

EXTENDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD...ONE PERSON AT A TIME

ONE-TO-ONE[®]

Spring 2012

THE WAY OUT



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from the editor

Can These Bones Live?

A new prophetic wind is blowing!

Have you ever wondered what the apostle Paul meant when he told the Thessalonians, “Do not despise prophecies”? Why would he say such a thing? If the Christians back then were anything like Christians are today—and I think that is fairly likely—then they had to struggle with some of the same issues with which we struggle. One of the struggles we sometimes face is knowing the difference between moving “in the Spirit” and moving “in the flesh”.

With the rise of the modern Charismatic Movement in the Twentieth Century came a restoration of spiritual gifts to the Church, and an emphasis on the present-day activity of the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers. Practices that we see in the book of Acts and in the early Church were suddenly happening again, right before our eyes! And it has been exciting.

Often, if our spiritual enemy can’t stop something, he’ll try to join it and corrupt it, misdirect it, or at least counterfeit it. This has been true with various practices within the Charismatic Movement. Sometimes, what started in the Spirit ended tragically in the flesh. This has been evident, at times, in the realm of prophetic utterances.

We believe that God’s Word is forever settled in heaven, and that

the *logos* Word of the Holy Bible is inerrant, infallible, and inspired by the Holy Spirit; we also believe that the Spirit gives *rhema* “now” words to guide and encourage believers today. But, when one purports to speak for God or to declare His Word authoritatively, there must always be the recognition that we are imperfect vessels, and we must test these words.

One friend of mine collects “prophecy bloopers” where believers made loud public pronouncements “in the name of the Lord” that were, well, suspect. For instance, one man rushed to the front of the church during a service and said, “Thus says the Lord, ‘My people, my people, even as Abraham built the ark and saved his family, so I am building My Church!’” A few moments later, he ran back up front, grabbed the microphone and said, “My people, My people, I have made a mistake!”

In another church, one aspiring spokesman for God comforted a saint with these words: “Surely I, the Lord, have known your rising up and your sitting down; I have known your thoughts and intentions; I have known and numbered the very hairs on your head. But ... I have temporarily forgotten your name!”

Of course, there have been far more egregious abuses of prophetic

giftings or exploitation of people’s hunger and trust. Sometimes, this has provoked cynicism and doubt. Sadly, it has made some stumble or withdraw, or be willing to throw the “baby” of prophetic gifting out with the “bathwater” of false prophecy.

We should not despise a gift from God, nor reject the moving of His Holy Spirit. He gives us His presence and Word for His glory, for our benefit, and for the benefit of others. We must test all words, but if they line up with the Bible, then we should act upon them.

When the Lord spoke to Ezekiel, He said, “Prophesy to these bones!” By the Word of the Lord, spoken through His prophet, a valley of dry bones became a living and breathing army, ready for battle and equipped for victory (see Ezekiel 37). In these days, we see dry bones all around us, and God is saying, “Can these bones live?” We know the answer, if we will but be obedient to speak as He gives us words.

We want to invite you to our annual CSM Leadership Conference, May 16-18, where we will gather around **“The Power of the Prophetic Word”**. Proven and trusted leaders such as Mark DuPont, Michael Coleman, and Charles Simpson will minister from the Scriptures and in prophetic anointing, as we believe together for a new release of God’s Word among us in this most critical season of history. The Conference will take place in Gatlinburg, TN, at the beautiful Park Vista Resort in the Great Smoky Mountains.

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keynote

Escaping the trap of self and launching into Spirit-empowered mission

BY CHARLES SIMPSON

It is a terrible thing to be trapped in a deteriorating situation. On September 11, 2001, many people died because they had no way out of burning buildings. The same thing happened on December 7, 1941, when many US sailors were trapped in sinking ships. The recent cruise ship disaster in Italy is another example. These are tragic stories of people who could not find an exit, and perished.

