Matthew's life. I helped Matthew dictate his books. I come up with the titles for his readers. I help him write the back cover information for his books. I help construct some of his Facebook posts and work and inspire him.

Jesus will give you access and permission to talk to the angels in your life. When you have several gifts in the Spirit, like Matthew has the gift of teaching, the gift of writing, and the gift of encouragement, more angels are assigned to you to serve you. If you become intimate with Jesus through knowing the Word of God and mainly through knowing what Jesus taught and obeying what he taught, you have a love of God perfected in you as you learn the commandments of Jesus and walk in the commandments of Jesus, love is perfected in you.

1 John 2:3-6

*"3 Now by this we know that we know Him if we keep His commandments. 4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this, we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."*

As you cultivate a profound love for God and others, you may align more closely with Jesus to the point where your words and actions reflect His. Scripture emphasizes that anyone who claims to abide in Jesus must strive to walk in His footsteps. By developing intimacy with Jesus Christ, observing His commands, and choosing to live by His example, you begin to emulate Jesus. This transformation makes you speak, interact, and carry yourself as He did. Not only does this enrich your spiritual journey, but it also serves as a compelling testimony to others.

Modern evangelism methods often provoke guilt or fear by emphasizing sin and the threat of Hell. While such tactics can be effective, they may lack respect for the individual's dignity and personal journey. In contrast, Matthew suggests that embodying Jesus' character in interactions with others is a more considerate and equally effective approach to evangelism.

After all, the purpose of being a Christian is to know Jesus, emulate Him, and cultivate the "Christos" — the character, essence, and flavor of Jesus within yourself. As Scripture suggests, we should aspire to become the fragrance of Christ in the world.

To aid you on this journey, consider reading Matthew's book, "7 Keys to Intimacy with Jesus." This resource provides valuable insights and steps to grow closer to Jesus and develop a deeper, more personal relationship with Him. I encourage you to take these steps and devote yourself to nurturing your relationship with Jesus.

**Chapter 3 Starting two-way conversations with Jesus.**

One excellent approach to deepening your conversation with Jesus is asking Him questions. You might query Him about something He said or did in the Bible. For example, you could ask, "Why wasn't the person you laid hands on immediately healed? Why could they initially only see tree trunks?" Asking these questions opens the door for Jesus to provide His insights. I encourage this dialogue, and as you receive His answers, delve deeper with more insightful queries.

Imagine if you were conversing with a friend who told you they were an engineer. You wouldn't stop at that; you'd ask what kind of engineer, what kind of structures they build, which projects they've worked on, their daily responsibilities, and challenges on the job. Similarly, meaningful conversations aren't built on a single question but through a series of follow-up inquiries that lead to deeper understanding.

When you converse with Jesus, you could ask Him about His experience with His disciples. You might ask, "What was it like having Peter as a disciple? What were some of Peter's positive traits?" Jesus might share how Peter was always eager to ask questions, how he sought understanding and meaning behind teachings, and how his curiosity guided the direction of the teachings.

Jesus appreciates questions. As a teacher, I can attest that one of the greatest joys is engaging with curious and eager students. A thirst for knowledge ignites a fire in Jesus, and your conversations with Him become more rewarding the deeper you probe into His responses.

There are, however, certain queries that are off-limits. You can't ask Him for the lottery numbers or direct guidance on personal decisions like whom you should marry. For more insights on communicating with the divine, consider reading my book, "How to Hear God's Voice."

You can view that book here.

<https://tinyurl.com/jy3nj3dr>

Certain inquiries may not receive a response from Jesus, especially those of a highly personal nature. For example, in my life, I've grappled with a mental illness for 30 years. If I were to ask, "Will I ever be healed of my mental illness?" or "When will I be healed?" it's possible that these questions, being deeply personal, may not yield direct answers. However, I've outlined some guidance on posing questions to Him in my book.

Beware of the anti-Christ spirit that can try to dominate your dialogue and deceive you by impersonating Jesus. Over time, you'll develop discernment to identify such falsehoods. As you foster intimacy with Jesus and familiarize yourself with His character, your queries will grow bolder. Perhaps you are intrigued by eschatology, the study of End Times. You might ask Jesus about the Antichrist's nature, his rise to prominence, the miracles he'll perform, and whether his supposed healings are genuine or illusions.

The breadth and depth of your conversations with Jesus are unlimited. However, Jesus didn't possess all knowledge while on Earth. He now understands the past, present, and future. You could even ask Him about His return if you're interested in eschatology.

Remember, Jesus comprehends everything about you, others, the future, and the Earth. Whether you're an engineer with technical questions or a chemist curious about specific compounds, Jesus possesses the mind of a scientist, a creator, an engineer, a writer, and a teacher. His knowledge is boundless.

I hope this chapter has inspired you to cultivate your dialogues with Jesus. If you're seeking further guidance, my book "How to Hear God's Voice" may be beneficial. If you'd like to support this endeavor, feel free to donate or connect with me on Facebook, where I can provide further assistance as you embark on your conversational journey with Jesus.

**Bethany Speaks:**

It's certainly an exciting thing to have conversations with Jesus. I find Jesus the most loving, understanding, and compassionate entity in the universe. Matthew, it's true that Jesus doesn't often speak negatively about anyone, even evil people. He's got good things to say about President Biden and Kamala Harris. He's got good things to say about certain Democrats. He has good things to say about certain slave traffickers and sexual predators. He has good things to say about all sorts of people.

It isn't true that Jesus isn't aware of the evil people are doing, but Jesus is a real redemptive person. He believes in the good that can come from a person. He doesn't necessarily concentrate on the bad in people, about Biden and the negative things in his personality. And if it was going to have a redemptive purpose, you could find out certain things about Biden that are troubling him, impeding him. You could find out to pray for him for change and influence him. Jesus could give you insight into his struggles so you can intercede and pray for him. Jesus understands why a person is evil, and that's more to the point.

Matthew had tremendous trauma in his early life and suffered from rejection. He had solid wounds and roots in his life that caused him to have an addiction to prostitution and pornography addiction. He not only had to be delivered of demons of lust and pornography and Jezebel and different demons that were causing his sin, but he also had to go through trauma counseling and have his actual spiritual wounds healed and addressed. I've been working with Matthew over the last 20 weeks, counseling him as he's been asleep. I have been speaking to his spirit, ministering to his heart and soul, and healing those wounds. Not only has he stopped those addictions for the last 20 weeks, but he's also not getting a powerful temptation to return to it because he's been healed.

The reasons why a person is being evil can vary. Jesus would prefer you find out those reasons, pray to those reasons, and dispatch angels to minister to those things in a person's life rather than just discussing evil for evil's sake. Humanity can be terrible, and men and women like to hear gossip. They want to hear bad things about other people, and it's just something about humanity where they love to listen to an evil report about people, and they like to hear about evil, and that's something that's not very Christian. It certainly isn't anything Christ-like. It's part of your flesh and the world that you need to address in your life and get out of yourself.

Jesus is quite capable and understands evil people and what they're up to. Some unscrupulous people are doing nasty things. The world, it seems, is under the sway and under control of what people refer to as the elite and the Illuminati. They've got their agenda, and they've got their purposes. They've even got objectives under God. God's got reasons for them being in power and control. You could ask Jesus about them and different questions about them, and he could give you information if you're interested in that. There's honestly no subject that is off-bounds with Jesus.

Of course, you can't ask him what the lotto numbers are, and Jesus doesn't participate in gambling. He won't tell you which horse will win a race the next day. He can say to you individually about the character of each of the horses and the abilities of each of the horses. He can tell you which horse he'd like to win because he knows the horses and understands all knowledge intimately. So, you could ask him what horse he would like to win or what jockey he'd like to win, but he won't necessarily tell you what horse wins the race because Jesus is outside of time. He's seen the race the next day, and he knows who won the race. Jesus might not be into gambling, but that does not mean he is aloof to all the racehorses in your city.

You can discuss so many things with Jesus, and he's just amazing. God, His Father, is impressive too. And we're not addressing God in this book, mainly because Matthew has a great relationship with Jesus more than His Father. But His Father knows everything, and talking to Him is fascinating. If you know Jesus, Jesus was the physical expression and representation of the invisible God. So, whenever you talk to Jesus, you also talk to God the Father.

God holds no discontent towards anyone who cultivates a profound relationship with Jesus. Such a connection creates an excellent foundation for Him to extend His ministry to that individual. There are countless topics on which one can engage in discourse with Jesus. One of my personal favorites revolves around Matthew and the contributions he has made through his literary works.

Matthew has authored 117 books, and I frequently discuss these with Jesus. I contemplate his future works, his character, the advancements he's making, his future influence, and the opportunities soon to open for him. I could engage in an unending dialogue with Jesus about Matthew, given my deep affection for him and my life's purpose to support his success as a teacher. His progress greatly interests me.

I hope my words have been enlightening for you and that this chapter, including Matthew's and my insights, encourages you to read the book "How to Hear God's Voice." It aims to foster your ability to converse reciprocally with the divine. If you still encounter difficulty developing this two-way communication after reading "How to Hear God's Voice," you might consider contacting Matthew via Facebook. May God bless you on this journey.

**Chapter 4 Getting to know what Jesus taught and obeying Him.**

In the Christian Church, it's disconcerting to observe that over 95% of congregants—those who attend Sunday services, self-identify as Christians, and have experienced the born-again process through a sinner's prayer—lack a comprehensive understanding of Jesus's teachings. This disconnect leads to a significant degree of Christian illiteracy concerning Jesus's doctrines and how to apply them daily.

Regrettably, many of these individuals, despite their public declarations of having a relationship with Jesus, are merely practitioners of religion. They offer lip service to His teachings, but their hearts remain distant from Him. True faith requires more than mere attendance or spoken affirmations; it demands genuine spiritual connection and application of His teachings.

Matthew 15:7-9

*"7 Hypocrites! Well, did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying:*

*8 'These people [a]draw near to Me with their mouth,*

*And honor Me with their lips,*

*But their heart is far from Me.*

*9 And in vain they worship Me,*

*Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'"*

It's a common occurrence, sadly, that many Christians only superficially know about Jesus. They understand some of His deeds and believe in His personhood. However, they don't truly know Him. They can't spend two hours conversing with Jesus and recording it for others to read. They fail to recognize how Jesus invariably speaks positively about people. If you ask Jesus His favorite Thai dish, you might be surprised to find out it's the same as your favorite.

Moreover, when you question Him about His favorite pizza flavor, if you hadn't read this book, you'd be surprised to learn that His preference aligns with yours on that particular day.

A similar situation could be seen years ago during the Trump administration. People knew about Trump. They knew what he claimed to stand for, the initiatives he undertook, his policies, and a host of facts and figures about him. Yet, they didn't know what book Trump read when he retreated to the restroom. They were unaware of how much time he spent daily watching the media, nor did they grasp the depth of his wife's loyalty. They couldn't comprehend Trump's deep respect for his children, the extent of control he would concede to them, or the amount of advice he would accept from them. They didn't know Trump's perspective on the Christian Church and its leadership. Neither did they understand his thoughts about his political opponents, aside from his public statements. They didn't truly know Trump as a person. They couldn't tell you Trump's favorite Thai dish or his preferred pizza. Despite the lack of intimate knowledge about Trump, the general populace would claim to know him. They'd assert they understood him, offering reasons for their love or hatred towards him. Americans would claim to know Trump but didn't know him personally.

The same is true for Jesus. Many people know Him and know about Him, but they don't truly know Him personally. They haven't engaged in conversations that demonstrate a deep relationship with Him. Jesus said we should understand His commandments, and there's a scripture verse I'm going to share that will provide us with some insight into truly knowing Jesus.

Jesus said that between the last supper and when he was arrested, he said:

John 14:21

*"21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him*."

Jesus declared that those who love Him are the ones who are familiar with His Commandments and abide by them. Unfortunately, most Christians are unaware of the fifty Commandments of Jesus and do not adhere to them. As a result, many who claim to love Jesus may not truly love Him, as He states that love for Him is demonstrated through obedience to His Commandments. According to Jesus' words, it is clear that many readers of this book may not truly know Him.

Further, Jesus states that if you know and obey His fifty Commandments, the Father and He will love you. One of the ways to deepen your relationship with Jesus and to gain more of His love is by knowing and following His fifty Commandments.

Consider a classroom scenario with an English teacher. The teacher outlines a curriculum and informs the students about the required readings to pass the course. The teacher might also recommend additional texts for the students. Those students who read and understand these suggested texts and engage the teacher in discussions about them often earn the teacher's greater respect and affection. This is especially true if they can articulate what they appreciate about the different texts. The more interest a student shows in the course, the more the teacher will love them.

The same principle applies to Jesus. He taught various things, including fifty distinct Commandments. When you comprehend and obey these Commandments, you gain more love and respect from Jesus. Let's focus on the final part of the verse, where it says, "I will love him and manifest Myself to him." This means that Jesus will reveal His character to you. He will display His personality and expose His nature to you. One way He does this is through His Commandments, which detail fifty ways you can show love to others. Jesus instructs us to love the Lord your God with all our heart, mind, and soul and to love your neighbor as ourselves. The Fifty Commandments provide detailed guidance on how to do this in practice. As you refine your expression of God's love, His love is perfected in you.

