

NUGGETS OF GOLD: Stories, Dreams, and Visions Volume III

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OF GOLD***
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***STORIES, DREAMS,
AND VISIONS***

By Joan Royer

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**Sing to the Lord a new song;
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
Proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
His marvelous deeds among all peoples.
(Psalm 96:1-3 NIV)**

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***INVITE HIM TO READ THIS BOOK WITH YOU***

These are nuggets of gold that the Lord has shared with me in the past. He is leading me now to choose some of those nuggets to share with you. Invite Him to read this book with you and to give you understanding and revelation as you take this journey with Him. Let Him “sing a new song” in *your* heart in companionship with Him. Then you also can “declare His glory and His marvelous deeds”.

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FIND THE NUGGETS OF GOLD

“Oswald Chambers used to speak of our Lord ‘presenting the Truth in nugget form’; while later the apostles ‘beat out the nuggets into negotiable gold’. The daily readings given here may be regarded as nuggets of spiritual truth, to be turned into coinage for daily living. The process involves not only prayerful meditation, but, as our author would

insist, strenuous thought and spiritual concentration. May the Holy Spirit quicken and enlighten all who use this book.” (From the prologue to Oswald Chamber’s book *Still Higher For His Highest*)

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## *STORIES, DREAMS AND VISIONS*

The Lord wanted me to write down these stories, dreams, and visions, which tell of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* in my life and in others’ lives. That is why these were written. May they be an encouragement for you. May they strengthen you as you read how the Lord has revealed Himself and His ways in them.

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TROUBLE ON THE HIGHWAY

“God, help me!” I shouted as my car slid out of control on the slippery Indiana highway on that cold rainy day in February. I instinctively shut my eyes as my car careened down into the ditch on the right side of the road and into a field. I “felt” the car moving for a while as I sat braced for an impact or whatever might happen. I was totally out of control of the steering of the car. The car gradually slowed down enough for me to open my eyes and discover I was almost back on the highway! I was approaching the same roadside ditch I had just driven through, but this time from the field side of it! I accelerated the car trying to return to the road, but got stuck in the ditch.

As I sat in my car along the highway trying to grasp what had just happened, I began to see an amazing picture of what God had just done for me.....

The day began with plans to fly our private plane from Indianapolis, Indiana, to Columbia, Missouri, for a job interview for my husband. I was busily packing the clothes for our two daughters so we could make a stopover at my sister’s home in Marion, Indiana, and leave the girls there while we visited Columbia. I anxiously watched the cold rain and low clouds, wondering if they would hinder our flight and make us late for our appointment that evening.

Just then my husband called saying the weather was too bad to fly privately and we would need to catch a commercial flight very soon. Would I make the trip by car to Marion? Would I drop off the girls at my sister’s home, and return to Indianapolis in time to catch the commercial flight? There was just barely enough time if all went perfectly!

Driving at a high speed, I quickly made the trip, but I learned that the cold rain in Indianapolis changed to freezing rain and snow as I went north toward Marion. Cautiously I arrived at my sister's home, left the girls, and began the return trip - knowing I would not make the commercial flight on time unless I drove fast.

As I drove too fast for the icy road, God and His angels were watching over me, even in my unwise choice of speed. All of a sudden I realized the car was sliding, and it was totally out of my control! As I shut my eyes with the approaching danger and yelled, "God, help me!" God took over. When I looked around as the car came to a stop in the ditch, I knew He had taken over, because I could see where His angels had steered the car - off the road, through a ditch, into a large open field, around a tree in a U-shaped turn, then back up to the edge of the road where the car stalled in the ditch. The car and I were totally uninjured, not even scratched!

I walked to the nearest farmhouse where I used their telephone to call a AAA service truck to pull my car from the ditch. Needless to say, we missed our commercial flight and had to postpone our visit to Columbia until the next day.

I knew, as I pondered the event, that an angel had guided my car that day because my eyes had been shut, and a car does not steer itself where my car went!

Some weeks later, as I drove along that same Indiana highway, I noticed something that again caused me amazement about God's guiding hand. I noticed that "my field" with the tree in the middle was the only open area for a long way that was without buildings, fences, or signs that my car could have hit!

What could have been a tragedy turned out to be an enduring memory of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**To the Lord I cry aloud
and he answers me from his holy hill.
Psalm 3:4**

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## *A TREMENDOUS SUBSTITUTE*

As I arrived home from church that Sunday evening the Lord spoke to me to turn on the TV. As I did, I heard a pastor in the middle of his sermon say something which I immediately knew I was to write down. The idea he gave was this: *Just before God is ready to give you His very best, Satan often offers a tremendous substitute.*

The idea of a tremendous substitute was a new one for me, but since that time I have often found those words to be true.

It applied to my life one summer when I knew I needed to find a part-time job by September of that year because part of my financial provision would stop at the end of that month. As I took this need to the Lord in prayer, He gave me a picture of a door set before me. That door was open and behind it was bright light, so bright that I could not see what was there...but I knew it was His provision. He told me to keep walking toward the “door” in September, and He would have something for me at that time.

So I walked, in faith, and kept the picture before me. I had to fight battles with anxiety as the time drew closer and I still did not have the financial provision I needed.

By August I expected the Lord to bring me a job at any moment. Just at that time a friend called and invited me to lunch. She told me of a ministry position open at her church and asked if I would let her submit my name. She knew I had a call to ministry, and this looked good in so many ways! Could this be what the Lord had planned for me? I knew I must pray about it and give it serious consideration.

As I pondered it there was one thing that bothered me about the job. If I took this job I would have to leave my church “family” of many years duration where I had friendships that were close and meaningful to me. Only with the Lord’s help could I do that. So I sought Him in prayer.

I have learned over the years that if I really want to hear the Lord’s will I must first give up my own. This was very hard to do! I wanted the job the Lord had for me, and I needed the money soon, but I did not find peace about leaving my home church. So I prayed until I could say, “God, whatever You want for my life, that is what I want too. I am willing to pursue this job if that is what You want.”

Then He revealed to me that this job was a “*tremendous substitute*” which He had warned me about. It had seemed so perfect in many ways. That is often the way a “*tremendous substitute*” seems - perfect in many ways. It is hard to tell it from the real thing except as you seek God and listen to Him.

I chose not to pursue that job, but to wait longer. One day, in mid-September, two weeks before part of my financial provision ended, I walked into a Christian bookstore to buy a card. As I chatted with the owner, he casually mentioned, “By the way, you don’t happen to be looking for a job, do you? I have one available.”

With those words the Lord began the process of bringing me the “*real thing*.” For years a desire in my heart had been to work at a Christian bookstore because of my love of reading and sharing Christian books. Now, in the Lord’s perfect timing, He fulfilled that desire. In the process He showed me another of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

The picture of the door with the light on the other side finally became a reality! I walked through it with joy and thanksgiving!

**I am the Lord;  
in its time I will do this swiftly.  
Isaiah 60:22**

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THE DREAM

(given to Beth)

There was a storm that destroyed homes, broke palm trees, like a hurricane. For some reason there was a shortage of water. I had a bucket, half-full of water, and a cup. People came walking from all around to find water because their containers were almost empty. As I started to share my water with some children (in rationed portions), I noticed that I, too, was running out of water. I prayed a short prayer asking God to multiply the water so that there would be enough for all. As I shared water with two or three more people, I noticed that the cup that I used to dip water from my bucket stayed full, even after I poured water out of it. So I kept sharing water with people, the same amount for each, until all of them had water.

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## *THE LESSON*

Do you want to know what the Lord is like? I do! And as I go through life, I have found that He gives me “lessons” through which He teaches me about Himself, His purposes, and His ways.

One day He taught me a lesson that I have remembered ever since. It all started with the rain which came...and came...and came.

Into the lower level of my house came that flood of water. I could not keep up with it as I mopped and mopped. No matter how long I soaked it up, it just kept coming! My back started hurting from the mopping. My discouragement increased.

The water invaded the carpet and I knew that carpet would have to be taken up, dried, and tacked down again. This was not the first time this had happened, so I knew the cost.

That was one of my great concerns - the cost. My finances were extremely tight, and I did not want to pay for water damage again.

So, as I continued mopping, experiencing the back pain, and grumbling in my mind, I began weeping. It all seemed so hopeless! As I did this, I started to talk to the Lord about it.

Finally, after pouring out my troubles to Him, I became quiet long enough to hear Him speak. And what I heard was certainly not what I expected! I heard His still small voice say, "*Have you praised Me yet for this?*"

Praised Him? For this? I certainly had not! I had not even thought about praising Him for this awful situation! But now I knew He wanted me to do just that!

Slowly I began to speak the words He wanted me to say..."I praise You, Lord, for the flood. I praise You, Lord, for the aching back. I praise You, Lord, for the cost of fixing up my carpet." I didn't FEEL like praising Him, but He did not ask me to feel like it, only to praise Him.

As I did this, He revealed a thought to me that has remained throughout my life. The thought was that God's purpose was not to save me from the distress and difficulty of the situation, but to teach me something He wanted me to learn in the middle of the situation. In fact He wanted to use that situation for my good! He wanted me to learn to praise Him when things were difficult as well as when they were easy.