While it may not seem so dramatic, millions of people are dying slowly each day because they see no way out of a bad situation. I recently read *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand. It is the story of Louie Zamperini, an Olympic runner and army flyer whose plane crashed in the Pacific Ocean in 1943. He and his pilot, Allen Phillips, drifted 2000 miles and for 48 days into Japanese waters, spending many months in prison camps. It is a riveting story of survival and miracles. They somehow found a way out.



Many people develop a “boxed in” mentality in lesser situations and become paralyzed. Here is Good News: the Lord is offering a way out! The key to our exit is hearing the voice of God Who is calling us out of our circumstance into a great release. His voice is the key to getting out and not only surviving, but giving us success and producing successors. If we find His way out, we can look back with gratitude, lessons learned, and pass them on as Zamperini did.

The Lord has given me three words that represent three steps out of our challenging

circumstances. I want to discuss them with you.

Step One: Unity

We cannot do it alone; we need support. In Zamperini’s case, he and Phillips worked together. Sadly, the Church and many Christians are living in division and actually working against one another. This assures failure. Working together is a matter of survival. This will mean forgiveness and reconciliation. It definitely means recognizing our common danger.

I remember how, after 9/11, there was momentary unity. Even people in airports were friendly to one

another. Sadly, it didn’t last long. Our nation has reverted to its old adversarial ways. This has also happened in the Church. Somehow, we must take steps toward unity at every level. We will not always agree, but must remember that there are threats against us that are mutual, and we will all suffer if we do not come together.

Psalm 133 tells us that where there is unity, God commands a blessing. Divided families and churches will not experience the necessary blessing of God that offers a way out. We cannot do His part and He will not do ours. If we take steps to forgive and reconcile, He will bless us like the

WAY OUT

“Working together is a matter of survival. It definitely means recognizing our common danger.”



anointing oil that flowed from Aaron's head all the way down to Aaron's garments. If we will...then God will.

Prior to the Cross, the disciples were divided and debating positions. After the Cross, they worked it all out and were in one accord at Pentecost. The Church needs to visit the Cross again and die to ourselves. At Pentecost, the Lord anointed the Church.

A divided Church is oblivious to the real issues and powerless to deal with them. A united Church that is Cross-centered and Christ-centered, will experience great power. That should motivate us to swallow our pride and come together for His glory. Remember, we—like Zamperini and Phillips—are on the same raft; the ocean is wide, and the sharks are hungry. Take step one: forgive and work together to find the way out.

Step Two: The Power of God

Jesus commanded the disciples to wait and pray together in Jerusalem so that they would receive spiritual power (see Acts 1:4-5). They did so, and received a very powerful baptism in the Holy Spirit. Can you imagine that group changing history without the power of God? Never! Nor can we. Peter stated that the same promise is unto us (see Acts 2:39). If we find each other, we will find greater power; God will

be pleased to pour out His Spirit. If we forgive, He will also. If we show mercy; He will also.

I remember the days in 1964, when I realized that I could not go on without the power of God. I was trapped in my own weakness and temperament. I remember the moment that the Holy Spirit came in power through the prayer of my friend and pastor, Ken Sumrall. I'll be eternally grateful to him. *(Note: as I write this, Ken is 85 years old and physically weakened. Please pray for him.)*

During those days, a great revival came to me, to our church, and to the nation. It was not by a human might or power, but by His Spirit (see Zechariah 4:6). When the power of God came, the things we desired but could not accomplish in our own strength came also. People repented, many came to Christ, healings and deliverance came, strongholds were broken, and resources flowed. People volunteered freely in the day of His power (see Psalm 110:3).

Every great revival began when people humbled themselves and sought God's power. The Great Shantung Revival in China began when a missionary wrote back to the United States and asked forgiveness for stealing 25 cents. Forgiveness triggered reconciliation and resulted in an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Isaiah 59:1 tells us that God's hand is not short nor His ear heavy that He cannot hear, but our iniquities separate us from His power.

The Holy Spirit is calling us to seek God, take steps of humility and

repentance, and ask Him to pour out His Spirit upon us. The ocean is vast, the sun is hot upon us, and the sharks are hungry. The economy is bad; the enemies are numerous. Do not get "boxed in". Hear His voice, forgive, seek unity, and pray for His power. We cannot do His part and He will not do ours.

