



*How to
Walk in
Victory
Every Day
of Your Life*



by Charles  Frances Hunter



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Chapter 1

Expect God to Act

by Frances

Right after I was saved someone said to me, “Did you know that there are over 70,000 promises in the word of God?”

I said, “God let me live long enough, because I want to find every one of your promises.” That gave me a hunger for the word of God which I believe is the answer to victory every day in your life! Find those promises and expect God to act!

The purpose of this book is to give you the six principles I feel are the most important to walk in victory every single day of your life! Victory is ours, not defeat! “Every single day!”

Jesus never said, “I have come that you might have life abundantly on Tuesday and Friday.” He never said, “I came that you might have life abundantly on Sunday and then have misery the rest of the time.” When Jesus came He came that we could have abundant life all the time - day and night, regardless of what is going on around us!

As I began to pray and think of the people that we minister to around the world, I asked the Lord, “Where is the area in life where believers need the greatest help?” As I pondered this I became convinced that the greatest lack is the knowledge

necessary to possess your inheritance and then expect God to act!

Reach out and possess everything that belongs to us! Some people reach out and possess only a portion of what is ours.

Have any of you ever inherited money from somebody? Maybe your parents died or maybe a rich uncle died and left you a check for \$1,000. When the will was read and the check was written to you, you could do one of two things. You could have said, "I only want a part of this. I don't want the whole thousand dollars. If you'll give me \$243.00 I'll be satisfied. Just throw the rest away." No one would do that!

Would you do something like that? No. What would you do? You would take the whole check. You would take everything offered to you!

Let me illustrate with absurdity. If somebody left you a million dollars, you would not say, "Oh that's too much for me. Just give it back to that dead person."

No you would take it all! You would accept every bit of it, and probably shout "Wow! Boy, this is for me!" You would probably give a lot of it to God. I know that without even asking you because only a giver would invest in this book. You'd be such an eager beaver to get your hand on that money, so you could turn around and invest it in the kingdom of God.

One of the most important things you can learn to do is to know how to claim your inheritance in

order to possess what God has for us. The average Christian does not know what they gained when they were born again by the Spirit of God!

One of these days I hope to have an impromptu meeting and ask people to share with me what knowledge was imparted when they were born again by the Spirit of God. I am curious to know how many really understood what happened when they were born again by the Spirit of God. Many respond to an emotional tug upon the heart. Frankly I think that the average person doesn't even have an idea of what really belongs to them when they're born again! You probably agree with me on that.

I felt like I had been hit on the head with a brickbat when I was sitting upon a rickety, poorly constructed altar in a very old church. I thought I was going to fall over backwards. The altar was not anchored to the floor. It was the tiniest, narrowest little thing that you ever saw. For some unexplainable reason I was shaking all over the place. I don't know if it was in my spirit or in my carnal mind, but I could see myself flipping over backwards. My dominant thought was how ungraceful I was going to look when I went over backwards with my legs flailing over my head. I could see myself sprawled on the floor in front of everyone.

As a matter of fact, I don't even think I was thinking about salvation. I was wondering how I could keep my dress down when I went over,

because I knew that little altar was going to flip over.

The day that I got saved, I stood and said, “God, if you want what’s left of this mess, you take her, but take all of her, because I want nothing left!” And then to make sure that God understood me I said, “God, I’ll make a deal with you!” (There are people who think that you can’t make a deal with God, but I believe you can, because I made the best deal ever.) I said, “God, I’ll give you all of me in exchange for all of you!” For some reason or another, I guess it was because I made a total commitment; God in that split second gave me a revelation of what the Bible was all about.

Let me be real honest with you. I had attended the church for nine months before I got saved. I had heard about the love of God. Yet, I had absolutely a very small portion of the knowledge that should have belonged to me about what was rightfully mine when I became a Christian.

The average person does not know enough to follow through on their conversion. No one else can follow through for you. Only you can pursue your inheritance.

We follow through by into God’s Word. If you want to discover your inheritance, you need to get into God’s Word and expect God to act!

You must study “the will,” the written Word of God!

The biggest will ever written is the Bible. No other will that’s been written contains more

information then the Bible. Because the Bible is the will of God, it is the inheritance Jesus Christ left us.

I have never known anybody who died and left a will that the family didn't run the document to a lawyer to establish their inheritance. They cannot wait to discover who got grandma's crystal or the antique rocking chair! Most of the time it's grandma's money that they want. The greatest inheritance that we will ever receive is ours from God.

Yet, many people never even read the entire Bible. The average person doesn't know how to possess the greatest inheritance known to man, because they have never found out what they possess.

I believe we have many carnal Christians today who never move beyond that stage is because they have never truly discovered their inheritance. Every promise in the Word of God belongs to you! But you've got to expect God to act!

We have the mind of Christ! When you realize this, part of your inheritance becomes obvious! While developing this teaching I asked God, "What is the thing that keeps us from possessing what really rightfully belongs to us?" What God spoke to me was beautiful. He said, "The average person does not believe that they are a new creature when they are born again by the Spirit of God." Now don't throw that out and say, "Well I

believe it,” because I’m going to show you in a minute why many people don’t believe.

The Bible plainly teaches us that at the moment of salvation we are brand new creations in Christ, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Do you believe the Word of God is infallible? Do you believe that there has not failed one word of all of his good promises? Do you believe that there is nothing to be questioned in the Word of God! We are to wholeheartedly believe everything in the Word of God! If we really believe this, we must accept the fact that we are a new creature!

Because we’re new creatures, we no longer have a right to be the same person that we were before we were born again. That person is dead! That person no longer exists. We are a new creature.

We have no right to our old memories. Old memories seem to cause more problems than anything else. Trouble comes as we dwell on the past and not on the future. We have absolutely no right to hang onto old memories. I don’t care how good they are. I don’t care how bad they are. We are new creations living in a new day. You have no right to hang on to your old memories.

Charles and I preach God’s love, and God’s miracles most of the time. Every once in a while I think we need to get up to preach and “lay people out.” I don’t know why people will not accept the

fact that we are new creatures. We are not an old creature, not that same person. You have no right, according to the Word of God, to hang on to those old memories. I can guarantee you one thing, old memories will get you into trouble. Old memories can create as many problems today as they did when you created them. Old memories can take up your time and consume your thoughts. They'll rob you of your energy and keep you from doing what God wants you to do today, and keep you from victory!

We have no right to our old habits. "But Frances, "I can't give up those old habits." You don't have any right to them. As a matter of fact, do you know that you don't have any old habits? You may ask, "Why don't I have any old habits?" Because you're a new creature, and that new creature does not have those old habits.

The new creature has new habits! The new creature does godly things! The new creature does things that please God! When we hang on to those things that we have no right to hang on to, we run into real problems.

Many problems arise because we do not believe that we are new creatures.

You have no right to your old associations. I remember speaking with a young man who was a sexual deviate, before coming to the Lord. He can't tear himself away from his old associates. He can't tear himself away from that life style. Do you think that he is progressing in Christ? He is not. He

is going backwards as fast as he can, because he forgot that if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, he is no longer a sexual devivate.

If you were a prostitute, you are no longer a prostitute. If you were an alcoholic, you have no right to be an alcoholic. Why? Because these actions are forcing on this new creature some of your habits of the past. What happens to the new creature when you take the old you and try to cram it down the throat of the new creature? The new creature pretty soon becomes a reflection of the old creature that you used to be. What you have really done is invalidated what Jesus did on the cross for you. He said, (and I believe it) “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature.” Let’s act like it!

You may have heard me tell the story but I’m going to tell it again anyway because I love to hear it myself. Before I got saved, I had the worst mouth that you could ever imagine! I knew a lot of juicy swear words and I used them all the time. Every time I turned around, every three or four words, were followed by a good four letter word. I don’t know what prompted me to do it, but there was something within me that made me swear. Maybe it was because I owned a printing company. That’s something I think would make almost anybody swear. Hallelujah!

But I believed what the Word of God said. It said, “Frances Hunter (that wasn’t my name then) you are a new creature. “Old things have passed away, behold all things are new” I’m a new

creature. I'm a brand new creature in Christ! I expected God to act!

Not a single swear word has ever come out of my mouth since I was saved. You know why? Because I believed. I believed.

I remember thinking "Wow, I'm not that same person anymore. I'm not that lady that swears. I'm not that lady that told dirty jokes. I'm not that lady that did all those kind of things. I'm a new creature." Glory to God!

I believed it.

I received it.

I did not accept any of the things that were from the past. This is why I have never had one moment of guilt in all my Christian life. I don't think anybody ought to ever have guilt. Yet, the biggest problem in the Christian world today is guilt, guilt, guilt, guilt, guilt. We need only to understand we have become new creatures! There is no guilt. There is no shame! That person no longer exists. You are a brand new shiny creature in Christ.

I looked down and I thought, "Wow! I like this creature a lot more than I liked that other one. So, I'm never going to think about that other one again.

I'm not going to have the old desires that I had. You have no right to have the old desires that you had. If before you were married, you were a "run around guy" that liked a different girl three times a week and only came home once in awhile, you now have no right to that. But you see, none of us,

regardless of who we are, have no right, you have no right to be that old creature.

You have no right to say, “I can’t get rid of this bad habit,” because the new you has no bad habit. “Oh but Frances, I’ve always had such a sharp tongue, and I’ve always cut down everybody” You don’t now. You’ve got a new tongue. When you met Jesus you got a brand new tongue. You don’t have any right to defile that new tongue by saying the things that you said before you became a new creature.

You’ve got a new mind. Your mind has been recreated. Your spirit has been recreated. Everything about you is new but the devil will keep pulling and pulling and pulling on you. He’s going to say, “No, that’s not true. You’re not new. You’re the same sinner you’ve always been.” When Satan makes you think as you thought before you got saved humanity kicks in with the thought, “I’m not that new creature after all.”

That’s a lie of the devil. Any time the devil comes at you with an evil thought say, “I don’t have to think about that anymore. I’m a new creature!”

You have no right to your old thoughts. You have no right to your old life, because that old life does not exist for you at all!

Maybe you were a party person before you got saved! I was. I loved to go out and drink and party all over the place. But you know, we don’t have a

right to that anymore, because we are new creatures.

A new creature only wants to do the things that please Him. The new creature doesn't want to do all those other things.

We have no right (remember this, it's a good thought) - to doubt and unbelief. You have absolutely no right to have any doubt or unbelief in your life. Doubt and unbelief kills more Christians than anything I know of.

Let's look at this thought again, "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature."

All right, you say, "I don't believe that." Who is really speaking? The devil.

You say, "Well, I don't look like a new creature. I still look like the same old me." Well, God didn't tell you he'd give you a new body until you get to heaven. Then you're going to have a glorified body.

So, you might look like the same old person, but you are not the same old person.

Every once in a while Charles and I get busy running around for the Lord that I don't have time to do some of the simple little things that I need to do. For five years I told Charles, "I have got to get a new skillet." I think I had one of the worst skillets around. Everything that was cooked in it stuck. It didn't make any difference if you put in forty pounds of butter or ten pounds of Crisco to try to keep it from sticking, it stuck. There was no way that I could fry an egg in that skillet without

breaking the yoke, because the dumb thing stuck to the bottom of the pan.

Finally, one night on the way home from church, I said to Charles, “Let’s stop at the store, it’s open, and let’s get some new skillets.” I said, “I am so tired of those skillets that I have complained about for five years, because they are absolutely no good anymore.”

We went to the store and found we could not buy them, because the “Blue Laws” forbade them to sell pots and pans on Sunday. We picked out all these new skillets, took them up to the front counter, and they said, “You’ll have to come back tomorrow, because we don’t sell them on Sunday”

I thought, “Oh glory to God! Here I am, I finally got time, finally got my mind put together, I’m going to buy skillets and now they tell me I have to take them back.” So, we took them back. Somehow or another during that week we found the time to go to the store and we bought three beautiful new skillets.

I could have gone home and said, “Well I’m going to keep these other skillets. I’ll save the new ones and when I have company and I want to really do something real good I’ll use the new ones. But, in the meantime I’m going to keep using these old ones. They don’t have holes in them so I can still use them. Do you think I said that? No, I took those three old skillets and threw them in the trash can.

I got three beautiful new pans. The first thing when I got home, I cooked eggs. I couldn't believe that eggs don't always stick to the bottom of the pan. I tell you we had the most beautiful eggs for breakfast and not a thing stuck to the pans. You see, I had the choice. I had new pots and pans, just like you have a new life in Christ that doesn't stick to the bottom of the pan.

Your new life is over here. Over there we have the old skillets that make everything stick and bum. By the way, you should have tried to cook potatoes in the old skillet, that was a real dilly. Everything stuck. Now I have two sets of skillets. This one is new. The new ones do everything a skillet is supposed to do. Other skillets are problems.

Do you get the point of what I'm driving at? You see what you can do with that old life? You can say, "Well, it served me for such a long time, I hate to throw it out, I think I'll still keep messing with it."

Or, we can realize that sitting right over here is that brand new life that doesn't have all those sticky situations in it. You don't have to get a shovel and dig yourself out of the problems that you get into. The thing that you do is you make a clean sweep. When you are born again by the Spirit of God, you take these three old pans, symbolic of your past life, which are really good for nothing, and you throw them in the deepest sea,

never to be remembered again, if you expect God to act.

I didn't even keep those old skillets in the house. I gave them to the trash man to put in his grinder. The garbage man took them away. I don't know where they dump the trash in this area, and I have news for you, I'm not going to look for it either. I'm not going to keep calling the garbage department up to ask "Will you tell me where that dump is located? Six months ago, I bought some new skillets and I threw the old ones out." I'm not going to go over to the garbage dump and go through all those piles of smelly garbage trying to find my old pots and pans which weren't worth anything anyway

Absurd as this may seem, it is exactly what many of us do. We don't take the old life and let God get rid of it. We don't allow God to bury it in the deepest sea, never to be picked up, nor remembered again.

Think about this. If I had gone over to the dump, the piles of garbage on the top of my pan would have smelt pretty bad. If I placed my hands in there, I'd really be in a stinking mess. Those pans can stay there. I don't want them anymore. I want the new ones, because I want everything to turn out right.

The same thing is true of the old life. The day I put my life on a garbage heap, I turned around, looked and thought, "Ohhh." I left my old life

there. There was no portion of that life that I wanted whatsoever.

Now you may think, Wow! She must have really been a mess.” No, I wasn’t that bad. I was like most people. You know, a little bit of good, a little bit of bad, little more bad, little more good. I never shot anybody, killed anybody, robbed anybody, or anything like that. But there was nothing in my old life that was worthwhile.

There is nothing in your life, I don’t care how “goody-goody” you’ve been. You may think you were pretty good before you got saved. That’s all right. Still, there wasn’t a thing in your life that was worthwhile.

When you make the trade, don’t try to hang on to even that little portion that you think might have been good. Let it go. “Let it all go and then turn your eyes upon Jesus.” Receive your inheritance. You are a new creature, because anything that you have in your old life which might have been worth while is nothing in comparison with what God gives you in the new life. We need to remember that we are new creatures!

Die to self! Galatians **2:20** says, “I have been crucified with Christ, therefore it is no longer I who lives, but Christ who lives in me and the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Your old nature is dead, dead, dead, dead, dead. You don’t have a right to your old nature. You have absolutely no right. People come up to me

and say, “Will you pray for my bad temper? I’ve had a bad temper all my life.” I say, “Well then you haven’t been born again, have you?” “Yes, but I still have a bad temper.” Again, I say, “You haven’t been born again.” “Yes I have,” they argue. No you haven’t. Because if you’ve been born again by the Spirit of God, you are a new creature! You are a godly creature and are no longer are bound by anger! You no longer have a temper, because you don’t have any right to it! Expect God to act!

Have you ever seen a dead fish? The same truth applies to a person. Once a person or fish is dead, what begins to happen to them? They begin to stink, don’t they?

The old person of you that is now dead stinks when you try to resurrect that person into your new life. As a matter of fact, I never saw a dead fish flopping around, complaining and griping about everything, because once a fish is dead, it’s dead! The same thing is true with us! We are dead to the old man.

We all try to resurrect ourselves. We try to go back into the past. “But Frances, you don’t know what happened to me in the past.” No disrespect intended, I don’t care what happened to you. Really, I do care, but it’s not important. Why? If I told some of you the things that happened in my life, you would never believe it. But you see, I’m a new creature. I don’t have any right to the past. I don’t have any right to wrong thoughts. I don’t

have any right to entertain painful memories. I don't have any right to bad dreams, because of what has happened.