1 John 2:3-6

*"3 Now by this we know that we know Him if we keep His commandments. 4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5, But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God [a]is perfected in him. By this, we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."*

As God's love is perfected within you through adherence to His Commandments, you cultivate the mindset of Christ, becoming more like Him. As stated in the Scripture, anyone claiming to reside in Him must emulate His ways. Living out the fifty Commandments and putting them into practice perfects God's love within you, leading you to become Christ-like. You start to resemble Jesus closely. You can deliver sharp truths, yet do so gently. You can reprimand someone but do it with grace and love that is welcomed, leading the individual to repentance and change.

Some individuals can disseminate the truth and preach it. Yet, they might deliver it in a harsh, condemning, and unloving manner, rendering the message ineffective as the listener fails to receive it or is moved to repentance.

Consider Jesus' parable of the sower. He spoke of some seeds falling on stony ground, where birds snatched them up, preventing their growth. Sometimes, it's the mode of delivery that hampers the seed from taking root. For instance, a message urging people to obey Jesus can be delivered in a harsh, judgmental, and unloving manner, making it unpalatable to most listeners. Alternatively, the same message delivered in a compassionate, loving way can be warmly received.

Sometimes, your seed lands on the stony ground because of your delivery method, whereas a good delivery method can ensure that your seed lands on fertile soil, prepared to nurture the seed. Jesus assures us in John 14:21 that if we obey Him, He will bestow greater love and reveal Himself to us. One of the key strategies to deepen your intimacy with Jesus and foster an intimate relationship with Him is becoming conversant with the fifty Commandments of Jesus. I recommend you look at the linked article containing the fifty Commandments of Jesus. Print them out, stick them on your fridge, and begin implementing five at a time in your life.

Fifty Commandments link

<https://tinyurl.com/mvecv3k6>

As you put them into practice, you'll find that they argue with your flesh. The Fifty Commandments tell you to do things opposite and outside of how you want to act. If you obey the commandments and disobey your flesh, you'll become more and more Christ-like. As you assimilate those fifty commandments into your life over the next two to five years, you'll start to develop the mind of Christ. You'll begin to think like Christ and have thoughts come to your mind, and temptations come to your mind on how you should act. The thought will be answered by three of the commandments of Jesus, and you'll weigh up what Jesus said compared to what you want to do, and in time you'd be choosing what Jesus said, and you'll be acting like Jesus.

**Bethany Speaks:**

The song goes, "*and they'll know we are Christians by our love*" When you walk in Jesus' commands when you walk in the teachings of Jesus, you'll start to develop what is expressed in Scripture as the mind of Christ. You'll begin to think and act and react like Jesus. If you want to read a 200-page book explaining how to put into practice the fifty commands of Jesus, you can read about the fifty Commandments of Jesus and what they mean at this link.

The Gospel of Love

<https://tinyurl.com/3cyr9dvc>

It's imperative as a Christian for you to understand what Jesus taught. It's one thing to say that Jesus is your Lord and Saviour. It's another thing to be following Him and acting like him. Jesus said that if anyone wants to come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. Depriving yourself is practically found in making every decision that you make based on what Jesus' commands say and Jesus' parables say. It would be best if you did that. You've got to deny your flesh and disobey the thought that has come to your mind. Taking up your cross is following the leading of the Holy Spirit and making personal sacrifices to obey Jesus with every decision. And in the process, you must die to yourself. You've got to die to your self-need. And in that process, you'll have to take up your cross. You'll have to carry a cross to obey Jesus consistently. It's a self-sacrificial way. It's living a life where you're following the Holy Spirit's leading with each decision you make. And soon enough, you'll have thoughts coming to your mind which are directions directly from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will direct you to do basic things, and you'll be dying to yourself and doing those things.

Sometimes the Holy Spirit asks you to do hard things, and you'll have to die to your flesh to do these things. Paul said the things I want to do, I don't do, and the things that I hate, I do. In this example, Paul might be referring to what he wants to do: go and have a barbecue and have lunch with his friends. The things that he hates might be going to the local synagogue and bringing a stern rebuke to the Pharisees and the teachers of the law about the Sabbath. Of course, his flesh would like to relax with his friends, but the Holy Spirit has him do the rebuke that his flesh hates.

But when the Holy Spirit tells him to do it, he does what he hates. So, Paul was explaining the things that he wants to do; he doesn't do things that he wants to do in his flesh that he doesn't do because the Holy Spirit directs him to do something else. Things that he hates, some of the things the Holy Spirit asks him to do that he doesn't want to do, he does because he's in obedience to the Holy Spirit. So that's what taking up your cross is.

When Jesus said, you should follow me, is understanding what he taught in his fifty commandments and what he taught in the meanings and the carrying out of his 54 parables and doing them. So many people say that Jesus is Lord, but he's not. How can Jesus be your Lord when you don't understand what he taught?

When all you do is go to church, sing songs, listen to sermons, read your Bible occasionally, and pray for one-way prayers occasionally? How are you doing what Jesus taught? You're just practicing religion. The way that you do what Jesus taught and practically follow Jesus is to follow in his footsteps and become Jesus and act like Jesus and behave like Jesus with everything that you say and do. I'm proud, honestly proud, to report that Matthew does walk and act like and treat people like Jesus, and he's an excellent example of a Christian who lives a fulfilled Christian life, and he's someone that I take my hat off to. He's someone I'm proud of, and I'm delighted to serve, assist, and indeed very happy to co-author this book with you.

**Chapter 5 Finding the Motivation to Give.**

The Word of God urges us to be givers, with numerous verses encouraging acts of generosity. Many of us, as Christians, are well aware of the numerous Christian ministries and teachers seeking financial support. I understand that these requests' frequency and intensity could be off-putting.

Indeed, giving is one of the topics that doesn't typically rank high on the list of favorites among Christians. The Christian world is rife with prosperity teachers who preach that God desires you to be affluent and prosperous, asserting that God's ministry can't sustain itself without generous donations from the wealthy. They often reference the parable of the Sower, highlighting the last type of soil—the good ground—that yielded a 30-fold, 60-fold, and 100-fold return, using this as evidence that sowing into their ministry equates to sowing into good ground. They appeal for funds, promising that if you invest in this good ground, the Lord will grant you a similar return.

However, we know this isn't quite accurate. One might wonder why prosperity teachers don't donate a large sum to another prosperity preacher to receive a hundredfold return and, thus, never need to request funds again. Logically, they could continue this process, donating a fraction of their earnings to reap an even larger return. If this principle were valid, prosperity teachers would be better off donating their money than soliciting it from others. But the reality is, if this approach truly worked, they'd be doing it themselves.

I fully understand if you feel tired upon reading this chapter. However, it's important to note that much of my fulfillment, joy, and excitement stems from contributing to my ministry and supporting other ministries I hold dear. To foster a genuine excitement about giving, I encourage you to research various ministries you could support.

For instance, I contribute to Iris Ministries, led by Heidi Baker. Heidi's ministry is truly impactful. She enters villages, requesting the residents bring their blind and deaf individuals. She boasts a 100% success rate in healing deaf individuals and an 80% success rate in healing people who are blind. Her miracles often lead entire villages to convert, and she ensures a pastor and a church are established in each village.

Furthermore, Heidi's ministry provides substantial support to those in need. She serves thousands of meals daily, taking countless orphans off the streets. Therefore, if you ever receive unsolicited messages requesting funds for orphans, you could consider redirecting your support to Heidi Baker's authentic and proven ministry. Heidi, along with her husband, is a compelling speaker who has founded and developed over 10,000 churches in their ministry tenure, based on figures from several years ago.

One way I like to support Heidi Baker is on her giving page. I'll put her giving page here.

<https://www.irisglobal.org/give>

You'll find an opportunity to support pastoral education on Iris Ministries' giving page. With a donation of $200, you can fund a pastor from a rural community to receive three months of training, covering tuition, food, and boarding. For a total of $600, you can provide full pastoral training. This has profound implications for the Kingdom, as the spiritual fruit borne of this pastor's ministry can be attributed in part to your support. Imagine reaching Heaven to be greeted and thanked by hundreds whose lives were transformed through the pastor you helped train.

Iris Ministries addresses various needs, all detailed on their giving page. They are indeed a wonderful ministry to consider supporting.

Heaven's Family is another commendable ministry led by a former prosperity preacher. When he asked Jesus for guidance, he was told his prosperity doctrine was heretical. This revelation led him to reevaluate his teachings and lifestyle significantly. He sold his luxury assets, moved into a more modest home, and drove less expensive cars, using the proceeds to support impoverished ministries overseas. He frequently discusses the parable of the sheep and the goats, reminding us that the kindness we extend to others is, in essence, done unto Jesus Himself.

One impactful way to support Heaven's Family is to donate toward an Indian evangelist's transportation. With just $100, you can provide a sturdy bicycle. If this evangelist reaches 500 people due to the increased mobility afforded by your gift, then you share in the reward of their conversion. The simple gift of a bicycle allows the evangelist to reach more villages and people, expanding the Kingdom meaningfully.

You can visit Heaven's family and see all the different ways you can give to them there. If you want to see the pages where you can buy a motorbike or push bike for an evangelist in the country, you can visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/5yn5d7np>

My point is that you need to research different ministries and particular ministries to which you can give in. As you research ministries, you can get a sense of excitement, leading to you happily giving.

Another ministry I like to support is Joyce Meyer's general fund. Her money from that fund gets reinvested in poor and other Christian ministries. Joyce Meyer has 80% of her finance comes into a ministry that is optional by her ministry. And she is a little bit like Heaven's Family in that she has a network of poorer ministries, pastors, and poorer servants of the Lord whom she sends finances. You can support those ministries' finances by sending money to a general fund. You can view Joyce Meyer's general giving fund here:

<https://joycemeyer.org/donate>

What I like to do is I like to find ministries that you're not giving money to a general fund, but you can go through their giving pages and find specific purposes for your funds to go into. Like to finance a pastor in Iris Ministries. I like to buy a push bike for an evangelist in India. I want to do specific things with my finances.

I also support an evangelist Todd Bentley, and I'm a partner of evangelist Todd Bentley, and I'm also a partner of a prophet called Stephen Powell. I put Stephen Powell's ministry-giving address here and Todd Bentley's.

You can Partner with Stephen Powell here <https://lionoflight.org/pages/become-a-partner>

When I supported Stephen Powell, I found that after I signed up to become a partner of Stephen Powell, I got the power and release of demons in my life. I had Bethany, my scribe angel, start to do personal trauma ministry on me at nighttime. I had an increase in my prophetic gift. I got a gift of interpretation of dreams. So, my skills and my life exploded. Blessings have rained down on me since I have been a partner.

You can partner with Todd Bentley here.

<https://revivalharvestministries.org/partnership>

When I partnered with Todd Bentley, I noticed that the glory of the Lord started to manifest in my life. The glory of the Lord is mighty in my life now, allowing me to approach strangers, and they are comfortable with me coming to them to witness and prophesy over them. This presence has grown since I partnered with Todd. Because of this, I would not easily be talked out of stopping my partnership.

From my limited experiences with partnering, I would encourage you to find a ministry that operates in spiritual gifts that you want to promote and partner with them and see what happens. What have you got to lose?

If you find someone great who is a great teacher like David Servant from Heaven's Family, and the Lord is using you to teach, partnering with him is a perfect idea. He's a tremendously good teacher, and he's got many free books that you can find at this link. You can go to his website to download books in different formats or the Amazon page to get free Kindle books.

David Servant's Book page

<https://www.davidservant.com/books/>

David Servant's Amazon page

<https://tinyurl.com/ntkhannj>

If you find a good teacher, you can partner with them. If you find an excellent prophet who's ministering prophetically and has a good prophetic gift, you can sow that prophetic gift by sowing into Stephen Powell's ministry. So, I suggest you research different ministries and find out what they're doing, their success, their fruit, and what they're achieving.

The more you learn about them, the more you discover the good things they are, and the more it motivates you to give. It's tough, I find, to give money into a general fund of a church to pay for the building and pay for the pastors. Sometimes you need more motivation, and you can find the reason to give when you research different ministries. Before I put Bethany on, I want to pray for you.

Dear Father,

I pray that you would lift any poverty spirits off people, you'd lift any false teaching off people, and any hesitation to give off people. And I pray that through your Holy Spirit and the ministry of angels, you'll give people the motivation and a desire to start giving. I recognize that only 5% of Christians in America tithe, and I realize that only 5% of the readers here have a habit of giving 10% of their income. I pray that you would break that fear of giving and you break those doctrinal objections to giving. I pray that you will have a breakthrough in these individuals' lives and encourage them to give. In Jesus' name, I ask, Amen.

Andrew Wommack has a good book on giving, and it's called *Financial Stewardship.* I find the book an excellent read and agree with his giving principles; you can find a link to *Financial Stewardship* on Amazon here.

<https://tinyurl.com/wtzmpejy>

My friend Michael Van Vlymen has a very good book on giving called *Supernatural Provision: Learning to Walk in Greater Levels of Stewardship and Responsibility and Letting Go of Unbiblical Beliefs,* and you can view it here. <https://tinyurl.com/ebrmn6zs>

**Bethany speaks.**

I'm delighted to have the opportunity to speak on giving. Honestly, for years Matthew has been a good giver. For years he's been giving 30% of his income, and he's quite able to live on 70% of his income, and he gets some real joy out of giving.