Step 3: Mission

Mission takes us out of where we are, and when the Spirit moves, He moves us to mission. We may kid ourselves about the experience we had in church, but if it did not lead us **out**, then we are still **in**.

Jesus was clear with His disciples. "When the Spirit comes, you shall be My witness—everywhere, to the ends of the earth." A person without a mission is a person boxed in. It is a person who needs the power of God and the Holy Spirit, Who always sends us on a mission (see John 20:21).

I am greatly distressed that so many Christians are content to be entertained, inspired, and blessed, but seemingly have no sense of mission. There is a lack of militancy in our worship and in our preaching. The main mission seems to be self-improvement rather than service and outreach. Only a sense of mission will get us "out of the box". While we may serve the church, and we should, the field is in the world.

Every Christian needs two things: an assignment beyond the church walls and accountability to be sure that assignment is being carried out. When assignments are carried



out, testimonies will follow and inspire others. **STEP 1: Unity**—positions us. **STEP 2: Power**—fuels us. **STEP 3: Mission**—launches us.

We have a lot of “Rockets” that haven’t launched in many years. Until they do, they will never know the joys of exploration.

Jesus said, “My food is to **do** the will of Him who sent Me.” He had just led a wicked woman into faith and life (see John 4:34). He thrived on mission; so can we.

A friend recently asked me how I survived and remained so active after my dear wife went to be with the Lord. I answered in one sentence: “I don’t think about that. I only think about what God has called me to do with the rest of my life.” In a word, it is mission that keeps me sane and happy.

Last year, David Wilkerson passed away. David made a great difference in many lives. He was an Assembly of God pastor in a small church. The Lord sent him to New York to work with gangs. He wrote his story in the best-selling book, ***The Cross and the Switchblade***. Hundreds of thousands of copies went across the world and inspired many to mission. One of those that he led to Christ was Nicky Cruz, a gang leader. Nicky wrote ***Run, Baby, Run***. Again, many thousands of copies were sold, inspiring still others.

When the Holy Spirit convicts us and sends us on a mission, lives are affected. When we do not have a mission, other forces affect lives. We know that the tragedy

of 9/11 awakened many ministries around the world. In New York City, Evangelical churches have grown by more than one-third and violent crime has dropped.

For many, the issue is church growth, but I believe that the real issue is obedience. When we go out, others will come in. The fields are ready for harvest.

Praying for You

So here is my sincere prayer for God’s people: I pray that unity will come to the body of Christ. I pray that we will enter a season of forgiveness and reconciliation so that God will forgive us and bring healing among the nations.

Second, I pray for an outpouring of spiritual power so that we can cease laboring in our own strength. The sooner we see our own weakness, the sooner the Lord will give us His strength.

Third, I pray that every Christian will hear the Lord’s call to some mission in the world. Is that too much to ask of God? No. When the Spirit comes, so will come the sense of urgency to obey.

These are my prayers for us. I urge all of us to ask the Lord, “What would you have me do?” There is an army waiting to be mobilized; Jesus is not our chief entrepreneur; He is the Captain of the Lord’s armies. If we take those three steps, He will lead us out; otherwise, we and our children will perish if we do not find the exit. **121**

CHARLES SIMPSON is Editor-in-Chief of ***One-to-One Magazine***. He ministers extensively throughout the United States and among the nations.



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People of God
Tom Mangan / 412.262.2351

March 23-25
Upper St. Clair, PA

Good Shepherd
Rick Wiater / 724.941.9418

April 13-15 | Mt. Juliet, TN

Abundant Life Church
Larry Grainger / 615.754.7035

April 27-28 | St. Louis, MO

Christ the King Church
Michael Peters / 314.395.6326

May 16-18 | Gatlinburg, TN

CSM Leadership Conference
Betty Duke / 251.633.7900

May 25-27
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BY STEPHEN SIMPSON

Love & Co

About marriage, the classic song says, "It's an institute you can't disparage!" And yet, the institution of marriage at large, and numerous individual marriages, are indeed under tremendous attack today. Marriage is often mocked as untenable, boring, and undesirable by pop culture icons. Increasing numbers of couples simply choose to live together without the benefit of a marriage covenant.