I praise God that I'm a new creature in Christ! I believe it, I receive, and I accept it! That's the thing that I want you to do. I want you to totally accept the fact that you are a new creature and all those things have passed away. **2 Corinthians 5:21** says, "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

We are "ambassadors for Christ." The position of an ambassador is an important one! US Ambassadors are some of the finest people in the world. To be an ambassador from the United States to a foreign country requires a lot. Potential Ambassadors are screened by the Department or State. Your strengths and weaknesses are established. If they find very many weaknesses you will not have a post representing the United States in a foreign country Just as our ambassadors are picked and carefully screened, the same is true of our post for the Lord!

Not anyone can be an ambassador for Christ. You must be a born again believer to be an ambassador for Jesus Christ.

II Corinthians 5:20 says, "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us; we implore you on Christ's behalf be reconciled to God."

God has chosen you and God has chosen me, because we are new creatures in Christ. He has chosen us to go out and to be His ambassador to the entire world! No ambassador from the United States ever lasted very long in that office if he did something that was embarrassing to the government of the United States. They are trained before they go into the diplomatic service. They are especially schooled in protocol. They are instructed how to behave in a banquet. How to hold a lady's arm. They are instructed in everything. By the same token, because we are ambassadors for Christ, we must be instructed how to conduct ourselves according to the protocol of the Word of God. The Word of God teaches all you need to know to serve as an Ambassador for Christ.

Let's think more about the qualifications of an Ambassador. Maybe I have a little habit that I would like to hang onto. Suppose I still like to drink. I loved the state of euphoria I entered when I drank martinis. I want to go out and serve as Christ's ambassador by sharing Jesus. Well, I need a little courage. So, I think I'll put a couple martinis under my belt. I go out smelling of, and under the influence of alcohol. I am wobbling about; I didn't realize how strong that martini was. But I see this poor, lonely girl sitting in a bar and I think, "That poor thing. She needs help." Remember, I drank enough martinis that I'm crocked. So, I'm going to go in the bar, sit down

and be sociable. I'm going to drink with her to prove my hospitality. I order another martini, toss it down and try to tell her what Jesus Christ can do in her life.

What do you think she's going to be thinking about me? Am I a good ambassador? No, she's going to look at me and say, "If you're still drinking, Jesus hasn't done very much for you, has He? How can you tell me what He can do for me if He can't do it for you? You're telling me that he'll deliver me from alcohol. I'm an alcoholic and have to have a drink before nine o'clock every morning."

No, she's going to look at me and think, "She's saying Jesus can deliver me, when she hasn't even been delivered herself" You can't say to them, "Don't do what I do, do what I say" You'll never lead anybody to Jesus that way.

One night a man came up to me speaking of the exciting church that he had built. He wanted us to come to minister there. "I know that you'll be a blessing to our church," he said. "The people are hungry."

"I'm feeding them the Word," he said. He smelled strongly of cigar smoke, I could have vomited right on the spot. If you smell like cigar smoke, or cigarette smoke, or you've got to stop in the middle of witnessing to somebody and spit the chewing tobacco out of our mouth, you're not a very good ambassador to the Lord Jesus Christ, are you? Smoking will kill you anyway!

We must allow the force of righteousness, God's sanctifying purification flowing through us. If you had a case of leukemia, which is a cancerous infection of the blood stream, and the situation is allowed to continue in that same way, the disease will eventually end up killing you. You now have the blood of Emmanuel flowing through your veins. When that blood flows through your veins, new life is produced in you. You *are* life!

You need to know who you are in Christ. No matter how wicked you were before you were saved, you're now a brand new creature! Accept this! You will never possess everything God has for you until you fully understand the rights and privileges you have as a Christian,

I love what Jesus said in Revelation 1:18. Where Satan no longer has dominion over us, his power is broken. Instead of being slaves to the devil, we are love slaves to a new master, Jesus!

I love the song that goes, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore; and I have the keys of hell and death." Jesus said, "All power in heaven and earth has been given to me." Then He turned right around and gave that same power to you and to me. There should never be a single weak, wish-washy Christian in the whole world.

What is your inheritance? The power of the Holy Spirit working in you is greater than any power of the enemy. If Christians would learn who they are and begin to possess the inheritance that

we have, we'd never let the devil defeat us in a single, solitary battle.

"Oh but Frances, the devil attacked my mind." While we were in Florida a man must have approached me Forty times saying, "Pray for my mind. Pray for my mind. Pray for my mind." What I wanted to do was hit him in the head instead of praying!

"I have these wicked, tormenting thoughts that come to me all the time," he said.

Well you can do one of two things: You can either let those wicked, tormenting thoughts in; you can let them stay there or you can turn a switch and throw that thought out. 'But,' I said, "I know that you know what you are really doing. You are actually enjoying every one of these 'tormenting thoughts' that are coming into your mind, because you have not yet made a complete decision to reach up and take what God has for you. You don't want your inheritance. You like this filthy inheritance of the devil!

I am not exaggerating. He ran around to every minister he could find. "Pray for my mind. I've got a tormented mind." All he needed to do was accept the reality that he is a new creature in Christ. He was not that same old thing! He needed to expect God to act!

We belong to the one who holds the keys to life and death. Jesus is life! The devil is death. Jesus is sitting on the throne at the right hand of God the Father. He is sitting in heavenly places. Therefore,

you and I, because we are born again by the Spirit of God and we have Jesus Christ living in and through us, we, too, are already sitting in that same place with Jesus.

“But Frances, you don’t know the hell that I live in all the time.” Refuse to live in torment. Believe the Word of God. I choose to believe that you are already seated in heavenly places. Believe it because God’s word says so.

Colossians 3:13-15 gives insight into what belongs to us; “bearing with one another, and forgiving one another.” If we are a new creature in Christ, we are going to have a forgiving nature. Have you had anybody do anything against you since you became a Christian? Would you have really liked to punch them in the nose? I understand. Forgive them anyway. When you begin to forgive you’ll discover that God can bring great blessings your way.

As Christians, we must have a forgiving nature. You have no right, under your inheritance, to have a bad attitude toward anyone. It further says, “If anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”

The people that run around with unforgiveness, bitterness and resentment in their heart, fail to understand God’s word. At the end of the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus says, “If you do not forgive those who have sinned against you, then I cannot forgive you.”

If you have unforgiveness your heart, you may be surprised when you get to the door of heaven, and God says, “I’m sorry but you never forgave Mr. Joe Blow, so I can’t forgive you.” It’s scriptural. We need to understand the good things and the bad things that the Bible might say.

The passage continues, “But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.” Or, put on love. We need to love the unlovely Yes, even those people that don’t look very lovely to us. We need to love them.

This behavior reflects our new nature because the Bible says, “And let the peace of God rule your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.”

Part of our inheritance is knowing that we have been delivered from the kingdom of darkness. As a deceiver, you no longer sit in darkness. If you are willfully walking in darkness, you’re trying to disprove God. You’re saying, “God, it doesn’t work. I’m still down here in darkness.”

What does God’s word say? It says, “We have been delivered from the power of darkness, and we have been translated into the kingdom of his dear Son.” Therefore, we live in the light. We do not live in the darkness. If we live in darkness, whose fault is it? Ours, because we have not claimed our inheritance. We have not expected God to act.

Ephesians 2:6 says, “and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”

God's word says I sit in heavenly places, so I am not about to sit down here in the darkness! I'm going to sit where God intends for me to sit. I am going to be where God intends me to be. I'm going to walk where God intends for me to walk. God wants you to walk in victory every day of your life. He does not want you to walk in defeat. He wants you to believe that you are that new creature in Christ. The reason that I'm emphasizing this over and over again is because I have too many people come to me for prayer who simply do not know how to possess their inheritance. Let's believe we are actually brand new creatures and expect God to act!

When all those old thoughts come up I say, "Oh no you don't. Old nature you're dead! I'm a brand new creature in Christ. I don't have to listen to any of that stuff and I'll never listen to you again." You see, the problem is we don't take seriously the new nature that we have been given. Again, we are brand new creatures in Christ.

You are not that same old creature. You are a brand new creature in Christ and, as a brand new creature in Christ; you are privileged to be a joint heir with Jesus. everything that belongs to Jesus belongs to you. You are a son of God. You have been adopted into the royal family of God! Expect God to act!

Some time back Charles and I made out new wills. Joan, as you probably know, is my daughter. Charles adopted Joan. As a matter of fact, Charles

asked me if he could adopt Joan before he ever met Joan, before we were ever married. I praise God for the beautiful heart of love that beats inside Charles Hunter. And he said, "I want to adopt your daughter." Joan's first excursion upon her arrival in Houston was a trip to the courthouse to have her name changed to Hunter, even before she was adopted. We had to wait six months for Charles to be proven worthy by the courts as an adoptive father.

I have a son who was already married before Charles and I married. He has children and it's very difficult to adopt a son who has children with his name. While this does present a particular challenge, Charles said to him, "I want to adopt you." "You can keep your name," Charles said, "But I want you to know that you're my son."

He said, "Mother, I'm too old for that kind of stuff" I don't think he every fully realized what Charles was saying to him.

Now, Joan is Charles' adopted daughter. As his adopted daughter, she is entitled to everything that belongs to her father. If Charles and I were in a plane crash and we had no will, and I died, everything that we have would automatically go to Charles. Three months later, Charles might die as a result of the same accident where I had been instantly killed. Where is the line of succession? I have a natural son. He is the oldest child and he would be entitled to what? Nothing. Why? Because, when I died everything went to Charles.

When Charles died, everything goes down the line to his successors and heirs. Now, even though Charles wasn't even in the state when Joan was born, everything that Charles had would automatically go to Joan.

This is what happens when we're adopted into the kingdom of heaven. Believe it or not, "the blood line" that flows through adoption is stronger than the blood line that flows through your own physical body!

Just in case you might be worried about my son, we have seen to it that Tom and Joan will each receive one half of our estate.

Did you ever have a big Christmas when you were a kid?

Maybe you have had big Christmases with your kids. We pile all kinds of presents underneath the tree. I remember how Charity and Spice (two of Joan's children) would wade into one box after another. they didn't even bother looking to see what was in the boxes. They certainly did not bother to look and see who the gift was from! They would just tear open one box after another and eventually get around to looking to actually see what was inside the boxes. Mamma and Grandmother are left to clean up the mess!

Really, that's the way some of us do when we get born again by the Spirit of God. It's like Christmas! God dumps so many presents on us that we don't have time to look at them all. We get excited about one or two gifts that we throw the

rest of them over in the corner and don't get around to looking at them.

If we really want to possess everything that God has for us, we must get into God's Word and say, "That's mine. I'm sitting in heavenly places. Hallelujah!"

The next verse says, "That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." When I read this I said, "That's mine! That's mine!" God is showing me the exceeding riches of His grace because I belong to Jesus Christ.

We read on, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." I say, "That's right. I receive it, God." It's a gift of God. It's mine because I belong to you!

I have literally read every verse in the Bible and I said, "It's mine. It's mine. It's mine." I still do because I want to possess every bit of the inheritance that belongs to me. I want every day of my life to be Christmas. God has already given us that right, because He has given us the power contained in the name of Jesus.

He has given us the name of Jesus to walk through all trials and tribulations. He has given us the name of Jesus and the blood of Jesus to put over every thing that ever happened in our past. When God looks at you He sees you through the blood of Jesus. He does not see the things that you

did before you became a Christian. All He sees is you looking like Jesus. I like God's viewpoint!

When I look at myself, I don't see the person I used to be. I see the person that God has made me. I'm not going to complain. He made me brand new and has given me all the things that I have. He has made me a joint heir with Jesus.

If you want to possess your inheritance, get into the Word of God. Read every verse. Put a check mark by the side and say, "That's a promise. I receive that. It is mine. Verse 10 says, For his workmanship."

I say, "That's right. I'm His workmanship." Go through the Bible. read every one of His promises and declare, I'm a new creature, that's mine." Your life will change forever and you will walk in victory every day!

Chapter 2

Since the Moment I was Saved

by Charles

Since the Moment I was Saved, I have Not lived a Single Minute Without Total Victory.

You may feel as if you have victory in your body. You may not have always felt as if you have victory every minute, but you do. I remember an old hymn, "Victory Ahead." When you know victory is in front of you, you will have peace. . . even when problems come.

I can say this without any hesitation; my soul has had one hundred percent victory from 1968 until now.

God had a plan for us way back before time began! God has always had a complete plan for us with flashing neon lights proclaiming "Victors victory, victory!" He never intends for us to have anything except total victors because of Jesus.

Frances and I have a perfect marriage. We have had a perfect marriage from day one. Why? Certainly not because we are perfect, but because Jesus is perfect. When He takes the leadership of your life, there is victory in every move that you make.

Adam and Eve started off with a victorious life, a beautiful life. God created Adam and made him perfect. God made Adam really smart. He was able to name all the animals and remember what he had called them.

We have been created in the likeness of God and because I have been created in the image of God, that makes me as smart as Adam, although I'm not guaranteeing you that I can remember the names of all the animals and birds. I can understand the name of a butterfly, but I can't name all the kinds of butterflies. But Adam even knew that, because God gave him that supernatural ability

Adam and Eve were created in perfection. They walked and talked with God, and they had total victory in their lives. I use the word victory meaning that they were winners, that they were above all things, that they had control of all things at all times. There was never a moment of discouragement.

There was never any defeat.

There was never any sadness.

There was never any loneliness. These things can't stick with you when you have the victory that Jesus came to provide.

Even with Adam and Eve being created perfect, there was one person that chose perfection. I've used this illustration before, but I'll repeat it again, because it's the foundation for all sin.

The devil living as Lucifer was in heaven as one of God's highest angels. He suddenly wanted to be God. Lucifer wanted to be exalted in himself. That moment was, and is the beginning of all the types of defeat that comes to our lives. The devil's nature is planted into every human that ever lived, does live, or ever will live on earth.

Every human has the seed of defeat planted in them by Satan himself. After all, defeat is the nature of the devil, which is self exaltation. If you exalt self, you're never going to have victory. If you kill self you can always have victory because dead people never experience defeat. You can go out to any cemetery and say, "Hey, you dead people, tell me your latest defeat." They won't answer a word. Of course they won't answer you if you ask them what their victory is either. They don't answer because they're dead.

This is our position: be in Christ Jesus, dead to sin and alive unto God.

We must be totally dead to our old nature. We must choose to let Jesus come alive and let His perfection live in us. His perfection is the victory that all of us are looking for.

Adam moved into imperfection, when He and Eve sinned through self-exaltation. The devil came along and said, "Hey Eve, exalt yourself! You can be as smart as God." He used the same temptation that trapped him. He wanted to be as powerful as God. He really wanted to be smarter and more powerful than God. "Eve, eat this fruit. It will

make you smart and you'll know all things. For that matter, you'll know as much as God."

It is unimaginable to me that a person created in and birthed into perfection sinned the first time she was tempted. She bought Satan's lies. Eve became imperfect. She entered into defeat for all the world.

Defeat is the promise of the devil.

Victory is the promise of God, through Jesus!

Victory is ours to choose. We wake up every morning with the ability to think. Do I want to have a defeated day, or should I have a victorious day? We literally make that choice every day.

In fact, every decision you make through a day, every thought you have, every intention of your heart, is a choice..

Start the day by asking yourself, "Do I want to have victory today? Am I going to be happy today? Am I going to be full of freedom? Am I going to be a winner today? Or, shall I decide to be defeated?"

If you decide to be defeated, you'll start exalting self instead of God. Defeat is constantly offered to us, but it's an offer by a person that is already totally defeated. Jesus totally defeated the evil. Satan has no rights, yet he keeps offering us a lie. He says, "Hey Jesus, if you'll serve me you can have all this land you see from here on top of the Temple. You can be a big dog, if you'll simply bow down to me, for a little bit." Really, Satan had nothing to offer. He had no ability to deliver on the promise.

It's like me saying, "Hey, I'd like to offer each of you a brand new Cadillac, fully paid for along with a new home worth \$200,000, fully furnished." Even if I want to offer that to you, I don't have the ability to bring it to pass. I couldn't back up that offer.

The devil comes around every day, in every negative thought you have, saying, "Hey, I want to give you something. It's free. I've got a good deal for you. Why not take it?" Way too many of us say, "OK devil, I'll take it."

This is like buying stock in a gold mine some place that you'll never have a chance to see. You buy this stock in the gold mine because a man says your \$1,000 investment will make you a multi-millionaire before the end of the year. You're gullible and buy stock in a gold mine that doesn't even exist. The land probably belongs to somebody else.

There is no way to get rich when you buy from the devil. But he is constantly offering to fulfill every evil intention of the heart. We choose defeat when we buy what he sells, because he really doesn't own anything.