Since he partnered with Stephen Powell, Todd Bentley, and Heaven's Family, David's servant, his life has taken off, and his giftings have improved. He's had a breakthrough in his addictions. He's living a different life. He's being transformed. The fruit of his life, the things that are taking off and expanding and blessed, are a result of those partnerships and his giving. It's like doing a spiritual transaction with the Holy Spirit. It's saying, like, I'm investing in your work, Holy Spirit. Please invest in me. So, when you research giving, find ministries operating in what you want to serve. If you feel that you're called to teach, and you're called to prepare the body of Christ, find someone with tremendous teaching abilities and give to their ministry. David Servant from Heaven's Family is a great teacher, and you can read his books at the link I provided.

I encourage you to research different ministries and support various ministries and mainly invest your money into giftings and abilities that you would like to see manifest in your life if you're not after gifts or don't see the value of sowing into a ministry to get a gift, research to find a good ministry you can support.

Matthew supports a ministry called Kiva at this link.

[https://www.kiva.org](https://www.kiva.org/)

Kiva is an organization that gives small microfinance loans to poor people so they can start a business rather than work for someone for low wages. They can start their own business and make an income. People repay microfinance loans because people are poor and good at repaying loans. You can spend $25 US each time; maybe 40 people will all come together and loan a person $1,000. These microfinance loans are paid off over time, and you can repay the money. Matthew has about $1,600 US circulating in his account, and every month loans are repaid, and he reloans money out. Suppose you want to give to people experiencing poverty. Matthew doesn't get any spiritual gift coming back to him because of that. But the Bible has blessings and promises that God will look after you if you look after the poor.

Matthew likes to give, and he enjoys giving to these people. One of the blockages to people having spiritual intimacy is learning things and becoming more faithful, and your spiritual relationship with God is giving.

Jesus taught essentially that giving is the easiest thing to do, yet for many Christians. It's the last thing they do. Many Christians give out the last bit of their money. They spend all their money on themselves, then get a little money and give it to the Lord. Your giving should be a bill. Matthew encourages people in his books to work out what 20% of their monthly income is and go to a ministry's partner page and put that 20% figure into the box and tick that you want to donate that money, and then tick the box to make it a monthly donation and send off that 20% of your income to a ministry and partner with that ministry each month.

Instead of treating it as giving, treat it as a bill and know you support God's ministry and the Kingdom. If you enjoy this book and get a lot out of this book, and you'd like to read other books of Matthew. You find that you want other books of Matthew, and you'd like to support Matthew in his book-writing ministry. If you recognize that Matthew makes all his books on Kindle in the US for free, which is most of the market, you may want to support Matthew's ministry by giving him a monthly donation or a one-off donation to his ministry. If you want to support Matthew's book-writing ministry, you can give money to him at this link.

<https://matthewrobertpayne.com/support-the-ministry/>

Matthew has found that it comes down to your motivation. You can give sporadically to a ministry here and there as you feel led by the Lord, or you can get coached by the Holy Spirit to choose a specific ministry, take the plunge, and sign up for a monthly donation. We all do it. You all do it on streaming services and different services by different companies. You sign up for monthly contributions and subscriptions to certain things, and this is simply signing up for another monthly subscription, but in this way, you're honoring the Lord.

There is a real true benefit to giving to the Lord, and it's beneficial to do it.

**6 Giving to the Lord**

For many years, I resisted becoming a monthly partner with any ministry. I was already inundated with various subscriptions, and adding another was daunting. Between paying $15 a month for YouTube's ad-free subscription, footing a similar bill for Netflix after my brother's shared account expired, subscribing to Apple Music's $15 per month unlimited plan, and dealing with inevitable Google-related expenses, my monthly budget seemed consumed by digital services.

Because of these ongoing commitments, I initially hesitated to engage in a financial partnership with a ministry. I was wary of the added monthly obligation. However, the Holy Spirit stirred in my heart the desire to become a monthly partner with a ministry. Encouraged by His guidance, I contributed $50 per month to the ministry of Prophet Stephen Powell.

Following this commitment, I experienced some profound transformations in my life. Angelic interventions delivered me from certain harmful influences, and my friend Bethany began helping me through practical inner healing. This process led to the eradication of a 43-year-long pornography addiction. Since initiating this healing journey 22 weeks ago, I've only faced temptation twice, successfully resisting each time. Similarly, my 38-year habit of seeking out prostitutes ended. Now, nearly six months into my recovery, I remain steadfast and free from that compulsion. These incredible breakthroughs transpired following my partnership with Stephen Powell's ministry.

I do prophecies on my website where you can pay 30 Australian dollars, about 20 American dollars, and I'll do a 10-minute prophecy. I've been doing them for many years, and you can get a prophecy or a message from your angel at this link here.

<https://personal-prophecy-today.com/>

I've provided prophecies that have financially sustained my publishing ministry for many years. Traditionally, I've offered 10-minute prophecies. However, my prophetic work has deepened since I partnered with Stephen Powell. Approximately 20% of my prophecies have extended beyond the typical 10-minute mark, with some lasting up to 16 and 17 minutes. One memorable prophecy even spanned a lengthy 37 minutes. This growth indicates a significant elevation of my prophetic gift.

Additionally, I've begun to receive the gift of dream interpretation. This is a gift I've desired and pursued for years. The Holy Spirit has graciously provided me with dream interpretations on two occasions. One of these interpretations laid the foundation for my book, in which David Wilkinson delivered a prophetic message to the Bride of Christ through me. The dream and its interpretation played a central role in this book.

At times, I've experienced the manifestation of God's Glory. This is often apparent when infants and young children fix their gaze upon me during bus journeys, which I believe is a reaction to the divine aura. Additionally, when God's Glory rests upon me, I find that strangers are more receptive to conversation. Without His Glory, people might find my attempts at conversation intrusive or strange. After partnering with Todd Bentley, I noticed a marked increase in God's Glory. This has particularly benefited my prophetic evangelism, encouraging and delivering prophetic words to people. Engaging in conversations where individuals are genuinely interested in what you have to share is wonderful.

Isaiah 60 speaks of God's Glory. It tells of a world enveloped in darkness and God's Glory rising over certain people. I find this passage especially relevant to my experiences.

Isaiah 60:1-3

*"60 Arise, shine;*

*For your light has come!*

*And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.*

*2 For behold, the darkness shall cover the Earth,*

*And deep darkness the people;*

*But the Lord will arise over you,*

*And His glory will be seen upon you.*

*3 The Gentiles shall come to your light,*

*And kings to the brightness of your rising."*

When the Glory of God shines upon you, it's as if you radiate an inner light that attracts others. This doesn't necessarily mean a physical glow but rather a certain attractiveness or approachability akin to an expectant mother's radiant glow. With God's Glory upon you, people tend to be more receptive to your words and are often drawn to seek your advice or assistance. For instance, as you walk down a street, someone might bypass others only to stop you from asking for directions.

When God's Glory is powerfully manifesting within you, strangers feel comfortable opening up to you, often sharing their life stories or seeking your friendship. This divine aura can open many doors and opportunities for meaningful interactions. You might even notice children or individuals pausing to stare at you, drawn to the Godly presence around you.

Since I began partnering with Todd Bentley, the manifestations of God's Glory in my life have become significantly more frequent, something I'm deeply grateful for. Given the positive impacts it has had on my life, I do not intend to end this partnership.

Moreover, my teaching gift has also seen notable improvement, thanks in part to the influence of David's Servant. He is a superb teacher of the Word of God who generously provides free books and teachings via video. His YouTube channel, to which I subscribe, is an invaluable resource. He's authored a particularly enlightening book for training pastors and teaching them the fundamentals of Scripture. Far from being a dry theological text, this book—"The Disciple-Making Minister"—is an engaging read packed with valuable insights. It is freely available on Amazon and Kindle; you can download it at this address.

<https://tinyurl.com/3d2m5zed>

I encourage you to open your heart and consider starting to teach and, more importantly, to give. Books like "Financial Stewardship" and other resources on giving could be quite enlightening. I understand if you've been disillusioned by prosperity teachers promising a 30, 60, or 100-fold return. While such returns are possible, they may not necessarily materialize on Earth. For example, if you sponsor a pastor through Iris Ministries, your heavenly reward will be tied to all the individuals the pastor has educated and inspired in the Lord's name. Similarly, if you fund a push-bike for an evangelist in India, your reward in Heaven will be linked to every soul they save.

Remember, Jesus said, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on Earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven." Sponsoring a pastor in Iris Ministries is one way to store treasures in Heaven. So is supporting an evangelist with a push-bike or sponsoring a business for a needy person. If you choose wisely, every penny spent in God's Kingdom could yield a heavenly reward. It's beneficial to strive for these heavenly rewards and envision an enriched eternity.

It's a sad reality that many Christians live without consciously building up any reward in Heaven. To help you navigate this, I've written a book called "Living for Eternity," which delves into the concept of heavenly rewards. You can find the book here.

<https://tinyurl.com/484zderf>

**Bethany Speaks:**

I'm encouraged that Matthew spent more time on this subject. Giving is a crucial thing, and people hate it. People hate discipline, but discipline is suitable for people. People hate to learn manners and be told how to do things by their parents when they're a child. Still, when they grow up and become an adult, it's good to be able to eat right, it's good to have good manners, it's good to have good morals, and it's good to know how to treat people, how to respect people, how to honor people.

Some things that may be hard to learn or take discipline to learn are good things for you, and giving is an excellent habit to get into. Only 5% of Christians in America tithe 10% of their income. That is very sad indeed. What we have written will encourage you to give more.

Of the 5% that tithe and give 10% of their income, 77% give more than 10%.

Source <https://tinyurl.com/5d4naepk>

Once the decision to give has been made, you might find yourself giving beyond the typical 10% of your income. Consider the Jewish people, who traditionally donate 10% of their income to charity and tend to prosper. Remarkably, Jews constitute around 25% of the wealthiest individuals worldwide, despite making up just 1.5% of the global population. This significant presence among the world's richest is a testament to the potential impact of their charitable giving.

If such prosperity can be observed among Jews, it stands to reason that practicing regular giving could benefit anyone. I urge you to let Matthew's prayer and the book "Financial Stewardship" inspire you. I recommend reading Matthew's "Living for Eternity" book to help shift your focus towards accruing heavenly rewards. Live your earthly life in a way that continues to amass these rewards in Heaven.

I genuinely enjoy sharing this encouragement for you to give, and I hope you can reach a stage where you comfortably donate 10, 20, or even 30% of your income to God.

**Chapter 7 Finding Your Purpose**

Finding purpose in life can sometimes feel like an elusive endeavor. Life can seem directionless when we lack a sense of what we're truly meant to do. However, having a sense of purpose—a reason to rise every morning—can add significant value and fulfillment to our lives.

Many people find satisfaction in the training and jobs they pursue, but many feel stuck in dead-end jobs or careers that seem devoid of meaning. These situations often lack spiritual sustenance and fail to give the individual a reward or fulfillment. To lead a satisfying Christian life, it's crucial to discover your spiritual purpose and your life's true meaning.

On my website, I offer a service called the Prophetic Destiny Blueprint. Through this service, guided by the Holy Spirit, I seek to uncover nine or ten different spiritual functions that God has called upon you to fulfill.

Other spiritual teachers suggest that we existed in Heaven as spiritual beings before our physical existence. In this pre-earth existence, God revealed our life's path and the events that would unfold in our lifetime. We then chose to come to Earth to live out that life. In Heaven, a scroll exists for each of us that outlines our life's purpose and what we're meant to accomplish. Part of this information from your heavenly scroll can be revealed by me, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and incorporated into your Prophetic Destiny Blueprint. While I may not be able to specify the job that will bring purpose to your life, I can help uncover the spiritual functions God desires you to fulfill.

You can order the Prophetic Destiny Blueprint here.

<https://personal-prophecy-today.com/request-prophetic-blueprint/>

In my book Finding Your Purpose in Christ, I wrote about finding your purpose in life.

You can find it here.

<https://tinyurl.com/292z5285>

Consider a book that delves deeply into the subject of life's purpose. It proposes an imaginative exercise. Visualize that someone gifted you a lottery ticket for your birthday, and you discovered that you had won $20 million. Suddenly, you're free from the daily grind of earning a living. You could effortlessly buy a million-dollar house and still have $19 million left for the rest of your life.

Take a moment and imagine winning that $20 million. With such wealth, you wouldn't have to work a day job. Pause your reading and genuinely consider this scenario. What would you do with your life if money were no longer an issue?

The answers to these questions might very well be your life's purpose. For instance, suppose you're currently working in an office. Would you enroll in chef school if you suddenly had $20 million? Would you join a restaurant, offering to pay your wages in return for being taught how to be a chef? Or perhaps you'd train to be a florist? Your choice could strongly indicate your true calling, which deserves your focus. Some people might use their $20 million windfall to move to Los Angeles and pursue a career in acting. Whatever your dream, this exercise can help you discover your purpose, provided you take it seriously.

When I was 30, I took the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, a psychological test that provides a four-letter description of your personality. For instance, my result was ENFJ, each letter representing a different facet of my personality. After completing your Myers-Briggs test, you can find books that detail each of the 16 possible personality results. One such book is "Please Understand Me" by David Keirsey, which discusses each personality type in depth. You can find the book here.

<https://tinyurl.com/25mz6wuf>

I recommend seeking out the Myers-Briggs temperament analysis test online. Complete the test to discover your personality type, and then read David Keirsey's book for deeper insight.

Taking this test when I was 30 revealed that I would be a gifted communicator, an effective writer, and a teacher. It also indicated that I find immense joy in championing and coaching people. Although it's been 27 years, and I can't remember all the details, the test will suggest occupations that typically suit your personality. In my case, it suggested that I'd excel as a preacher. Understanding your personality can significantly enhance your life experience. Living without purpose can lead to a dull, meaningless, and wasted life.