At this particular time He did not choose to change the circumstances...He chose to change me! I remember this as one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**In every thing give thanks:  
for this is the will of God  
in Christ Jesus concerning you.  
1 Thess. 5:18**

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DADDY

We stood and thanked the judge, then made our way from the legal office to our car. God had just answered a desire of my heart, which had taken many years to unfold. It started many years ago before I had any children. I had just returned from Indiana University Medical Center where the doctor had recommended that it was time to consider adoption. We had been married for nine years and had spent the last three years going through every type of procedure and test recommended by the specialists to help us get pregnant. Nothing had helped. We did not understand at the time why this was happening to us,

but I now realize God had a unique plan to bring to us our first child - a very special baby girl He picked just for us - by adoption.

It was an exciting time once the decision was made! For ten months we filled out paperwork, received visits from the social worker...and waited. The waiting experience is one I will never forget because every day took on an adventurous excitement! Would today be the day of *THE IMPORTANT TELEPHONE CALL?*

Every time the phone rang, the thought went through my mind, “Will this be the call saying they have a baby for us?” Every plan we made was contingent upon “when the baby comes.”

Then one day it actually happened! The call came! They had a baby girl for us! The excitement I felt at the time cannot be put into words. Life would be different for us from this moment on - forever - because we had a baby....a little girl!

We experienced a whole year of the delight of seeing the world through the wondering eyes of a child. And now, today was the day to look back and reflect about what God had done in our lives by bringing Kim to us. This morning we made the trip to meet with the judge for the procedure to legally adopt Kim. We would have done this a year earlier if the law had allowed. Now the day had finally arrived! After a year of having the silent concern that something might happen to take Kim from us, that concern was finally put to rest.

The judge finished all the questions and paperwork necessary, then relaxed as he addressed Kim for the first time. At one year old she did not understand the significance of what was happening, but she knew this was a stranger talking to her. “Well, Kim, is there something you want to say about this?” questioned the judge in a friendly manner.

“Daddy!” she said, as she snuggled up in her father’s lap for security in this strange circumstance. And we all laughed! “I guess that expresses your answer pretty well!” laughed the judge. For, indeed, that day she legally had a “Daddy” in a way she did not comprehend until later in life. She had a family. And we had the child God meant for us. God had just performed another of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**Delight yourself in the Lord
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
Psalm 37:4**

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## *TWO RECURRING DREAMS*



In dream #1 I am to do some sort of performance, like be in a drama, or play a French horn solo on stage. I don't know my part, lines, or how to play the solo. The time for the performance comes closer and closer and I don't prepare. I get more frustrated and fearful about having to give the performance when I am not prepared. I have had this type of dream quite a number of times and in various forms over several years.

I dream #2 I am in a city or place that is unfamiliar to me. I don't recognize the streets although I keep looking for something familiar so I can find my way. I am not sure where I am going or how to get there. I walk and walk looking for the way. Sometimes I am afraid of the people along the way - afraid they will harm me. This dream also comes in different places/circumstances but is basically the same form or idea...and is frustrating to dream.

In Jack Deere's book *THE BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE GIFT OF PROPHECY* he says:

Humble people pray. Praying is one of the most practical things we can do, both to get revelation and to understand it. God told Jeremiah, "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know" (Jer. 33:3). How much revelation do we forfeit simply because we do not ask God to tell us "unsearchable things"? How much revelation do we fail to understand because we do not ask God to reveal its meaning? p. 92

I asked God to tell me great and unsearchable things I did not know

Then Jack talks about the purpose of symbolic language on p 94-95. He says:

To sum up this section, symbolic language conceals truth from the proud, reveals the most profound truth to the humble, and jars us awake when we are tempted to use God rather than love him. It impacts our emotions. This is especially true of dreams and visions, which are often symbolic rather than literal...the symbols of dreams and visions may frighten us out of our lethargy (see Job 33:15-18). Because they do, God uses pictures and symbols to intensify our feelings.

The phrase above that kept bringing me to tears is: "*reveals the most profound truth to the humble*". I felt God impressing me to write these two dreams (above) so He could reveal the profound truth to me as I humbled myself, sought Him, and listened to Him.

If I had to interpret those two dreams in the natural, I would say they show: I feel something is coming for which I am not ready or prepared, and I am not getting ready. And the other dream means I am lost, don't know where I am going, don't know how to get there, am walking in unfamiliar territory, and am afraid of the people and unknown along the way. This natural interpretation is most distressing to me.

But the Lord says:

*These are My words to you, My child, about those two dreams. You are entirely dependent on Me in your life for what's coming, for getting ready, for the performance of what I want you to do, for how to get there, and for where you are going, also for keeping you through the fearful situations that might come. You are entirely dependent on Me - and that is exactly what and where I want you to be. This is part of My preparation of you - to get you totally dependent on Me and totally humble so that you know nothing and can't do anything to bring about what I am doing in your life or with you. My purpose for you is totally unknown and you are totally unprepared...at least in your physical eyes...and in your emotions.*

*This is part of the "preparation" I am taking you through just now, while you wait for Me to reveal and lead you to what is coming for you. It is exactly what I want for you right now. In your spirit you know this and it comes to you in your dreams.*

*This is because I want to use you, and I can only use you with this preparation getting you ready for what I want/plan to do.*

*Keep walking in this direction you are now going in relationship with Me and I will get you to the performance/place where I want to get you. Leave it in My hands. Trust Me.*

*Continue on as you are going, trusting Me completely to bring about My plan for you in My time, to totally empower you and prepare you, and to use you for My mighty purpose for you.*

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I KNOW THE PLANS

For several months the thought had been slipping quietly into my mind...the thought that someday I would move from the house I owned at that time. I would glance briefly at that thought and then let it slip by, feeling the move would come at least one or two years in the future. I had good reasons why I should wait that long to move...logical reasons. They made sense to my mind. But that was not the Lord's plan.

It was Friday, June 23, and I was having my Quiet Time. The Lord spoke to me saying He wanted me to place my house up for sale. In spite of all the previous thoughts about this, I was still surprised. I had not given much thought to actually doing it. I wanted to be sure this was really God's will before I acted on that word. That would be a big step for me to take by myself. I had never sold a house before! So I waited.

On Saturday, June 24, He said the same thing to me again in my Quiet Time. Since the word was reinforced, I began to look at it much more seriously.

On Sunday, June 25, as the Lord spoke the same message to me I was convinced I needed to act on it. So, on Monday morning, in my Quiet Time, I agreed to put my house up for sale. Then, with His guidance, I carefully outlined the steps I would take and the approximate times I wanted to take them.

At first I thought I would place the house on the market in September to give myself preparation time. But He said I should plan so the new family could move in before school started. So I made plans to close on the sale during the third week in August, around the 21st if possible. I planned to begin renting my new home on August 1st so I could have three weeks to move my things, have a garage sale in the old house, and have time to clean the house I was selling before completing the move.

I believed these plans were from God, and yet, what amazed me was this only allowed one month for God to sell my house! At that time many houses were sitting on the market in our city for 6-12 months without selling!

On Wednesday, June 28, my prayer partner and I prayed about this, and the advice that came was: "Call the Realtor right away and set this up." What Godly advice this turned out to be!

The Realtor and I met on Friday, June 30, one week after the Lord spoke to me to sell my house. I shared with her about the Lord's instructions, so we were both excited to see what He was going to do!

It was scary to sign my name on that document to sell my house while not knowing what lay ahead. I was agreeing to a huge transition without knowing its far-reaching effects. But what enabled me to sign was the assurance this was from the Lord.

I wanted the multiple listing realtors to tour my home on Wednesday, July 5, during the following week. Therefore my realtor said she would have to put it on the computer on the following Monday, July 3rd. I agreed to that, thinking I would have the 4th of July holiday to thoroughly clean and prepare the house for showing before Wednesday, July 5. Little did I suspect what God was already doing even as I made these plans!

On Monday, July 3rd, my house listing was placed on the computer system. A realtor saw it on the computer and came over that very afternoon. That evening she brought her client to view the house, and they wrote a contract on it that same night. I had not even cleaned it yet! That extra special cleaning was not what the Lord needed to sell my house. He just needed my obedience to list the house at the exact time He told me to. He did the rest!

God knew something that I did not know when He said I should list my house for sale. He knew there was a buyer who wanted a house just like mine and wanted it in my

neighborhood. He knew she would make an offer on a house just down the street from mine during that weekend just before my listing was put on the computer. He also knew she would miss buying that house because someone else made an offer just prior to hers. She was eager and ready to move as soon as possible. God was already at work in the situation. He just wanted me to join Him in what He was doing!

And guess what! The closing date she wanted was August 21st! In fact, God worked out every detail of the schedule we set that Monday, June 26th, when I said “yes” to His request and we set the plans. He even helped me find a lovely home to rent beginning August 1st as we had planned.