And, of course, there are the continued efforts of the radical homosexual activists and their enablers in media, politics, and pop culture to re-define what marriage actually is: a loving life-long commitment between one man and one woman.

I would suggest that one significant reason that marriage is under attack is because Christians and churches have neglected to reflect the biblical model and norm for marriage. Whether it's the searing effects of spiritual attack, a desire for political correctness, or simple expediency that have caused us to lower standards or lower defenses of marriage, the fact remains that biblical marriage has never been held in lower esteem at any time in American history.

Marriage is wonderful and God-ordained, but it also takes work,

and sometimes it takes hard work. Too many good, loving, godly men and women have experienced, for varying reasons, the sadness of broken marriage relationships. It isn't easy, and too often, our Christian communities have not done all that we can or should to support and uphold marriages. Our call is not to judge individuals, but to restore individuals AND understanding of what marriage is to be.

CULTURE SHOCK

Because the family is the most basic building block of society, this breakdown is having a profound effect on our culture. Children being conceived and raised outside of the bonds of marriage, or without the benefit of a father and mother both being present in the home, have a much tougher road ahead of them in life. This affects our economy, our crime rates, our drug statistics, success in education, the

level of depression and suicide, and so many other troubling trends. There is no amount of government spending that can adequately alleviate the suffering caused by family breakdown and the loss of the marriage covenant.

At the same time, there has been a rise of television programming surrounding the pageantry of wedding ceremonies. Perhaps this trend significantly ramped up following the spectacular Royal Wedding of Prince Charles to Lady Diana in London 30 years ago. A whole generation of people grew up with a view of weddings and marriage that was more rooted in fantasy and fairy tales than in reality. The tragic and ugly ending of Charles' and Diana's marriage did not seem to dissuade some from pursuing an unrealistic level of expectation concerning the purpose of a wedding ceremony.

Marriage



The more broken our homes have become, the more our desire seems to grow for wedding pageantry. Magazines and popular television programs like “Bridezillas” and “My Fair Wedding” seem to promote the notion that what matters most is a wedding spectacle worthy of Broadway, Las Vegas, or Westminster Abbey. I’ve also noticed often on the television programs about weddings that the ministers are basically props, with little more relevance than the old bishop in “The Princess Bride” film. “Mawwiage,” anyone?

One wonders if too many couples put more thought and investment into planning the bachelor and bachelorette parties, the wedding production, the all-important reception bacchanalia, and the exotic honeymoon than they do into how the actual ongoing marriage relationship is going to work.

THE BRIDE AND GROOM

The Bible begins and ends with weddings, and there are many important weddings and marriages mentioned throughout the Scriptures. God instituted marriage and He Himself holds it in high regard.

One reason that marriage is sacred to God is because it is a prophetic picture

of the relationship between Jesus and the Church. The Church is the Bride of Christ, and He is her Beloved Groom. He gives Himself utterly for her, so that she might be spotless and pure; He gives her His Name and all that He has. He is devoted to her eternally, and she to Him.

Every wedding ceremony between believers ought to reflect this reality and explicitly testify to it. Rather than going into great financial debt to throw a giant show-biz bash glorifying themselves, couples should humbly acknowledge their debt to the Lord by glorifying Him on the wedding day and ever after. There should be a desire by the couple to testify to the love relationship between Christ and His Bride in everything that is said and done ... before, during, and after the ceremony. Worshiping the Lord “in the beauty of holiness” should be a significant part of any wedding plan.

JESUS, BE THE CENTER

In all that I’ve said thus far, it may sound like I am against “big” wedding celebrations; I actually love them. There is nothing wrong with making the occasion as special and as beautiful as possible, but fancy buildings and lavish outfits can never substitute for the glory of

God and the love between husband and wife. I love the joy that wells up when we are in the presence of a loving couple, publicly proclaiming their devotion for one another, and the favor of God is resting upon them and all of the witnesses. Few moments in life are sweeter.