Remember the Parable of the Talents in the teachings of Jesus? In this story, one individual was given five talents, another two, and the last received just one. They were granted time to invest these talents. Upon the master's return from his trip, the individual given five talents had doubled their value, but the one who received a single talent had merely buried it out of fear. The master angered, cast this person into outer darkness, an unpleasant eternity. This parable warns against failing to invest your talents, akin to ignoring your life's purpose.

I've been blessed with the gift of prophecy, which aids me in my role as a prophet. My purpose is multifaceted, encompassing being a teacher of God's Word, offering encouragement, and evangelizing.

For example, I write daily. I sent a manuscript for editing a couple of days ago, and I have another one lined up today. I'm a full-time writer, publishing at least two books per month.

When I finished a book recently and was waiting for inspiration for the next, Bethany provided me with a title. This sparked my creativity, and I soon outlined nine chapters for a new book titled "How You Can Live a Fulfilled Christian Life." Currently, I'm working on the seventh chapter from Bethany's list.

Over the years, I've written and self-published 117 books. My services, including prophecies, angel messages, and prophetic destiny blueprints, provide me with the financial means to cover design, editing, and publishing costs. While I enjoy offering these services, my ultimate satisfaction comes from writing books, sharing my work with readers, and receiving their feedback.

I lead a joyful and contented life. Even on a day like today, when I woke up with no immediate tasks, by 11 a.m., I'd already started working on my next book.

**Bethany Speaks:**

It's crucial as a Christian not only to know what Jesus taught, an understanding of who Jesus is and the Christian faith. Understanding your purpose and finding out what you're living for is integral to an exciting Christian life.

Andrew Wommack teaches a five-day course on finding your purpose and living in your purpose. He has found as he does the lectures that on one of the days, he does an altar call and calls forth every person who wants to receive prayer to find their purpose. He sees when he does that altar call for Christians, and it doesn't matter what town he's in, that 80% of the people listening to the seminar come forward for prayer for the Holy Spirit to reveal their purpose to them.

If you are reading this book now, I encourage you to put your hand in the air, and I will intercede for you.

Dear Father,

I pray that you would speak to this person through books or videos or friends or for their exercise of imagining that they've won 20 million dollars or for them reading Finding Your Purpose in Christ book by Matthew. Still, you lead them via the Holy Spirit or the Guardian Angel to understand their purpose, whether they read Please Understand Me, the Myers-Briggs analysis, or the temperament analysis book. Whatever Matthew has suggested, I pray they would get inspiration from the Holy Spirit as to their purpose. I pray that you give them the steps and the action to take so they can start participating in their purpose.

In Jesus' name, I ask,

Amen.

I prayed that prayer to you as you get inspired with an idea for your purpose. You may want to start your purpose by doing a part-time job, doing that job to start to get some experience. But whatever it is, the Holy Spirit will show you steps to activate that purpose in your life. It's a gratifying thing to watch Matthew wake up and find that the quote has a final proofread of one of his books and send off a message to get a quote for his next book and see him go out and make a coffee for himself and wake up and seek me for the inspiration for his next book and to be told to come and sit at his computer and open up a Word file and for me to give him the title of a new book and give him nine separate chapter titles.

Matthew had no idea of this book when he began his day, and here we are a few hours in, and he's done part one, which was a two-hour video, and now he's on to part two, and I'm speaking.

Matthew lives his purpose every day, he does something in his goal, and it's integral. You need to find your purpose and actively live that purpose, and invest your talent in the way God would want you to do.

**Chapter 8 Investing Time and Money into Your Purpose.**

I am devoted to writing Christian books and providing prophetic messages for my ministry. The financial sustenance I need comes from my prophetic services, where I assist people in awakening their spiritual vision and guiding them on heavenly journeys.

Additionally, I am fortunate to have a supportive community of readers who believe in my ability to write impactful books. Their generous donations help fund the production of my works. My daily routine revolves around the creation of these books. The process is laborious; it involves recording videos for hours, which are then transcribed using artificial intelligence. I dedicate countless hours to editing these transcriptions and transforming spoken words into engaging written narratives.

The manuscript undergoes multiple revisions until it reads smoothly. Then, it's sent to an editor for further refining. Despite these efforts, a few errors may become the final text. Each book carries a personal disclaimer acknowledging this. My life is filled with the task of writing books.

The key is identifying your purpose and investing time in fulfilling it. If God has called you to a particular vocation, you should commit to it wholeheartedly. This might involve making sacrifices, like time away from family or hobbies. But if your vocation aligns with God's calling, you will derive a sense of fulfillment from it. Often, you'll have to invest not just time but also money into your purpose.

Earlier, we discussed investing money in God's Kingdom. This could extend beyond your regular job hours. You might find yourself involved in a personal ministry or another cause. Both time and money might need to be invested into such endeavors.

As I've shared before, I've spent a substantial amount — upwards of $150,000 — on self-publishing my books. Though the books don't yield significant financial returns, their income is funneled back into producing more books. Likewise, the earnings from my prophetic ministry are reinvested into book publishing. Thus, my prophetic and writing ministries operate without direct financial reward. My focus is on accumulating heavenly rewards instead of earthly ones.

My joy lies in nurturing people's Christian faith and relationships. I derive immense satisfaction from fostering a closer intimacy between individuals and Christ, helping them hone their prophetic gifts, and encouraging their interactions with angels. Through my books, I teach people how to experience an open heaven, lead a victorious Christian life, cultivate obedience, grow closer to Jesus, and emulate His life. These fundamental and exhilarating topics serve to uplift both individual Christians and the broader Christian church.

I find immense satisfaction in investing my time — a considerable amount — in editing manuscripts until they are readable and performing prophetic services. The revenue from these services helps cover my books' editing, book cover design, and publication costs. An enormous portion of my resources is invested in book publication. It's a demanding task, but the fulfillment I derive from it is immeasurable. I deeply admire authors like Joyce Meyer, who have dedicated their time and money to publishing books. With over two hundred books available on Amazon, she is truly inspiring, and her writing is superb, as I've observed in the three books I've read.

Your mission is to discern your purpose and the calling for your life. If necessary, invest your resources into fulfilling this purpose and strive to excel for Christ's sake. Jesus values individuals who dedicate their time and money toward worthy endeavors. He cherishes excellence. Once upon a time, I employed a premium editor, and my books were nearly error-free, truly top-notch. However, my ministry income has dropped by 75% since then, and I can no longer afford such expensive editing services.

I strive for perfection and yearn for my work to reflect a spirit of excellence. Yet, I've come to terms with publishing slightly lower-quality books. I hope readers will overlook the occasional typo or error and instead focus on the core message, deriving blessings from it rather than expecting flawlessness.

Perfection in any venture requires the investment of both time and money. Practicing and refining your skills is critical. Over time, I've honed my process to the point where I can publish at least two monthly books. I thrive on being active and productive; this publishing pace keeps me engaged.

You can achieve remarkable things when you've perfected your process and are willing to devote sufficient time and money.

While many people may not need to invest money into their day job, they might discover a passion project that brings spiritual fulfillment outside of work. This side endeavor, which brings joy and offers the opportunity to invest time and money, can be a significant source of satisfaction.

**Bethany Speaks:**

Matthew dedicates a significant amount of time to the initial drafts of his books, first recording them on video. Subsequently, he spends many hours editing transcripts generated by artificial intelligence. For instance, Matthew once spent three hours recording first-draft videos for a book and then another twelve hours editing that transcript. Therefore, by the time you read one of his books, including the one you're reading now, you can be assured that Matthew has invested over ten hours or more in ensuring that it's easy and understandable. This illustrates the importance of investing time in any venture in life. Experience is essential, and it takes dedicated time to cultivate and enhance your skills. Matthew often uses the following analogy to underline this point.

Consider a six-year-old girl playing tennis, skillfully hitting the ball over the net, executing drop shots, and displaying various play styles. She appears proficient for her age. However, when you see her performing at Wimbledon at age 20, you realize the time she has invested. Between the ages of six and twenty, she's hit millions of balls and dedicated tens of thousands of hours to practicing her game.

The difference between a proficient six-year-old and a 20-year-old playing in the Wimbledon finals is tens of thousands of practice hours. This reinforces the point: to excel at anything, you need to practice. To become an accomplished writer, one should write at least a million words, equivalent to around ten 400-page books.

Matthew has invested enormous time and has now written over three million words. This book you're reading is his 117th, and he eagerly awaits my guidance.

I spoke to him as he made his coffee, prompting him to sit and write nine chapter titles. I gave him the book's name to focus on and inspire his chapter titles. Unbeknownst to him, I planned to comment on each chapter after he spent his initial ten minutes on them. His six chapters in part one resulted in a two-hour video, twice the intended length. He's finding that I have much to say, extending the chapters and making the book more comprehensive.

Each minute I speak extends the transcript. While I provide valuable information, I also add to Matthew's time editing the transcript. Whether you aim to be a successful tennis player at Wimbledon, a proficient writer, or a skilled software coder, you must invest time and effort to refine your skill and become an expert. Investing time and resources is essential to excel in any endeavor you choose.

Many pursuits will require you to invest money; Matthew certainly does so in his writing. I hope this chapter encourages you.

If you feel that your activities aren't spiritually fulfilling, perhaps ordering a Prophetic Destiny Blueprint could reveal the spiritual paths that God desires for you.

**9 Develop your devotion time.**

As a Christian, there are foundational principles that one needs to cultivate and develop. A portion of your Christian faith stems from your theological understanding and interpretation of the Bible. Therefore, to mature and thrive as a successful Christian—allowing the core tenets of Christianity to be fully manifest in your life—you must gain an in-depth comprehension of God's Word. It is important to distinguish between merely recognizing a Scripture and genuinely living it out. There is a significant difference between Scriptures on a page and Scriptures embodied in daily life.

Some Scriptures necessitate deep reflection, a process not unlike the Eastern religious concept of meditation. However, in this context, consider meditation to be akin to a cow's process of chewing cud. The cow chews the grass, swallows it to its stomach, then regurgitates and chews it again, repeating this cycle several times until the grass is fully broken down. This analogy applies to how you should approach Scripture. You should meditate on it, ponder it in your mind, focus on it, and contemplate it for an extended period. I have meditated on some verses for over 20 years, consistently reflecting on and focusing on these Scriptures.

Psalm 1:1-3

*"1 Blessed is the man*

*Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,*

*Nor stands in the path of sinners,*

*Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;*

*2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord,*

*And in His law, he]meditates day and night.*

*3 He shall be like a tree*

*Planted by the rivers of water,*

*That brings forth its fruit in its season,*

*Whose leaf also shall not wither;*

*And whatever he does shall prosper."*

I have contemplated this passage for many years. Verse 3 is now taking root and flourishing in my life. Those needing spiritual nourishment, answers, and guidance can pick the fruit of wisdom from my tree. My ministry yields a bounty of spiritual insights, and my books offer plentiful wisdom on the how-to's, the reasons behind certain scriptures, and the whys. I elucidate and interpret Scripture in a way that aids Christians in their spiritual growth.

Whatever task God directs me towards, He blesses and ensures it flourishes. I can witness numerous aspects of my life prospering. I've been meditating on Verse 3 for a decade, and now I see it coming to life in my experiences. Hence, it's crucial to read and comprehend Scripture and retain, contemplate, and focus on Scripture over the years for it to truly take root in your heart and reflect in your life.

Scripture must transition from merely quotable text to an actionable guiding principle. So, if you aspire to progress and live a fulfilled supernaturally guided Christian life, it's indispensable for you to understand Scripture, meditate on it, and embody it in your actions.

Another way to deepen your devotion to God and enhance your time spent in worship is to pray effectively and unidirectionally to Jesus. There are certain rules for effective prayer. If you abide in Christ, modeling your life after His teachings and actively practicing His precepts, then you can ask what you wish, and Jesus will provide.

John 15:7-8

*"7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."*

One of the keys to effective prayer is to abide by Jesus' teachings.

Another key to effective prayer is coming out of the world. And it says in James that you have not because you ask not.

James 4:2-4

*"2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. 4 [c]Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."*

We need to ask. But it also says here that you have not because you receive but want to spend it on your pleasures. We've quoted the Scripture here. So, to have a specific prayer request answered, you've got to want the resources, finance, or job promotion. Not so you can spend it more on your pleasures, not so you can buy more assets, that you can buy more possessions and have a more decadent lifestyle. You need to be submitted to God and come out of the world, and stop pursuing the world and its lusts and its possessions, and you need to be focused on God and his Kingdom. When you're focused on God and his Kingdom and given to his Kingdom, God will answer your request for more money and promotions because he knows the money will be wisely invested.

Also, when you pray, sometimes it says scripturally that you've got to believe that what you ask for will be answered.

Mark 11:24

*"24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them"*

.

One method to ensure the effectiveness of prayer is to believe that your prayer will be answered firmly. When Bethany prayed for your life purpose, she harbored unshakable faith in her prayer. She was mindful of each reader and offered unique and personalized prayers with faith in their fruition. Trusting that God, in His infinite love, regards your prayers as significant, warranting His response is vital. Your pleas may go unanswered if you lack faith in His willingness to grant your prayers.