Once again in my life God revealed Himself, His purposes, and His ways by displaying one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**“For I know the plans I have for you,”
declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah 29:11**

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## *IN QUIETNESS AND CONFIDENCE*

*In quietness and in confidence  
is your strength, My child.*

*Face each day and each moment  
with quietness and confidence,  
knowing I am with you always,  
and have an answer for  
every question, every decision.*

*I am your quietness.  
I am your confidence.  
I am your God.  
I am your Lord.*

*I am your all in all.*

*I am your provider.  
I am your source.  
I am your sufficiency.  
I am your power.*

*I am your strength.*

*I am all you ever need.*

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GOD'S THERAPY

It was Friday...the day for chemotherapy again! How I dreaded those days! Twice a month for four months I had been taking treatments in that therapy room with other cancer patients. Some had much worse stories to tell than my story, so I learned to appreciate how well God was taking care of me even through the mastectomy and chemotherapy I had to endure. God was with me - and how much I needed Him! Especially today!

It all started with a routine mammogram that I did not want to have, but thought I should. Then came the letter saying something looked suspicious in the X-ray. Next came surgical biopsy day with many of my dear, dear Christian friends waiting and praying with me for a report of "no cancer." Finally came the telephone call telling me there was definitely cancer, and I broke down and cried and secluded myself for the rest of that day as the news took on reality for me.

But God was with me. He brought my daughters and Christian friends to comfort me in my grief. I praise God for them!

During the next two months I went through the mastectomy and surgical recovery period with a love blanket of support from my daughters, my church family, and my friends who gave me food, flowers, cards, love, and prayers, as well as much appreciated visits and telephone calls. I did not know how much those things meant until I needed them myself!

But now that time was past. And today I had to face another chemotherapy treatment. I would show up at the treatment room where the male nurse would insert a needle into my left arm to begin an IV setup. He would draw blood samples to test to see if my system was strong enough to take the treatment. Then I would wait for an hour or two until approval was given and drugs were sent to the therapy room for me. After that the drugs would be dripped into my veins for several hours - first the anti-nausea drugs, then the chemotherapy drugs selected by my doctor and me. Then I would wait...and pray.

Before I began chemotherapy I had asked the Lord how to pray about taking this therapy, and He instructed me to bind the bad effects of the drugs, and loose the good effects, so I did that day by day. I especially prayed not to lose my hair. I heard some stories from those who did lose theirs, and kept praying to be spared from that. God answered that prayer, and I was so thankful for that blessing!

But today this therapy day was different than the others. In my instructions I had been told to report any intestinal problems I developed. Well, they had been developing, but I had not yet told the doctor about them. Today I knew I must because I was getting sick for one to two hours at a time more and more frequently. I never knew when or where the sickness would hit me. As I reported this the words came that I did not want to hear: “We may have to postpone your therapy treatments.”

One of my greatest desires at that time was to finish those treatments as soon as possible! I certainly did not want to postpone them. So that evening I cried out to the Lord, “What do I do about this, Lord? How do I handle this? How do I pray? I do not want to postpone these treatments! I want to get them finished and get on with my life again! Please help me!”

And my wonderful God, in His still small voice, said, “*You can ask Me to heal you, and I will.*”

Well, I asked! And He did! After four months of times of sickness coming with increasing frequency, for the next two months of therapy I had no more sickness!

As I write this story two years later, I still have no sign of cancer in my body! So I share this story with you to “*declare His glory*” and tell of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**And my God will meet all your needs
according to his glorious riches
in Christ Jesus.
Phil. 4:19**

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## *DREAM*

I was sitting at the front in a single file row of people who were preparing to play the accompaniment for some performance (probably singing). We weren't given time to warm up our instruments, but just began rehearsing. Since I was in front of the row I couldn't see those behind me.

I also couldn't see the conductor except when I turned my head to the left and looked back for a quick glimpse. I had a French horn but I wasn't playing it. I was afraid I'd hit wrong notes, I didn't remember the fingering, and I didn't have music script. What I did have, instead of music, was a paper with #'s of the sections/pieces we were to play. There were numbers 1 to 9 on the paper. One time I saw notes I thought I was to play but couldn't see them well enough to make them out and could tell they needed fast playing.

Out in front of me in a large open space a singer started singing – like a female voice. The performance was to happen sometime and I didn't want to sit there not playing.

Interpretation:

- *Horn* - prophecy, last trumpet i.e. rapture
- *Performance* - His kingdom coming, His will being done, on earth as it is in heaven. It's the harvest of Jesus' kingdom work in His people
- *The page with numbers* - This is a picture to tell me "what time it is" prophetically (i.e. #'s of events) Number 9 refers to the harvest.
- *My sitting position* - I am "out in front" - i.e. living now. Not knowing my role - uncertainty of times
- *Others behind me* - i.e. lived previously and are watching from heaven
- *Singer* (we are to accompany) is HS and He has begun His song
- *His song* represents the "final days" before the rapture
- *Open field* ahead means I see nothing and know nothing about what's next - only to accompany the singer; the fields are white unto harvest. Pray to the Lord to send workers into those fields.
- *Holy Spirit's song* - He sings; all of us in the orchestra go with Him, accompany Him. He leads! He has begun His "final" song for the Church - the last days Church
- *Conductor* - goes through whole song with orchestra and leads them to the very end. I only get quick glimpses of Him - Jesus, but He is still conducting it all

The Lord showed me that I am participating in these ways:

1. As a part of His orchestra (past and present), just being in it, letting Him conduct, letting Him sing.
2. Being aware of His work and timing
3. Getting brief glimpses of Him conducting
4. Hearing His song
5. Seeing the open field
6. Wanting to do what He has me here to do
7. Praying for the harvest

The Scripture He gives me regarding this:

**"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." (Deuteronomy 31:8)**

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I LOVE YOU

It was the last day I could visit my father in the hospital. He had a stroke and we did not know how long he would live. We also did not know what his condition would be if he did live.

When I heard of his stroke I made the ten-hour trip from Missouri to Indiana to see him. After spending several days there, it was now time to return to Missouri...return without knowing the outcome of this stroke.

I did not look forward to this last visit to the hospital, knowing it could be the last time I might see my father alive. What do you say at such a time?

My father and I had never been close. He was not the type of person to be affectionate or share his feelings with others. We did not communicate much except about surface things. I wanted to be close to my father, but somehow it was not easy to feel close to him. I had never heard him tell any person, "I love you." And as a child it would have made such a difference in my life to hear those words!

Now, as an adult, I could see that Dad had loved me "in his way" by taking care of my material needs along with those of our family. But, as a child, I did not perceive that. I needed, as a child, to be told and shown that I was loved. Therefore, I grew up thinking he really did not care much about me.

And now the time had arrived to say good-bye. I dreaded this moment. What should I say? I leaned over his bed to hug him and said, "Dad, I have to leave now. I have to go back to Missouri....I love you, Dad."

And he said the words I had waited all my life to hear: "I love you, too."

As my sister and I left his room and walked down the hospital corridor, she said with tears in her eyes, "That is the first time I ever heard Dad say 'I love you' to anyone in my whole life!"

I knew it was one of life's rare and touching moments... and that God gave that moment as one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

Oh, that we could turn aside
from all our pride and pain
and take the risk to tell someone
"I love you" - what great gain!

Take the time to tell someone
of the caring in your heart,
before the opportunity is past,
before you have to part.



CHARGE OVER THEE

My sister, and I were driving along a highway in Indiana heading toward Fort Wayne. She had just received word that a friend of hers needed her immediately so she dropped everything to go. As she left she asked if I wanted to ride along to keep her company. So, together we left the Christian Conference we were attending, telling friends we would return the next day.

As we traveled along the two-lane highway, we came upon a large semi-truck and began to pass it. When we were about half way around it, the driver of the truck, apparently not seeing us in his side view mirror, began pulling into the passing lane where we were.

The next thing I knew we were careening off the left side of the highway with our car turning completely over and finally coming to a stop in a cornfield! It was the strangest sensation turning over in a car...one that I hope I will never feel again!

My eyes were shut as we went over, but I was quite aware of every sensation. I felt all the bumps and jolts, but at the same time became aware of a stinging pain in my finger! I pulled my hand back from the pain thinking I must be receiving a cut from broken glass in the windshield. My strangely calm thought was: "This must be what it is like to turn over in a car."

As we thudded to a stop, right side up (Praise the Lord!), I opened my eyes and began to look around. There was dust or smoke all around the car. At once I realized the car could catch on fire! I said we should get out immediately in case the car caught on fire. We assured each other we were OK as we hunted for her glasses that had been thrown off her face.

Then we tried to open the doors. They would not open! At that moment I began to feel panic! I began to pound on the door frantically. But it would not open!

Just then my sister got the door on her side open, and we realized we could get out, so the panic stopped immediately.

As soon as we got out we walked away from the car, through the field to the side of the highway, where we sat down a moment to try to grasp what had just happened and what to do next. Then we heard people yelling at us to come across the road away from the wires hanging near us. We had not yet noticed them!

