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SESSION _____

**SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
BIBLE SCHOOL THIRD EDITION
SESSION 54 – FAITH PART 20
HOW TO WRITE YOUR OWN TICKET WITH GOD**

A man was conducting a revival meeting many years ago in the First Assembly of God Church in Phoenix, Arizona. The meeting was held during the latter part of November and the first part of December. The preacher was staying in the home of some friends who attended that church.

After an evening service, they were fellowshiping at their home with some other church folks. Just about the time they were ready to serve the refreshments, the preacher had an urge by the Spirit of God to pray. It just seemed unusually pressing, like it was an urgent matter - more so than usual.

These were all Full Gospel people, so he felt free to tell his host that he had to pray and that he had to pray right then. The host asked that everyone present pray also. So, everyone stopped what they were doing, and they went to prayer. The preacher's knees had hardly touched the floor when he was in the Spirit.

Do you know what it means to be "in the Spirit"? John was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day. (Rev. 1:10). Then we also read in Acts 18:9 that the Lord spoke to Paul in the night in a vision. In the vision, the Lord told Paul, *"... Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace."*

ACTS 23:11

"11 And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, 'Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.'"

ACTS 22:17,18

"17 And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I WAS IN A TRANCE; 18 And saw him saying unto me, 'Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me.'"

These are scriptural illustrations of being "in the Spirit." Since ministers had experiences like that in the days of the Early Church, we ought to have those same kinds of experiences now because we have the same Holy Ghost.

As the preacher knelt to pray in the home of those Full Gospel people, by the time his knees touched the floor, he was praying in tongues and was in the Spirit. Or as Paul said in **Acts 22:17**, he was in a trance.

When you are in the Spirit, it doesn't mean you don't know what you are doing. It just means that your physical senses are suspended; you are more in *the spirit realm* than you are in the natural realm. You are more conscious of spiritual things than you are of natural things.

At that moment, the preacher didn't know where he was. He wasn't aware that he was in Phoenix, Arizona. He later said It seemed as though he knelt down in a white- cloud. He prayed in tongues as hard and fast as he could pray and with groanings for about forty-five minutes.

He had prayed enough in the Spirit to know that he was interceding for someone who was lost. At the end of that time of praying, he had a note of victory. I encourage people who are praying like this to continue to pray until they have a note of victory; that is, until they either laugh in the Spirit or sing in the Spirit. When you pray until you have a note of victory, that means that whatever you were praying about, you have received the answer.

Back to the preacher. After the preacher prayed this way, he had a vision. In the vision, he saw the church service on the following Sunday night, with between five and six hundred people present. When he had the vision, it was Friday night, and he was seeing three days ahead to his Sunday night service.

In the vision, he saw himself preaching and later giving the altar call. He saw himself with one elbow on the pulpit, and as he leaned over, he pointed to a man who was seated on the second row from the front in the center section.

In the vision he said to him, "My friend, the Lord shows me that you are past seventy years of age. You are not a Christian and you do not believe there is a hell. But God told me to tell you that you've got one foot in hell and the other one is slipping in."

In the vision he saw the man get up from his seat and kneel at the altar and be gloriously saved. After the vision was over, the folks who were present knew that he had seen something and they asked him about it, so he told them. On Sunday night when they came to church, he looked immediately at that place where he had seen that man sitting in the vision and there he was. He had never seen this man before in his life, but he was dressed just like he had described him to the people when he had had the vision on Friday night. He did just exactly what he had seen himself doing in the vision. He preached his sermon and then he leaned over the pulpit and spoke those same words to him.

The man came forward, knelt at the altar, and was gloriously saved. Afterwards the man was telling the pastor everything that the preacher had said about him when he spoke to him in the Spirit. He said he was seventy-two and he actually had been taught that there wasn't a hell. He said he also knew what the preacher meant when he told him that he had one foot in hell and the other one was slipping in. He had a serious heart condition and the doctors had told him that he might die at any minute.

He said that this was the first time he had ever been inside a church building in his entire lifetime. No one knew to pray for the man; not a person who was a member of that church knew him. He had come to that city five months prior to this time and had bought a motel. Some Christian folks traveling from the east had stayed at his motel and had witnessed to him. They had practically dragged him to church, and he was saved that night.