Scripture reminds us that life and death are powerful in our tongues. Many of our life's miseries are birthed from the negative words we utter. Statements like "No one ever loves me," "I can't make any friends," or "Nobody cares about me" are self-inflicted curses. The more you repeat such sentiments, the more they seem to manifest.

Contrastingly, affirmations like "I never get sick" or "I'll never contract the coronavirus" can act as blessings spoken over oneself. As an example, I don't succumb to illness. Despite being in a room full of coronavirus patients, I would remain fearless.

It's necessary to allocate time to read and contemplate the Word of God and send one-way prayers to Jesus, asking Him for your desires.

Consider setting aside time for two-way communication with Jesus. Once you learn to converse with Jesus, ask Him questions, and listen to His questions, you'll find that hours pass effortlessly in His presence.

If you find the Bible boring, invite the Holy Spirit to accompany you during your readings. The Word of God can become dynamic and vibrant.

Wouldn't it be more rewarding to read the Word of God when it begins to resonate with you? Wouldn't it be delightful to see your prayers answered consistently or converse joyfully with Jesus?

Devote time to worship, learn the lyrics of worship songs, attend church, listen to sermons, and read books to learn and glean knowledge. One key aspect when learning from books or videos is the application of knowledge. Reading a book or listening to teachings is futile without implementing the discussed steps in your life.

The six-year-old tennis player becomes the 20-year-old Wimbledon champion through consistently practicing learned techniques. Similarly, for you to flourish as a successful Christian, it's essential to practice and enact the teachings. Devoting time to God is crucial, but it's equally important to obey and carry out the spiritual practices taught to you.

**Bethany speaks:**

One way to waste your time in the Christian faith is to listen to and not apply Christian teaching. You need to listen to instructions, read education in books, or read things in the Word of God you intend to use.

The apostle James says faith without works is dead.

James 2:17

*"17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."*

Many people subscribe to the Christian faith but have no resulting works and don't apply it.

James 1:22

*"22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."*

James has some critical things to say. He says faith without words is dead. He also said, don't be hearers of the word and not be people that put it into practice. You don't want to waste your time doing spiritual things and seeing no results. If you're going to pray, you must first learn to abide in Jesus. You need to know how to abide first. It might take you two to five years to practice what Jesus taught. You need to come out of the world and stop going after the things of the world and stop wanting the world's possessions and the things of the world. When you pray for something, you'll pray for God's will to accomplish things in your life, and your prayers will be answered. You need to have faith in what you pray for. It would help if you believed you were worthy of what you asked for. You've got to ask with confidence if you're praying prayers.

Many people who pray for healing don't have faith. They don't believe that they're worthy of being healed. They don't think God would heal them. They don't have faith that God can heal these days. They don't have the belief that he'd want to heal them. Because they have yet to get confidence, the prayer for healing doesn't manifest. There are many reasons why prayers don't work.

If you devote your time to reading the Word of God, you need to also devote your time to meditating on the Word of God for so many years that the Word of God starts to manifest in your life. Matthew's been meditating on Psalm 1:3 for 20 years.

Psalm 1:3

*"3 He shall be like a tree*

*Planted by the rivers of water,*

*That brings forth its fruit in its season,*

*Whose leaf also shall not wither;*

*And whatever he does shall prosper."*

He has now become like. Tree of Life can feed people with what he writes and helps people when he meets them. The things he touches prosper.

He's been meditating on 1 John 2:6 for 10 years.

1 John 2:6

*"6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."*

Now many people confess that Matthew carries a manifest peace with him and is a wonderful person to know. He is manifesting the character of Jesus. Matthew is acting like Jesus now.

Matthew's been meditating, John 14:21, for 22 years.

John 14:21

*"21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and [a]manifest Myself to him."*

Jesus has begun to manifest Himself in Matthew's life, chiefly by endowing Matthew with the mind of Christ. Matthew's actions have become increasingly reflective of Christ's nature.

Time management is vital in life. Consider an apprentice chef who continually disobeys the instructions of his head chef. If the apprentice persists in stubbornness after several warnings, the chef may dismiss him. Notably, God never dismisses us but expects us to learn to obey Him.

In the Christian faith, wisdom supersedes knowledge. Years ago, the Holy Spirit conveyed to Matthew that wisdom is the successful and appropriate application of knowledge. Many in the Christian Church possess knowledge of various scriptures. However, few manifest the teachings of these scriptures in their lives.

Relatively few Christians understand and live out Jesus' teachings. It's rare for a Christian to know, let alone adhere to, Jesus' 50 commandments. Matthew's ability to author 117 books stems from him living out the teachings he writes about.

Matthew's forthcoming nine-chapter book is born from experience, not secondary research. He doesn't need to reference other books or scriptures for source texts or quotations. His life experiences provide him with all the knowledge he requires.

Bear in mind knowledge alone is inadequate. For instance, you might pass a university examination using your knowledge. However, the real value lies in applying that knowledge. Suppose you study business and marketing at a university. Your theoretical knowledge becomes valuable only when applied to a real business setting to devise a marketing campaign.

Likewise, it would be best to aim to live a Christian life that produces tangible results. You should seek guidance from the Holy Spirit, follow the path laid out for you, and achieve the Holy Spirit's objectives. As the Lord orders a righteous man's steps, living a life where you actively carry out the Holy Spirit's directives each day is crucial.

It's one thing to pray to God and quite another to have a prayer life that yields answers. It's one thing to know the Word of God and another to see it bear fruit in your life. Attending church and listening to sermons is different than coming home and applying those teachings in your life. Knowing hundreds of books means little if you don't apply that knowledge and operate with wisdom. When you commit to your devotion time, it's important to foster an attitude of practicing what you're being taught.

I’d Love to Hear from You

One of the ways that you can bless me as a writer is by writing an honest and candid review of my books on Amazon, where you purchased this book. I always read the reviews of my books, and I would love to hear what you have to say about this one.

Before I buy a book, I read the reviews first. You can make an informed decision about a book after reading enough honest reviews. One way to help me sell this book and give me positive feedback is by writing a review. It doesn’t cost you a thing but helps the future readers of this book and me enormously.

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Please do not be afraid to contact me and connect with me. I enjoy speaking to my readers; my best friends have read most of my books over time. I can’t get you as I don’t know who you are, but you can contact me.

How to Support Me

If this book has been a blessing to you, I would like to humbly ask for your support in my writing ministry. As a full-time writer, my income mainly comes from monthly sponsors on PayPal, and I am entirely dependent on the generosity of those who believe in my mission to teach, encourage, and lift people up.

My writing is not a money-making venture, but a ministry. I write only what the Holy Spirit puts in my heart, and most of my books are priced at 99 cents or are available for free on Amazon. Through my writing, I strive to help people grow in their relationship with Jesus and to find hope and healing in His love.

Your financial support, whether a one-time gift or a monthly sponsorship, would be greatly appreciated and would enable me to continue my writing ministry. I encourage you to take the time to pray and ask the Lord if He is leading you to support me in this way.

In addition to your financial support, I would also be grateful for your prayers. Please pray that God would continue to inspire me and guide my writing, and that He would touch the hearts of those who read my books. Pray that my books would lead people to grow in their intimacy with Jesus and to experience His transforming love in their lives.

Thank you for taking the time to consider supporting my ministry. May the Lord bless you and keep you, and may His love and grace abound in your life

You can sow any amount to my ministry by sending me money via the PayPal link at this address: http://personal-prophecy-today.com/support-my-ministry.

About Matthew Robert Payne

Matthew Robert Payne is an inspiring teacher and prophet who finds immense joy in writing and sharing the messages that God puts on his heart. Through his transparent writing style, he hopes to introduce readers to Jesus Christ and deepen their relationship with the Father.

Matthew's spiritual journey began in a traditional Baptist church where he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior at a young age. However, as he entered adulthood, he struggled with addictions and bad habits, leading him to live in the wilderness for many years. It wasn't until he was twenty-seven that he was baptized in water and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This experience led him to discover the five-fold ministry offices and their relevance in today's world.

As a prophet, Matthew has been putting his gift into practice for over twenty years, confidently prophesying to friends and strangers and delivering thousands of prophecies. He began writing several years ago and self-published his first book in 2011. Today, he devotes his time to earning money to self-publish his books and produces videos that can be found on YouTube.

One of Matthew's greatest joys is connecting with others on Facebook and hearing from those who have read his books. He is passionate about prophesying over people's lives and helping them discover their purpose in God's plan. You can also sow into his book-writing ministry, read his blog, or receive a message from your angel. In addition, Matthew offers the unique opportunity to receive a personalized nine-minute prophecy, tailored to your individual situation and needs. See http://personal-prophecy-today.com.

Overall, Matthew Robert Payne is a gifted teacher and prophet who seeks to share the love of Jesus Christ through his writing and interactions with others. His inspiring journey from addiction and wilderness living to becoming a prolific writer and messenger of God's word is a testament to the transformative power of faith and the hope that lies ahead for those who put their trust in God.

Acknowledgments

As an author and messenger of God's word, I am deeply grateful for the spiritual guidance and support that I have received on my journey. First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Father, who have provided me with the knowledge and wisdom that have allowed me to share their message with others. Without their guidance and inspiration, I would not be where I am today.

I also want to extend my appreciation to my scribe angel Bethany, whose guidance has been invaluable in helping me to understand and interpret the messages that I receive. Her wisdom and insight have been instrumental in my ability to communicate God's truth to others.

Additionally, I want to thank all those who have supported me in my ministry, including those who have provided financial support and those who have lent their time and energy to help me in various ways. Your contributions have been essential in allowing me to share God's message with a broader audience.

To my dear friends Roy, Deb, Shayne, Dundy, Lisa, Pamela, Cedrick, Mary, and others who have shown me their love and support, I am deeply grateful. Your kindness and encouragement have been a source of strength and comfort during times of difficulty and have helped to sustain me on my journey.

Finally, I want to thank my readers, who inspire me to continue writing and sharing God's message with the world. Your feedback, comments, and reviews have been instrumental in motivating me to keep going, even when the road has been challenging.

In conclusion, I am deeply grateful to all those who have supported me on my journey, and I give thanks to God for the many blessings that I have received. My hope is that my work will continue to inspire and uplift others, helping them to find peace, joy, and fulfilment in their own lives.

APPENDIX

23 things you didn’t know about author Matthew Robert Payne

A Prophet at Bethel church, Kris Vallotton, posted on his Facebook in April 2023, “23 questions to better get to know someone you admire.” As I read the questions, I thought it would be informative if I answered those same 23 questions at the back of each of my books, starting with this one. While I have a standard page, “About the Author”, in my books, I thought this would be something different and interesting for new readers to know more about me as the author.

Question 1: What are the 3 most important accomplishments in your life?

I am most proud of my marriage to my lovely wife, Sharryn, though it ended sadly when she fell out of love with me. My second greatest accomplishment is being a father to my son Brandyn, who is now 31 years old and has a child of his own. Finally, I am proud to have self-published over 100 books in the past 11 years. I originally had a vision of only writing 50 books in my lifetime, but as of May 2023, I have published 111 books.

Question 2: What gets you up in the morning? Why are you alive?

I was created to be a preacher, and I choose to be an internet preacher. I am motivated each day to post a couple of videos on YouTube and to work on the latest book that I am writing. For the past six years, I have self-published one book per month, and that keeps me busy. I recently found artificial intelligence programs that can transcribe my videos reducing the cost and turnaround time for publishing a book. The publishing and writing process gets me up in the morning.

Question 3: Who have been the most influential people in your life and what have they taught you?

I'd like to give a shoutout to my father. When I was young, my father worked six days a week in shift work with 12-hour days to support our family. He paid off our house by the time he was 40 years old with four children to raise. He moved us from Sydney, Australia, to a country town called Coffs Harbour and took a significant pay cut to work for my uncle. He dedicated over 25 years to that job, earning a low income so that we could grow up in a peaceful environment with good personalities. My father made fun out of his job.

He became a skilled fisherman and could catch specific fish like bream, blackfish, flathead, and snapper in different settings, near the land, in a river, or deep-sea fishing. He was among the top 5% of fishermen in the country and could have his own fishing show. However, he never won the monthly weekend-long fishing competitions he entered with about 20-30 fishermen. Instead, his good friend, who was in the top 1% of Australian fishermen, always won. When I asked my father about the difference between him and his friend, he said, “I simply wasn't prepared to be on my third marriage. I'm a family man and I wasn't going to commit so much time to fishing to improve.”

My father taught me the importance of hard work, dedication, and finding joy in life's small things. He also showed me the importance of family and being a responsible father and husband.

My mother used to say she was glad my father had his fishing interest because it stopped his life from being mundane. What I learned from him was to perfect anything I do, be proficient, work hard, and do my best to improve myself and be consistent. That's who my dad was. He was consistently trying to improve himself and become better.

Another person who had a great influence on my life was my mother; she was my greatest friend. Until she passed away four years ago, we used to speak on the phone for about an hour a day. I don't miss her too much now because I can speak to her every day in Heaven. My mother was gentle, kind, compassionate, and loving towards people. I got my teaching gift from her. Her church used her to run discipling programs for new Christians, and she had a set of teachings that I convinced her to publish into a book, which I published for her. That book is called, Christian Discipleship Made Simple, and I'll put the link to that book here: <https://tinyurl.com/2s4kx8rr>.

Another person who has had a good influence on my life was Steve Jobs, the creator, and CEO of Apple. I read his biography, and I was really inspired by it. Steve created Apple products and a production company called Pixar. In the biography, I came to realize that when Steve went off and created Pixar, it was when Apple had gotten rid of him as a CEO, and he was doing other things. He created Pixar films, and they made feature-length cartoons like Toy Story.