After we crossed the highway to those friendly voices calling to us, we sat down again in our shocked state and began to listen to them speak. They said, "We never expected anyone to come out of that car alive!" They told us that we had hit a pole and broken it in two so that the wires were hanging down around the car. My side door, which I had

frantically tried to open, was lodged against the pole we hit. Thank the Lord I could not get it open, because I might have walked into live wires before realizing it.

After the ambulance got us to an emergency room they had my sister lie down because she had a headache. When the nurse asked me if I was hurt, all I had to report was a cut finger - the pain I felt while the car was turning over. A little later I overheard the nurse quietly tell someone that our blood pressures were “sky high!” She immediately had me also lie down when she discovered that.

Due to the high blood pressure they asked us to be admitted overnight for observation even though we were not hurt. As we lay in our hospital beds we called back to the Christian Conference we had just left, and the whole conference group stopped and prayed for us immediately.

We rested in our beds, bathed in prayer, thanking God for His protection. He had just performed one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* in our lives as He kept us safe through the accident.

**For he shall give his angels
charge over thee,
to keep thee in all thy ways.
Psalm 91:11 KJV**

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## ***THE REFLECTION***

The quieter the water  
the more perfect  
the reflection.

The more you know  
who you are in Me,  
the quieter your soul  
is before Me,  
the more perfectly  
you reflect Me!

**“And we, who with unveiled faces  
all reflect the Lord’s glory,  
are being transformed into his likeness  
with ever-increasing glory.”  
2 Cor. 3:18**

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GOD'S MIRACLE BABY

It was Tuesday afternoon and I was walking up to my sister's house. I had been invited to come and share something with the prayer group gathered there. This was a moment we had all been waiting for - a long, LONG time - and it was finally here.

This began several years before when the doctors had done all they knew at the time to help my husband and me to get pregnant. After exhausting their efforts they told us to consider adoption, so we went through adoption procedures. Through this God brought us a baby girl who was a delight in our lives.

Later, when we moved to another town, a different doctor told us of one more possibility we might try - major surgery. By this time we were so happy with our adopted child we would have been quite content to adopt a second time. But something inside kept saying to me that perhaps I should try this one last possibility. So, in the spring, I had surgery and went through weeks of pain and fatigue to recover.

By Thanksgiving we learned I was pregnant, so we spent the holiday telling our family and friends the good news and we all rejoiced together! But the day after Thanksgiving, my body began a process of miscarrying that baby. I spent most of the week in the hospital, and then was sent home with the instruction to spend the rest of the nine months off my feet to try to save the baby. How do you manage a home and a 22-month old child while in bed?

In the midst of the situation I kept talking to God about it. "God, if You want me to have this baby, that is OK. You know I want to. But if, for some reason, it is not best for this baby to come into the world, I accept that. Please do what You know is best. I leave this in Your hands." And shortly after arriving home, the miscarriage was completed.

Well, that did not stop my sister's prayer group! When I got pregnant again within a few months of the miscarriage, they took this new baby as their prayer project! They prayed for that baby's life and health and for that baby to be able to be born. Since I had miscarried once, and possibly twice, the doctors did not have as much hope for this third time, but that did not deter those prayer warriors. They had faith!

The pregnancy went smoothly! And a beautiful little child was born. She even surprised us by coming three weeks early in time to be a Christmas present! Little Elizabeth was a miracle of God through prayer - reminding me of Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist, who had her own miracle birth experience.

So, today, all these thoughts flooded through my mind as I approached the house where these prayer warriors were gathered to see “their miracle baby.” Baby Elizabeth and I entered, and we all praised God together! Today was a day to ponder His ways, to look back and see *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS*, and to declare His glory.

...with God all things are possible.

Matthew 19:26

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## *A VISION*

The Lord had me go to the upper room and unplug the phone and shut the door for a “deeper quiet” time this morning. I saw a vision of a bluebird flying over my head from left to right. It was carrying something, I guess a seed, in its mouth. Bird represents the Holy Spirit; blue represents Spiritual: Spiritual gift, divine revelation, heavenly visitation. The seed represents the Word of God.

*So the bluebird represents that I am sending My Holy Spirit to fly over your head with a gift, revelation and/or visitation that will implant My Word into you better for it to grow. After it is implanted and full grown, I will tell you when to give it out to others.*

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NAILED TO THE CROSS

One of the Lord’s marvelous deeds is giving us the opportunity to become clean before Him through Jesus’ work on the cross. There was a day in my life when He took me through a giant step in the process of becoming clean from past grudges, hurts, and unforgiven circumstances. It all began at the very last meeting of the conference...

The conference I was attending in North Carolina was on “Prayer for Spiritual Awakening.” One thing I learned is that if you want spiritual awakening you need to pray, but I also learned that effective prayer must come from a cleansed vessel. God began a process of cleansing in me that day. He started to clean me from past experiences.

I sat listening intently as the speaker shared a fresh experience of God’s work in his personal life - an experience only two weeks old. I thank God for this man who was

willing to be vulnerable enough to share how God revealed his own needs for cleansing and how God taught him to be free from the bondage of past events in his life. He shared how he took each revealed memory of past hurts, grudges, and unforgiven events to the cross, confessed his part in those events, asked forgiveness, and then nailed those sins to the cross in his imagination as he accepted in his heart Christ's finished work of paying the penalty for them.

I was so touched by this! I knew deep down inside God was calling me to do the same. I felt like the conference was just beginning for me because there was so much inner work I wanted to do before returning home.

But the conference was over. Even so, my heart was filled with the intense desire to be alone with God and let Him do that cleansing work in me also. Oh, how I wanted to stay!

We packed the van with our luggage and began the 1 and 1/2 day trip back to Missouri. The drawing by God to come apart with Him and begin that cleansing work was so real I could not escape it, nor did I want to. However God knew what to do with all those travel hours!

As the miles flew by and people became quieter, I began looking out the window and drawing apart in my mind to communicate with the Lord. "Lord, please show me those areas in my life that need cleansing! Take me back, Lord, in my memory to times and events which I need to confess before You."

And He did! The first event He brought to my mind seemed so insignificant to me, I would not have considered it if He had not shown it to me from His viewpoint. He reminded me of a time when I was six years old and my mother was in bed recovering from the delivery at our home of my baby brother. My aunt was taking care of our family until my mother was able again. I had injured myself and wanted a bandage on the wound, but she would not give me one. I went to my mother and asked for one, and she let me have it.

The Lord began to show me I had never forgiven my aunt for not understanding the need of a small child, not just for a bandage, but for the love and concern that mother gave with that bandage. I had held a grudge against her ever since that day and did not even know it!

First the Lord had me confess my sin of holding a grudge, then forgive my aunt for not helping me. As the speaker taught us, I pictured myself taking my sin to the cross and nailing it there. Christ had already paid the price for it and I accepted that payment and thanked Him for it.

What a wonderful cleansing followed! All the way home, for hour after hour on the van, the Lord took me back in my memory and worked cleansing from past events. The prayer Jesus taught became very real to me: "*Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors!*" As I forgave others, He worked cleansing in me of my debts. Those debts got

nailed to Jesus' cross all the way across the country from North Carolina to Missouri as God worked one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* in my life!

**For if you forgive men when they sin against you,
your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
But if you do not forgive men their sins,
your Father will not forgive your sins.
Matthew 6:14-15**

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### *ONE STITCH AT A TIME*

I am sitting in my chair looking at the picture which my mother stitched on canvas for me. It is a lovely picture of a clump of birch trees blowing in the wind. I liked that picture the moment I saw it in the store.

I bought the kit to make it myself, but did not get around to doing it. Then one day my mother saw the kit and volunteered to stitch it for me. At that time in her life she was retired and had time to sew. So, although I had the initial desire to create the picture on canvas, and bought all the materials to do so, it was not completed and framed until another person, my mother, volunteered to do the actual stitching. Out of that combination came this beautiful picture hanging on my wall.

As I sit here pondering this, the thoughts begin to form in my mind from the Lord about how our lives are similar in relation to Him. He is the One who had the original idea, the initial desire, for our lives. He provided life for us and all the materials needed to stitch a beautiful picture from it. One thing is left for us to do to get the picture completed.

We have to work with Him, using what He has given us, to create that beautiful picture. It must be stitched day by day, one stitch at a time. He will provide the directions for us - as were provided with the picture mother stitched. She just had to follow those to get the picture right. Our directions can be found in His Word, the Bible. If we follow those directions, when we come to the end of the picture, He will put the frame on it, and we can all rejoice in *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS*.

**I will instruct you and teach you  
in the way you should go;  
I will counsel you and watch over you.  
Psalm 32:8**

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LIKE A LITTLE CHILD

As an adult I have often been guided by the Lord to look back into my past and remember an event that needs to be prayed through. Sometimes I need to forgive someone, sometimes I need to ask the Lord to forgive me, sometimes I need to be freed from a wrong attitude, and sometimes I need healing. This story involves both forgiveness and emotional healing for something that happened to me as a young child.

I do not remember why, but my father was angry with me. In the process of dealing with me in his anger, he sent me outside our home to stand by myself on our front porch in the dark. I was very afraid of the dark, so that was a dreadful punishment for me. But there was also a feeling of rejection and fear during that event...enough that it continued as a very painful memory for many years.