The Holy Ghost knew he was coming, and he already had him "pray through" to victory before he ever got there. That's the joy and the benefit of praying in the Spirit.

After that vision had come to pass just as the preacher saw it, the Lord Jesus Himself appeared to him. He began to talk to him about his ministry and about some things on a national scale concerning our own government, which came to pass the very next year. Then He talked to him about some financial matters concerning his own life that came to pass just like He said they would.

Then He said to him, "Be faithful and fulfill thy ministry, my son, for the time is short." You see, your time with God in eternity and your time with men on the earth are two different things.

Then the preacher said to Him, "Dear Lord Jesus, before You go, may I ask You a question, please? I have two sermons that I preach from Mark 5 concerning the woman with the issue of blood who touched your clothes."

He had received both sermons by inspiration; one as he was driving his car down the highway, traveling to church, and singing in tongues. He pulled over beside the road and wrote the sermon outline. He was preaching that sermon in the state of Alabama, and he had just read the text and begun his sermon when it looked as though some of the words in the text were in print three times larger than the rest of the words in those verses. Those verses just seemed to leap off the page. He saw something that he had never seen before and that is how he received the second sermon.

He continued, "Lord, every time I preach those two sermons, I seem to be conscious in my spirit – I have the sense within me - that the Holy Spirit is trying to get another message over to me. I have the sense that this other sermon will complement these two sermons.

Then in times of prayer when I have a greater anointing it seems as if I'm going to receive the message and get that other sermon, but somehow or another, I fail to get it. I believe I'm right and if I am right, I wish you would tell me so. Then I wish that you would give me that sermon.”

The Lord said to him, "You are right. My Spirit, the Holy Spirit, has endeavored to get over to your spirit another sermon along that line, but you've failed to pick it up. While I am here, I will do what you have asked. Now get your pencil and paper and write it down.

He reached for paper and a pencil in a hurry. He usually kept paper and pencil handy because God talked to him many times in times of prayer. If you don't write these things down, you may forget them, and let them get away from you.

Jesus said, “Write down, 1, 2, 3, 4.” He did that. He had sensed in his spirit that there would be four points to this sermon. Then the Lord said, “If anyone, anywhere, will take these four steps, or will put these four principles into operation, he will always receive whatever he wants from me or from God the Father.”

Four Steps to Receiving Your Answer from God

These are four steps that can be put into operation immediately concerning receiving anything God promises in His Word. For instance, you can take the four steps to salvation, to healing, to the baptism of the Holy Ghost, or to receive victory, finances, or any other answer you need from God.

However, there are some areas of faith that take time to develop. For instance, if you have a financial need, and you need a certain amount of money by the first of the year, then you may need to first develop your faith to the level of your need.

But even in the hardest areas, if you will put these four principles into practice over a period of time, they will produce results because they are Bible principles. Therefore, whether these principles are put into operation immediately or are practiced over a period of time, you can have whatever you say from God's Word. You can write your own ticket with God.

These four steps that Jesus shared with the preacher and that I'm about to share with you are so simple that they almost seem foolish. But after all, Jesus in all His preaching on the earth never did bring forth anything very complicated. He talked in terms that even the uneducated could understand. He talked about vineyards, orchards, sheepfolds, and shepherds.

Jesus illustrated spiritual truths in such a simple way that the common people could understand. After all, the people that Jesus preached to didn't have the advantages in education that we have today. God never did give anyone anything so complicated that it couldn't be understood. If it comes from the Father, it will be clear and concise.

Step Number One: Say It

Mark 5:25-34

"25 and a certain woman which had an issue of blood twelve years, 26 and had suffered many things of many physicians and had spent all that she had, and was nothing better but rather grew worse, 27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind him, and touched his garment. 28 For she SAID, 'IF I MAY TOUCH BUT HIS CLOTHES, I SHALL BE WHOLE.' 29 and straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' 31 And his disciples said unto him, 'Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou. who touched me?' 32 And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. 33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. 34 And he said unto her, 'Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.'"

What is the first step that this woman took in order to receive from Jesus? Verse 28 says, "***For she SAID, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.***" The first step she took was, **she said it.** She said what she desired, and it was in line with God's will.