Let's say we bought eighty-five acres of land and built the City of Light Complex on it. Wouldn't it be horrible to learn one morning we did not own the land. The legitimate owners were scheduled to take over the property. Wouldn't that be horrible? Well, if we had bought it from the devil that's what would happen. We would have

put all of our money into the property only to be told, “Hey, you’re not the owner.”

In our travels to the Pacific, a young man who had sponsored us in Vanuatu, was telling us about what had recently happened to his family. Years before England and France controlled the land of some eighty islands. This man’s family and some other families were given land grants to own a six mile spread of land. Over the years others bought nearby properties and built homes and raised families. Coconut and banana crops were planted, cattle farms were built for miles and miles on acres and acres of lands. Then England and France granted the islands freedom and independence to those on the islands who were originally given land grants.

All of the people residing on land who were not part of the original grantees all of a sudden didn’t own the land they had purchased. The young man who had sponsored us was one of the fortunate ones whose family had been granted land and he inherited more land than he had thought he owned. Many families were told to move immediately since they did not have grants to have any claims to the land. That’s the way the devil offers, and it would be a horrible thing to suddenly realize that you don’t own anything.

When I lived in England a few years ago, the pound sterling was worth about \$4.80 American. People told of going to bed with a million pounds to wake up the next morning to find the currently

only worth \$2.80. The government had simply said, 'We're going to devalue the Pound.'

So my friends lost virtually half of what they owned overnight, 'just by a government officer affixing his signature. The English people had no control over this situation at all. The offer of the devil like this. That's defeat. Victory comes when God signs His name to something! When God promises anything, His promises are always fulfilled.

God says, "I will give you the abundant life. I'll give you abundance in everything. I'll give you health. I'll give you prosperity I'll supply everything you need. I'll give you joy, peace and happiness. All you have to do is serve me."

God puts conditions on His blessings, but when we fulfill these conditions, we are absolutely guaranteed success. The spirit of the living God, through the Word that Jesus brought to us from God, guarantees all of this, if we will simply accept it and fulfill the conditions that God wrote on His promissory note to us.

God, in effect, gave us a promissory note, "I will pay to you everything that you need for every day of your life. I will give you joy and peace and gentleness and patience and kindness. I'll give you all of these things." If you enter into an earthly promissory note, it's going to say, "If you don't pay this back on time, then you are obligated to pay a certain percentage interest, pay the attorneys, and collection fees and court costs." The only

thing God didn't do when he gave us His promissory note is place limits on the size of our potential claim.

If a company loaned me money they would write it out, the amount I was getting, so there would be no doubt that that's how much they were going to hold me to pay back. But when God gives us a promissory note, he says, "I promise to pay to the order of Charles E. Hunter blank dollars." He never does fill in the amount. He leaves it blank. God endorses the note with the name of Jesus simply saying, "Fill in the amount you need. I'll supply every one of your needs." That is victory!

This is ultimate victory but it's ours and backed up by Almighty God.

Do you believe God cannot lie? You see, that's the promise of God, victory in everything. The foundation for all our victory is the knowledge that God has a way to provide everything that we can possibly need. He then promises over and above our needs for an abundance in all things. I never could have believed there could be such phenomenal abundance in serving God until I reached the point of true commitment to Him.

When Adam and Eve sinned God immediately began to fulfill the promises He had made to mankind. God started giving us examples in the Old Testament to let us know that His promise really was, what it was to be, and how we could look forward to its manifestation. God started making this promise and in order to show His

willingness to fulfill the promise, God chose a man called Abraham and his wife named Sarah.

They were a couple unable to bear a child together. They needed a son and in their old age God came along and said, “Abraham and Sarah, I want to make a promise to you. You’re going to have a son and he’s going to be a heirship to all that you have, and he’s going to pass on the promise I made that I would give you an abundant life.

Through him will come to the giving back what Adam and Eve lost when they sinned. I’ll make your heirs as numerous as the stars or as the sands of the sea.” And God made a specific promise and signed the contract with Abraham. Then Abraham and Sarah were given a beautiful child. The child began to grow up, and I’m sure it looked a while lot like Papa, and he was probably very proud. I’m sure he loved that child because it was given to him by Almighty God.

When God gives you a present, polish that gift every morning. Set it up in a prominent place in your life. Enjoy what God gives you because it is a phenomenal, awesome thing when God presents something of value to you. If you’ll look, look inside your heart, you’ll find that God has given you special gifts. Lift them up like a trophy Polish your blessings. Brag on God for blessing you. Tell people about the blessings God has given to you and say, Lord, I really appreciate these gifts.”

One morning I sat in our beautiful home studying the word of God. The spring trees were blooming. I saw all the beautiful trees and flowers blooming, and I said, “God, you’re so overwhelming to give us a gift like this! I want you to know again how I thank You for this gift.”

God had given Abraham and Sarah this marvelous gift of a child that they longed for, to be their heir. Then when this child was about twelve years of age, God told Abraham, “Take this son of yours and go up on a mountain, build an altar, build a fire and sacrifice this child to me.”

What kind of gift is that? Can you conceive of a gift having such a price attached? Most people would say, “Not me! That’s not God. That has to be somebody else’s voice. That’s not victory. The thing I value most, God says go up and kill it?”

But you see, God’s promise is victory! Seeing God’s promise from earth’s view, from our human viewpoint, will never bring victory.

God was really saying, Abraham, trust me, in everything I tell you to do. Trust me and you’ll see the working of My hand. I’ll give you a victorious life and I’ll take you to the promised land. I’ll take you to an abundant life.”

So far Abraham, believing God was his victory, took Isaac and went as God directed. He built an altar and sent Isaac out to help gather the twigs. He struck the flint together to start the fire. Then he said, “Come on over Isaac. I’m going to kill you,

put you on this fire and burn you up as a sacrifice to God.

I mean, that doesn't look right from the human standpoint. However, that's what God said.

Isaac submitted to his father. One of the most important things you'll ever learn toward living in victory is to submit to your Father. Submit without consideration of self. The devil didn't do that. He was submitted for a long time, but then he'd said, I'm not going to submit to God anymore. I want to be like him or even live above him."

When sacrifice is required a nature comes in and says, "Don't you dare submit." But, Isaac submitted to Abraham. I don't believe force was required. I believe that Isaac said, "O.K., here I am," because he trusted his father.

Just as Abraham trusted his heavenly Father, Isaac trusted his earthly father. This is an example that God gives us so that we can learn how to have victory in every part of our life.

The knife was ready to plunge in. Abraham was willing to obey, obey, obey, obey, obey, obey, obey, obey God. Get that imprinted into your mind that you automatically obey God every time He speaks to you. If you'll obey, you'll never disobey God in anything. Obedience is the very foundation established by Jesus for victory in your life.

Abraham was ready to plunge the knife into Isaac, when God said, "No, wait, I have a substitute."

God's eternal plan of redemption for all mankind was written out in those few words, "I have a substitute."

"Look up," God said, "Go get the substitute and do the same thing with it that you were willing to do with your son." Abraham experienced ultimate victory. Can you imagine the joy that came in his heart? Abraham knew that even if he plunged that knife into the heart of his only son, Isaac would be raised from the dead, you see, because God had told Abraham that he would have children through this son. If God says it, it's so. Abraham believed God that His promise would be fulfilled if he would only obey

Without faith there is nothing except sin. Sin was committed by Adam and Eve because they didn't have faith in God. They didn't believe in God enough to trust Him over the lies of the devil. Now we see a man, Abraham, who does. He is the father of faith because he was willing to carry out the requirements of God. He experienced the ultimate in victory and he lived an abundant life from then on.

Later on when God was giving us a telescopic view, way back on the Old Testament, of His plan of redemption for mankind, God began to show us some other things. He had a temple, a beautiful cathedral, a church, if you please, a tabernacle. God said to the builders, "Make it exactly like I tell you. Don't deviate one tiny particle. Do exactly as I tell you."

The maker of the tabernacle did exactly as God said. He obeyed God to the ultimate even down to types of nails and wood. Everything put in place, every piece of gold, every piece of silver, everything was done in a coordinated way, given by the plan of God. This was to represent God's victorious life, His eternal plan of redemption for all mankind. He wanted you and I living in the 21st Century to understand what God was revealing in his Word way back then when He said, "Now build this temple."

God set in place certain rituals. It seems odd to me that God would require Israel to sacrifice millions of animals. Awkward as that seems, but God would not even let them deviate one iota. "I want a perfect lamb sacrificed," God said plainly that the people searched until they found one. Then the priests would examine it for three days and nights to assure not a spot or a blemish was on that lamb. God was showing us a picture of the future. He was showing His perfect plan of redemption for mankind, the victory God wanted us to have through the sacrifice of the perfect lamb of God, Jesus.

When Aaron was appointed as high priest, it was a telescopic view of Jesus the perfect priest to come. Aaron had to be perfect of body and mind, because that's the only kind of a person God would choose to be the high priest. He not only had to have a perfect lamb, but he had to be perfect in himself. God cannot stand sin. God cannot stand

to even look at sin. God cannot stand even the appearance of sin or the likeness of sin. God looks for perfection in every one of us. This is His route into victory This is the plan of redemption of God.

His plans was established that when the children of Israel sinned, once a year they were able to get rid of those sins. It was called pardoning of sins. In effect, God said, "O.K., even though you've sinned, I will excuse you of that and let you start all over again."

God did this knowing full well that the next year Israel would commit more sins. God was detailing a redemptive plan that would be fulfilled in the future. Part of this ritual included when Aaron was to go into this tabernacle, this temple, to perform the sacrificial rites to depict a substitute for the sins of the children of Israel. One of the things Aaron had to do was to kill a bull, a young calf, and place blood on himself. He had to be made pure by a sacrifice whereas Abraham was able to go by faith and have a substitute.

Now we see Aaron, the high priest, coming into the picture as a depiction of the Lord Jesus Christ, but he was to use a substitute for the sins of man. The substitute had to be blood, for blood is life. There is no life except in blood. If you have all the blood removed from your body, you would be dead. There is no life in your body except through blood.

Jesus gave His blood, and in so doing, gave us His life. We find that God used the blood of bulls,

goats, and sheep and birds in the Old Testament. He used the blood of the substitute so that we could follow a picture, a forecast, a prophecy of the plan of redemption. The children of Israel were made aware and rehearsed every year a plan of redemption that they didn't fully understand.

Some of the Apostles were given prophetic views of the distant future. They couldn't see it clearly, and yet they knew God was saying to them, "I've got a plan for mankind and I will fulfill it."

So we see Aaron sprinkling the blood of a bull upon himself to make himself acceptable, to offer the sacrifices for the sins of the people. Aaron was then ready to go into the Holy of Holies. The Holy of Holies was separated from the people by a very big, heavy veil, a curtain. An ordinary person could never go in there. Only the high priest could go in and only one time each year. One of the things Aaron would do was create incense. This came from the root of a tree that had a certain smell to it. Aaron would beat, pound, and scourge this dried root until it became a powder. That was a telescopic view of the Lord Jesus Christ when He was pounded, beaten and scourged for our healing.

Aaron picked up the incense and placed it in the fire, the depiction of cleansing. God wants us to all be baptized with His fire! He wants us to be cleansed, and all impurities burned out of our life by the power of God's Holy Spirit.

Aaron, before he went in back of the curtains, had to pick up with tongs a coal of live fire. He picked up the powder, dashed into this inner place where the mercy seat sat. Above the mercy seat was the presence of almighty God. The Ark of the Covenant was in there and that contained the 10 Commandments, the laws that sin caused to be broken.

When Aaron went into the very presence of Almighty God, he did so because he was symbolically bringing all the sins of the children of Israel for that year. When he entered the Holy of Holies he threw this powdered incense upon the coals of fire. I imagine it made a “whooshing” sound and blossomed out, billowing up in a great cloud of smoke. That smoke is a type of the covering of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ over our lives. The cloud also depicted the presence of the almighty God hovering over His people.

After applying the incense, Aaron could sprinkle the blood on the mercy seat and on the Ark of the Covenant. This blood was a covering of sin, a type of the blood of Jesus Christ shed in order to pardon the sins of all mankind.

When Aaron finished his prescribed labors, he came back outside. There was a goat waiting for him. Aaron placed his hands upon the head of the goat and imparted the sins to the animal. The scapegoat was then taken out into the uninhabited wilderness and released never to be seen again. This was God’s way of saying, “The sins of

mankind are taken away from them, as far as the East is from the West, never to be seen again.’ Those particular sins were carried away and in the economy of God, they did not exist anymore. God had pardoned them. He had symbolically covered them with the blood of Jesus. He had covered them with the sacrificial illustration of what would come down the line.

God, in His ultimate plan, knew that there could only be one person who would ever be holy and pure enough to be the perfect sacrifice, the sacrifice of all time. God had planned from the foundation of the world that the Lord Jesus Christ would be the perfect sacrifice. That is why Abraham was willing to plunge that knife into the heart of his only son, knowing God would say, “No, that son is not worthy, even though you’re willing. Your faith makes you worthy because you have faith in me because I am worthy”

God did not allow the sacrifice of Abraham’s son, because it was not satisfactory to Him.

God chose a lesser thing, the blood of animals and birds to be the substitutionary sacrifice. We see God moving throughout history putting the children of Israel into Egypt because they would not willingly serve Him. When Moses was trying to bring the children of Israel out of the captivity of Egypt, God had a victory an abundant life planned for them. Yet repeated disobedience kept God from bringing His ultimate into focus so that Israel could have the victorious life.

Again and again the Bible records the children of Israel plunging from victory down into defeat. Why did Israel repeat this cycle? Because Israel did not obey God! Abraham obeyed God. By faith he believed in God and that faith is still ours through him to this very day. The faith that Abraham established is part of God's covenant with us. His promise to us has never failed. It will never fail if you trust in God and not in the things of man. If you don't accept the promissory note of the devil, if you'll always accept by faith what God has for you, you'll never question God. Then He will always supply your needs. He guarantees this by the blood of Jesus.

God continually tried to illustrate His love to mankind. Even today His great arms of love are forever reaching out, even to those people who hate Him. He is reaching for those that worship idols. The idolatrous generation, He called them. In spite of all their rebellion, God still reached out to Israel and said, "Oh, if you'll only ask for forgiveness. If you'll only obey me, then I'll give you this rich Canaan land."

Israel kept denying Him. Finally there came that time when God decided, 'The clock has run its course. Now comes the day I'm going to eternally fulfill the substitute plan. I'm going to bring in the real product.

God then chose to send His only Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus was born of a virgin named Mary. God was His Father. Jesus had no imperfection

imparted to Him from generation to generation by the impurity of the sins of mankind. God became the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ. He simply planted that seed of the Spirit into Mary's womb and Jesus came forth, a perfect child, without spot or blemish. He was the lamb that had no spot or blemish. Jesus came down from heaven, because Jesus always existed. Jesus didn't "happen" like the rest of us when we are born as a human being. Jesus "always was" from the beginning with His Father and the Holy Spirit. God simply took Jesus' Spirit and planted it into a human body and let Jesus live therein for a few years on earth so that he could carry out God's eternal plan of redemption for you and for me. God repeatedly revealed this plan to the children of Israel over and over and over through living pictures, through panoramic visions, and prophecy.

God told them before it happened where Jesus would be born. He told Israel what Jesus would be like. He told them His name. God made His promises plain that a plan of redemption was clearly revealed.

Because of this you find the great men of the Old Testament, men of faith such as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Moses, all having some view of what Jesus would be like.

Elijah saw a great panoramic vision of what this plan of redemption would be like. Yet, he couldn't comprehend it because he didn't possess it. He had no right to do so at that time, until God fulfilled

His eternal plan of redemption. We look at scripture and see this victorious plan God set into motion when He sent the Lord Jesus Christ down to become a human being. In every way like us,

Jesus suffered all the problems multiplied by millions of times over what you and I would have to suffer. He encountered all the situations we would face. Jesus was not dirty when He was on earth. He retained His God nature but functioned as a Holy Spirit lead man.

Let me say something you may consider to be controversial. Jesus had a choice. God had to trust Jesus to fulfill His word. God in effect, took a chance, because He knew that Jesus still had to fulfill all of His promises. If Jesus had chosen to say, “I will not go through this. I would rather do something of my own choosing,” God would not have made Jesus go through with His substitutionary death that caused us to be redeemed by the blood of the lamb.

God simply said, “Jesus, you’re my child. This is my plan. I’d like for you to go and do it.” God risked all of mankind, from the beginning to the very end, billions of souls, on the willing obedience placed on the shoulders of the Lord Jesus Christ. He said, “Jesus, you can choose to deliver these people or you can choose not to do so. It is my plan, but this requires your choice.