As an adult I brought that memory to the surface under the Lord's guidance one day. I had to forgive my father for treating me that way. It was easy enough to say, "I forgive him," to the Lord because I now had children of my own and could understand how irritating they could be at times. Perhaps I had been that way. But somehow the Lord was not finished with that memory. I did not have a sense of peace about the memory, and it kept returning to my mind. So I asked the Lord how to be free from the pain of that memory. Then I began to see that the feeling of being unwanted and rejected was still there and needed to be healed. "How could I be healed?" I asked Him. Then He performed one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* in my life to bring healing to me.

He had me bring back and review in my mind the picture of myself standing on that porch in the dark as a little child. Then He reminded me that He was always with me and that I could imagine Him there on that porch with me - because He really was. So, in my imagination, I pictured Him standing there with me. And, somehow, it was not dark anymore when He was there, and I was not afraid.

In my imagination (that turned into a vision) He took my hand and we walked together down the steps, off the porch, and into a grassy area beside the house. His presence blessed me and freed me to be the child I was. We took hands and danced around in circles as children do. Then He stooped down and waited and watched as I danced and ran around in the grass full of joy and delight in being with Him.

This was so healing to me that now it is a pleasure to go back to that memory. When I do, I remember, not pain, but Jesus being with me, and accepting me for being a child and acting like a child...and just loving me as a child. My earthly father could not accept me acting like a child, but my Heavenly Father loved me that way!

**He (Jesus) said to them, "Let the little children come to me,
and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.
I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God
like a little child will never enter it."
And he took the children in his arms,**

put his hands on them and blessed them.

Mark 10:14-16

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## *A VISION*

Today I am remembering a vision picture the Lord gave me at a CFO camp many, many years ago. In this vision I was to go out into the ocean water and seek a treasure Jesus had for me and bring it back up to shore. When I walked from the ocean back up to the shore Jesus was waiting there for me and He handed me a treasure.

Interpretation: I come “out of the ocean” of people and separate myself to find the Lord on the shore. He comes to me and brings His treasure--His treasure being Himself and His provision, all He has belongs to me. I only need to seek Him for it, for it comes through Him--no matter how it appears to come in the natural.

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BAPTIZED BY ONE SPIRIT INTO ONE BODY

My husband and I had traveled from Missouri to California for the American Academy of Family Physicians Convention where he was to be initiated as a new member along with hundreds of others who had passed their board exams. The night for the initiation ceremony had arrived and we were preparing to attend.

I was ready to go when, at the last minute, I decided to change to a red dress. This red dress had pinned to its collar a dove pin, a tiny silver pin that to me stood for the Holy Spirit. It identified me as a Christian - like the first century Christians used the sign of the fish to identify them. But tonight, in my hurry to change, I did not notice that pin. I just followed a sudden urge to change to that red dress.

As my husband and I parted at the huge theater, we made plans to meet after the ceremony by the front entranceway. Then he went to the stage area while I sat in the theater to watch. We did not think when we made those plans about the thousands of people at the convention and how difficult it might be to find someone after such a meeting. But, God had a plan for the waiting time!

After the ceremony I went outside and stood near the entranceway on the sidewalk in front, waiting. I waited and waited, wondering why we had not been more specific in our

meeting place. Standing there in my bright red dress, I was easy to see. But it was not the red dress that caught someone's attention, it was the tiny, tiny Holy Spirit pin!

A woman came up to me, introduced herself, said she was from North Carolina, indicated she was a Christian too, and said, "I just wanted to meet my sister in Christ who was wearing that Holy Spirit pin!" With that we hugged, and she disappeared in the crowd.

My heart leaped and joy exploded within me! God lifted up my spirit like a cloud floating above the world! In that moment, I had experienced supernatural instant communion with someone I had never met before - another member of the "Body of Christ".

The joy of that moment returned in memory many times over the years to bring a smile to my thoughts. To me this remains as one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body -
whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free -
and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.
1 Corinthians 12:13**

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## *HELP ALONG THE ROAD*

It started out as just another routine day for Harold. He and a partner were to deliver cars from Columbia, Missouri, to Effingham, Illinois, and they were just getting underway. Little did Harold realize that today God was going to display one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* in his life - one he would never forget! As Harold tells the story:

We started our trip from Columbia, but somehow got separated from each other along the way. It suddenly dawned on me that I knew the town to which we were going, but did not know the name of the car dealer. I did not know if my partner was ahead or behind me on the road. I was in a quandary as to what to do!

"Lord, I need Your help!" I prayed as I stopped along the side of I-70 east of Columbia. I spotted a telephone not too far away, but was afraid I might miss my partner if I left my car to use it. What should I do?

About that time a car pulled off the road in front of me and started backing up. As I approached the car a stranger said, "Could I be of any help?" As I explained my situation and reluctance to leave my car to telephone, he said, "That is no problem. I have got a phone in my car."

The stranger proceeded to call my sales manager in Columbia and learn the name of the dealer I was to contact in Effingham. I felt immensely comforted to learn that information.

As we chatted a bit I said to him, “I do not know where you stand in your religious life, but I want to share something with you. I was standing out here along the road, and I was really in a quandary. Finally I thought about the Lord and I said, ‘Lord, I need Your help!’ And about that time you pulled off the side of the road. It really proved to me that the good Lord can take care of us!”

The stranger kind of grinned and said, “Well, I think you are right!” And he shared with me that he was a Baptist minister from near Atlanta, Georgia, and was traveling from Kansas City where he had just visited his mother. He even said he had been to Columbia before and had sung at my own church in Columbia some years ago! Then, wishing me well, he drove on.

Later I was surprised when stopping at a rest stop in Wentzville to find my minister friend there, so we got to talk some more. Even so I made it to Effingham to the right place only about fifteen minutes behind my partner.

Sometime later I received a letter from my newfound brother in Christ from along I-70 that said:

*Dear Harold,*

*It was good to meet you by the side of the road last week. I am sorry it was under such circumstances, and I hope everything worked out the rest of your trip.*

*Oftentimes in my travels I have needed help along the road, and the Lord sent me the person I needed at the time. I appreciate your testimony to me that you prayed and I showed up. It was no inconvenience to me, and it was a delight to meet you.*

*May the Lord richly bless you in all things, and if you are ever in Atlanta, give me a call.*

*Awaiting the shout!*

*Bill*

What started out for Harold as a perplexing situation leaving him troubled and uncertain as to what to do, turned out to be a testimony of God’s care, and a display of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**The Lord will hear when I call to him.**

**Psalm 4:3**

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AGLOW WITH THE SPIRIT

The airline stewardess was staying at the Hotel Denver while she had layover time between flights. This was her usual place to stay, but little did she know how different this particular visit would be!

While she was in her hotel room that evening she looked out the hotel window and saw the Denver Convention Center. This was not unusual, but what was shocking on that particular night was what she saw coming from the top of that Convention Center. She saw flames covering it! As she watched in awe, she realized the building was not being consumed!

She said to herself, "I must find out what is going on over there!"

The next morning while riding down in the elevator she began conversing with a group of ladies from Indiana who were in the elevator with her. After finding out they were attending meetings at the Convention Center, she told them what she saw the night before. So they invited her to come to their meetings that day - meetings of the Women's Aglow organization holding their annual National Convention.

The stewardess did attend those meetings and left at the end of the day very impressed! She was a Christian, but had never heard of Aglow before. She said she must get involved in Aglow back home. It turned out the headquarters were right near her house.

God performed one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* for her at that time. We do not know why, but perhaps He was calling her into a deeper walk with Himself. What we do know is that while those Aglow women were praying and praising the Lord, God touched the life of this woman through a supernatural sign. In the process, He also gave a visible sign of encouragement to all of those women at the Aglow Convention!

Jesus said...

**"But I, when I am lifted up from the earth,
will draw all men to myself."**

John 12:32

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## *THE LORD DETERMINES HIS STEPS*

For many months my husband had been seeking a different job. Each time he was informed of another job possibility we would discuss it, consider that area of the country, look at the job, and try to see if this was the right place for us to move. We wanted a good

job for him, but we also wanted a good place to live and raise our children of two and five years old.

The answer seemed to be “no” to each one, until he was offered a position at Duke University. This was different. It had many attractive features and the decision was not an automatic no. But, even so, he was not quite sure.

He asked his contact person at Duke to allow him until the end of that month of December to make his decision. All during that month the answer did not come with peace to him. He wanted an assurance inside that this was the right step to take before giving up his old job and moving our family.

At the end of December, with no answer clear, he asked for the month of January to finish making the decision, and was granted that request. In spite of all his efforts to come to an understanding of what to do, the answer did not come! It was so frustrating! On the one hand, it was a good job with people he liked. But, on the other hand, he did not feel a clear direction to take that job.

By the last day in January, he knew he had to make a decision one way or the other. So he told me he would go ahead and accept the job even without a sureness within himself. But God had a different plan!