There is a Godward side and a manward side to winning every battle, every victory, and to receiving from God. You have your part to play. There is something that you must do. God is not going to fail on His part. If there is failure, it has to be on our part. If we see to it that we do our part, then we can be sure that there will be an answer and a victory for us every time.

Someone told this woman about Jesus. That is not something she did; that is something someone else did. So, this woman knew about Jesus. She knew that He was healing people. She knew that He was the healer. But the question was, what was she going to do about what she knew?

In the visitation with this preacher Jesus said to him, "step number one is to say it." Jesus said, "Positive or negative, it is up to the individual. According to what the individual says, that shall he receive."

He said, "This woman could have made a negative confession instead of a positive one, and that would have been what she received"

Jesus continued the conversation, "She could have said, 'There's no use for me to go see Jesus. I've suffered so long. Twelve years I've been sick. All the best doctors have given up on my case. I have spent all my living on physicians. I'm not better but growing worse. I have nothing to live for. I might as well die.'"

Jesus continued and said, "If that had been what she said, that would have been what she received. But she did not speak negatively. She spoke positively. For she said, ***'If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.'***" And it came to pass!

You can have what you say. You can write your own ticket with God according to his word. The first step in writing your own ticket is to **SAY IT**.

NEVER SPEAK DEFEAT

As we discussed in a previous session, if you are defeated, you are defeated with your own lips. You have defeated yourself. The bible says in **Proverbs 6:2**, ***"Thou art snared with the words of thy mouth, thou art taken with the words of thy mouth."*** Or we could say, ***"You are taken captive with the words of your mouth."***

One writer put it this way. "You said that you could not, and the moment you said that you were whipped. You said that you did not have faith, and doubt rose up like a giant and bound you. You talked failure, and failure held you in bondage." Those words are well said. Believers should never talk defeat. We should never talk failure.

You talk about your trials, you talk about your lack of money, and your faith will shrivel and dry up. On the other hand, if you talk about your heavenly Father and what he can do, your faith will grow by leaps and bounds.

Changing Lack of Finances to Provision by Faith

A certain preacher was scheduled to go to a certain church after Christmas and preach there. For three nights, he couldn't sleep, and the Lord kept talking to him about not going to that place. He kept arguing with the Lord and told the Lord that he had to go. Then the Lord got down to brass tacks with him. But he told the Lord that it was a large church, and they would guarantee so much money for holding the meeting. He told the Lord he needed that money. But the Lord still didn't want him to go there. He finally told the Lord that he would call the pastor, and if he would let him off the hook, he wouldn't go. But he told Him that if the pastor wouldn't let him off the hook, he would have to go because he'd given his word.

After all, one of the characteristics of a spiritual pilgrim is that he *“swearth to his own hurt and changeth not.”* (Ps. 15:4).

The next evening, he started to call the pastor, and the phone rang just as he started to make his call. It was a long-distance telephone call from that pastor. The preacher told him that he was just getting ready to call him. The pastor asked him if he was still coming and he told him that he had planned to, but that the Lord had told him not to come at that time. The pastor said that it really would be better if he came later because he had to go out of town to take care of some business. So, it really worked out better for both of them.

When he hung up the phone, he asked the Lord where He wanted him to go to minister. God leads us one step at a time. If you want to get the whole picture before you make a move, you'll never make a move, and you'll miss the whole thing.

After he talked to that pastor on the phone, he told the Lord that he supposed He probably wanted him to call a pastor who had invited him to come and hold a meeting for him. This pastor was averaging three hundred in attendance in Sunday school, and he just had a new auditorium built that would seat eight hundred people. He told him that if he would come and hold a meeting, he would guarantee him a full house every night.

But when he asked the Lord if He wanted him to go there, He said, "No." So, he asked the Lord where He wanted him to go. He told him to go to a little church down in east Texas by the Louisiana border, out in the country. This church ran seventy in Sunday school and that was tops for them. He asked the Lord if He knew what He was talking about!

(You see, you can talk to the Lord just like we do anyone else, because we're closer to Him than we are to anyone else. He knows what you are thinking anyway, so you might as well be honest with Him!)

The preacher told the Lord that he couldn't afford to go down there because that little church couldn't meet his budget. He had held a meeting for that pastor, and he received \$1.99 a week. This pastor would stand up at the end of the week and receive the preacher's offering. He would say to the congregation that he had a few pennies and that surely, they did too! So, that's all he ever received – pennies. He would always give the offering back to them because if they were that short of money the preacher knew they needed it more than he did.