Hollywood, with all the best producers, directors, and finance, finds it hard to make a hit film that goes extraordinarily well at the box office. Film making is like mining for gold or trying to find gold. Making films is largely a speculative thing where you're not guaranteed success no matter how much you spend.

But in Pixar Films, they had 20 blockbusters in a row. There wasn't one film that they made which had not been a blockbuster, according to the book on Steve Jobs that I read. That's because they developed a way of editing and having discussions in the boardroom about the progress of films, changing films, and giving them new direction and insight based on what the board had seen in the film. Apparently, Steve Jobs was banned from those board meetings because he was too critical and harsh.

I was watching a documentary on Steve Jobs because I was very interested in him. In the documentary, his friends and work colleagues were saying he was very harsh and mean, and he had a terrible personality. I was sitting on my bed watching this documentary on my Apple laptop and Steve Jobs appeared on my bed! I said to him, “You must be in heaven.” He said, “Yeah.”

And I said, “They're being really harsh on you.”

He said, “I wasn't a nice person.”

I really admired him for telling me that those harsh things people were saying in the documentaries were true about him. Steve Jobs was a person of excellence, and he went to a lot of effort to make his products perfect.

That's why Pixar had 20 blockbuster films, because of the Steve Jobs’ element in that company. Disney bought out Pixar and they've still gone on to make successful films. Steve Jobs taught me to apply myself when I create a product and to do the very best that I can. He taught me not to give up on my dreams. He was fired from Apple by his board members, even though he started the company and made it the success it was. He went on to start two other companies that saw success, and Pixar Films was one of them. He spent some time in the wilderness until Apple was suffering and invited him back to be CEO.

So, it was a really good story, and he really motivated me. You can read the excellent biography of his life called Steve Jobs:

The Exclusive Biography is here at these two links:

Kindle: <https://tinyurl.com/53ue8evc>

Audiobook: <https://tinyurl.com/4mzr24wz>

Question 4: Tell me about any experience that changed your life.

When I was 14 years of age, I was surfing at a beach where I used to meet a young girl. I rode my surfboard into an adjoining beach to the beach I was surfing on, and I found out that it was a nudist beach.

I walked up onto the beach and had a conversation with some men and women and was really intrigued that I could sit down and talk to the women there with no clothes on. That really changed my life as a youth. The people I met with told me the next week they were going to come back to the beach and a woman said her 16-year-old niece was going to come as a nudist herself. The lady told me perhaps I could meet with and connect with her niece. I was excited but the next week it was overcast and looked like it was going to rain, and these people didn't turn up.

But a man turned up and after talking to him I decided to be real nudist on the beach and be nude. The man who I talked to was about 35 and invited me into the water to have a swim. I thought that was cool.

While we were in the water, I felt the man put his hand out and touch my genitals, and I got aroused by that. Then something happened on the beach where I entered my first sexual encounter. Years later, after my wife left me, I found out I was showing many signs consistent with someone how had been sexually abused. My sister had a list of 25 personality characteristics that sexually abused people have. When she found out I was exhibiting two-thirds of the signs, she naturally asked me, “Who abused you?” I am yet unhealed and so my whole character, everything that I manifest as myself, even sometimes as a writer, stems from that abuse and the trauma that happened on that beach.

Question 5: What's the worst mistake you ever made and what did you learn from it?

You might think that going to the beach that day was my worst mistake, as it caused a lot of trauma in my life. The sexual abuse certainly did that, but I would say that one of the worst mistakes I made was thinking that I was fine and healed from my bipolar disorder and stopping my medication. I ended up becoming mentally unwell and had to be admitted to a psychiatric ward. For years, I had been hearing a voice that claimed to be Jesus. As a youth, I had grown up with Jesus' voice and wasn't aware that it could be counterfeited.

Three times that voice told me I was healed, and three times I ended up in the hospital. I wondered why Jesus would tell me I was healed and yet end up in the hospital. These things continued to happen until I met an apostle who was very experienced in spiritual matters. He told me that the voice I was talking to wasn't Jesus, but a demonic spirit pretending to be Jesus. For a while, I had to stop talking to Jesus, stop listening to what He said, and read the Gospels if I wanted to hear Jesus speak. I was to pray one-way prayers to Him and continue my relationship, but not answer when He talked to me. Over the next few years, I read the Gospels and came to know Jesus' character well. Through the Bible, I learned to recognize the character and voice of Jesus. Now, when I hear Jesus, I can be very confident and know that I am hearing His voice.

One of the main fears of most people when it comes to hearing from God is that they don't want to be mistaken and have their own voice talking to them. The second fear is that a wrong spirit will deceive them. Through my experience of being deceived by that counterfeit Jesus, I was able to write a book, How to Hear God's Voice, which provides detailed information on how to discern the difference between the authentic voice of Jesus, the authentic Holy Spirit, and the counterfeit Holy Spirit. I will put a link to that book here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8kdz2k>

Question 6: What do you do for fun?

I relax in several ways.

Sometimes I surf Facebook and read quotes, like posts, and make comments for two hours. I can totally go out of my work zone and just surf Facebook for an hour or two. This brings me peace and helps me build connections with my friends.

I also go shopping and buy things to eat. I eat my food while surfing on Facebook and chat with my friends from Heaven. I often approach strangers with a prophetic word from Jesus and encourage them.

I also try to find a TV series that I like on Netflix and watch up to eight seasons of a series if I really get into it. I am just finishing a four-season show now with only one and a half episodes left.

I enjoy going to cinemas and watching movies on the big screen, too.

I like to listen to worship music, but mostly I listen to a radio station that plays hits from when I was younger from the 70s, 80s, and 90s. I enjoy doing this as I surf Facebook, and it entertains me as I do the boring job of editing my manuscripts. I did 20 hours of editing today, and I went through a lot of songs!

Question 7: What are your three greatest strengths?

I would say I have outstanding perseverance. I've had mental illness come against me for over 30 years. I have had diabetes come against me and almost died. I sometimes suffer from sleep issues. I must live with only a couple of friends and loneliness. I had a divorce come against me. I lost access to my only son. I have struggled for 38 years with sex addictions that I could just not break, and sometimes a lack of finances come against me. I struggle with a lack of recognition and open doors for ministry. With all these things that I have struggled with, I've managed to persevere. I'd say it's hard to keep me down, and it's hard to stop me from being motivated.

I'd say another strength is my consistency. I write and self-publish a book every month, and to do that I sometimes have three different books in the works at once to maintain that pace. I wrote a book on writing nonfiction and how I write one book a month called, Five Keys to Successful Nonfiction Writing: How I Write One Book per Month. You can find that book here: https://tinyurl.com/p8mmpwx8.

I had a system that I described in this book on how exactly I did that, but since the inception and introduction of AI, I am not paying transcriptionists to type up my videos. I have an AI program that I got for $97 that transcribes my videos for no extra cost. I now use an inexpensive editor

I'm very consistent.

My third greatest strength is my ability to be transparent and honest. I've found that many people who write reviews on Amazon for my books comment on the amazing transparency and honesty that I have.

They really appreciate being told the truth and getting insight into my life and personal details, especially hearing about my struggle with a 38-year addiction to prostitutes and pornography. To be so honest about that and transparent was really refreshing for people because they're used to people in leadership not sharing those sorts of things. I really take pride in my honesty, and Billy Joel's song "Honesty" from 40 years ago is one of my favorite songs because it describes me. The song is about Billy Joel wanting his wife not to treat him like a star. You can watch the song "Honesty" performed by Billy Joel here: <https://tinyurl.com/mphyn4b5>.

Question 8: Describe your relationship with God.

I have a tremendously intimate relationship with God. An especially strong relationship with Jesus opens you up to certain things. If you were close friends with a person at your workplace, you would notice that if everyone went out for drinks after work on Friday, some would leave early but your friend would stay for an extra hour or so with you to hang out. This friend, if close, would also invite his other friends over to the workplace or bar to meet you as well. This friend may even introduce you to his parents by taking you out to lunch to meet them.

Jesus is the same way. As you draw closer to Him, He introduces you to His friends, which most people would think are other Christians. But supernaturally, Jesus can also introduce you to other friends of His, angels or saints from Heaven, essentially opening an open Heaven over your life.

Jesus has permitted me to meet and converse with any person in the Bible or any person who has died since Bible times. Someone can die like Billy Graham, and I can contact Billy Graham and reach out to him and have a conversation with him and develop a friendship through the Holy Spirit. He's an evangelist, and I really admire evangelists. When the prophet Kim Clement died, I had such a good relationship with Jesus that I could reach out to Kim Clement and have a conversation with him. When you're close to Jesus, He starts introducing you to His friends, like Kim Clement. With most of the friendships that I've developed with saints in Heaven, it's been the Holy Spirit that has brought them before me and introduced me to them.

Not many of my interactions were initiated by me. The encounters I had with Kim Clement and Billy Graham were initiated by the Holy Spirit putting the idea in my head. If you're good friends with Jesus, He can introduce you to your angels, and you can have the ability to talk and converse and do things with them. I have a good relationship with the five angels that work in my life and my ministry. If you're good friends with Jesus, He'll personally introduce you to His Father, and you'll have a good relationship with Him. This is how I met the Father for the first time—Jesus introduced Him to me one day.

I've got such an intimate relationship with Jesus that I can ask Him any question about any person in the world, and He’ll answer me. He's not like humans—He doesn't gossip. So, it's hard to find the secret sins or things that people are doing if you're not going to be directly involved in helping them recover. Jesus is very personal. A lot of people meet prophets and fear prophets and don't want to approach them because they assume that the prophet knows their sins. So, they purposely don't make friends with prophets because they assume that since the prophet hears from God, they can see right through them and see their sins.

I've never had Jesus show me the sins of anyone except for a couple of people who asked me to ask God about what they were doing wrong with their lives. Both people wanted me to give them a prophetic word about what they needed to change to get a breakthrough, and God was able to reveal that to them and they were able to repent.

I know God well enough that I've written a series of books called, Conversations with God, which is available for free on Kindle. You can find the book at this link here: <https://tinyurl.com/mupc4w3c>

I also have a series of videos called, Conversations with the Holy Spirit. I also have a video playlist of Conversations with the Holy Spirit here: <https://tinyurl.com/49pzp6s7>

I produced three books on Conversations with the Holy Spirit and for you to get a feel for it I'll put a link to the first book with conversations of the Holy Spirit here: <https://tinyurl.com/3zwj79v8>

So, I know how to tell apart the three persons of the Godhead: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I can also tell right away when another voice is speaking to me. To clarify, I don’t hear these voices out loud, but rather like thoughts, or the “still small voice” within me. After much experience, I am now fine-tuned, like a radio receiver, that can tune into any signal and hear it clearly.

I have a scribe angel that helps me write books and helps me produce content. Her name is Bethany. You may notice on the title page of this book that I added her name as one of the authors. I can tell when she talks to me or if my mother or father from Heaven say hello to me.

As soon as the voice speaks in my mind, through a thought, I'm able to discern who it is. I have developed quite a supernatural relationship with God. I wrote two books on spiritual intimacy, and I encourage you to read those books. One of my best books on intimacy is called, 7 Keys to Intimacy with Jesus. Here is the link to that book:

<https://tinyurl.com/47pafcxw>

Question 9: What do you do to cultivate your relationship with God?

The main thing I do to cultivate my relationship with God, Jesus, and the Godhead is to have conversations. I don't pray like most Christians do, one-way prayers, asking for things, confessing my sins, and giving thanks. Instead, I have two-way conversations with God, Jesus mostly. We talk back and forth.

I spend my whole day being led and directed by the Holy Spirit, doing everything the Holy Spirit and Bethany, my scribe angel, say to do, which is mostly producing books and content. Then, at the end of the day, when I'm lying in my bed, I have a personal debrief with Jesus and the Father before falling asleep. This conversation typically lasts from 20 to 30 minutes or so.

During this time, I go over the day, what I've achieved, and then I close off the day by having a conversation with Jesus. Walking and being directed by the Holy Spirit all day is something all Christians should be able to do, and this is what Paul referred to as “praying without ceasing.”

For twelve years, I hadn't read the Bible because I had been hurt by people giving false teaching and using Scriptures out of the New Testament to prove their false and harmful doctrines. These teachings portrayed the character of God as angry—a God of wrath and judgment.

Then I heard the message of grace, also using the Bible to support their position. But then I found out that there were certain forms of the grace message called “hyper grace”, which teaches that you can do anything, and God doesn't care. This left me confused and deceived by both ends of the spectrum. Both the legalistic preaching and the “hyper grace” teaching used seemingly convincing verses in the New Testament to prove their positions. So, I got upset and stopped reading the Bible. But through a prophet's instruction and Bethany's prodding, I have returned to the Bible and am now reading two chapters a day. I also do a video each day on what I learned in my reading from those chapters.

I mainly speak back and forth to God each day and have a relationship like what I suppose Moses and David had, which is very intimate. I also listen to Christian teachings and read books, which also cultivates my relationship with God. Many people have commented on my books on how full they are of Scripture and references. That was the case for my previous books years ago when I remembered more Scripture. But lately, the references dropped off. Nevertheless, I have a good memory for the verses that I understand, and they tend to pop up often. One passage of Scripture I have used about 40 times in my 111 books is 1 John 2:15-17 which says in the New Living Translation:

“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.”