At 4:30 on the afternoon of January 31st he called the contact person at Duke University to say he would accept the job. But that person’s secretary said he had just left to go to Europe just shortly before the phone call, and he would not be back for nine days. She really wanted to know my husband’s answer, but he said he would wait to talk to the contact person.

During those nine days, he was contacted about a job in another state and went to look at it. And this job was just what he wanted! There was no hesitating or waiting. He knew this was the right place for him! So, in God’s perfect timing, he accepted the right job and we moved our family to Columbia, Missouri, which proved to be an excellent place to live and raise our family.

God had picked the best place for us! But not only that, he had kept us from making the wrong decision until the right job came!

Not only did God have the right job for my husband, but also our children were able to attend the Columbia Schools from kindergarten through 12th grade and also graduate from the University of Missouri in Columbia. When Columbia was selected by *Money Magazine* as the second best city in which to live in the United States one year, it only affirmed the decision God helped us make in 1974 when we moved there. In my opinion God had truly performed one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* for us!

**In his heart a man plans his course,  
but the Lord determines his steps.**

**Proverbs 16:9**



## *UNKNOWN DANGER*

My ears were hurting from the air pressure change as our small plane circled and prepared to land at the airport at Vientiane, Laos. We were about to visit the third city on our two-week tour through Southeast Asia. Having traveled from the huge city of Tokyo, Japan, where we lived at that time, to the bustling city of Hong Kong, then to Saigon, Vietnam, we were not quite prepared for the sparseness and bleakness of the countryside in the Vientiane, Laos area. As we landed and began exploring the city, our amazement increased as we saw practically no stores, only one stoplight in the whole city, and very little traffic on the streets. We had a lot to learn about Laos from the person we were visiting.

Our host shared with us about the country, and in the process mentioned a short trip that possibly could be arranged to visit the ancient capital of Laos called Luang Prabang. It could be reached at that time by joining a pilot who flew a small plane there on special occasions and stopped at a mountain village along the route to deliver rice. This sounded intriguing to us two young explorers wanting to experience all we could during this rare opportunity to visit Laos.

It was arranged. We were told to be at the airport the next day and be ready for a short flight into the mountain village, then another short flight north to the old capital. We also were told we would have about two hours to explore the capital, and then we would have to return to the airport. We were warned not to be late because the pilot would not wait for us. When he was ready to leave, he would leave, with or without us.

The next day when we boarded the plane we found ourselves the only two passengers on a small plane with jump seats along the walls facing the middle. Along with the supplies, we took off for the village in the mountains. This was quite different from a commercial flight!

To get to the village we had to fly low between two mountains and wind our way down quickly into a small valley. As we landed on the edge of the village, we got out of the plane to stretch while the pilot took care of his business there. It was raining, so we stood under the high wing of the plane and began to look around. People began to gather near the plane just as interested in looking at us as we were at them. They stooped down and just stared while we waited. As I watched them I remembered the description I had read of Khmer people of the Laos mountain area, and these people looked just like the description.

The pilot returned and we took off again, this time to land in Luang Prabang, the ancient capital of Laos, in the early afternoon. My husband and I quickly began to walk through as much of the city as we could cover in our two-hour time limit. We believed that as we traveled we got a better feel for the place we visited if we spent time walking there.

Actually I do not remember seeing any type of transportation we could have used anyway. We discovered that this city had a beauty that made one wish it could still be the capital city instead of the bleak Vientiane.

Believe me, we took no chances on missing our plane back! So we were at the airport at the designated time, not wanting to be left in northern Laos by ourselves. As we waited for the pilot to arrive we sat on boxes sitting in the airport area - boxes of explosives. We could hear shooting in the distance so we knew fighting was not too far away. It was spring of 1962, and there was warfare in northern Laos at that time. Uneasily we waited, and were relieved when the pilot returned and we took off for our return flight to Vientiane.

That night, after we returned, our host discussed our trip with us. When we finished, he remarked, "I did not want to worry you before you left so I did not tell you this...but two weeks ago as that plane flew into the same small mountain village to deliver rice, it was shot at from the mountains on the sides!"

We were shocked! We had no idea it was that dangerous! But God did! How many times He protects us when we are unaware of it. I believe He was performing another of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* in protecting us during that whole trip!

**If I go up to the heavens, you are there...  
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,  
if I settle on the far side of the sea,  
even there your hand will guide me,  
your right hand will hold me fast.  
Psalm 139:8-10**

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COME TO SAY GOOD-BYE

From the time I was a child I knew there was a spiritual realm that we did not ordinarily see or experience in our daily lives. I knew this because of a story my mother used to tell me about her sister, Fern...

Fern was pregnant and the time of birthing was near. Even as she waited for this event, her mother, my grandmother, was very ill and near death. However the news of the graveness of her mother's illness was being kept from Fern because the family did not want her to deal with this until after the baby was born.

Then her mother died. The family did not tell Fern, but waited. The delivery time came and the new baby arrived into this world. Sometime after the delivery, the family gathered at Fern's bedside to tell her the news about her mother.

As they walked in they were surprised when Fern said she knew why they had come! She said, “You have come to tell me Mom’s dead, haven’t you?” As they questioned her about how she knew, she told them this incredible story:

She and the new baby were lying in their room when she saw her mother walk into the room. Her mother walked over to the baby’s bed, looked at her, and said, “I just wanted to see the baby before I go.” So Fern knew her mother was “leaving” and told the family this with peace in her heart. It was as if her mother had come to tell her good-bye.

The family all knew that their mother had not visited Fern in her physical body!

As this story was shared with me as a child, I saw God’s hand in this situation, and knew there was a supernatural spiritual realm not usually visible with our natural eyes that had appeared at that time. God, in His mysterious ways, and for His own reasons, had performed one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* that brought comfort to their whole family and especially to Fern!

**There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under heaven:
a time to be born
and a time to die.
Eccl. 3:1-2**

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### *I WILL RESCUE HIM*

“Oh, God, help us!” I began to pray as my husband and I flew in a twin-engine plane toward the airport at Marion, Indiana. “We need Your right now, Lord! This plane is having engine trouble! Help my husband land this plane safely!” I prayed hard and fast, over and over, as we descended toward the landing strip.

The plane that my husband was piloting suddenly had one of the two engines quit working as we were in mid-air. Even though he had had training in what to do if this should ever happen, this had never happened to us before! He navigated the plane with his attention riveted on the instrument panel trying to keep the plane level with power coming from one side only. This was very difficult! While his attention was riveted on the instrument panel, my attention was riveted on the Lord. We needed Him right now!

My sister was standing outside the small airport building at Marion with our two young daughters watching for our plane to appear. Kim and Beth were excitedly watching for their Mom and Dad to come and get them after their trip. They loved to visit Aunt Joyce

and Uncle Edd, but they also missed Mom and Dad. Their eyes repeatedly looked across the sky to see the first sign of the arriving plane.

As they watched, a plane did indeed come into view off at a distance, but there was something strange about that plane. It had a long trail of gray-white smoke coming from one of its engines - an ominous-looking trail! They began to wonder and ask Aunt Joyce if this could be their parents' plane.

Joyce, suspecting the worst, knew this probably was! But she did not want the girls to see it coming in and watch what might happen! So she skillfully took them back into the airport building and tried to divert their attention...all the while wondering what was happening outside. She was a praying Christian woman, and she also was calling on the Lord in her heart as much as she could while entertaining Kim and Beth.

Gradually, in what seemed a long period of time, my husband maneuvered the plane toward the runway - closer and closer - while I watched breathlessly and prayed all the way. Was there a fire? We could not see it if there was! Would we be able to land, get out of the plane, and get away from it in time? Unanswered questions assailed my mind in those moments before landing.

God was right there with us in those moments of desperate prayers. We landed safely, got out of the plane, and saw the reason for our engine loss as we watched the smoke coming from it. The smoke was being blown behind us as we flew, so we could not see it while in the cockpit.

We had an extra thankful and joyful reunion with our loved ones in that airport that day! God had spared our lives from the danger near us and kept us for His purposes. He had revealed Himself as our protector and deliverer. He had truly performed one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

As I reflect back on this event etched vividly in my memory, I am reminded that God kept us safe from a possible fuel tank explosion from that burning engine. And I am also reminded that the engine loss could have taken place over a large city or over the countryside instead of near the airport of our destination. God was, indeed, watching over us even before I started praying!

**“Because he loves me,” says the Lord,  
I will rescue him;  
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.  
He will call upon me, and I will answer him;  
I will be with him in trouble,  
I will deliver him and honor him.  
With long life will I satisfy him  
and show him my salvation.”  
Psalm 91:14-16**



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THE TRAIN TRACKS

John was driving his car home one day along a country road that had little traffic at that time. He had driven along this road many times and felt comfortable knowing what to expect. He was coming upon a railroad track that he had crossed many times before.

This railroad track was one of those lines which probably used to have trains along it regularly, but now was seldom used, any if at all. It was the kind of track where you seldom stopped and looked because you had been over it so many times without seeing a train. John certainly was not accustomed to seeing trains on it!