God knew His Son. God knew the heart of the Son. Equally amazing God knows your heart and my heart as well. God knows us so intimately that

He knows even the smallest intent of the heart. Even before you think something, God knows your thoughts. He knows the desires of your heart. He knows what you need. He knows everything about you. And God is waiting to shift the load you are carrying into his great arms. He is willing to give you victory in every area of life. He wants to give you health. He said, in 3 John 2, “Beloved, I wish above all things that you may be in health and prosper, even as your soul prospers!”

God wants your soul to prosper, so He made this eternal offer of redemption. Not only can we have an abundant life on earth, but we can have an eternal life of abundance with God in Christ Jesus throughout eternity. Still this offer has requirements.

The New Testament records the story of a man who had two sons. One of these sons came to him and said, “Dad, I’d like to take my part of the inheritance.” Jewish law prescribed an inheritance of two-thirds for the elder son of a Jew. “I’d like to have my money,” the son said, ‘and go and enjoy it now”.

His gracious, loving father said, “All right, son, here it is.” This son went out and began to melt away his gold, plowing it by riotous living. No doubt he lived in adultery, alcohol, and if they had drugs, that too. He was living in every way, a life of sin, sin, and more sin. He was doing everything possible to please himself and nothing to please his

father. Remember, he had already taken all of his inheritance from his father.

One day he looked around and found himself in a horrible place for a Jew, working in a pig pen. Jews knew that pigs were a type of sin. If you've ever been around a pig pen, you remember the stench of it and filth. The mud and germs are pathetic.

This young Jew, a wealthy man's son, who could have had all that he ever wanted, found himself literally living with the pigs, at the lowest ebb of all sin. No doubt, he must have looked at the filthy, stinky clothing on his body. The stench must have been unimaginably awful. He was eating the same swill as the hogs.

He probably looked at himself and said, "Ahhh. If I went back to my father, he would certainly let me be a slave. At least I would have clean clothes and food." What a pathetic situation he was in. So he made a decision. He said, "I'm going to choose another way of life." With all the filth still on him, he went back toward his father. When he turned the corner, one of the servants saw him coming. The servant ran to the man's father and said, "Master, here comes your son!"

In my mind's eye I can see that father begin to begin to weep and shout, "My son is coming back! Hallelujah! My son is coming back. He's finally coming home."

Even though he had no legal obligation to do so, he ran out and embraced his son, stinking filth

and all. I can see that father drawing his son up into his arms.

Quickly the father gave an instruction, “Servants, go out and kill the fattest calf we’ve been saving. Make a feast.” He placed upon the son’s finger a ring, making him royalty once again. He was restored as an equal heir back into the family. Symbolically he was brought back into the family of God.

I do not believe God would not require so great a sacrifice as that made by the father. He did not require the sacrifice of that son. God had a far greater substitute in mind.

God didn’t require this rich man to give up his son. God gave his son back to him. But, God has a plan for you and me.

God’s plan is great, so comprehensive it is hard to believe that we have a God that would do something like this. He never required Abraham, or the father of the prodigal to take the life of their only son.

Even before the sin of Adam and Eve, God had a plan that would bring all mankind back into fellowship with Him. God doesn’t want us to be away from Him at all, so God began to carry out His plan. The day finally came when Jesus went to Gethsemane, and knowing what He was facing said, “Oh God, if there’s any other way that this can be done, take this cup from me.”

Amazingly enough he continued to pray saying, “God, let it be your will, not my will. I am willing

to carry it out. I don't care what I have to do. I don't care about me. I want to do what you want me to do. Help me to be able to carry out this plan that you've had so long, so that mankind, which I love so much, can be redeemed from the filth of their sin." We see the Lord Jesus Christ present Himself voluntarily. The Roman soldiers scourged and beat him to a pulp. He was, as prophesied by Isaiah 53, not even recognizable as a man.

Jesus was scourged. He was pounded. He was beaten until there was really not much left of him. Then he was put on a cross. This death on the cross with all the pain, all the agony, all the hurt, and all the fever not really was the fulfillment of God's plan. When Jesus finally said, "It is finished" and died, that wasn't the end of the suffering Jesus had to endure.

Jesus knew from the very beginning what He had to go through. Yet, there was something even worse, something more horrible than all the torture, all the spit, and all the insults spoken to him.

Jesus knew that He still had another part of the process to endure before He could fulfill the redemption of mankind.

And even though all of this was horrible, maybe other people had been crucified, other people had been beaten up, and other people had been put on torture instruments until they were pulled apart and sawed in two and chopped up in pieces. They had been killed inevitably. Jesus

never went beyond what another person did at that point, even though it was a horrible death.

And He had to give up the people that he wanted so much to love. Jesus, like when we give up a loved one to death, we don't want to do that. Jesus suffered that same kind of a thing, but that wasn't what caused Jesus to sweat these blood drops. He was suffering from inside. He knew that there was still something else, something more horrible than the death on the cross that he had to go through in order to redeem mankind from these sins.

Jesus was willing and finally when the last ebb of life went out of Jesus and they split him apart and the veil of the temple was split so that the people could go into the Holy of Holies through the splitting of the side of the Lord Jesus Christ and the shedding of his blood, he made a provision, a way that we could go into the Holy of Holies when he opened up those curtains that nobody except the high priest could go in. He made a way that we could go into the very presence of Almighty God and there we could see God face to face and there we could walk and talk with God again, to restore us in the exact likeness that Adam and Eve were before their sin. But Jesus knew that that was the first stage of something more horrible that he still had to go through.

The greatest torment of all was Jesus' eternal soul had to be separated from Almighty God. When our bodies are killed, our souls go on and

live forever. If we have lived for God our souls will be forever with God in Christ Jesus.

Because Jesus was able to carry out that second step of this plan, it brought about the fulfillment of this great plan of redemption. I believe it was more horrible. He foresaw. It has been described to him. God has revealed this other thing that He had to go through. There was still another death, a second death that Jesus had to face and that was more horrible than the first one. He had to feel the horrible weight of God's big words of judgment that He could not stand to look upon sin. God had to use the same hand that had stricken men in judgment to strike the Lord Jesus Christ.

God separated himself from Jesus and sent Jesus into hell alone. God didn't go with Him. No longer was God His father because Jesus took the sins of the world upon Himself. Every sin of sexual deviate, every adultery every bitterness, every unforgiveness, everything that you and I could ever have done in all of our life, all of it accumulated from the misdeeds of billions of humanity All the sin of mankind was put upon the body of the Lord Jesus Christ. When God separated himself from Jesus and sent His soul into hell. Jesus entered a realm under the control of Satan.

The devil had been wanting to get a shot at Jesus. The devil knew that Jesus was the redemptive plan of God. If Satan could defeat Jesus he would be king of all kings. The devil had

always wanted to rule and this was his opportunity because he knew God was no longer with Jesus. Jesus was on Satan's turf He had Him hemmed into the pit of hell. The devil probably said, "Jesus, I've got you now. God's plan will not be carried out, because I've defeated you. God is not with you. You are alone and you are helpless."

But by faith in Almighty God, like Abraham that there would be a resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ broke the bonds of the devil by faith and came out of hell and manifested His eternal victory over Satan.

Jesus then entered into Paradise and preached the gospel to all the people that had died before His coming to earth. He told the ancient dead they had an opportunity now. He had defeated the devil. He had come forth out of the grave, and out of hell. He had conquered the second death. The demise, much worse than the first one, had been defeated. He was their manifest deliverance waiting to be chosen.

After this bodily resurrection, Mary came up, and started to touch Jesus when she recognized Him. And He said, "Don't touch me, I've not yet ascended to my Father." Why couldn't she touch him? The plan of redemption was not yet fulfilled.

Stage one crucifixion. It is finished!

Stage two being chained in the pit of hell, separated from Almighty God. That was completed. But Jesus knew the horror of the third

stage that he had to go through, and it was yet in front of Him.

Don't touch me, "It's not finished yet," Jesus was saying. The plan of redemption is incomplete. What state could exist that was more horrible than those first two deaths that He had to go through?

When Frances and I were put together by Almighty God, Frances had a daughter Joan, who was sixteen years old at the time. God gave me the high privilege of adopting Joan as my daughter. And it was quite a thrill when I read the pages that were read before the judge. A new birth certificate said Charles Hunter was the father of Joan Hunter. Given full rights, Joan became the possessor. Had I died after I made that adoption, without a will, Joan would have inherited in the state of Texas two-thirds of all of my estate and Frances would have only gotten one-third. That was the inherited right that Joan had.

But let's assume for a moment that after I had adopted Joan and I had given her the keys to the house, and I had given her rights to everything in the house. She knew that she had all rights to all things. She could come and go as she pleased, only with the discipline of her father that was necessary. Suppose Joan had come in one night and she said, "Dad, I've got to tell you something. I've committed a horrible sin, and she told me about this sin.

I couldn't conceive, I couldn't conceive of the father that I was at that time, loving a daughter so

much (and I had never had a daughter before) saying, “I can’t stand sin. You’re going to have to get out of this house. I’m going to turn my back and I don’t want to ever see you again. You turn in your keys to the house. You get out of my house.

You’ll only take one piece of clothes and don’t ever come back. Don’t ever show your face in front of me ever again because you’ve sinned.” I couldn’t conceive of myself doing that. But Jesus, the Son of the living God, had to go up to heaven. He was separated from God.

You see, in Zechariah the third chapter, the most horrible thing that the Lord Jesus Christ ever had to face. Jesus came out of hell. His clothes were torn. They were dirty. They were filthy with every sin you’ve ever committed, every sin that I’ve ever committed. He had the filth of every sin that ever was existing in all of creation, or that ever would exist, every sin of every person, yours and mine and all people in the past, all people in the future until Jesus comes back. Every filthy, stinking, rotten sin that could be conceived of by mankind, that had been committed by mankind, every unforgiveness, every rotten, stinking bitterness, resentment, jealousy, hate, everything was upon Jesus in the form of these filthy robes that he wore.

And can you imagine, like the prodigal son coming up, can you imagine how that prodigal son would have felt if he had come up with those stinking, filthy, rotten robes that he had on and his

father would have said, “Son, go take a bath and get some clothes.” And he would have turned his back and said, “I don’t ever want to see you again.” Can you imagine that hurt in that young son’s life if he’d said that? But he didn’t, God didn’t require that of his prodigal son’s father, but God let him regain his sonship.

But when Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, the one who had come down in perfection as the perfect lamb of God, he had gone through everything with nothing selfish in his entire life, all giving and giving and giving until finally he went through the first death, the second death, until finally now he comes back and he’s ready to go to heaven to see his father for the first time, face to face in the sense of humanity and he walks into heaven. And can you imagine, when he stepped in there first and he saw the Almighty God turn his back to him? And God wouldn’t look at him because God can’t stand to look at sin. God will not look at sin. God can’t stand it. And Almighty God turned his back on the Lord Jesus Christ after Jesus went through obedient in every one of these things, and Jesus stood before God but God’s back was turned to him.

And then the angel Gabriel stepped forth and Gabriel said, take off those filthy robes.” Just like Aaron had to go out and take the sins of the people and put them on the head of a goat and let that goat be taken out in the wilderness. Gabriel said, take off those filthy robes and take them out where they

will never be seen again, as far as the East is from the West. Take them out and leave them. Don't let anybody ever see them again, because that represents the sin of all mankind. Take them out and don't let them ever be seen again."

And then Jesus was cleansed, then they put new robes on him, representing the king of all kings, the robe that was representing our king, our eternal king, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of lords and King of kings and then they said, "Now put the crown upon his head." They said, that makes him, well actually the robe made him the High Priest and the crown made him the King of all kings, and then can you imagine the picture as you see Almighty God waiting for the plan of redemption that he had foretold for thousands and thousands of years. And then with the knowledge that God had, he turned and he said, "Now Jesus, come to me. Come to me, Jesus. Come to me." I can see God's arms reach out and say, "Jesus, thank you. You've done a mighty job. Thank you for obeying every thing I've ever asked you to do. Thank you, Jesus. Come sit on my throne with me. We'll be sitting together. Never will we be parted again, but thank you, Jesus, that you were willing to take upon yourself the filth of all mankind, the sins of all mankind, and carried out because you loved mankind, because you are my nature. You're the very nature of your own Father. You're the nature of your God. You fulfilled everything."

That was the fulfilling of the plan of redemption of all of mankind. Can you imagine the awesomeness of what God had to go through for thousands of years, knowing that this eternal plan had to be carried out with the total sacrifice of his only begotten Son, so our sins could be forgiven, so that we could have eternal life. Can you even comprehend it? I can't.

"Father, I praise you. I praise you for your plan of redemption. Father, how could any one human on earth ever fail to offer their life as a sacrifice to you, a total commitment of their life, Father.

"You know I've committed my life, I've committed it totally to you and Father, I pray that there will be no one reading this book who won't suddenly see Jesus, the sacrifice for every sin, and see the glory of what you did for us, Father, so that we can turn our lives totally over to you.

"Father, as Abraham trusted you, even to raise his son from the dead, so Father we trust you. We trust you with our lives, We trust you with our possessions. We trust you with our family. We trust you with our eternal souls, Father, because you carried out a promise, a plan of redemption, a victors a victory above all things the devil was defeated forever.

"And victory is ours through the shedding of the blood of Jesus Christ, through His first death, his second death, and through that time when, Father, you had to stand there and let Jesus come in the position that you could have had to say,

‘Depart from me, you cursed, I never knew you.’ And you would have said it, Father, but Jesus carried out his part, so now when we come before you in the likeness of the Lord Jesus Christ, you can put your arms around us, even though we’ve committed sins, our sins are cleansed by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and when these sins were taken and the heavenly hosts into the heavenly places into the real temple, into the real Holy of Holies and the blood of Jesus was sprinkled upon the books and the things of the holy place, then Father, that cleared our sins for all time, and now when you look at us and our faults, and our failures, and our sins, you look through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ and you can see us looking exactly like Jesus, as long as we want to serve you and please you with all of our hearts, Father.

“How we praise you. How we thank you for Jesus. How we thank you. How we thank you for victory in our personal lives. Hallelujah! Praise you, Father. Praise you,

“Father. Praise you, our Father. We thank you. We love you. Thank you, Father. It has been completed. It is finished.”

Jesus said all of my work is finished. Simply accept the finished product and you will have abundant life saith the Lord your God. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Chapter 3

Victory -- Our Inherent Right

by Charles

Let me “climb to the other side of the mountain” to deal with the victory robber of guilt.

When I was a teenager, my mother and dad had been saved and I was not bad. I mean, really in keeping with the typical teenage boy, I was almost like an angel. Yet inside I knew that I was wrestling insignificant sins. I feared they were big enough to keep me out of heaven, but I still refused to deal with them. Deep inside myself I knew that God knew everything about me, even those little secret sins. My misdeeds were minor things like sneaking away from home and going to a movie that my parents did not want me to attend. I knew that the Bible said to obey your mother and father, so I knew that I was sinning when I disobeyed. I did not steal or do anything real bad.

I was guilty of keeping wrong company. I had an automobile with a rumble seat in it and I had a friend who was maybe a little far out in sin, compared to what I was, but he really wasn't bad. One night we needed a hub cap. We were over in a neighboring town and he saw a car that had a hub cap like we wanted. I tell you, I never saw anybody take the hub cap off, stick it under his coat, and come back so fast in my life. I have

never been able to make restitution and my conscience always hurt me, because I was the recipient of that hub cap.

I really did not need a radiator ornament. They were expensive. I saw one carved to resemble a bird. My car had only a plain radiator cap. I remember my friend taking someone else's radiator cap and installing it on my car. While such things were not major, they always stayed with me. I knew stealing was sin, and I knew I had to ask God to forgive me, but how could I make restitution for the theft. So, there was always that knowledge of guilt in my life, the nagging fear that if I died I wouldn't make it to heaven.

Lightening struck one time. I was walking out toward a barn near our place. A big tree stood about **forty** feet behind our house, and I was beyond the tree. A sprinkle of rain had fallen and the ground was damp. Lightening struck that tree and I felt a sharp blow, like an ice pick going right into the top of my head, driving me down to my knees. You talk about being frightened, I really wasn't afraid of death. I was afraid of what was the other side of death. I knew there was an eternity. I knew there was a God. I knew I'd have to face judgment. I had studied enough about that in Sunday School. So, I was living a total lack of victory I was actually living in defeat, fearful of the future. But God has victory for things like that!

When I turned eighteen, I gave my life to Jesus. I really wanted to serve God, and I began youth

work I was the leader of the youth group in my local church and led district youth for my denomination. Soon I rose to lead the state-wide youth group. I served as a Sunday School teacher and treasurer of the church, and I served as church host, sang in the choir, and literally served on every board and planning commission. In fact, I was busy in church for some thirty-five years, working my way to heaven while not understanding that I was attempting to work my way to heaven. Today I know I would have never reached by works, I did not then.