So, he told the Lord that this pastor didn't even know how to take up an offering. But the Lord told him that was where he wanted him to go. He told the Lord he would go but told the Lord that he expected Him to meet his budget just as He did when he went to larger churches.

The Lord said it was for *the preacher* to do the *going*, and *He* would do the *doing*. He went to that church the Sunday after Christmas. He drove all Sunday afternoon to get there. It was so far out in the country that it looked as if he had come to the jumping off place!

When he arrived at the parsonage, the pastor told him that he had almost called to tell him not to come because they'd had a crop failure. The town's main crops were tomatoes and cotton, and the hail got the tomatoes, and the drought got the cotton. He said they couldn't promise him a dime. The preacher said to him, "Well, I didn't ask you for a dime, did I?"

Then the preacher told the Pastor not to get up and tell the people that he had told him they had had a crop failure. He told him that if he was going to say anything, he should get up and tell them what the Bible says. He told him to tell them that God says, "**... for the world is mine, and the fulness thereof**" (Ps. 50:12).

He told him to tell the people that the silver and the gold and the cattle on a thousand hills are the Lord's (Hag. 2:8; Ps. 50:10), and what belongs to the Lord belongs to us. He told him to take the offering then, but not to make a pull for any money; just to give the people an opportunity to give.

The preacher told the Lord that he was claiming a certain sum of money. The least he could get by on was \$150 a week. He didn't tell the pastor that because he knew he would be alarmed.

When it came time to take up the offering, the pastor gave the people the scriptures the preacher had told him to use. The Lord had told the preacher to stay there only ten days, so he told the Lord that he would pray for and expect \$200 for that ten-day period. That was the bare minimum he could get by on. When the ten nights were over the preacher received \$248.15 in offerings.

While the preacher was at that church there was only one man that had been attending the meeting. But during those ten days, thirty-two people came to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. Out of those thirty-two, twenty-nine received the Holy Ghost the minute the preacher laid hands on them. Out of that twenty-nine, there were thirteen grown men and twelve of these were heads of families. That pastor received twelve new families into his church in ten days' time because the preacher was obedient to go there.

He recommended to the pastor that he should build some rooms on to the church for Sunday School classes. There was a lumberman who promised to furnish all the lumber they would need for a very small amount of money. The preacher told this group of people that they had an opportunity to build on and told them about the lumberman. He said he would donate the first \$10 to getting these rooms added on for the children.

They took up an offering of over \$400. God provided everything that they would need to get the job done. Before this there wasn't any money coming into that church.

You see, all the pastor of that church had been doing was ***talking about lack***. When you do this, it stops the money from coming in. It kills faith. Once he changed what he said then his church prospered and so did the people, in spite of crop failure and the hail that destroyed crops.

Step Number Two: Do it

Mark 5:28

"28 For she said, if I may TOUCH but his clothes, I shall be whole."

It wouldn't have done the woman with the issue of blood any good if she had said, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole," and then had not acted upon what she said.

Jesus said to a preacher one night in a vision, **"Your actions defeat you or they put you over. According to your action, you receive, or you are kept from receiving what you want from God."** The woman with the issue of blood acted upon what she said. She touched Jesus' clothes.

Step Number Three: Receive it

Mark 5:29

"29 and straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up' and she FELT in her body that she was healed of that plague."

After the woman touched Jesus' clothes in faith, she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague (Mark 5:29). Jesus said, ***"... Who touched my clothes?"*** (Mark 5:30). Jesus knew that virtue (anointing) had gone out of Him. Or as the margin says, Jesus said that power had gone out of Him.

The disciples said to Jesus, ***"... Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?"*** (Mark 5:31). First, the woman said it. Then she came forward to receive her healing by touching Jesus. That was her faith in action. Then she received it and felt in her body that she was healed of the plague.

Saying and Doing Comes Before Feeling

Notice that the *feeling* and the *healing* followed the *saying* and the *doing*. Most people want the feeling and the receiving first, and then they think they'll do the saying and the doing.

But you can't do that because it doesn't work that way. You must have the saying and the action first. Then you'll have the feeling and the receiving. It was only after the woman with the issue of blood said and did, that Jesus said that the power had gone out of Him.