But this day a very strange event took place as John approached those country train tracks. Just before reaching them, he suddenly saw flashing red warning lights signaling an approaching train. He was so surprised by this he had to slam on his brakes to stop in time. Just as he screeched to a stop at the edge of the tracks, a train passed by immediately in front of his car!

He was visibly shaken by the incident! He went home afterwards and shared this mysterious event with his family. You see, there were no electric signal lights at that crossing!

This has been remembered and discussed for years in our family. It is one of those mysterious ways of God that we cannot explain, but at which we marvel. It was truly one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**I warned you when you felt secure...
Jeremiah 22:21**

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## *SEEK THE GIVER*

I was at a Christian Conference with many wonderful people, great speakers, and blessed music. I had come to the conference with an unspoken question in my heart that I wanted answered...unspoken to people, that is. God knew the question in my heart. I hoped I could find the answer at this conference. But there were only two days left and I still did not have the answer.

The question was about a teaching which I had been hearing and reading...a teaching which said I should seek a specific gift of the Spirit. According to this teaching, if I did

not have this particular gift, I was missing something important which God had for me. It seemed I was not “complete” until I received that gift. My question was: “What about that, Lord? Do You want me to ask for and receive that particular gift?”

One afternoon I was planning to attend a session offered at 4:00. But around 2:00 a friend injured herself and needed transportation to the local hospital. So I volunteered to take her, hoping I would still be able to make the session at 4:00. We were finished at the hospital just in time to return to the conference and walk directly to the 4:00 session. As I walked in, the speaker entered with me.

As she began to share with the group, the answer to my question began coming from her! I sat there in amazement! She said, in essence, that we should not seek any particular gift, but seek the Giver of the gifts and let Him decide what He wants to give each of us. I knew that was my answer! And I had not even told her my question!

I had a great peace about that! I was to seek Jesus, and if He wanted me to have that particular gift, He would give it to me. The gift was not to come before my relationship with Him!

Later, as I shared with the speaker how God had used her to answer my question, she surprised me even further by telling me this: she had sought the Lord about what she should share at the 4:00 session. She did not get an answer, so she left for the session not knowing. She said as we walked in at the last minute God spoke to her about what to say! She and I both knew that it was specifically for me. She felt God waited to tell her what to share to see if I would make it back in time and attend the session. We could both agree this was one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**...the Lord searches every heart  
and understands every motive behind the thoughts.  
If you seek him, he will be found by you...**  
**1 Chronicles 28:9**

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SAWMILL

God sometimes shows HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS in our lives when we are in great need and we cry out to Him for help. That is what happened in the lives of Jean and Jack at the stressful time of a job change that involved a move to a strange city. Jack had just gotten a new job near Columbus, Ohio, which was a much larger city than where they lived in Indiana. At the time of this story Jack was already in Columbus and Jean was preparing to drive there to meet him. Together they planned to choose a house to buy so the whole family could move.

Jean felt overwhelmed with the task before them. How were they to find a house in that large city which was just right for their family? The day before her departure to drive alone to Columbus, she was especially concerned with what lay ahead - the decision about the right house. Jean was a Christian and knew God could help her. So, in her need, she cried out to Him, "God, will You show me a sign to help find our house?"

That night as Jean slept, God gave her a dream. Although she awoke not remembering exactly what she dreamed, she did remember a strange thing about that dream...the word *sawmill* kept being repeated in the dream. When she got up she did not think too much about the word *sawmill* because it did not mean anything to her. But - it did to God!

She started out on her trip to Columbus and things went along quietly for her. As she neared Columbus she began to look for the exit she was to take to meet Jack and the Realtor. Her thoughts were about where to turn off the highway.

As Jean says: "Then all at once I saw it!...a sign along the highway said *SAWMILL!!!* Immediately bells started ringing in my head, and I praised the Lord for His sign to me!"

When she finished her journey and met with Jack and the Realtor, she told them about all this. The Realtor was really surprised because one of the homes she was going to show them was in *Olde Sawmill Addition!*

Yes, they did buy that special house in *Olde Sawmill* and they knew they had the house the Lord had chosen for them! God had just performed another of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS* in their lives!

**I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
Psalm 16:7**

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## *HE WHO WATCHES OVER YOU*

My husband and I were returning to Indiana from a trip to Missouri in our small private plane. It had been a long day and we were both tired. As we flew through the darkness late that night, the humming sound of the plane began to lull us both to sleep without our realizing it.

The next thing I remember is suddenly awakening. I looked at my husband and saw that he was asleep as I had been. I quickly woke him up!

He immediately looked at the gauges on the instrument panel of the plane and saw that we had dropped about 1000 feet while we slept! Had we continued to sleep, obviously

we would have crashed. But, just in time, we had been awakened! God had not been sleeping but watching over us to perform one of *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS!*

**He who watches over you will not slumber;  
indeed, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.  
Psalm 121:3-4**

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A DREAM ABOUT A MULTIPLYING BIRD

In this dream I was inside a house looking out a large window (I think in the front of the house). First I saw a bird outside which looked like a hummingbird but was larger. Its coloring was in greens like a hummingbird. It was about 6-7 ft up above the ground suspended in the air. Then it became much larger and I saw this huge bird there. Its front looked similar to a stork with a long bill and neck, then it became a huge oval-shaped body, maybe 6 ft long and 2-3 ft wide with a large fluffy multi-feathered plumed tail. Along the top of the body there were many nests, maybe 8-10 nests, and on each nest sat a mature bird. In the tail there were many smaller birds mixed in with the plummy feathers. I kept exclaiming about this unusual bird and trying to name what kind of bird it was, but I could not think what to call it. I knew it was not an eagle. Later, as I looked at the names of some birds in the dream symbol book, the closest I could come to what its head and beak looked like might be a stork. I don't remember any colors associated with this huge bird.

Hummingbird: beautiful bird which can suspend itself in the air and which is enjoyable to watch

Stork--expectant: new birth, new baby; new experience; that which is forthcoming. They carry out God's purposes

Even the stork in the sky knows her appointed seasons. (Jeremiah 8:7 NIV)

Bird--Spirit: Holy Spirit; message. They can also refer to leaders or messengers

A bird of the air may carry your words; and a bird on the wing may report what you say. (Ecclesiastes 10:20 NIV)

To me this big bird refers to lots of things being birthed from it, lots of mature birds, nests with eggs to be hatched, and growing birds too. This can refer to my books, which are being used by the Lord to hatch and grow what He wants in the lives of many. This

also could refer to my church where He is doing that also. It also could refer to the church universal doing the same thing. This bird will be beautiful like a hummingbird and will be suspended in the air for all to see.

What the Lord has shown me here is a picture of that which is coming to carry out God's purposes. It will birth God's message and carry it to others.

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## ***A DREAM ABOUT A DISH THING IN FRONT OF ME***

I awoke about 3:00 a.m. with these words in my mind that I felt I needed to write down: "And a dish thing in front of me." In the dream just before I awoke I was observing myself walking or standing. It seemed like there were words traveling in front of me. I noticed that some of the words formed in a special way that set them apart, almost like they were surrounded by a parenthesis and perhaps in a different font. They were separate from the other words in this way and caught my attention. It seemed that if I "saw" this "something" group I could do it. It seemed almost like it was a vision or dream set before me but it was made up of words, not pictures. No one else was in this dream but me. It seemed to be showing me something about myself.

"Dish thing" could represent a satellite dish symbolizing broadcasting what I "see" (in words) to many others. This may be a vision or dream the Lord wants me to hold in front of my eyes during my spiritual walk/journey. This could refer to where my books (made up of words) are "going out" to many others—perhaps a dream I am to pray for and declare for. Being in front of me may refer to now and the future.

It's like Dr. Cho holding a picture of a bicycle (that he had asked the Lord for) in front of his eyes and praying for it and envisioning it (in the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension). Or it's like Todd Bentley "seeing" in his divine imagination himself speaking to 5,000 people with healings, etc. This was the way he "pulled it down" from Heaven (where it already was) to earth.

When I finished writing this much the clock said 3:33 and it drew my attention like it was meaningful. This could confirm to me the dream was from the Trinity and was set, established, and going to take place. It also could refer to coming into conformity to Him and being obedient to Him.

It's like I am to envision my writing/books "out there" on a satellite ready to be "tuned in to" by all whom the Lord gives a "dish" to tune in to them and their message. It's like I am to see the words ahead of me in my pathway and see them as special words going out to others through my books, and I am to envision that, and declare that, and pray for that.

This is not being arrogant or prideful. It is co-operating with the Lord in bringing this dream into being “on earth as it is in Heaven.” He gives the dream. I work with Him to bring it to earth.

It’s like in Bruce Wilkinson’s book *The Dream Giver*. God has shown this technique/idea to these 3 men who explained the same or a similar idea in their own ways. I want to read again all three (Dr. Cho, Todd Bentley, Bruce Wilkinson) and compare similarities and ideas.

Seeing the dream before me is my way of contending rather than striving. It reminds me of something I saw on TV recently that stuck in my mind. The idea was: “If you see it, you can build it.”