Still I was plagued by secret sin and did not know what I could do to rid myself of them. Deliverance came when I looked up and with all the earnestness I possessed and prayed, “God, take all of my life and make me spiritually what you want me to be.”

At that moment I turned loose of Charles, and God began his remolding process. I did not really know it, but I believe my sins were forgiven because of the intention of my heart. Jesus Christ became alive in me at that point. Religion did not free me. I do believe God honored my faithfulness to Him, even though I was sinning. Yet, I’m not sure to this day that I would have made it to heaven. But praise God, I know now that when that time comes, when Jesus comes back, I’m going to go straight up in the air. I’m going to go up to meet Him because I know without a doubt that I have been redeemed by the blood of the

lamb, and that my life is holy and pure before God. Not because I'm perfect, but because I have accepted His redeeming work.

You can know in your own life that you can have total victory because your eternal life is steadfastly assured. This is guaranteed, because of what Jesus did for us. That moment of total commitment was the beginning of victory in my life.

I remember when I went to the altar the first time to get saved, I didn't know how to accept the Lord and the people that were ministering to me didn't know how to minister salvation. They prayed, because I came up to get saved. They prayed and prayed and prayed and prayed and prayed and prayed and prayed for what seemed to me hours. Then they would say, "Charles, have you got the victory?" And I'd say, "I don't think so."

Then they'd pray and pray and pray again. I really didn't understand what they were saying. Finally they'd stop and say, "Charles, have you got the victory?" "I don't think so," was my sad reply.

After about five repetitions of this, my knees were hurting badly. Finally, they said, "Charles, have you got the victory?" And I said, "I guess so." Truth is I went off still living in defeat, still without the victory that I was seeking because I didn't know what victory was. Even worse, I didn't know how to get it. I would not have known what to do with it.

One day, after I had yielded everything to God, and said, “Just take all of my life and make me spiritually what you want me to be.” Charles died and Jesus came alive in me! That was the first step to victory!

From that moment to this all I have wanted to do was whatever God directed. I knew that I wanted to please the Lord. No longer was I interested in pleasing Charles!

This truth is one of the very foundation stones of victory in the Lord Jesus Christ. Victory will enter in every area of your life when you make that commitment without reservation, restriction or recourse!

About four months after I “turned loose” God did another remarkable thing. God said, “Go into My Word. Listen to no man. Let me tell you what I want you to know”

I said, “Yes, Father.” I heard God. I believed it was God who spoke! The overwhelming desire of my heart was to obey what God told me. If God had spoken those words to me and I would have said, “Fine God, I’ll see you one of these days. I’ll get into the Bible when I can. I’m busy today” I would have never attained one thing from Almighty God speaking to me personally that day.

But, I didn’t. I meant what I said when I asked God to take all of my life and spiritually make me what He wanted me to be! When God said, “Go into my Word and let me tell you what I want you to know” I simply said, “Yes, Father!”

God provided the circumstances through which I took the time. I literally picked up the Bible and said, “Father, where do you want me to read?”

I began to read and saturate my mind with the Word of God. If you were to look through any of my Bibles, you would see red marks or blue marks. You would see sections underscored. You would see loose pages because they were worn out.

In the first six months after God spoke to me, I meditated in the Word of God night and day. I would take cat naps of five to fifteen minutes, wake back up and ask, “God, where do you want me to read this time?” On some occasions I would read from the beginning of the New Testament to the end. Other nights I would read exclusively from one book in the Bible. Sometimes I jumped around a little bit but was always exactly at that moment where God wanted me to read. I know this because I had asked God to direct me to where He wanted me to read. I wanted to do what He wanted me to do. With every word that I read, I would say, “God, what do you want me to do? Is there anything wrong in my life? Anything at all?”

I remember one time, a few months after I had committed my life, I was going on my second thousand hours of meditating in the Word of God, simply saying, “God, show me anything. I want to be what you want me to be.” I studied at prayer for hours and hours.

Yes, I got tired!

I'd fight sleep!

If I got so sleepy I couldn't stay awake, I'd lie down a few minutes, get back up and start reading again. It didn't matter to me whether it was 3 o'clock in the morning or 3 o'clock in the afternoon. It didn't matter. I worked out my schedule in such a way as to provide time. The story is too long to share here. If you want to read this part of my story it's in the book *Follow Me*.

God opened the supernatural to me because of my willingness to sacrifice everything! My life, my wife, my home, my business, everything was given up to follow Jesus. Yet He kept me involved in all of these things for a period of time. But I was always saying, "What can I do for you, Father? What can I do to please you?"

An incident from my accounting practice stands out. I believe I said something a little curt to somebody I knew that Jesus would not have spoken in the same tone of voice I used. Later that night, I assumed my practice reading the Bible and talking to God. Something was wrong. I decided maybe if I would kneel by the side of the couch, I could move closer to God. Still, I had no sense of God's presence.

I was living alone, my wife had died by that time and I decided, "I need to speak aloud." At this time my practice was silent prayer. Speaking aloud to God was new. I did not yet know that the Word of God says, "If you'll confess it with your mouth, salvation will come to you." Salvation is not just

being born again. That's the beginning of salvation, but salvation includes some seventy-five different meanings!

I dropped to my knees that night and began to praise God aloud. God's Spirit (then I didn't know it was God's Spirit) recalled to my mind this little, seemingly insignificant, sin of curt speech. On my knees, looking up to God, speaking aloud all by myself; just two cats in the house with me, I said, "God, I didn't mean that. Lord, I said that but I didn't really mean it from my heart. I was trying to say something good to you, but I didn't really mean that. If I meant it I'd probably never do it again."

I said, "God, teach me how to be totally honest with you, down to even the smallest piece of a thought." Why did I call it a piece of a thought? I had discovered I could sense thoughts coming into my mind. Because of this I became sensitive to different activities of my mind. God was teaching me how to be sensitive to the spirit world. I consciously pondered how those thoughts would start to grow in my mind. I learned I could resist them and turn them away before they could frilly enter my mind.

I learned that if I sat and listened as someone told a dirty joke I would repeat that dirty joke in my mind and remember it. I knew that wasn't right! I learned not to walk away from someone that was speaking evil thoughts, but I did learn I could turn my mind off

I believe you can literally turn your mind off and hear with your ears but you don't allow negative thoughts to get into your mind. That's what I meant when I prayed, "God, teach me total honesty even down to the smallest piece of a thought."

That night I prayed, "God, I have not been honest with you. But, I want to be. Teach me honesty." God began to work with me and I moved to a place of being jubilantly happy.

I was thrilled! I had been out in West Texas visiting my sister. For two days and nights I was able to share what Jesus was doing in my life. For my sister, this was the first time she'd ever seen a living Jesus in anybody, much less her brother. I used to struggle to make conversation with her. Now she can't shut me up day or night.

I didn't let my sister's family get any sleep. I talked way into the wee hours of the night, sharing what Jesus had done in my life. I spoke of what He meant to me, and the things that God had shown me in the scriptures.

I was really happy as I drove through Dallas and attempted to cover the **250** miles to Houston. The speed limit was seventy miles-per-hour and I wanted to get home before dark I couldn't read and drive at the same time and I didn't have a cassette player then. So, I would sing praises, "How Great Thou Art", and love songs to God. I remember glancing down at the speedometer. I had eased it up to eighty miles-per-hour. I was really wanting

to get home. Yet, inside I knew that speeding wasn't right.

Anyway, I decided, "I want to go on home," I was singing "How Great Thou Art". I was actually behaving scripturally because the Bible says watch and pray. I was watching my rear view mirror, praying I wouldn't get a ticket!

A little after sundown, just before it got pitch dark, I neared Huntsville, about seventy miles north of Houston. I came over the top of a hill and when I did it looked to me like 10,000 red lights stopped in front of me. I saw one specific flickering light, and I knew that radar had me. I knew I was caught.

I pulled over to the side of the road as the highway patrolman directed. He asked me to give him my driver's license. I did and he went around to the back of the car. He copied my license plate number down, came back to me and said, "Mr. Hunter, I booked you at eighty miles-per-hour in a seventy mile Zone.

"Eighty miles-per-hour", I said with a questioning tone. The Spirit of God convicted me right then.

I had asked God to teach me total honesty I knew that speeding wasn't honest. I knew that I was driving eighty miles-per-hour. I knew I had been driving that speed for more than two hours. I had looked at my speedometer. I knew it was wrong. I knew the speed limit. Yet I was deliberately violating a law of the land and I knew that God

said, "Obey the laws of your land." I knew I was sinning. Yet here was totally-honest-Charles, totally-surrendered-Charles, hundreds-and-thousands-of-hours-in-the-Word-of-God- Charles, submitting-myself-totally-to-God- Charles, singing a dishonest vocal inflection with the police officer.

"Eighty miles-per-hour?" I questioned?

God immediately said, "You're lying. You're not totally honest." I said to the officer, "I'm sorry I was doing eighty miles-per-hour. I'm guilty Give me the ticket."

I praise God for what happened during the next hour or so of driving home. I praised him as I drove at seventy miles-per-hour. . . or less.. the rest of the way home. I actually thanked God for allowing me to be caught speeding. I thanked Him that He was teaching me total honesty

When I got home, I addressed a letter to the appropriate judge up in that county I wrote, "Dear Judge: I have sinned. God is teaching me total honesty I knew I was going eighty miles-per-hour all the way from Dallas. I knew when I got caught I was guilty. "I'm sorry I'm truly sorry and I thank you for helping God teach me total honesty. Enclosed is my check for the fine."

That was one of the lessons God taught me in how to have victory in every part of my life. If you are not totally honest with Almighty God, even down to the piece of a thought, to your intentions, to the desires of your heart, you'll never be honest with yourself and you'll never have total victory.

You'll always be looking out for your interest and not the interest of God. The interest of God is always the interest of other people.

By the way, He does say, "Obey the laws of your land." That scripture is as much an order from Almighty God as when He said, "Thou shalt not commit adultery"

If I had a chance to commit adultery and was tempted to do so, it would not be hard for me to say, "No God, I will not commit adultery" The only adultery I ever committed were the thoughts in my mind. I never committed physical adultery But if I were faced with that temptation of the devil, it would be as easy or me to turn that away as it would to go seventy-one miles-per-hour in a seventy miles speed zone.

A few months ago, Frances and I were told that we had a certain distance to travel that would take a certain amount of time to get to a 10 o'clock service in a church. We were the principal speakers. When we got out on the road, the road sign indicated about thirty more miles than we had anticipated.

The clock was running out.

There was no way we could get there on time. Frances and I wondered, "It's Sunday morning, would God mind if we picked it up a little bit faster and tried to get there so we wouldn't disappoint those people; because we didn't intentionally do it. We looked at the road map. It wasn't clear enough to determine the actual

distance. So, I squeezed down on the foot feed and went up to about sixty miles-per-hour in a fifty-five mile per hour zone.

You talk about guilt! I never had so much guilt in my life. I felt horrible inside. I was saying, “Oh God, God what am I to do? God, we’re late to that meeting. We didn’t intend to be. God what’ll I do?” I think I must have been subconsciously praying I’d get caught. Driving down a boulevard designed with an esplanade in the middle, I saw a patrolman approaching from the other side. I said, “Oh, praise the Lord, there’s a patrolman.” He turned around and pulled me over to the side. I said, “Officer, I’m sorry I was driving above the speed limit.” “Yeah I know,” he said, “I clocked you.”

“I’m sorry” I said. “I am guilty before God and before you. Please forgive me.” Now I was happy inside, because I had admitted I was wrong. The way into total victory is not to sin against God for any reason. God has ways to solve problems that you know not of. God can take care of situations that we can’t handle, if we will obey him.

Abraham had a lovely wife, Sarah. They were traveling through a strange county. The king of the country had Abraham brought before him. Abraham feared that he would take his life and claim Sarah as his prize.

Abraham decided, “I’ll spin a story. Say Sarah is my sister and save my life. Well, the story was partially true. You see, God demands total honesty

Sarah was his sister according to bloodline. Abraham lied to the king and it almost got him killed. Abraham lied. He got caught. He almost lost out. God's truth saved him. The truth will set you free, the Bible says. God revealed to the King by a dream Sarah was Abraham's wife. Such dread fell upon the King he released them both.

In the Old Testament, God didn't make conditions really hard. Basically He required three things of Israel: 1) Obey My commands; 2) Give Me Your Best; and 3) receive My Blessings. Once you have been born again there are only three ways to go.

When you are under the covering of the blood of Jesus, no matter what you do, God looks through the blood of Jesus and He sees you as pure, righteous and holy. Why? He is looking through the blood of Jesus. That sounds strange originating from someone who doesn't believe you should have the least bit of sin in your life. After all, Jesus said, "Be holy as I am holy" He also said, "The lukewarm I'll spew out of my mouth," and "Without holiness no man shall see God."

I know these things and I'm going to live up to God's demands. I would rather die than to hurt the Lord Jesus Christ or my Father in heaven.

Yet, if ever do, I know that they'll remind me that I'll quickly repent and turn away from doing whatever wounds them. Israel lived in constant defeat because of one thing: disobedience. God

had chosen Israel. In effect, God chose us the day we were born again.

God gave Eve one commandment! “Don’t eat this fruit.” He gave the children of Israel 10 Commandments. ‘Thou shalt put no other gods before me. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not *steal*. Thou shalt not lie.’ Israel knew the Ten Commandments. God gave Israel two choices: Obey and be blessed. Or, disobey and be cursed. If you rebel against me, God told Israel, curses will come upon you. He also gave Israel another key to victory: to not worship idols.

Obedience is the secret of victorious Christian living.

Just saying a sinner’s prayer does not cause a person to be born again. But millions are born again when they say a sinner’s prayer and genuinely ask for forgiveness of sin. Your sins are forgiven when the decision to change enters into your innermost being.

When you can say, “I would rather please God than myself I want forgiveness of my sins. God, I’ve sinned. I acknowledge I’ve sinned. I don’t want to sin anymore. I want to serve You.”

The moment this resolve enters your heart is the point when you have made the decision, “I’m going to serve God and not myself and the devil.” At that point the Holy Spirit takes up residence inside and you are truly redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. When you really want to be forgiven

and are willing to turn way from sins and turn toward God, you are forgiven.

No human who has lived after being truly born again has lived a life without sin after conversion. Sin blocks blessing. If I asked you to name your sins after salvation I am sure you could name some. Some probably took place recently. These sins are probably little ones. Still they did not please God. To be truthful, you probably committed them deliberately, knowingly. You may have even repented instantly and turned away from them, Romans 3:23 says, “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” This even applies to born again Christians.

Mankind, using human power, does not have the ability to rise above sin. Yet God said in his Word, “Unless you are perfect, as I am perfect, you won’t get into heaven.” How can we accomplish this perfection while living on earth? How can we live in total victory when we trip over little things like sixty miles-per-hour in a fifty-five mile-an hour zone?

Humans view each other through critical eyes. If you ever had anybody condemn, criticize or point out your sin, you know how this feels. Humanity seems to stand ready to point a finger at somebody else. The policeman saw my guilt on his radar unit. He acknowledged, from man’s point of view, I was guilty. From my standpoint as a human, from Frances’ viewpoint being with me, we were looking at Charles and seeing sin, fault and failure.

Anyone who knows the Word of God would have looked at me that day and concluded “Charles sinned.”

Again, a Holy God cannot look upon sin. How could Almighty God, who loves Charles so much, look down while Charles is doing this and keep his eyes on Charles even as Charles sinned? Because of the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus died so that his blood would be forever an atoning, a covering. When God looks down from heaven and sees us, He doesn’t see us as humans see us. He sees us looking exactly like Jesus because He’s looking through a unique filter, the blood of Jesus Christ.

The blood of Jesus is pure. When the Father looks through the filter of the blood of the Son, everything He sees is clean in His sight.

At the moment of salvation Jesus cleansed us from all unrighteousness, from all sins. When God looks through the blood, no matter what the sin might be, no matter what our fault might be, He sees Jesus. Believe me, it took me a long time to be able to understand it. Don’t worry. You can have victory in every area of your life. You can still have the abundant life that Jesus promised. Even though there are faults, failures and problems in your life, you can live victoriously.

Salvation does not impart human perfection, but Divine covering. You may lose your temper. Sometimes you may fight unforgiveness. You know the Bible specifically said “Don’t do it” and

yet you find yourself “doing it” for a short period of time. When God looks through the filter of the blood, He sees us as pure, righteous and holy. Even in our human imperfection, God sees the work of Jesus when He looks at us.