The whole world has become concerned about the nuclear bombs that have been exploded in the atmosphere because those bombs can release radioactive material into the atmosphere - power that cannot be seen or felt. And that power is deadly and dangerous.

Well, there is a power at work in this earth that is not deadly or dangerous, yet is far greater in strength than any bomb. There is a power that is good. That power is always present everywhere. If all the sick people knew about that power, they could be healed of every disease. Yes, there is power to deliver from anything that binds or hurts you. It is the power of God and His anointing which destroys every yoke (Isa. 10:27)!

If God's power is available, then why isn't everyone healed? We can find out by looking again at the woman with the issue of blood. We will see that it is **faith** that gives God's power action.

Step Number Four: Tell it

Mark 5:33

"33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and TOLD him all the truth."

This verse says the woman with the issue of blood told Jesus **"All the truth"** (v. 33). Jesus said to tell it so that others might receive it. The first step is to **say it**, but this fourth step is to **tell it**.

At first, we read that the woman said what she believed. Now she is telling what happened as a result of her saying, believing, and doing. You have to say some things in faith before you ever receive them from God. Many times, people say the wrong thing because they believe the wrong thing. As we said before that wrong thinking produces wrong believing, and wrong believing produces wrong speaking. When people start believing the right thing and saying the right thing, they will have the right things in life. You will have in life what you believe and say, whether good or bad.

In this vision shown to this preacher when the Lord was teaching him this, the preacher told the Lord he could see that if anyone took these four steps, he could receive *healing* just like this woman did. But then he asked, "Lord, you said that if any believer anywhere would take these four steps, he would receive whatever it was that they *wanted*. Does this mean that folks can receive the Holy Spirit this way too?" The Lord answered him that they could.

We Write Our Own Ticket of Victory

Then he asked Jesus, "Does this mean that any believer anywhere can write a ticket of victory over the flesh, the world, and the devil?"

Jesus answered, "Emphatically, yes." Then Jesus said that if the believer *doesn't* write his own ticket with God, nothing will be done about his situation.

Jesus continued, "If believers don't write their own ticket, it won't be done. It would be a waste of their time to pray for Me to give them the victory. *They* have to write their own ticket." Jesus was saying that believers must do something about their situations themselves and they can do that by following these four steps.

Old Testament Example of the Four Steps of Faith

He then asked the Lord to give him some more scriptures about these four principles. The Lord told him that David used these four principles in **First Samuel 17:30-54**.

David arrived at the Israelites' camp and found the Philistines camped on one side of a valley and the Israelites on the other. The giant, Goliath, defied the armies of Israel and the people of God, and he challenged the Israelites. **"And David SAID "**(1 Sam. 17:32).

That's the first thing David did. He **said** that he would fight and prevail against the uncircumcised Philistine, Goliath.

1 Samuel 17:32-37

"32 And David said to Saul, 'Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.' 33 And Saul said to David, 'Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.' 34 And David said unto Saul, 'Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: 35 And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. 36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God.' 37 David said moreover, 'THE LORD THAT DELIVERED ME OUT OF THE PAW OF THE LION, AND OUT OF THE PAW OF THE BEAR, HE WILL DELIVER ME OUT OF THE HAND OF THIS PHILISTINE.' And Saul said unto David, 'Go, and the Lord be with thee.'"

David didn't say that because he got a word from the Lord. But, you see, David knew he could have what he said. He knew he could write his own ticket with God. David knew that God would do anything David said that was in line with God's covenant with the Israelites.

And the reason God hasn't done any more for you is because you haven't said any more. All that you have today is the result of what you said yesterday. If you are at the bottom of the ladder, it is because that's all you've been believing for and saying for. If you will talk right and believe right, you'll get to the top, instead of being under the barrel.

David went out with his shepherd's sling and crook, or staff, and the Bible says, **"... when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he despised him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance"** (1 Sam. 17:42).

1 SAMUEL 17:43,44

43 And the Philistine said unto David, 'Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves?' And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 And the Philistine said to David, 'Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.'"

David let Goliath talk. You can't stop the devil from talking. But when he gets through, you have something to say.

Jesus didn't stop the devil from talking when he was being tempted in the wilderness. But when the devil got through, Jesus had something to say. Jesus said, **"... It is written ..."** (Matt. 4:4).