Ern Baxter used to talk about the law of first things and beginnings. How you start will set the pattern for what follows. I truly believe that a Christ-centered wedding points the way to a Christ-centered marriage. For example, I am so thankful that those counseling my fiancé and I before our wedding emphasized the importance of the prayer and communion time at the altar. We came to understand that this was the moment when the Lord Himself would come and seal our covenant together; when we placed our hands into His hands, and He would forever hold us together.

When that moment arrived in our wedding ceremony, it was after a significant time of singing and worshipping together with the congregation, of hearing a brief Scriptural teaching, and declaring our vows. It was a holy time—the glory of God surrounded us so strongly and poured out upon us so

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Servant Leadership: A Model You Can Stand On

Everyone is a leader in one role or another. You are influencing someone. Why would anyone want to be a servant leader? For true and lasting success.

We all have a God-given purpose. As we mature, our parents, teachers and friends can either encourage and promote our purpose, or negate that purpose. Business leaders especially have the opportunity and resources to either trap their employees or bring them into a larger space, helping them fulfill their purpose and calling.

The late Robert Greenleaf, an executive at AT&T and lecturer at Harvard and MIT, states in *Servant Leadership*, "...if one is to preside over a successful business, one's major talent will need to evolve from being *the chief* into *the builder of the team*."

Most don't eagerly seek the "Servant Leader" title. Servant leaders aren't the center of attention and won't receive praise for a good job. In my imagination, the servant leader becomes like a stepstool. A stepstool is not in a prideful position; it's an unglamorous calling. The stepstool simply boosts its user up to reach the desired level. We'll look at the 4 legs to this stepstool, then lastly, a step to stand upon.

Leg# 1 - The Focused Servant Leader

By laying defined boundaries, the servant leader does not allow himself to be abused, but **does** allow himself to be used. How can this be accomplished?

1. Know thyself. When the servant leader understands his identity in Christ, he stands firm when opposition comes.



It's not just a style of leadership—it is leadership that endures.

> ANGELA HOUGH

2. Set boundaries in place. This brings confidence to your employees who, knowing what is expected of them, can move into their calling.

There's security in the strength of focused leadership. The servant leader doesn't say "Yes" to everything, but remains steadfast in his priorities. Steadfast leaders know what direction their compass points, and don't drift with every shifting wind. This causes his followers to become confident in their roles, too.

Leg# 2— The Delegating Servant Leader

Too often, I've said, "It takes more time to teach someone else than to do it myself". Or out of fear, I think "What if the employee leaves after I spend time disciplining them?" This is an area we can all release. Accept God's plan for every person who works with/for you. Are these individuals brought to you by God? You **can** obediently invest the time. Be replaceable—for the next generation's sake!

If I have unrealistic expectations of myself, and believe the company's success depends on my abilities alone, I will not only burn out, but watch excellent people leave for greater opportunities. As stewards of the talents our Master has given, we are to transfer our expertise so the entire team has opportunity to bring

"(Servant) leaders want to see the company even more successful in the next generation, comfortable with the idea that most people won't even know that the roots of that success trace back to their efforts."

- Jim Collins, *Good to Great*

growth to the company. I encourage you to meditate on John 3:29-30.

In 2003, I hired a lady for an administrative position. "Sarah" began diligently learning how to file the massive stacks of reports that blanketed my desk. She sought ways to help make my life less complex, and I depended on her as my right arm. One day I asked if she

"The most immediate risk in your present way of operating may be that you could not be replaced, if there should be a need of that."

- Robert K Greenleaf, *Servant Leadership*

was willing to delve more into the world of manufacturing. She said yes, so I sent her into the non-air-conditioned production area, where she worked on a punch press for a time. Sarah was eager to jump in and got hands-on experience. Every afternoon before leaving work, she sat in my office, asking questions. We explored trade magazines, reviewed engineers' drawings, and discussed challenging customers. Teaching her was a delight, and Sarah was one main reason I looked forward to work during that time. We both enjoyed a successful delegation experience. It took a significant amount of time, but was an experience I look forward to repeating again.