If it was raining and you were holding an umbrella over your head but decided to close it up, the rain would fall on you. You’re not under that umbrella when the umbrella is not over you. If you were walking under a cloud in the hottest part of the day, you would be relieved from the heat of the sun. As long as you were under the cloud you would be relieved from a degree of the heat.

How can a redeemed one, one who is purified by the blood of Jesus, one who has had all sins forgiven, move ourselves out from under the cloud? Only two ways: Once you come under the blood of Jesus Christ through the forgiveness of your sins, and believing in Jesus Christ as the divine Son of the Living God, through his redemptive plan, once you are under there, how can you get out? Only two ways. It’s in the Word of God. Rebellion and idolatry. You can simply say, “God, I’m fed up with it. I’m going to walk out of this building. I’m going to throw my umbrella away. I’m going to walk out from under this cloud. I’m going to go out and do my thing.”

The prodigal son was an example of that. He was under the authority and heirship of his father. He had all good things. He had everything he needed, but he chose to take his inheritance and

leave the father's protection, and authority. He left the place of protection. He rebelled and chose to go out under his own authority.

We can choose to go out from under God's protection. We can say, "God, I don't care what you think, I'm going out into sin." We may not phrase it quite that way. More often than not the withdrawal is a gradual thing.

The backslide starts with little sins like, "Hey, I've got to get to that meeting on time. Better pump it up to sixty miles-per-hour and gain a few minutes. People are waiting. You promised them you would be on time." The evil keeps putting fodder in your mind, and then you ease into a little more temptation.

What if I said the next time, "Let's sleep another five minutes. We can drive sixty miles-per-hour. God really won't mind. He didn't send us to hell the last time, so I'm sure he won't send us to hell if we do it again."

The devil is tricky and we begin to gradually rebel against the laws and authority of God. We begin to do our thing, little by little. Then the time comes when we reach the place of outright rebellion against God, and move out from under the covering of the blood of Jesus Christ.

When you move out from under that covering, God sees you as a sinner. You have moved from under the protection of the blood of Jesus. If death or the end of time came about, God would sadly

say, “Depart from me you worker of inequity I never knew you.”

No matter if you had been loyal to God at one time and been born again, you can choose to go out from under divine protection by rebelling against your submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. It is your choice. You can rebel or choose to stay under the blood of Jesus. Living under the blood, if you have some little slip-up, some little unintentional thing, or maybe a temporary wavering, judgment will not fall upon you. If you want to please God more than yourself, God won’t hold those little discrepancies against you.

A ship has a gyroscope that operates through a magnetic pull and helps to keep the ship upright. Otherwise the storms would turn the ship in such a way it would turn over, take on water and sink. That gyroscope spins to keep that boat on an even keel, to keep it level.

God’s Holy Spirit within us is like a gyroscope. Any time you or one inch over the speed limit, God’s Spirit, our internal gyroscope will say, “You’re off balance. I’m trying to pull you back into the right way”

If Charles says, “But God, I’ve got to get there on time.” My speeding experience was rebellion. I knew very well that pull against God I felt in my heart.

“God, I don’t want to violate this speed limit, “I prayed. “I don’t do that.” I was hurting inside. I don’t think that anything in all of my life hurt as

much as that speeding episode because I was deliberately doing it. Inside I was repenting even while speeding, if you can conceive of that. Really, I didn't want to speed. wanted to please God.

Once the sin was over, I said, "God, I won't ever do it again." And you see, I won't. I will not speed even if it means we miss a hole seminar. No matter what the cost, it doesn't justify rebellion against God.

Rebellion is one of the two things that can take a born again Christian out from under the covering of the blood of Jesus Christ. The devil according to Zechariah 3 is constantly before God saying, "No, Charles is a sinner. Charles is rotten. Charles has faults in his life." He is up there constantly accusing us before God.

The good news is that Jesus is constantly rebutting Satan by saying, "Charles is not in rebellion. He's under My blood. Father, please look at Charles through my blood. When you do, you'll see Charles is all right."

If I rebel, if I deliberately get out from under the covering blood of Jesus, then God's judgment is upon me. If I were to die in that condition, or if the rapture takes place, God will look at me and pronounce judgment. "Charles, depart from me, worker of iniquity. I never knew you."

One other thing can take you out from under the umbrella of the blood of Jesus Christ. That thing is idolatry. It's an abomination to favor an idol above God. God has a special fury reserved

for those who worship idols. He calls it adultery. God says, “Sinning against your body through adultery or fornication is next to the worst sin.” Sin against the Holy Spirit, the unforgivable sin, is the only offense worse than sin against your own body. Sinning against your body is an awful affront to God.

Take care of your body. It is a holy thing. It is the temple of Almighty God. He said to keep it clean and holy. Don’t let the devil tempt you into doing things that pollute your Temple.

When a believer smokes it is like placing a cigarette between the lips of Jesus. I will not *say* someone will go to hell because they smoke cigarettes. But God says, “Jesus is in there and He doesn’t like to smoke.”

If you say, “Well I don’t care whether He likes it or not, I’m going to smoke anyway. I like to smoke,” you are in rebellion against God’s desires. If you even think something you are doing might be displeasing to God, quit doing it.

If it’s something that you need to do to please God, start immediately. Make sure pleasing God is more important than pleasing yourself. Why? Because the devil works through “self”.

God is seriously opposed to idol worship. God killed millions of people because they worshipped idols. God did not allow Moses to go into Canaan because he sinned by not keeping Israel from worshipping idols.

Let's keep our focus. Idol worship can be as simple as putting yourself or your desires above what God wants you to do. When you indulge this behavior it becomes an idol in our life, an abomination to God.

If you continue unrepentant and do not repent, you move into rebellion and idolatry. Then you are taken out from the covering of the blood of Jesus Christ. When God looks down upon you and sees you willingly disobeying Him, judgment is certain.

You are subject to the punishment of hell. you can get back under. That covering can be regained by repentance. God repeatedly says in the Bible, "If you'll only repent of your sins, choose to come back and do it my way and serve me, I'll forgive all of your sins."

The blood of Jesus continually flashes the message, "Forgiveness and restoration are available here." The blood of Jesus is God's welcome sign to the promise. "Come unto me, all ye that labor are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

God is telling us, "Simply trust Me. You do not have to lie, break the speed limit or get into abominable situations. Be faithful to Me and then I'll bless you in every way."

Trusting God in His fullness is all the perfection God deserves from us. God does not tolerate sin, but He looks through the blood of Jesus and forgives those who repent.

If you goof up, repent quickly. Do not harden your heart. Jesus looked down on the Jews gathered on Calvary. He said, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do,”

They had hardened their hearts against God, They refused to believe that Jesus Christ was the redemptive plan of God. They would not accept Jesus as the Messiah because they hardened their hearts. They were so hardened I think they could not believe. They crucified the Master of all, the Redeemer. They crucified Him deliberately, knowingly, willfully ignoring written evidence of the Word of God that Jesus is the Messiah.

The Holy Spirit says, “No, that’s not right, Charles. Don’t break the speed limit.” You then say, “Well, I don’t care, God. I’ve got to get there on time. I can’t trust you, I’ve got to trust myself I’m going to get there however I please.

“God, I don’t have enough money. I’m not going to trust you for it. I’m going to do something else. I’ll go steal.”

You see, God’s provision might require a double shift and twice as much work to get your funds. That may not be fun, but it would be honest before God. To go out and steal, even to provide for your family is against God. Stop doing “little things” before the devil blinds you until you rebel against God and harden your heart.

Read Colossians **1:22**, “He has done this through the death on the cross of His own human body, and now as a result Christ has brought you

into the very presence of God.” Jesus has delivered you into the very presence of God.

There is no justification for deliberate sin against Almighty God. Jesus made it plain in the book of Revelation (and elsewhere) that only the holy shall see God. When you stay under the covering of the blood of Jesus, you are holy and qualify for God’s best.

God will never give you a license to sin. He will not condone it.

As you obey God and do what you know pleases Him, you are certain to live in victory every day of your life.

Chapter 4

How to Escalate Your Faith

by Frances

Let's learn how to escalate our faith. The dictionary says, "To escalate means to rise on or go up on as on an escalator." Have you ever been on an escalator? Think about how you can, probably must, rise.

The dictionary continues, "To expand step by step." So, when you are escalating, you are expanding little by little. The thought intensifies, "You are expanding, little by little from a limited conflict into a general war." The third aspect fascinated me, "To grow or increase rapidly, often to the point of becoming unmanageable such as prices or wages."

During my lifetime we have been seasons when prices went far out of line. I remember a time when it was almost ridiculous to look at food prices when you went into a store.

One day Charles went to the supermarket to buy some cheese. He came home without cheese. "What happened?" I asked. He said, "I looked at the prices and thought, 'Surely no cheese could cost that much,' so I thought they must have made a mistake." He told me the price and I said, "No, honey, I hate to tell you, but that is the price of cheese today"

Wages have escalated in my lifetime to the point it is almost unbelievable. Back in the good old days of the dinosaurs, when I started to work, if you made \$10 a week you were really at the top. My sister took a job as a secretary to an executive, (she was two years older than I, so she started two years before I did) and she started at the magnificent sum of \$7 a week.

Imagine that, a top notch secretary, working for \$7 a week. By the way, that was not for forty hours. That was for as long as you were needed. If the week ran fifty or sixty hours, OK,. There was no such thing as overtime. There was no such thing as a paid vacation. There was no such thing as paid days off. You got in there whether you were sick or not.

I doubt if anyone reading this is old enough to remember when people worked under conditions like that, but I certainly do! By the time I entered the workforce the National Relations Act was the law for the land. The mandate dictated that employers automatically had to pay employees \$15 a week. That was the lowest pay that anyone was to receive. Again, that was not for **forty** hours. at was for as long as you wanted to crack the hip, and employees couldn't say anything bout it. Honestly, I thought I was living in luxury on fifteen dollars a week.

Whenever you do a word study in the Bible, open you mind and let God begin to speak to you about possibility Because many times if we look at

the black and white, we don't see all of the possibilities that are there. As I wrote this book I began to think, "Wow! Wouldn't it be wonderful if faith could begin to escalate, and escalate, and escalate, and grow, and grow, and grow until it was absolutely unmanageable." That would mean you would no longer have any room in your life for doubt or unbelief. The more I thought about this, the greater I thought it was.

Wow! Imagine letting your faith escalate and grow to such a high point that there was no way that you could manage it at all.

Whether you wanted prosperity or not, you would have to take it. Whether you wanted health or not, it would be yours. Simply because you had faith that was absolutely unmanageable. The epitome of everything would be to have so much faith that you couldn't even control it. You would not have enough strength. You would not have enough human power left in your life to let one element of doubt or unbelief come in.

Would you like to have that kind of faith? Wouldn't that be out of sight! Sometime you can look at a word definition and when you see that it says, "To escalate means to grow or increase rapidly, often to the point of becoming unmanageable as prices or wages." That sort of sounds like a totally negative thought, "Prices are out of line. Wages are out of line." But, turn that around in the area of faith. Understanding comes from meditating. You suddenly look at something

and ask, “What is the potential of that definition that I read?” That was what I was doing. I was meditating and thought, “I can’t talk about faith at an unmanageable level?” I continued to meditate and open my mind; I began to see a level of faith that was tremendous.”

Have you ever made homemade bread? I haven’t done it in years, because my experience with homemade bread wasn’t so good. My grandmother made bread when we were little kids on the farm. We were supposed to help by watching the bread. When it rose to a certain point, we were supposed to knead it down again and put it in the pan where the bread was made.

You know kids don’t always do what they are supposed to do. My sister and I lived in a big city but our mother and daddy used to let s go down to the farm every summer. We weren’t used to having horses and cows round. We got busy playing and forgot all about the bread.

We were riding horses, out in the barnyard, no saddles, or bridles, or anything else. We got on the horse, held onto his mane, and away we went. We had a real exciting time and completely forgot the bread.

Grandma had it in what they called the sing oven of one of those old-fashioned cook stoves fueled by wood. The rising oven was a little area that was above the stove. No direct heat got up there, but it was warmer than the rest of the house.

Hours later, we thought, “The bread!” We got off those horses as fast as we could, because we knew we were going to get a licking for this (and we did). We got in the house, and talk about something unmanageable, you should have seen that bread. It had risen all over the place. It was creeping out the doors of the rising oven. It was hanging down in big strings. The strings got fatter and fatter closer to the stove they were.

All at once, we realized that Grandma and Grandpa were going to be back from the fields at noontime. We were supposed to have had this bread beaten down and folded back in to make it rise up again. You never saw three kids (my uncle, my sister and I) try to get something unmanageable back in the pan, and have it look like bread. I guarantee you we did not succeed.

The most unmanageable thing I know of in the entire world is bread that has overflowed its boundaries. It was the biggest mess that I have ever seen.

Now, most things when they become unmanageable, are a mess. You see that bread dough was controlling us. We weren’t controlling that bread dough at all. When your faith becomes unmanageable, because it has escalated so far and so high, that is when you can really begin to do things in the kingdom of God. I’ve never really known anybody who had faith that was unmanageable. There are several people who have come real close to that, like Smith Wigglesworth.

I love all the wild things that Smith Wigglesworth did. He had the greatest level of faith I have heard about.

There was a horribly crippled child maimed by cerebral palsy was brought before Smith Wigglesworth. He got so mad at the devil that he kicked the child out into the congregation. “You devil, come out of that child, in Jesus’ name.” The child landed on his feet, twenty-five feet out in the audience, totally healed by the power of God. Smith Wigglesworth tells that in one of his books.

Now that’s unmanageable faith, because that certainly is not intelligence. How many of you know that? Do you know what would happen if you walked up and kicked somebody twenty-five feet today? Healed or not a lawyer would help see that you were kicked that far yourself. But you see, that was the time and place where he had faith that was unmanageable. Wigglesworth was so far into the spirit realm he could do nothing but obey.

When your faith is unmanageable you are bound to have success. In that place there is no room for doubt or unbelief with a faith that is escalating.

Escalating also means increasing. In other words, you can say, “Let’s increase our faith.” I looked up the word increase, “To become greater in size, in quantity in value, in degree, to enlarge, to swell, to heighten, to swell (*like what that bread did*), to heighten, to dilate, to enhance, to augment, to grow, expand and spread.”

Why do some people have faith that seems to increase, and other people seem to have to struggle with their faith all the time?

Another point in walking in victory every day of your life, it is to increase or escalate your faith every day of your life. I don't mean once in a while. Every single, solitary day of your life, your faith can be increased. It absolutely can.

Mr. Webster, who obviously had tremendous intelligence, wrote the dictionary, but not very often did he go into the religious arena. But when he described the word faith, he said a real good thing, "Faith is unquestioning belief in God." In other words, God said it, and that makes it so.

Some people have made a mistake, they say, "God said it, I believe it, and that makes it so." No, that's not what makes it so. Whether you believe it or not, God's Word is "so."

Years ago I told a friend of mine in Florida, "You're going right straight to hell." He said, "I don't believe in hell." I said, "Whether you believe in hell or not has nothing to do with it. That's exactly where you're going to end up."

Do you know why I can say that? Because I have unquestioning faith in God. I have complete trust in, confidence or reliance in God as children usually have faith in their parents. There comes a point in time in the life of children when they suddenly do not believe everything their parents tell them.

Do you remember reaching that point? You probably got smarter than your parents. Isn't that amazing how suddenly smart your parents get when you pass teen years?

When they're little, children have unwavering faith and confidence in their parents. They believe anything and everything that their mother and daddy say to them is absolutely true. Now most children will have one parent that they believe that about, and that's the parent that does not allow them to get away with anything.

I could get away with things with my mom. With my daddy I couldn't get away with anything. I had unquestioned faith in my daddy, because if he said he was going to spank me, I was spanked for sure. I discovered the first time I ever got a spanking that he hit too hard. I made up my mind right then and there that I was never going to get a whipping again, because I didn't like that. But I had unquestioning faith in the knowledge that if he said he was going to do it, I knew he was going to do it.

I knew this also. When my daddy said at if we were good girls all week long, he could take us down to the corner store and buy us an ice cream cone, it was going to happen. At that time you got two double dip ice cream cones for a nickel. Can you imagine that? We never had dessert during the week like most people normally do today, but that was our treat for the week.

If we obeyed all week long, we would get an ice cream cone on Saturday. I knew that my daddy's word was as good as gold. Whatever he promised, I knew I was going to get. If we can develop that same kind of unfailing, unwavering confidence in God, our faith will begin to grow, and grow, and grow, and grow.