Well, David **said** to Goliath, **"... Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied"** (1 Sam. 17:45).

David also said in **1 Sam. 17:46**, **"This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel."**

David was just a little country boy, and Goliath was a giant who may have been as tall as eleven and one-half feet. Goliath was so big that another man carried his shield.

Some people say, "How did David know what to do?" It's strange that when it comes to natural things, folks know exactly what to do. For example, if they are going to sell their automobile, they know exactly how much they're going to sell it for.

If they're trying to get a job, they know exactly how to go about doing it. But when it comes to spiritual things, they don't know what to do. They don't know that they can write their own ticket!

You can write your own ticket with God. Whether you know it or not, that is what you've been doing. That's the reason people are where they are now. God will do everything for you that you believe Him to do (**Mark 11:24**). Many have read the scriptures concerning these things, but those scriptures never mean a thing to them.

Living in the Protection of God by Faith

A number of years ago, a preacher was going to New Mexico, to hold a tent meeting. His children and wife were going with him. His mother had come over and she asked where he was going next. He told her about their planned trip. She told him to be careful on the road because there were so many wrecks and people were getting injured all the time.

Then she said that when he was traveling, she stayed awake all night long and prayed for him. She said she just waited for the phone to ring. She was always afraid that a call would come saying he had been in a wreck. So, he told her that if she had been praying in faith, she would have gone to sleep. (Sometimes you must tell your own mother the truth just as we are teaching you.)

She said, "Son, I know you have faith. I never had much myself." She was a member of a Full Gospel church too! But she was talking herself right out of God's blessings. His mother told him that when the family would get together for a family reunion that they would all agree that he was a walking miracle. She said that she just knew he must pray every minute he was on the road. The preacher told her that he never did. He told her he prayed that God would be with him.

She said to him, "What makes you talk that way? What's gotten into you?"

He told her, "Nothing but the Word." He told her that Jesus had already said, **"... I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee"** (**Heb. 13:5**). She wanted him to pray all the time that God would be with him. But he told her that he didn't have to go down the road bawling and squalling and begging Jesus to be with him. He always began a trip saying, "Heavenly Father, I'm so thankful for Your Word. I'm so glad Jesus is with me."

Psalm 34:7 says, **"The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."** He told his mother that the angels were always with him. Also, the Holy Ghost was on the inside of him, so he could go on the road singing and rejoicing.

God had already told him that no evil would befall him. (Ps. 91:10). One translation of this verse reads, "**No accident shall overtake thee.**"

So, his mother asked him where he was going next, and when he told her he was going to New Mexico, she said, "Son, you're not going to take your wife and children there, are you?"

You see, this was before the Salk polio vaccine had been developed, and his mother had heard on the radio that there was a polio epidemic in that city. (Sounds like COVID of today, right?) His mother was walking in fear, not faith.

She said that if it got any worse, they were going to close down all the theatres. They had already closed down all the swimming pools. But he told his mother that the meeting had already been slated and that THEY were going, and that neither of his children would ever have polio. He told her he had "vaccinated" his children with the **Ninety-first Psalm** when they were born. He thanked God for the Salk vaccine, but it didn't always work. But he knew something that worked one hundred percent of the time. **Psalm 91:10** says, "**There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.**"

He told his mother that polio was a plague: therefore, his children would never have it. She said she knew a preacher who was a mighty good man and his boy had polio. He told his mother he had to believe the bible and he couldn't go by someone else's experience. He told her maybe that preacher didn't know what the Bible taught and didn't know how to appropriate the promises of God. He told her that neither of his children would ever have polio. Thank God, they never did,

Resisting the Devil with the Word

This doesn't mean that the blessings of God are going to fall on you like ripe cherries from a tree. You are not going to float through life on flowery beds of ease. The devil will try you and tempt you.

For example, this same preacher had been to Oregon for meetings, and was coming back to Texas for a tent meeting. He and his family stopped on the way back in Utah and did some sightseeing. They saw the great Mormon Temple.

The guide showing them the temple was telling them about what is on the inside of the temple. As a side note, we cannot accept the book of Mormon. I have read it and it doesn't agree with the New Testament. The Apostle Paul said, "**But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed**" (Gal. 1:8). The book of Mormon claims to have gotten their "vision" from an angel called Moroni. This is another gospel.