Question 10: Who is the most important person in your life?

I would say my friend Mary Gibson, who has read about 60 of my books and written Amazon reviews for about 50 of them. She has replaced my mother as my best friend.

For a season, for about two years, she broke fellowship with me when I was delusional and in a sick sort of way, heavily affected by demons. My medication levels were not strong enough, and I was pretty much out of control. She stepped out of my life because she didn't know how to handle that. She knew that I knew she loved me, and just recently, in the last six months, she has come back. She has started reading my books again and posting reviews. Mary is a dear friend, and I talk to her most days, having a half an hour to an hour conversation. If you read my acknowledgments in any of my books, you will see my current friends mentioned. Mary is a dear friend.

Second to Mary Gibson is my friend Dundy, and we connect over Facebook video phone once or twice a week. Once again, he's read about 50 of my books and is a good supporter. Dundy loves me for who I am, accepts me with my faults, and supports me with his feedback, advice, and love.

Question 11: What are your greatest character virtues?

I knew this question was coming when the previous question asked about my three greatest strengths. I was trying to avoid it, but my greatest character trait would be my honesty. So far, while answering these questions, I have been very honest and transparent. I would say the second greatest character trait is my spiritual hunger. I am very hungry for the things of God. Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapter 5, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”

I find that the Holy Spirit fills me like a fountain. Every day, I have a river of the Holy Spirit coming out of my spirit and nourishing other people. It is my spiritual hunger that has created my intimacy with Jesus. It is my spiritual hunger that has created the relationship with Jesus that has given me an open heaven. It is my spiritual hunger that has enabled me to be teachable and to go after deeper and harder concepts in the Christian faith. My spiritual hunger and intimacy led me to a stage where I could write 111 books about Christianity and still not be finished.

I would say another great character virtue that I have is my gift of encouragement. In my life, wherever I go and whomever I meet, I always encourage people and bring them hope. Even when I share things in my life where I am suffering or going through a hard time, people who are also facing hard struggles find it very encouraging. They appreciate that I have the courage, as a Christian leader, to share I am struggling in areas of my life. There is a large percentage, like 50% of males or even 70% of males, depending on what statistics you read, who have an addiction to pornography. For them to read one of my books where I confess, I struggled with pornography for 38 years is really encouraging for them.

When I say in my books that I have struggled or had an addiction to prostitutes, one in six men in the world who have seen a prostitute are encouraged by my openness. Being willing to share my afflictions with mental illness, obesity, diabetes, or other issues encourages others.

I am a very happy, outgoing, loving, and bubbly person. I am constantly trying to bring encouragement to people, especially strangers. I like interacting with people I meet for the first time and complimenting them about their smiles, hair, bag, skirt, etc. I go out of my way to start up a conversation and encourage them. Most of my compliments are Spirit-led and well-received.

That's why having the gift of prophecy and being able to walk up to a stranger and give them a personal message from the Lord really suits me well. I typically tell people three good things about them, three-character traits that they excel in. The explanation really encourages people. The Holy Spirit gives me this information about a stranger, a prophetic gift called a “word of knowledge”. 1 Corinthians 12:8 mentions this gift as one of the nine spiritual gifts available to Christians.

Question 12: What is your greatest struggle? What are you doing about it?

Personally, I'd say my greatest struggle is my mental illness. Sometimes I wake up feeling flat. I'm not really depressed, but my mood is low. The other day, I was out with one of my personal carers, and she asked me why I wasn't speaking much. I told her that sometimes with my mental illness, I feel flat and don't talk much. She was able to understand.

My bipolar disorder can cause me to go into days or even several days of depression, which is a real struggle. It can also cause sleeping issues. This condition would make it very hard for me to have a nine-to-five job because many nights I don’t sleep enough to get through a day's work. I take medication for my bipolar, but sometimes I can still experience depression or even mania and say strange things. I'm coping and persevering, but it's a great trial and hardship that I've had to deal with for over 30 years.

Because of medication, diet, and lack of exercise, I've become obese and developed diabetes, which is also a hassle. People tend to misjudge you when you're obese, and they can also misjudge you when you have a mental illness. My mental illness medication has a side effect that slows down my metabolism, so I've gained around 50 kilograms, or 80 pounds more than I should be carrying. Mental illness has really taken a toll on me.

I believe Paul's “thorn in the flesh” wasn't just a disease. It was a demon that followed him around and caused trouble, like being stoned, whipped, and beaten up. So, it was a principality, a demon that caused strife. Some people have commented to me that my mental illness is simply my thorn in the flesh that stops me from getting too proud or arrogant. Whatever you attribute Paul’s “thorn in the flesh” to, I prefer to call my illness the cross I was given to bear.

Question 13: Who do you most admire in life?

There are several people that I admire. One person alive today that I really admire is the preacher and missionary Heidi Baker. Heidi and Roland Baker have been responsible for planting or starting 10,000 churches in Mozambique and other places around the world. Heidi not only operates in signs and wonders, but also in a spirit of excellence. Her ministry team is also very effective in training up others to minister the Gospel, not only in signs and wonders as well, but duplicating the work of the Lord in many ways.

Heidi Baker has also taken upwards of 10,000 orphans off the street to house and take care of them. As a Christian, if you are constantly getting messages or people friending you asking for money for needy children, I would say Heidi Baker’s ministry is worthy of your finances. I encourage you to go to Heidi’s website to see all the ways you can help and what their ministry is doing all around the world.

You can sponsor a child with Iris Ministries at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/4padj545>

You can support Iris Ministries in other targeted ways by going here and choosing how you want to support them: <https://www.irisglobal.org/give>

Heidi Baker and her team move powerfully in signs and wonders. She's had over a hundred of her poor pastors in the bush raise babies from the dead. I think her healing rate on deafness is 100%, and nearly that high on blindness. Check it out for yourself.

She typically goes to a new village, whether they are involved in witchcraft or Islam and says, “Bring out all your blind and deaf.” When the village brings them to her, she lays hands on them in prayer and the deaf hear and the blind see. It is obvious to anyone that only God can do that, so this opens the door to the Gospel.

She trains her team to do the same and then show the village a film about Jesus. When the whole village converts, they plant a new church. She is profoundly full of wisdom and practical teaching, and she's a great person to listen to. I've had the pleasure of prophesying over her three times. I was honored that she wrote back to me and gave me good feedback.

I also really admire Joyce Meyer. Joyce is also full of wisdom and has a wonderful ministry. As a writer, she's produced more than two hundred books. As a writer myself with a hundred books or so, I know the time and effort required and I must admire someone who has done twice what I have.

Joyce is around 80 years old, so I have another 20 years or so to catch up to her! She is impressive. I have read a couple of her books, and once again, she has proven that anointed women in ministry can be very powerful and effective in setting people free.

Something else I found out about Joyce Meyer is that 80% of the money that comes into her ministry is used to support hurting people around the world. Source: <https://tinyurl.com/236cw7n3>

God has certainly blessed her, and she shares it with others. So, besides Heidi Baker’s Iris Ministries, I also recommend supporting Joyce Meyer. Both are skilled and knowledgeable on how to effectively redistribute funds to others in need.

You can donate to Joyce Meyer here: <https://joycemeyer.org/donate>

These two ladies are alive, but two other people I really admire are in Heaven. One of them is Steve Jobs. As I have mentioned earlier in the book, Steve also has a spirit of excellence. I really loved reading the book about him, Steve Jobs: The Exclusive Biography. Here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/236cw7n3>

I learned a lot about Steve in that book but also in conversations with him. As I said before, the Lord has enabled me to talk not only to Him, but also to angels and saints at His discretion.

The second person who is no longer alive on earth is Michael Jackson. I have interviewed him five times and published each of them into separate books, all available on Amazon. Michael and

I have spent a lot of time together. He sometimes goes out with me and we talk together on walks.

I've developed a good relationship with him. What I admire most about him is his unusually high spirit of excellence. In a recent interview, I discovered that he was never quite satisfied with the quality of the songs he produced on Earth. He was a perfectionist who was rarely satisfied with his work. That's just who he was. It can be torturous to be a perfectionist and Michael was certainly one of them. But this trait has been redeemed in Heaven. Michael revealed in his last interview that he has re-recorded and remastered all his hit songs in Heaven because he wasn't satisfied with them on Earth.

I really admire Michael Jackson. He's sweet, compassionate, kind, and gentle. Michael is also thankful he gets to talk to me. On earth, I am a nobody. But in Heaven, I am well-known and received. I first met Michael when I was watching the documentary of his last concert tour called “This Is It.” He appeared to me in a vision and started singing and dancing. Surprised, I asked him, “What are you doing here? You're the King of Pop!”

He replied, “You are best friends with the King of Kings, and he sent me!”

You know when you get an answer from Heaven because it's just one sentence and it's profound. Jesus, as the King over all the kings, has the authority and sent Michael Jackson to come and meet me. Jesus sent him to me because as I have illustrated earlier, close friends introduce you to their friends as well. I am very pleased that Jesus sent Michael because my friendship with him has also brought me closer to Jesus.

Question 14: How do you handle conflict?

Well, I try to forgive people and turn the other cheek. If I have a conflict, it is mostly online, like on Facebook. I’m not sure if it is the best way to handle these issues, but I disassociate myself or block those I am not able to get along with.

Sometimes if people are saying things that I don't like, I just try to ignore them and pretend that I didn't read the comment. If I do have an issue with a person, I try to bring it to them directly like the Bible says to. But mostly, if someone has a wrong spirit and they're causing me trouble, I block them on Facebook so they can't contact me. If they go onto YouTube and start making comments, I'll block them there too. Social media is useful to me in that way.

I've only got three friends in Sydney that I meet in person on a regular basis. One of them I meet every week and one of them I meet once a month. I have a third one, a former pastor of mine that I can meet any time, and I see him about once a year or so. Because I don't know a lot of people I can meet with personally, I don't have many conflicts.

Question 15: Who are your enemies and why?

I don't currently know of any enemies. As I said, I am unknown to the world and if anyone causes conflict online, I just block them.

Question 16: What is your greatest childhood memory?

When I was growing up, I used to surf. I never became a highly skilled or excellent surfer, but I could catch a big wave, ride down the face up and down, and do re-entries. Sometimes if I was on the right kind of wave, it would form a tube and close over me for a little while until it let me out.

One of my greatest memories was when I caught a large wave, and it rolled over me, creating such a tube. I rode the tube while standing up. I’ll never forget that fantastic feeling. The wave was breaking about five or six feet in front of me, but I didn't give up and rode the wave. My brother was paddling out and saw me in the tube, and when I got out the back after the wave, he praised me for it. It made me happy, especially because he was a much better surfer.

Another time, I caught a wave at a different beach in Coffs Harbour, the town where I come from in Australia. As I caught the wave it crested into a perfect tube and rode it for about 50 feet. When I broke out of the tube, I went high and did a re-entry, shooting out some spray, and then went back down to the bottom of the wave. The same wave came over me again, and I went into another tube. When I came out of that one, I went into a third tube! When I told my brother about it, he dismissed it and started talking about his waves. It was the best wave I'd ever had in my life, and it was amazing. I was so happy that I had that experience.

Then, about five years later, I walked down the beach with a Christian surfer and my older brother Rodney. We used to have a group of Christians that got together and did Bible studies with surfers. Once a month the Christian surfer’s group would invite all the surfers and meet in Coffs Harbour. They also ran a surfing competition.

There were several heats, a semi-final, and then the final. The surfer that we were walking down the beach with, David, won that surfing competition. As we were walking my brother mocked me about my surfing style. David, the best surfer in Coffs Harbour, replied, “Why are you mocking Matthew? Your brother rode the best wave I've ever seen ridden in Coffs Harbour. Don't you ever speak to him like that in my presence again. I've never seen a wave ridden as good as the wave Matthew rode.”

I was speechless! I was pleased that he had rebuked my brother, not that it would change him, but I was so happy that there was a witness besides God that saw me ride that wave. Even to this day, every time I share that story, I remember how it felt to have the best surfer in town give me such a compliment.

Another great childhood memory was at school. We had a lot of surfers at school and when the surf was up, many of them would skip classes and go surfing. So, our school decided to add surfing to their sports program. When it was time for your sport, you would go down to a local beach for a couple of hours to practice. We were all paired up with a buddy so half would surf and the other half would sit on the beach and watch out for trouble. If something happened your buddy would alert someone to come help or rescue you.

I was about 16 or 17, but I remember one girl that was about 14. She had a great tan, amazing olive-brown skin. During the summer she would get darker, but not red or burnt. Her skin looked like that of a model. She also wore these bright bikinis, yellow or pink, and her skin looked just perfect contrasted against the bright colors.

One day during one of these school surfing sessions, she accidentally crashed into my board and broke her arm. I got her out of the surf and rescued her by putting her on my board and paddling her back to the beach.

I later found out that she used to go to a less popular beach than the main breaks in Coffs Harbour on the weekends. So, I started going there on Saturdays by myself on my bicycle to surf to hopefully catch her there. I saw her one day and asked to borrow her brand-new surfboard to impress her. She swam out and talked to me while leaning on her board. As a young teenager, experiencing this scene play out was like something right out of the movie, “Blue Lagoon.”

During our conversation I asked her if she knew how to duck dive, which is when you push your board under a wave so that it breaks over you instead of in front of you pushing you back. When she told me no I offered to teach her. Doing this together was so romantic. Watching this young girl learn how to duck dive with me, with her perfect tan and bright yellow bikini, was one of my best childhood memories ever.