When I first got saved, somebody told me there were **70,000** promises in the Word of God. I remember saying, "Wow, God, let me live long enough to receive every one of them. I want everything you have." I want to tell you that so many times that you will say the same thing, "God, I want everything you have."

If you really mean that, you are going to get into the Word of God, because nothing will increase your faith like the Word of God. This does not meditating in the Word of God. It's not just reading the Word of God. I mean putting the Word of God into effect in your life, with unquestioning belief in Him.

To me, the book of Genesis is about the beginning of faith. The very first verse says, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Mr. Webster says, "To create means to originate or to bring into being from absolutely nothing." So God took absolutely nothing and created the universe.

How did he create the universe? Hebrews **11:3**, "Through faith we understand that the world was framed by the Word of God, so that things which

are seen were not made of things which do appear.” The whole universe was created by what? By the **hands**_of God? By the **mind**_of God? By the **feet** of God? No? By the **Word**! By the **Word** of God, all things were created.

Do you believe that we live on the earth? Then you have to believe the Word is true, because it says, “God created the heaven and the earth.” And if we live on the earth, that certainly is proof that there is an earth. No one can doubt the validity of the fact that there is earth. We know earth exists because we all live here. We also recognize that He created it by His power. God created earth by His Word.

Have you experienced daylight? In Genesis 1:3, God said, “Let there be light: and there was light.” God said it and it was so. Whatever God says becomes truth, or becomes reality.

In Genesis 1:6 He said, “Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.” God said it, and it was so. Any time that God makes a statement in His Word, you can lay your life on the line that it will become so.

In Genesis **1:9**, “Then God said, ‘Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear’ and it was so.” I love the book of Genesis because of those four words: “And it was so.” God said it, it became and it was so.

Verse 11 reads, “Then God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth.’ and it was so.” It was so. God said it and because God said it, it became and it was so.

Verse 26, “And God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. God created man in His own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” God said it. God said it, it became, and it was so.

You might say, “Well there are a lot of places in the Bible where God doesn’t speak.” Every word in the Bible is a word from God. Whether Paul said it, whether James said it, whether John said it, whether Mark said it, or Luke said it, every word, Old and New Testaments, is God’s Word. Just because Paul said it, doesn’t take away from the fact that it is God’s Word. God spoke to the prophets in the Old Testament. God spoke to the New Testament writers.

I can hear God saying, Jeremiah, write this down. I can hear Him saying, “Moses, write those five books down.” Do you have any idea how long it must have taken Moses to write those books? He did not have word processing equipment like we

have today. He didn't have paper. He didn't even have a pencil.

Do you have any idea how long it would take today to copy the first five books in longhand? If you wrote it in longhand, do you think that you might remember what you wrote down? Whatever God says is true.

The only thing that God did not speak into existence was man. The Bible says, "He **took** the dust of the earth, and from the earth He formed man." Everything else was created by His spoken word, but man was created from the dust of the earth. That's why at a funeral you hear people say, "Dust thou art, unto dust thou shalt return."

Did you ever visualize where it says, "And God breathed life into Adam"? When God created Adam, Adam was a hunk of flesh. God picked up the earth... that must have been a big mud pie! Did it ever dawn on you how much dust it must have taken to make a life-size an? Suppose Adam was six feet tall. That would require a really big mud pie.

God must really be something to take dust and make a perfect body! Can you imagine taking dust and making the skin, fashioning tiny skin pores? What about the microscopic hair follicles on your arm that you can hardly see? Can you imagine God taking time to put every one of those little hair follicles into Adam as he created him? That would really be a big job. I have wondered how people think God breathed life into Adam. Folks seem to

think that Adam was laying there on the ground and God smacked him on the lips and “poof!”

I believe God picked Adam up in His arms and breathed life into him. I really believe that that’s why man has love inside, because God breathed the breath of life into Adam. I don’t know if that is scriptural or not, but I do think that’s a nice thought! I’d like to think that that’s the way God breathed life into me, that he held me in his arms.

For Christians the Word of God is the same as the word of your mother and daddy when you were a little child. When your mother said, “Don’t do that,” you obeyed. It is amazing how we implicitly believe our mothers and daddies. If your mother says she’s going to give you a bottle of milk, she’s going to give you a bottle of milk. The Word of God must become exactly the same way for each and every one of us.

Numbers **23:19** is one of the most important verses in the Bible. “God is not a an, that He should lie; nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”

God is not a man that he could lie. Remember that. There is not one single lie in the Word of God. Every word in there, every jot and title, is true. In Jeremiah **1:12** God says, ‘You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word.’”

He said, “Not only have I given you my word, but I’m going to watch over it to see to it what I promise happens.” If you allow God to do inside

you what He wants to do, I can guarantee that your faith is going to grow and expand. God has never backed down from anything that He's said. When you get to the point that you believe that God is going to hold fast to His Word, your faith is going to escalate, to grow and grow and grow

Were you ever disciplined by your parents? I think we all were. Do you think you would have benefited from more? That's right, we all know that we needed more.

Discipline is one of the greatest tools available to mold you into what God wants you to be. God disciplines us through his Word. If you want your faith to grow, allow God to discipline you in his Word.

I have heard many people say, they have been in the "Christian woodshed" many times. I tell you I was there often, before I got my feet going in the right direction. But I have learned that the Word of God is infallible. If God says He's going to do it, He's going to do it.

When He says "You are out in left field," you begin to do wrong things and discover God's power is withdrawn, you're going to say, "Well it still seems to me like I'm praying but my prayers don't get above the ceiling." Anytime you pray and say, "It doesn't seem to me like God is answering my prayers," you know the place to look –yourself

Ask, “What am I doing that is contrary to God’s Word? I must be in error because God’s Word says that when I pray I can have anything I want.”

Why don’t we get the things that we want? Probably because we have things in our lives that do not belong there.

People come to me over and over again and say, “I don’t know. God doesn’t seem to be doing the things for me that He does for you.” The first thing I ask is, “How much time do you spend in the Word of God?”

Most of these folk reek of cigarettes. In no way is God going to answer your prayers when the Word of God says, “Present your body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God.” Your body isn’t holy when you willfully hold onto offensive habits.

But when you establish in your own mind that the Word of God is true, your faith really begins to grow. You gain enough confidence to experiment. We didn’t start off getting everybody healed; much less have a lot of people getting healed at one time. When we first started, if we went to a service and one person got healed, we did cartwheels all the way home, we were so excited.

But, we began to experiment. I remember the first time that Charles and I prayed for the simplest of miracles, for a leg or in arm to grow out. The first time we saw an arm grow out our faith exploded. Hallelujah! It began to go up. It began to escalate.

Today our faith is almost unmanageable in the faith where growing out arms and legs and healing backs is concerned. Why? because we have done it over, and over, and over, and over, and over again. The more success you see and discover that God's Word works for you, it makes it easier to believe God or more.

Mark 16:18 reads, "They will lay hands **on** the sick, and they will recover." When you lay hands on somebody and they don't get healed, or worse, they die, your faith can go right down the drain if you let it.

You could say, "I'm not going to pray for anybody again." I remember a friend saying people got to the point where they asked him not to pray, because every time somebody got sick and he prayed, they died. People would say, "Please pray for me but don't ask Henry to pray, because every time he prays, people die."

That result can really get your faith down because you think, "Well God, that doesn't line up with your life." Well, all the time Henry was doing that praying he didn't have the baptism with the Holy Spirit, so he couldn't release the power of the Holy Spirit into that person.

My translation of Romans 10:17 says, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing, and hearing, and hearing, and hearing, and hearing, and hearing, and hearing the Word of God." You not only need to hear it from somebody else's voice, you need to hear it by reading it yourself. If Christians would

sit at home and read the Bible aloud, you have no idea how your own faith would increase. The most turned on I ever got in my whole Christian life was when I read the Living Bible aloud. I sat there and I read for hours and hours and recorded it. When I finished the recordings, I could have raptured right then and there, because my faith was so high. I saw it with my eyes, I heard it with my ears and I spoke it with my mouth.

When you get the Word of God coming at you in three directions it is going to really do something. Purpose to experiment with everything you discover in the Bible.

People ask, “How do I get any faith to the point where I know I really do believe?” “Use it, see it, use it, use it, use it, use it, use it, see it.

There are some things that wear out when you use them. A car eventually wears out. Your refrigerator eventually goes on the fritz.

One of the greatest ways to me to experiment that will cause your faith to rise is to move in the area of specific prayer. For example, “God I ask you to heal my third toe,” You keep praying, and you keep praying, and you keep thanking God, and thanking God, and praising God, and worshipping him for healing your third toe. You now what’s going to happen? You’re going to lock down and discover that toe is healed. There is nothing that will encourage you to pray another prayer faster than seeing a real prayer answered. Answered prayer is the most exciting thing in the world.

You can increase your faith by putting the Word of God to work. Read it. Bask in it. Read the Psalms and think, “Oh the Psalms are beautiful! I love the Psalms.” Then put the Psalms to work and see what happens for you. You know, one of the Psalms says, “Take delight in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.”

What a promise! Take delight in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.” The first time I ever read it, I said, “Lord I delight in you. Lord, I am delighted in you.” My faith rose and I began to see everything that I could do to delight in God and to believe God. I discovered that this is when God gives you the desires of your heart.

The minute you begin to get first one desire of your heart, and then a second desire, and then a third desire realized, your faith begins to escalate and escalate and escalate.

What if you don’t believe the Word of God enough to put it into practice the first time? You could have the most beautiful car in the world. But if you stood there, day after day, and said, “Oh, isn’t that a beautiful car! I love it. I love the color. I love those tires. I love those wheels. I love those beautiful velvet cushions on the inside of my car. I love the radio on the inside. I love the CD player. I love the air conditioning on hot days.”

If you never use the car, it will never be able to perform for you. If you never got in and turned the key, that car would never really be worth much to

you. It would just take up parking space and be in the way. If you want to get the most out a car you have got to use it.

Praise the Lord, the Word of God never wears out! You'll never get the full benefit of the Word of God until you begin to use it. Take delight in the Lord. How do we delight in the word? Do what He tells you to do. If you want God to give you the very desires of your heart, then you do exactly what God tells you to do according to His Word. I guarantee you that your faith is going to begin to rise and rise.

When I first started to drive, I had a wild time learning how to drive. We had an old **1922 Buick**. I never knew that a Buick was so big until Daddy put me in there. It looked like to me like it was three miles long and seven miles wide and the road was only about eight feet wide. I tell you I wobbled all over the place. When another car approached me I went off the side of the road. I was three miles away from the car. but I had no sense of judgment. When I got out of that car after I had driven a mile I was a nervous wreck, a complete nervous wreck.

Later, I didn't even have to think when I got in the car, turned the key on. I can pray in tongues, I can sing, I can listen to cassette tapes, I can listen to radio programs and still drive with no problem. I have faith in my car. I have faith in my ability to drive a car. Why? Because I have driven it many times.

The same thing is true of the promises of God. When you begin to believe them, when you put them to work in your life, even if you experiment and you're not real sure exactly how far your faith extends, you will see God's results. I guarantee you that if you'll be faithful and keep practicing putting the Word of God in effect in your life, those promises are going to be yours. God does watch over his Word to perform it.

Unless you believe His Word, you have tied God's hands behind his back.

If you don't use God's Word, He is never going to be able to fulfill it and it is the fulfillment of God's Word that escalates your faith. Let me repeat that last statement. It's the fulfillment of God's Word that escalates your faith. But you say, "I don't control God, He's the one that has to fulfill it." Yes, but you're the one that starts things into motion.

We all have faith in something. I have faith that when I drive over in the morning, the Hunter Ministries office is going to be here. I also have faith that when I walk over to a switch and flip an electrical switch at my house, the light is going to come on. I do not need to stand there and pray half an hour before flipping the switch.

You have probably never seen the power generation plant, but you still flip the switch in your house.

Some people say, "I've never seen God." You have faith in people you've never seen. I write a

lot of letters. I place them in envelopes. I put stamps on them. I believe that because I write an address on the front, because I put a stamp in the corner, I have faith that a representative of the United States Postal Service is going to pick that letter up out of the mailbox I put it in. There are millions of post boxes throughout the United States. How do I know they're going to pick it up out of the box I put it in? I've got faith. I have faith that if it says it's picked up every day at **five pm** that if I put my envelope in there before five pm. it's going to be picked up.

I've never seen the postal worker who sorts the mail and sends it to New York or to California. But I have faith.

We all have faith in somebody, in some things. If you own a washing machine, you put clothes in and expect it to work. It is possible that you trust the manufacturer of your washing machine more than you trust God. Think about that. That's a heavy statement, isn't it? You trust the people, and you don't even know them. You don't even know who put those pieces together that comprise your washing machine.

I have a dishwasher in my house. At night when we finish eating, I put soap beads in the dishwasher. I don't know what those beads are, but on the box it says, "Put these in your automatic dishwasher." So, I put them in, I close the door and push one button and walk out of the room. I never go back to check it to see if it's working. I never

go back and stick my head on the inside to make sure that those invisible little hands are moving up and down, washing all the dirt off of my dishes. I have faith in my dishwasher.

Why do I have faith in my dishwasher? Because I use it all the time. Why do I have faith in my washing machine? Because I use it all the time. Let me assure you that your washing machine and your dishwasher is not is reliable and dependable as God.

If we “use” God as much as we use our washing machine and our dishwasher, we would have faith that could become unmanageable. Every one of us would walk in extreme faith.

You would ask, “Is there anybody sick in ere?” Pow, pow, pow, pow, they’d all get well.

“Anybody need prosperity?”

Do you realize what you could do with unmanageable faith? Why you could call down the very heavens. That’s what I like about Elijah. He could call down fire. Wouldn’t it be wonderful to have that much power when you had an enemy in front of you? That’d really be neat. Wow! Call down fire on them.

When I brush my teeth I turn on a thing called a faucet. Do you have a faucet? Do you expect water to come out when you turn it on? There you go! So do I. Why? Because I learned a long time ago when you turn a faucet on, water comes out. I know if I turn the one side, cold water comes out. If I turn on the other side, hot water comes out. I

know if I turn them both on at the same time, I can regulate the flow and create exactly the temperature that I want. How do I know that? I use it.

I have tremendous faith in all the electrical appliances in our home. I believe when I put meat in my oven it's going to cook. I don't believe it's going to sit there. I don't have to go into the kitchen and pray over it either (unless I want to pray that it's not tough or something like that). I don't have to pray that it doesn't burn, I believe when I push buttons that something good is going to happen. I believe the current is going to come through and the food will cook.

We need to get to the point where our faith in God is as ordinary as an action as turning on the light switch. We need to begin to believe God. God is far more dependable and far more reliable than anything you have in your house, or ever will have in your house. The appliances in your home are subject to failure. If the current goes off, they aren't going to run. But God never runs out of power. God never runs out of ability God never runs out of desire to please His children.

Let me share another example. Many people go to church on Sunday and that's the only time they actively use their faith in God. Many come to the altar, cry all over the place and say, "Oh God, I had such a lousy, miserable week. Everything went wrong this week. Oh God, nothing went right for me. I mean I had an accident in my car. I got sick.

I didn't have enough money. Somebody stole my pocketbook. Oh God!" Then they don't think about God until next Sunday morning when they come back and do a repeat performance at the altar.

Throughout the week they do nothing. This is the same as getting up on Sunday morning turning on the lights and saying, "Well it's Sunday, I get to have electricity today. Glory to God! Hallelujah!" Then comes Monday and you'll say, "Well I have to keep the lights off for another week until next Sunday" When the sun is sets, from that moment until you go to bed at you have to walk around in darkness. You would grope about. Finding the sink requires divine direction, because you could never find it any other way. Remember, your house is in pitch darkness. If you want to go to bed, all right. Whatever you need or deserve to do must be done in darkness because you can't turn the switch again until next Sunday. Don't you think you'd have some banged up shins by the time you got from one week to the other?

That is just as dumb and just as stupid as when we take the Word of God out on Sunday morning, look holy and pious and say, "Take delight in the Lord and He'll give you the desires of your heart." It's dumb to take the Word out on Sunday and then close the cover on it and put it away until the next Sunday morning.

Do you honestly believe that the Word of God is infallible? Every word is God- breathed. God breathed life into every single word.

If you want your faith to grow and escalate, if you want your faith to expand like that dough my grandmother made, if you want to have nothing stop it until it flows all over the place. Get into the Word of God. Obey every command that God gives you. Try it!

God says in Malachi, “Try me, test me, prove me, see if I won’t open the windows of heaven and pour you out blessings so great that you can’t contain them.” That’s a promise of God. He speaks to me over and over again, “Try me, test me, prove me, see if I won’t do what I have promised.”