Back to the preacher: As they stood there on the lawn at the Mormon Temple, the guide told them about the likeness of the angel which stood on the spire of the Mormon Temple. He said that this figure was fourteen feet high and made from beaten copper overlaid with gold. He said the angel had a trumpet in his hand which he is pictured as about to blow.

About that time, the preacher heard someone behind him fall. The fall was so hard that he heard the head bounce up as it hit the ground twice. Some man said that a boy had fallen.

The guide said, "That happens very often when I'm telling this story." He went on to say that he thought it was a supernatural sign to corroborate what he was telling. He said to just drag the person into the shade, and he would come to in a minute.

The preacher hadn't looked back, but his wife did, and she said that it was their son who had fallen. He was fifteen years old at the time. He looked back, and he saw him lying there. He had hit the ground so hard that the impact knocked his shoes off. His knees were drawn up to his chest. His hands were twisted, and his mouth was working so that he was chewing his tongue in convulsions. His eyes were set and glazed.

Faster than machine gun bullets can fly, the devil shot his evil darts into the preacher's mind, and said, "You said that nothing evil could happen to your child." He gave the preacher mental visions of his child having epilepsy or some other disease and being in an institution while he was preaching about God's healing power.

But thank God, this preacher knew how to write his own ticket with God! He grabbed his son by the arms to lift him up and he was stiff. He said, "Come out of him." He had sensed evil spirits when they had walked on the grounds. He said, "I command you to come out of him in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

The man who had said that a boy had fallen had helped him lift his son up. He heard the preacher saying, "Come out of him," and he began to quickly walk backwards and then turned around and ran away when he said, "Come out of him,"

His son straightened out and blinked his eyes. He called to his father and asked him where he was and asked what had happened to him. He told him that the devil had knocked him down, but that Jesus was bigger than the devil. He told his family he wrote their ticket to victory.

That guide had said that his son's fall was a supernatural manifestation as a result of what he had been saying, but the preacher got rid of that man's idea of a manifestation in the Name of Jesus!

Receiving Salvation by Faith

The preacher that had received the four steps in the vision asked the Lord if the sinner could take these four steps and use them. Jesus said that they could. He said that these were the steps the sinner uses in receiving salvation.

He told Jesus that he had read the New Testament through many times, and he had never found anything about these scriptures for salvation.

Jesus said, "Son, there's a lot in the New Testament you don't know yet!" Jesus then referred him to **Luke 15**:

Luke 15:11-24

"11 and he said, A certain man had two sons: 12 And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me.' And he divided unto them his living. 13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and there took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. 14 and when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. 15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into the fields to feed swine. 16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. 17 And when he came to himself, he SAID, 'How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will SAY unto him, Father I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.' 20 And HE AROSE AND CAME TO HIS FATHER. But when he was yet a great way off, his father had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. 21 And the son said unto him, ' Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.' 22 But the father said to his servants, 'Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to be merry."

Jesus went on to say to the preacher with the vision that the very first thing the prodigal Son did was to **say**, ***"And when he came to himself, he SAID..."*** (Luke 15:17).

Jesus said that the preaching of the Word convicts the sinner of his need for a Savior. He sees himself as lost.

First the son **said**, "*I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants*" (Luke 15:18,19).

Second, he did it. He started down the road toward home.

Third, he received it. He was reunited with his father and received his rightful inheritance as a son. His father ran and met him and put a ring, and shoes, and a robe on him.

Jesus further told the preacher, "Those people who come to the altar and bawl and squall and pray for me to save them are not down there to get saved. *They're down there trying to talk themselves into the notion of believing something.* If they would come down there like the prodigal son did, then God would meet them before they ever got to the altar."

Fourth, the father of the prodigal son **told it**.

The brother of the prodigal son wouldn't go see the prodigal and wouldn't go into the party his father had prepared. The father went out and entreated the brother. This has to be a picture of the lost, because the father said, "*For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found ...*" (Luke 15:24).

Whatever it is you need from God - whether it is salvation, healing, receiving the Holy Spirit, protection, or deliverance, you will receive your answer if you follow these four steps of faith that Jesus gave the preacher. **Remember, say it, do it, receive it, and then tell it - and write your own ticket with God!**