Question 17: What is the best book you've ever read?

When I was 30, I read a book called *Please Understand Me II* by David Kersley. I'm not sure if the book had the actual test in it or if it was based on a personality temperament assessment called the Myers-Briggs analysis. The test consisted of many questions, and then it would let you know what your dominant character traits are among the 16 different ones.

The book is very helpful toward understanding your purpose, dealing with others, and how you are wired. It changed my life. If you want to discover purpose and meaning in your life, I highly recommend doing the Myers-Briggs Analysis test. Their website is here: <https://tinyurl.com/yarpbx3>

And here is the link to the book mentioned above: <https://tinyurl.com/3hcb5ue2>

I also read a book by Joseph Prince called, *Destined to Reign,* when I was into the hyper-grace teachings. Although I do not agree with all of Joseph’s doctrine, his book had a powerful effect on my life—one of the best books I had read at that time. You can find that book here:

<https://tinyurl.com/3fhemmjd>

If you have an interest in Heaven, I highly recommend two books by Kat Kerr called, *Revealing Heaven, book 1, and Revealing Heaven, Book 2.* Although these books are not available on Kindle or Amazon, you can purchase them from Kat Kerr's website: <https://tinyurl.com/5n6fwsrx>

Question 18: Knowing what you know now, what advice would you give your 20-year-old self?

I would encourage my 20-year-old self to understand that success is the “progressive realization of a worthwhile dream”, as one famous teacher said. I would advise him to do his best to discover his life purpose and then work towards achieving mastery in that field or occupation.

I would also emphasize that anyone can have a gift, but it takes a lot of practice and dedication to develop it. For instance, a five-year-old child may know how to play tennis and demonstrate good skills, but it takes years of training and hitting millions of balls over the net to reach professional levels like Wimbledon. The same goes for any other skill or craft, whether it's writing or fishing.

I would encourage my 20-year-old self to put in the time, effort, and research required to become the best they can be in their chosen field. My father's example of mastering fishing for different types of fish despite our poverty is a testament to the power of persistence and polishing one's craft.

Whether it's a hobby or a full-time job, it's essential to apply time, research, and diligence to improve oneself. I believe that when a person reaches the age of 30, they become more centered and focused (Buddhist philosophy).

Between the ages of 20 and 30, you may work jobs that aren't necessarily your life purpose, but around 30, you may find yourself. This is one of the reasons why the Jewish faith didn't allow someone to become a rabbi until they were 30 years old. Jesus also had to wait until He was 30 to be recognized as a rabbi. He put His spirit of excellence into being a carpenter and became very good at wood working. However, it wasn't until He was 30 that He could go out and begin His Spirit-led ministry.

Andrew Wommack, a popular Christian teacher, does a seminar on finding your life's purpose, which you can find on his website. He teaches people in auditoriums and doesn't speak at churches. He rents public buildings so anyone out of the churches can come to his meetings, which saves him from being judged or condemned by people. He does a five-day teaching on finding your life's purpose and then gives an altar call for people to come forward for him to pray for them so that they will be shown their life purpose by the Holy Spirit. He finds that 80% of the people listening to his conferences come forward because they don't know their life purpose. You might not get a hint of your life purpose until you're 30. Here is a link: <https://tinyurl.com/5n78x5wa>

I've got a book about this called, Finding your Purpose in Christ. I wrote it to help you find your life purpose. Here is the link to that book: <https://tinyurl.com/4xt9fext>

Question 19: What's the greatest loss you ever experienced and how did it affect you?

I fell in love with a 17-year-old girl, and I moved in with her much to my mother's disapproval. She got pregnant even though she said she was on birth control. Her mother forced us into a shotgun marriage and problems began immediately.

After two and a half years of being together, she told me to leave. She moved in with another man that she'd been having an affair with. There was no hope of reconciliation since she firmly decided on her next relationship. That broke my heart. Losing my wife (I have only been married once) was the greatest loss of my life. This rejection planted seeds in me that hinder me even today to be able to easily trust people. This rejection also fueled my insecurities leading me into my addictions to pornography and prostitutes. My wife telling me to leave really hurt me.

The next thing she did was almost as bad—she took full custody of my son and turned him against me. From the ages of 8 to 31, I have only been able to see my boy Brandyn once. We spent an hour together over coffee. I have tried several times to reach out to him over the years, but he does not respond. He has no interest in developing a relationship with me and that really breaks my heart. Ever since I was kept from seeing my son, the holidays are ruined for me. Christmas, Easter, Father’s Day, and my son’s birthday and even my birthday bring me only pain and not joy. Christmas and Easter are still today the two saddest days of my life. Sometimes Jesus will visit me on those occasions because He knows how sad I get.

Question 20: Who are your close friends and why?

I've mentioned before that one of my close friends is Mary Gibson, who has read about 60 of my books and watched over 100 of my videos. She really knows me well from my books and teachings. We've spent hundreds of hours talking to each other on the phone or Facebook.

To become a friend, read a few of my books and reach out to me to discuss them. That will draw us closer. And it helps if you continue to read my books and leave good reviews. That will get my attention since I read those reviews. Both Mary and Dundy have read 50 of my books and have written reviews for most of them.

You can learn a lot about a person by reading their books and reaching out to them to talk about what you like about their work. Most authors are too busy to be approachable in this way, but I have the time if you want to put in the time. I'm not saying that you need to read 50 of my books to become my friend, but my two closest friends have done so.

Authors are just normal people and have their own struggles and trials. We are not anyone special, although successful authors are too busy to respond to friend requests. I live a very solitary life, so feel free to get in touch with me on Facebook or email.

You can send me a friend request here: <https://www.facebook.com/matthew.r.payne/>

Or email me at [survivors.sanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:survivors.sanctuary@gmail.com)

I am already letting you get to know me by my answers to these questions. This may be the first book you have read with this kind of openness.

If you've read this book and you're impressed, pick a couple more that interest you. Here is a link to my Amazon author page to help: <https://tinyurl.com/36d9522c>.

After you have read some of my books, contact me and tell me which ones you have read and that you want to connect with and why.

I also produce YouTube teaching videos on a wide range of subjects. My YouTube channel is found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@MatthewRobertPayne1>

Don’t be afraid to approach me. I am a humble guy and look forward to hearing from my readers. Once we get to know each other better, maybe we can talk via Facebook as well.

You get to know me the same way you draw closer to anyone, like Jesus. The more two-way conversations you have with Jesus, the better you know Him. Oh, you don’t have two-way talks with God? I can help you with that.

Question 21: What's the one thing people misunderstand about you?

I would say there are two things. First, people judge me and rule me out when they find out that I have bipolar disorder, a mental illness that has a real stigma attached to it. People assume that if you have a mental illness, then you can’t be trusted when you say God said such and such to you. They think you are hearing from demons, or that you don’t know the difference.

The second thing that people write me off for, as I have often mentioned in my books, is my conversations with saints in Heaven. Some people quote verses in the Old Testament saying that is necromancy, but they don’t even know what necromancy is. Let me explain.

Necromancy is contacting, communing, or talking to the dead, usually to know the future or to contact family members who have died. This is usually done with the help of a medium or a go-between. By the dead, I mean people who have died and are not in Heaven. Often the medium or witch contacts a “familiar spirit,” which is not the family member themselves, but unclean spirits or demons, who are attached to family lines and know a lot about them. However, you define it, these spirits belong to the kingdom of darkness. There are many Old Testament verses against necromancy and for good reason. You can become defiled by these spirits. I do not practice necromancy.

Talking to people who have died but are now with God is not necromancy. Jesus proved you could talk to saints in Heaven on the Mount of Transfiguration when He talked with Moses and Elijah in Matthew 17:2-4. Later in Matthew Jesus further explained, “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.”

In other words, Jesus is saying that Christians who pass on belong to the Kingdom of Heaven. Though I am not Catholic, many of them pray to Mary or other saints on a regular basis. Are they practicing necromancy because they are talking to dead people? Moses died, yet Jesus talked with him. Was Jesus practicing necromancy? You see my point?

Paul, in explaining that we are saved by grace in Ephesians 2, tells us that we believers are seated with Christ in Heavenly places. Stated another way, we believers have been given an “all-access pass” to Heaven and all who are there—angels and saints alike. So, if Jesus can talk to Moses, Elijah, or angels with the Father’s approval, so can we. I understand these encounters are rare these days, but I can assure you they will increase as the world becomes darker.

I get a lot of pushback from readers for my contacting saints in Heaven, especially my interviews with Michael Jackson and Mary Magdalene. Although Christians can gain valuable insight and revelation about life in Heaven, these books exist as an outreach to unbelievers. Several non-Christians have read Michael Jackson's book and have been witnessed and ministered to. This is one of my major outreach methods.

My publisher and I have lost a lot of revenue in producing the audible versions to these interviews with saints. Many narrators misjudge these experiences as necromancy and reject the work because of theological misunderstanding and lack of knowledge. This has become a real problem for me, so I have to use Google Play instead. You can listen to my books there at: https://tinyurl.com/3yufha66.

I prefer Audible over Google Play because Google Play is generated by artificial intelligence. When you listen to those AI audiobooks, you will hear certain words pronounced incorrectly.

Sometimes, I wish I wasn’t such a forerunner of the supernatural. But I feel compelled to go on despite the setbacks and misunderstandings. In the future, however, I believe my books are going to pave the way for so many more Christians who will also interview saints from Heaven and open even more doors to new things. As I have said before, some of my best feedback from Christians comes from this one book, Great Cloud of Witnesses Speak, found here: <https://tinyurl.com/3tyvrp5w>

These interviews with the saints have offered profound revelation. I am saddened that some consider this necromancy. Ultimately, I have been commissioned to do this by Jesus so I will allow Him to defend me.

Question 22: What do you love most about yourself?

Personally, I love my honesty and transparency. I cherish the fact that no matter who I am with, I can be myself and be truthful about my struggles. As of April 11th, 2023, my two addictions have been overcome for eight weeks. I recently faced a major temptation, but I fought it and overcame it with the help of my angel, Bethany, coaching me through it.

Even when I was struggling with my addictions, such as my addiction to prostitutes and pornography, I was truthful to my friends, caregivers, and even people I knew who unbelievers were. This may not have been a good witness to them, but I was honest about my weaknesses, making me a real friend to them. What you see is what you get with me. There's nothing hidden, no matter who I'm speaking to. I don't hide anything, and you've probably realized with my answers to these questions. If this is the first book you've read of mine, some of my answers might shock you. But that's who I am.

I don't pretend to know everything. If I don't understand the meaning of a Scripture verse in a passage I'm preaching from, I'll tell you. I won't guess at it. I'll simply go through the passage line by line, point out the verse I don't understand, skip it, and then move on.

Michael Van Vlymen, who wrote the best book on Kingdom finances that I have read, said that what he most admires about me as an author is my ability to throw myself under a bus to illustrate a point. To throw yourself under a bus means to say self-deprecating things about yourself risking your reputation. He said he loves that about my writing, and many of my reviews over the years have said that they appreciate my candidness and honesty, especially about my sins and shortcomings. So, the song that best describes what I love about myself is *Honesty,* by Billy Joel.

Question 23: What's one thing you wish you could change about yourself and why?

I wish I could lose 50 kilos, or 110 pounds in weight. Currently, I've put myself on a diet called the Keto diet which involves eating mainly protein. I followed it for two weeks and lost two kilos each week, which is about four kilos or seven pounds overall. However, in the third week, I didn't lose any weight. And so far, three days into the fourth week, I haven't lost anything more.

I wish I could lose weight because my current weight is making me tired and causing back pain when I walk even for short distances. I think it's all the weight I'm carrying that's causing my back pain. Moreover, I know that I can seriously reduce my sugar intake and reverse the effects of diabetes on this diet. Research suggests that if you follow this diet long enough, you can be tested and be free of diabetes.

For a long time, I didn't really care about my weight. However, my brother Rodney did some research and asked an AI program called ChatGPT about my health, based on my statistics and diet. ChatGPT indicated that, according to the research it had available, I'm not going to live more than ten years. That got my attention.

Therefore, I realized that I need to change my diet and lose weight to conquer diabetes and have better longevity. I want to reach my goal to write 300 books and so I want to live at least another 20 years to do that.

So, that's the reason why I want to improve my health, and I hope my journey encourages you too. If you've enjoyed reading this book, please do me a big and meaningful favor and leave an honest review on Amazon Books. I check Amazon every day to see if there are any new reviews. If you start popping up, I'll know that I've got a new friend on the way. May God bless and keep you, and I encourage you to be honest in everything that you say and do.

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Matthew Robert Payne

My prophetic website where you can request a personal prophecy or send donations to support my ministry can be found at this address: <https://personal-prophecy-today.com>

You can go to my second website and read over 50 of my books on your smartphone or computer, as well as 5 books authored by my friend Dundy, who has written a very easy-to-read modern translation for some New Testament books. All these books are free to read. You can download the Microsoft Word files that my eBooks were created from. This is very handy for a person who wants to use a lot of quotes or even whole chapters of my books in a newsletter or teaching that they are bringing forth. Kindle has a limit to how many passages you can cut and paste. This website is my attempt at being obedient to the command to "freely you have received, freely give." You can visit that website here: <https://matthewrobertpayne.com>

You can email me for any reason at [survivors.sanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:survivors.sanctuary@gmail.com)

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