So, I try Him, test Him, prove Him, and He does exactly what He promised. The same thing is true in finances. We teach a lot about finances wherever we go. The most prosperous churches that I know are the ones where the pastors have the faith to stand up and tell you what God says, “Try me, test me, prove me and see if I won’t open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing so great that you can’t contain it.”

God’s Word in Luke 6:38 says, “Give and it shall be given to you.” Do you know that’s a challenge from God? What happens to your Faith the first time you give and you get back a hundred-fold?

I was reading some letters from people who had been in a meeting of ours in Louisiana. I had challenged them to let God give them back a hundred-fold! The only people who ever get back a hundred-fold are the ones who are willing to try

God and to see that He will do. He says, “Try me, test me, prove me, see if I won’t open the windows.” The letters I got were some of the most exciting things in the world.

One lady wrote, “I always knew that God answered prayers,” but she said “you don’t know where my faith is today.” She continued, “I came home from the meeting where you ministered. I walked in the house I experienced a funny thing.

In the service I attended you had said. Whatever you have purposed in your heart to give, I want you to double it and give it tonight. I looked at you for a moment and thought, “Boy, she really wants a lot of money, doesn’t she?”

Actually I wanted people to find out what could happen. So, she doubled what she was going to put in the offering and said, “When I got home the telephone was ringing off the all. It was my mother, whom I had not seen in years. My Mother said, ‘I put \$800 worth of airline tickets in the mail to you. I want you to come and see me over the next weekend.’”

“I know God answers prayers,” but she said, “my faith really went up because you said, ‘Try me, test me, prove me and see if I won’t open the windows of heaven.’” And she said, “Again I knew God answered prayer. I never knew he answered them that quickly”

Can you see what would happen if you only dare to step out?

In the area of healing, don't worry about how many of them don't get healed. Look for the one that does get healed.

I remember when I laid hands on a little girl in Nashville, Tennessee. She had been born legally blind in one eye. When I took my hands off her head and put them over her good eye and asked, "Tell me what can you see."

She said, "I can see everything!" She began to cry and praise God. Can you believe her faith increased? Do you think my faith went up more than hers? You'd better believe it.

Do you know why my faith escalated? Because I saw a miracle that night I could have prayed for any sick person and they'd have been healed.

Smoke didn't come out. Steam didn't come out. Nothing came out, except words saying, "I can see everything perfectly" Praise God she got that out before she began to cry

Her faith went up, but beloved my faith Escalated. I mean it almost got out of control. I wanted to run out to everybody in the audience. I wanted to hug people. I wanted to lay hands on everyone. I wanted to do something. I had used my faith and it worked.

My faith worked like God's Word says, "When two or more of us agree as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done by my Father which is in Heaven."

That night I said, "Father, your Word is true, your Word is true, you said if we'll lay hands on

the sick they will recover.” I didn’t pray, I didn’t do anything, I said, “In Jesus’ name!” That’s all it took. My faith went up, up, up. Before that night I had never had strong faith for eye problems, but you’d better believe today I have faith for eye problems.

Get into the Word of God and allow your faith to escalate, and escalate, and escalate, and get out of control! You will see the miracles your heart deserves.

Chapter 5

Don't Give Up!

by Frances

It is easy to write about living in victory every day of your life when everything is going in the right direction! When your bills are paid, when the money is coming in, when your marriage is perfect, when your children are doing what they are supposed to be doing, when your business is thriving, or you are prospering on your job, and your health is perfect, But, what happens when the bottom falls out of everything? Can you still be victorious in every area of your life?

The answer is a great big YES!

Many people look at Charles and Frances Hunter and they think we never have any problems, so it's very easy for us to talk about living in victory. However, I want to remind you that a few years ago Charles had to have six major back operations. I spent every day at the hospital with a replacement coming at night because I couldn't stay twenty-four hours a day.

We lived in victory regardless of the circumstances. This was not a fun time in our life, but I took all my dictation down to the hospital with me every morning and got all my letters dictated and while I stayed with Charles.

And then came the year 2007. As far as I personally am concerned, this was one of the worst years of my life. It was like lightning struck. It started off with a very little cold. We always say, “We are catching a healing-not we’re catching a cold.” But I didn’t catch the healing. My fever stayed with me, so I went to the doctor and got some antibiotics. However, four days later I was still as sick as I could be. As a matter of fact, I could hardly talk, but I finally managed to get to the telephone and call the doctor’s office. When they heard my voice, they said, “Call an ambulance and get to the hospital immediately!” I said, “Do I have to call an ambulance? Can’t I go in a car?” They said, “No. Get an ambulance immediately!” Now I believe that when you pray and you don’t get answers, get yourself to a doctor. I called the ambulance and they picked me up and took me to the hospital. But as the ambulance entered the hospital, I said, “I shall not die but live and declare the works of the Lord.”

It’s a good thing I said that because I had not been there one day until they gave me the diagnosis of acute bronchitis, double pneumonia, congestive heart failure, kidney failure, water around the lungs, and anemia in my bloodstream. Praise God for doctors who can diagnose you.

As a matter of fact, the admitting diagnosis was:

- 1) Deconditioned state.
- 2) Bilateral pleural effusions

- 3) Congestive heart failure.
- 4) Chronic renal insufficiency on top of acute renal insufficiency.
- 5) Labile diabetes.
- 6) Hypertension.
- 7) Enterobacter, Candida, Albicans urinary tract infection.
- 8) Anemia of chronic disease.
- 9) Hypertension.
- 10) Chronic insomnia.

You may not understand what that all means, and I don't either. All I know was that as I read the discharge it said: "This is a 91 year-old female with multiple medical problems that stemmed with her initial admission to Kingwood Hospital two months ago with pneumonia. She's had issues with GI bleeding at one point in time and she did have an esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) and colonoscopy, which revealed that they weren't able to pass the scope into the ascending colon due to a large hiatal hernia. The patient was given units of packed red blood cells and was treated for an AVM in the esophageal tract. The patient has required one more unit of packed red blood cells prior to her discharge due to a feeling of fatigue and to E.coli, with the results preliminary wise still pending."

I don't care who you are, a diagnosis like that is not the best thing in the world.

Throughout it all I kept saying, "I shall not die, but live and declare the works of the Lord." Over

and over again I repeated that statement. That is the one way that I know to live in victory every day of your life regardless of what the circumstances were.

Twice during this time they called my daughter and told her that I was not going to live through the night. I'm delighted to tell you that one year later I am feeling absolutely wonderful, have energy plus. I give God all the credit and I give God all the glory

They discovered I had a bleeding ulcer in the upper part of my GI, so they sent me to the doctor to have that taken care of But it took ten pints of blood to get my blood back up to normal. It took me two and a half months before I got over the chronic heart failure, the double pneumonia, the kidney failure, every failure that you can think about. But throughout it all I led many people to Jesus. We gave out hundreds of our books, because I believe that's one of the greatest witnesses that you can have is to give somebody something tangible that will change their life forever.

As a matter of fact, six months later I went to the doctor because of a big blister that had formed on my heel, and the first thing he said when I walked in was, "I went by the nurses' station at the hospital today and saw a copy of one of your books laying there. How did it get there?"

I replied, "I give out hundreds of books every time I've have to be in the hospital." And to know

that those books are going on and continuing what I started is incredible.

There were days when I did not have strength to turn myself over in bed. I would have to call a nurse, and they would come in and physically turn my body over because there was not enough strength to do it. But there was enough strength to talk about Jesus and to stay victorious in every area of my life.

We can look at the circumstances, we can look at the physical condition of our body, we can look at all the doctors' reports and say, "You're not going to make it. You're going to die," but you can still remain victorious regardless of what goes on.

I think back upon the time when we completed the World Evangelistic Census. It was a tremendous success because 1,000,666,754 numbers of people signed slips saying that they accepted Jesus as their Savior and Lord. Can you imagine how many people those billion souls have led to Jesus between then and now? It was a tremendous success and a tremendous thrill, except it was a financial disaster. We had hired people all over the world to help out in the Worldwide Census; however, the finances did not come in the way they should have, and we had to deplete all of the finances of Hunter Ministries and then we had to dip into our personal savings account. And one day Charles said, "I've got to go over and withdraw every cent that we have in the world." And I said, "Well go ahead and do it because

we've got to pay our bills-we cannot not pay our bills."

He walked into the office with a check for \$55,000.00, the end of our total combined years' savings, and he waved it at me as he went by I said, "Bring it in here, I want to touch it." So he brought the last of our finances in. I took the check; I threw it up in the air and I said, "God, how can I trust You with my life if I can't trust You with my finances." And I threw the check up in the air and it fluttered to the ground.

We had thirty-eight cents left. We went to a local cafeteria, had enough money for one bowl of soup and one piece of cornbread, which we shared with each other, and then we came home.

All of our savings of a lifetime were gone - all of the money of Hunter Ministries was gone. Were we down in the dumps, or were we still living in victory? We were still living in victory because we went home and went to bed and both of us got holy laughter. And we laughed and laughed until the bed actually shook. Here we are with no money. We're not young anymore, and yet we had given all our money to pay the bills of the World Evangelistic Census, but we were still happy.

God's Word says, "Beloved, I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers."

I want you to know that God is a faithful God, and we did not miss a payroll. By the time the

payroll came around, there was enough money to pay everybody their salary

God is a faithful God, but we need to live in victory every day of our life, regardless of what the circumstances might be. They may be good. They may be bad. Your health may be good. It may be bad. Your children may not be doing what they are supposed to be doing. Your marriage may not be what it should be, but you can still live in victory every day of your life.

Don't look to your circumstances, look to God who is the Author and Finisher of our faith and He will bring victory into your life every day.

Then let's remember the incredible story of Rebecca Jones who was electrocuted **17** years ago. She was helping two nurses put a patient in bed and the bed short-circuited and she was electrocuted. The power went through her entire body, first on the right-hand side, and then it came back up on the left-hand side and exploded her heart. Then after that it went out the left arm and she felt that her fingers were going to blow off. But instead, the left arm went up in the air and blew out all the fluorescent lights in the hospital.

For sixteen years she lived in absolute hell. God did for Becky in **40** days what **19** doctors could NOT do in sixteen years! Her truly AMAZING story of total healing has gripped the heart of countless lives through TV and radio! Becky's raw, bold, pit-bull grip on faith will thoroughly encourage and inspire you! Her accuracy and

sensitivity to the leading of the Holy Spirit as God uses her in personal ministry is truly life changing! God completely healed Becky and He is more than enough to do the same for you!

She is alive and well today - but she managed to be victorious throughout it all because she never lost her faith in God.

What ever you circumstances are, don't give up. You can walk in victory every day of your life!

What ever you circumstances are, don't give up. You can walk in victory every day of your life!

Chapter 6

Winning People to Jesus

by Frances

There is nothing in the world that will let you live in victory every moment of your life like leading someone to Jesus.

The day I got saved I went down US Highway 1 in Miami, Florida, and I stopped at every place that was open and tried to “beat” Jesus into the head of almost everybody I met. When Jesus came into my life, He opened my mouth and I haven’t shut it since.

There is nothing that will make your spirit soar higher than when you lead someone to Jesus.

Please remember that every person that you meet is an opportunity They are not only an opportunity, they are your responsibility. Jesus said “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” This not a suggestion; this is a command. We are commanded to preach the gospel to every person that we meet.

There Are Two Kinds Of...

There are two kinds of people who will read this book...

There are two kinds of waitresses in restaurants

There are two kinds of cashiers in grocery stores

And there are only two kinds of people in the world: those who are saved and those who are about to be saved! Which one are you?

The world is crying out for revival! Have we made revival so complicated and traditional that it will never take place or is there a simple way for every church to have a great revival?

Real revival is when all believers get excited about Jesus we cannot talk about anything else and we go out and talk about Him wherever we go!

When we have a guest speaker and people get saved, that's good, but you cannot revive that which has never been "vived." Revival is getting Christians re-excited about what happened to them because they often lose their zeal for Jesus. This can bring revival to you, your church, your city your state, the whole world.

A simple little luncheon can change your life and it can change your thinking about the way to do things! We were in a restaurant in a very small town in Missouri where you might not expect outstanding things to happen. A gentleman came in and sat down at our table. still don't know who he is nor where he came from nor who he came with because there were several of us there and he had to leave early.

Before he left he made an interesting statement. He said, "Frances, I know how much you've always loved winning people to Jesus and I've discovered a new way and want to share it with you."

We're always interested in learning new ways to win people to Jesus because that's the burning desire of our heart at all times. He said, "As soon as the waitress gets to the table I'll say to her, 'There are two kinds of waitresses, those who are saved and those who are about to be, which are you?' I was fascinated at the questions because it doesn't give the person an out!

I instantly recognized it was a "win/win" situation and there was no way you could lose!

They are either saved or the only other answer they can give you is, "I am about to be" I am always an "eager beaver" to try new ways, so I said, "Let me try it on the waitress. Don't you do it, let me." When the waitress came up I asked her the question which has now become familiar with us at all times, "There are two kinds of beautiful waitresses who work in this restaurant. Those who are saved and those who are about to be, which are you?"

I did not expect the type of reply we got at all. It was a total and a complete shock! She simply started crying and said, "Boo hoo, boo hoo, boo hoo. I guess I'm the last one."

God's Holy Spirit beat me to her and He had her completely prepared and hungry! I was holding her hand and I didn't let it go. I said, "Wonderful! Repeat this after me," and I said, "Father, forgive my sins, Jesus come into my heart and make me the kind of person You want me to be. Thank You

for saving me today” She repeated the prayer and once again burst into tears.

I asked her, “Where is Jesus right now?” She said, “In my heart!” She was so affected by her conversion that she had to go into the kitchen for about ten minutes and cry before she could come back and wait on us again! It was really a glorious experience and it taught us something. . . It was easy to win people to Jesus in this very simple way

A very unusual thing happened one morning. I had a doctor’s appointment and another friend of mine who is a doctor called me and said, “When you go into the doctor’s office this morning, don’t say to him, ‘How are you?’ Say, ‘How are you feeling?’ I felt this had to be from the Holy Spirit, so when I walked into the doctor’s office I said to him, how are you feeling?”

And he said, “Terrible, my neck is really bothering me.” and then he said, “I’m going to have it operated on next week, but I’m in terrible pain.”

I said to him, “Do you know what my husband and I do?”

He said, “Well, I think I do.” I said, “Would you mind coming over here.” He is a real tall doctor and I was sitting in the wheel chair. Then I said, “Would you mind kneeling down?”

Now this is interesting. He’s a doctor and I’m the patient, but at this particular moment I was the doctor and he was the patient. I simply placed my hands on his neck and I did “The Neck Thing”. He

looked up and he said, “Is this always going to feel like this?” And I said, “Yes, you got healed.”

He walked across the room because he as going to give me a diagnosis on a biopsy that I had had made. I said to him, “Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your heart?”

He said, “No.”

I said, “Would you like to?”

“Yes.”

“Well, come back over here”. he came back over and we prayed the Sinner’s Prayer and he asked Jesus to come into his heart. I said to him, “Where is Jesus?”

He replied, “In my heart!” Salvation re ally took.

He said, “I am glad you came in today, because my mother died last month and so did my father. I was so depressed and you’ll never know what you did to me!”

As you can well imagine, I was flying on the moon when I left that office because of being bold enough to turn the doctor-patient relationship into a patient-doctor relationship.

Any time you lead someone to Jesus it will really send you to the moon.

A friend of ours was recently ordained and has become very bold in witnessing. God has given her a socks ministry She ministers to the homeless people who live under the - bridge. She takes socks down to them because most of them don’t have

socks on their feet which really causes a lot of problems.

As she hands them the socks, though, she asks them, “Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your heart?” She came in flying the other day saying, “I led seven souls to Jesus last night!” I don’t think I every saw anybody any higher on fifteen martinis than I saw her and the way she felt because she had led seven people to Jesus.

Every single person that you meet is a wonderful opportunity We were coming home from a television program recently and we stopped at a fast-food place to get Charles a milk shake because he was hungry. As we paid for it, Marcus, our driver, said, “Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your heart?”

Of course the girl said, “No.”

He said, “Well would you like to?”

She said, “Yes.” So she prayed the Sinner’s Prayer right then and there on the spot! You have no idea how we flew home after that just because of the excitement all of us had realizing that every single person is an opportunity and a responsibility.

We want to challenge you in this book to learn how to win people to Jesus! “There are two kinds of...” works better than anything we’ve ever seen. The message was given to us by an angel in a restaurant in Farmington, Missouri, and has led thousands and thousands of people to Jesus!

If you want to live in victory every day of your life, lead people to Jesus-that will do it!