Leg # 3 - The servant leader encourages creativity

Leg # 4 —The servant leader doesn't know it all

Admit it. **You** know you don't know everything. Everyone else knows it

too. But is it really OK to not have all the answers? Our employees recognize when we don't know

"While giving a great employee their performance review, one of my habits is to ask the employee, "Is there anything new you want to learn in addition to your regular job? Even in another department?" Encourage curiosity! Help employees to find their niche, and don't lock them into "job description prison" for a life sentence! Helping each employee into their natural role, you will find productivity and the culture of your company improving.

- John Stanko, *So Many Leaders... So Little Leadership*

what to do next. But who said the boss is supposed to have all the answers, anyway? We hurt ourselves and our team when we don't accept wisdom from others. The employees that surround us daily are oftentimes great people to ask when we need ideas and input.

It takes a village to raise a business. Seek the counsel of other professional people. Who do you know that could be a trustworthy, reliable "sounding board" for you? When it comes down to decisions such as: "should I open another location", or "should I buy out my competitor", hearing from another business person is good judgment and shows wisdom, not weakness.

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Seek help from those who have experience in these matters.

What we stand on: The Servant Leader is Ethical

What's your leadership built on? If you have the reputation of integrity, you're likely to attract trusting customers, retain employees with integrity, and sleep well at night, since you're not carrying legal issues on your shoulders!

In *Called to Excellence*, Heeth Varnedoe writes about ethics in business. "You may be striving to become the best, but it needs to be underlined with integrity and character. When you have those qualities in place, you're eventually going to become a success."

What is your leadership style? Do you lead with a heavy fist, using others as the stepstool to achieve power? Do you go wherever the wind blows, allowing a sense of instability and insecurity? Or, do you lead with the desire to make others successful, while succeeding in the process? The fact is, we have help as leaders. The Holy Spirit is ready to assist us with discipling true leaders, if we just ask.

Read more by visiting Angela Hough's blog, "Journey of Kingdom Business" on blogger.com

"The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge; the ears of the wise seek it out"

(Proverbs 18:15 NIV).

"Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise" (Proverbs 19:20 NIV).

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Opportunity Inc. Update

Opportunity Inc., a consortium of Kingdom-minded business leaders and speakers previously featured in Marketplace Exchange, continues to break through the "business world," bringing a transcendent market view. Last year, the team led by Ronald Gray shared in Paris, France, and Torun, Poland, on topics such as: **Servant Leadership, Creative Ideas, Seven Foundations for a Successful Business, and Building a Kingdom-Minded Business.** Here are brief accounts of that trip:

"With a population of less than 2% in France saying they believe in God, it was a blessing to teach 85 young professionals in Paris about principled ways to grow a business and become a conduit for Kingdom life. Then we visited Torun for the eighth time, coordinating with local pastor and business owner Jacek



Matlakiewicz.

This year, as in the past, we shared at The University of Kopernika to several hundred business

students. What a blessing it was at the end of our time there to be invited back by the Dean of the Business School and to hear Pastor



Matlakiewicz express his gratitude for the consistent, quality teaching over these past years.” - Ronald Gray

“Looking back on my previous 5 trips to Poland, what is revealed are these good “fruits”: **trust** that can only come through deepening of relationship and **discipleship** that comes through dedication to serve. Without a formal announcement or agenda, a bond has been formed between our team of teachers and the Believers of Christ in Poland. I think of them daily, and look forward to going back.”
- Angela Hough



“We were encouraged in Torun to see the openness and receptivity, the impartation of the Spirit of God, and His call on them to represent the kingdom of God in the marketplace. Speaking to young students about biblical principles of business was a meaningful encounter. In a meeting with the Dean of the Business School, he invited me back to be a part of a small business incubator concept that would allow us to present to the Chamber of Commerce and some representatives of the European



Union. The encounter in Paris allowed us to be part of Pastor Robert Baxter’s vision for the “Jeune (Young) Professionals”. They responded very openly to my session on “Foundation of Successful Business” showing them ways to evaluate, improve, and develop their businesses and new opportunities. - Steve Rannells

“Everyone was overwhelmed by the professional environment and the spirit of excellence. It allowed them not only to receive great training, but to do it in an environment which spoke of the richness of God’s Kingdom. The Church needs good preachers, but it also needs good men and women who are proficient in their respective professions to bring the principles of the kingdom of God into the workplace.

- Pastor Robert Baxter, Paris, France

The team intends to go back again in 2012 and will add Gdansk and Szczecin to its schedule. There are also continued plans for seminars in the USA and Kenya for next year. Please keep them in your prayers. Please their website for more information:

www.OpportunityInc.net 121

FAMILYGRAM

Continued from page 11

powerfully that we could scarcely hold ourselves up on our knees. In our 27 years of marriage together, we have reflected on that moment countless times; in seasons of joy and in seasons of sorrow and hardship. We are far from perfect individually or as a couple, which is all the more reason why we need God’s grace and presence in our relationship.

If you are considering marriage, please don’t use your pastor as a prop. Seek out his counsel and prayer. Invest time in discussing and planning for a life together, not just a ceremony or a party or a honeymoon. One great tool I’ve found is called “The Getting Ready for Marriage Workbook” by Jerry Hardin and Dianne Sloan. “The Christian Family” by Larry Christenson is another classic. I’ve taught a series out of Ephesians 5 & 6 on “The Spirit-Led Life” which I also believe is helpful for husbands, wives, and children.

Whatever Christ-centered, Bible-based resource you choose to prepare you for married life—or to strengthen your marriage life—I pray that the Lord’s grace and peace will be with you and your family, and I commend you for being willing to invest in such a holy and significant endeavor. May it bring blessing to you and your loved ones, and testify to the world of the unending love of Christ Jesus. 121

Stephen’s Simpson’s new audio message, “The Courage to Change” is now available!
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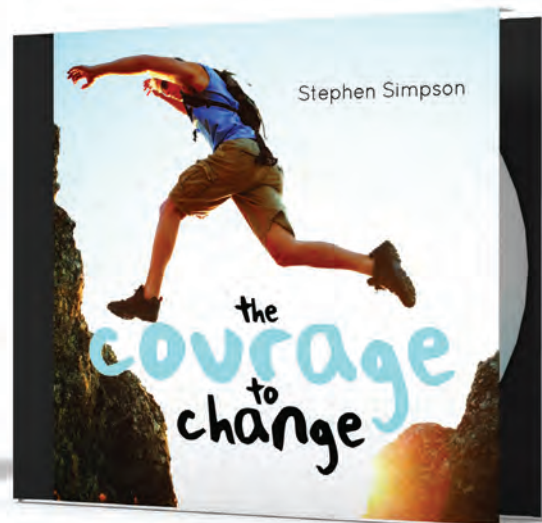
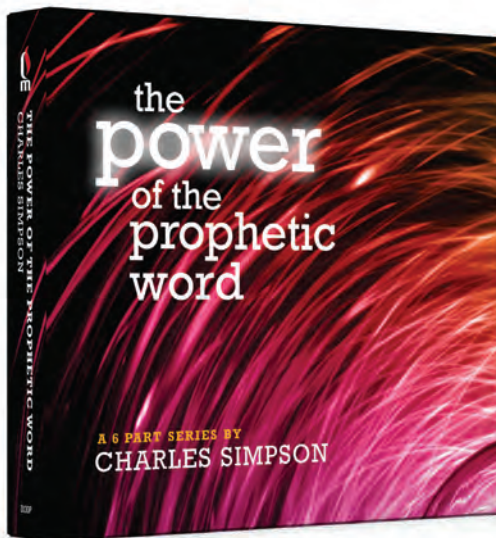


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