*What the Lord has shown me here is that I am traveling a pathway in life and words are in front of me along that way. Some are extra special words like a vision, and I am to see them as being sent out and received by others almost like by satellite dish. I believe this refers to the books still in front of me to be written, published, and distributed to others.*

*They are to be free, Joan, and they WILL go forth to others around the world, wherever I take them, and broadcast to others the message I want to take to them. I will publish these books at the proper time, maybe even after you leave in the Rapture, and I will see to the distribution, and I will tune people in to them so they can receive My words through them. I will do it all. You just pray it down to earth, one word at a time, and write those words down in books for Me to use – “In His Time” as you heard in that song this morning. Every word that I have you write I will use.*

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A DREAM ABOUT FIREMEN RIDING ON TALL BICYCLES

In this dream I was walking on a road among a forest of very tall trees (2-3 stories high) like maybe pine trees. I saw a fireman who was riding on an exceedingly tall bicycle so that he was at the top of the tree level. He had a branch of a tree stuck in his yellow fireman’s hat. It seemed like I knew there were other fireman also, but I only saw this one. Then I saw a fireman riding on a donkey along the road near me. I watched as he came. It was like he said (or it was spoken to me) that he was following up to see that all the fire was taken care of.

What does this dream mean, Lord? Was it from You?

Yes, it was from Me and that's why I have kept it in your remembrance for many days. I have been waiting for you to write it down and deal with it. Now is the time. Do you see that there was a fire somewhere, even if you didn't see it? You only saw the evidence of those who were dealing with it, not the fire itself. So what does that mean?

It means that I am taking care of the fire that is blazing in the heavenlies (way up high in the sky above the trees) and My firemen are checking it out to see that all is accomplished that I sent them to do. The fire is from Me. The blaze takes out those enemy forces that have been against you this week in the battle you have waged for Me. The fireman on the donkey reminds you of Me, doesn't he? Because I rode a donkey in humility on My day of recognition by some.

What does a fire mean, Joan? In this case it means "removal of impurities" and it means "God's protection." It means the Presence of God, the Holiness of God, purifying and testing. All of these took place this week. I showed Myself pure and powerful in what your friend went through. I was exalted in it. I was glorified in it – in that he went forth and went through what he did because I asked him to. That brought Me glory. Tell him this.

The tall trees represent leaders – leaders in the evil hierarchy. Notice that trees can symbolize "power of evil people". What evil people did your friend meet up with this week? Those firemen were My angelic beings sent forth to control and watch over the fire that was blazing and to keep you (representing you and your friend both) safe while you were walking on the road (going along the journey I led you on). You felt no danger, did you, in the dream?

No, Lord, but absolute peace. I was just watching and wondering what it meant.

There you are. So the dream depicts that stance for you and your friend. He took the brunt of the battle, but you walked in peace. Interesting, huh? Sometimes it may be the other way around – where he walks in peace and you take the brunt of the battle. But mostly you will be standing by him as he goes forth where I send him. Note that.

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## **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE AND BOOK OF THE FUTURE (TRUTH)**

In Todd Bentley's teaching about a book of remembrance and book of the future: he says to go back and remember the things the Lord has shown you, has promised you, has given you a passion for, and the promises you have made to Him at those times...that God has all those

things/times written in His book of remembrance...and I am to stir them up. So here are some dreams, visions, ideas from God that He gave me over the last 31 years:

### 1. *A VISION*

I am up front in the sanctuary of our church speaking to the congregation at CBC. I am speaking to them about repenting, getting reconciled, etc. People come forward as I speak, to meet with 'counselors' down in front

This shows me sharing with people and encouraging them to come to the Lord with all their different needs: salvation, prayer, counseling, encouraging. This is a picture of that being part of God's plan for my life. I see myself right now desiring to do that in my job at FV. That was part of the motivation for organizing Discipleship Training groups at CBC...to help them get the spiritual help they needed, and to see their needs, and to get help for that.

***So a Book of the Future thing for me is to share with and encourage people to come to the Lord with their needs, and help them find the way to do that.***

### 2. *A VISION*

I am standing up front in the sanctuary at church and looking out over the congregation. I see faces, and some of the faces are replaced with a circle smiley face ☺. These are the ones that draw my attention.

*Those you are supposed to contact, respond to you represented by smiles. You are to "look out over" My kingdom people and connect with them. You are to look for those who are seeking Me and put your attention on them. Then you can help lead them to what will fill/answer their needs.*

***So a Book of the Future thing for me is to look for Your kingdom people and connect with them.***

### 3. *A VISION*

G is standing on the platform in the front of the sanctuary with Jesus beside him.

*You told G you thought that meant he was to make his choice about whether he wanted to follow Jesus or not and to tell this to Jesus. Remember this if something should come up with G in the future. He said he did want to receive*



*Jesus into himself and follow Him. You were my messenger to G to speak his need for a commitment to Me. You shared that with him. His choice is his own.*

**My Book of the Future includes telling others something the Lord shows me for them.**

#### 4. A VISION

G is standing on the platform in the front of the sanctuary. He looks over at the choir where I am sitting. He motions to B and me to come up with him. We do that and B stands on his right hand and I on his left hand. We take G's two hands and hold them up so the three of us are standing there with our hands linked, holding them up as high as we can.

*This means you two linked with him in ministering for Me...and in praising Me. You are still linked to Me and praising me; B is still linked to me and praising Me. You don't know about G now. This means for you that you are an integral part of My praise ministry, and that praise and worship has a major roll to play in your life - both now and in heaven. This ministry to Me in praise and worship will continue and increase in your life.*

**So a Book of the Future thing for me is praise and worship!**

#### 5. A VISION

I see the pulpit on the platform in the front of the sanctuary at church. The pulpit is pulled up and over to one side by an unseen force. I see under the pulpit long white/gray roots with much dirt around them. G and I are standing beside the pulpit that is torn up. As this happens we are tossed up and down in great upheaval. There is nothing for us to stand on; the floor isn't there, just air. We move up and down for quite awhile but the turbulence grows less and less, and we are tossed less and less, until the turbulence stops and we can again stand.

*This refers to the time of upheaval with L and your turbulence with that. However it also has meaning extended beyond that situation. Your life has been intertwined with pastors (the pulpit) a lot and there is upheaval and turbulence from those situations/relationships. This is, and will continue to be, a part of your life and future. When the turbulence comes, there is nothing to stand on in the world, only your faith and trust in Me. Eventually each situation (L's leaving, P's leaving, pastors you work for) will stop the turbulence and you can stand again awhile in peace.*

**So a Book of the Future thing for me is being closely involved with pastors/church staff.**

## 6. A VISION

I am positioned up in the air over the congregation in the sanctuary at church. G 'comes up' from the platform and is positioned across from me in the air. Then B comes up to join us to my left, and R comes hesitatingly up in the air to my right. The four of us are together in the air.

*This had a literal fulfillment when you, B, G, and P prayed together for the pageant. But it has a more extended meaning too. You will work in "team ministry" together with others. This will come together one person at a time. In the air means it is based on faith and not on the world.*

**So a Book of the Future thing for me is being involved in faith based team ministry**

## 7. A VISION

I see pray-ers kneeling at the front of the sanctuary at church, in front of the platform. I only see their silhouettes and they are aqua blue. A rose colored light surrounds them. The four who met in the air (in the previous vision) came together into a ball of fire. This ball started moving around inside the sanctuary in an arc, and would come down and touch someone. Then it went up in another arc to some other part of the sanctuary to come down and touch someone else. It kept doing this over and over, faster and faster, touching more and more people. Each time it went in the arc through the air it left a trail of silver dust, like a jet trail in the sky, so these trails increased and increased within the inside of the sanctuary. It kept going faster and faster until it exploded so the light and silver dust filled everywhere.

*This scene represents revival of people by the touch of the Holy Spirit. This touching by the Spirit starts, then increases in number and speed. It involves "the Church" anywhere. It comes through prayer that turns into fire as the Spirit takes those prayers and increases and answers them. The fire is the judgment and cleansing of God. The silver dust is the beauty that is seen in the atmosphere around these Spirit touchings. The explosion of light and silver dust everywhere is a visual picture of the rapture of God's saints - in the twinkling of an eye, like an explosion, and greatly beautiful like light and silver dust.*

**So my Book of the Future includes revival, the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the whole world, and the rapture experience.**

## 8. A VISION: FOLLOW ME

I saw a picture of an opened fan looking like a turkey tail. At the top of each fan section an instruction was written. The understanding came to me that different people in the Body of Christ were to respond to these different instructions according to their giftedness and God's leading. As they did this all the instructions could be completed - as each one did his part. The piece of fan given to me had this instruction on it: *Follow Me*.

**They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. (Revelation 14:4)**

This brings to my remembrance that my main instruction for my life is to "follow Him"! Other people have their instructions too, and together these make up all that He is doing through His people. My piece is what He has given me to do...follow Him.

**So my Book of the Future includes following Jesus wherever He leads me.**

## 9. A VISION: THE MAZE

I saw in my mind the picture of a maze, as if I was looking down on it from above. I saw myself in this maze, letting the Lord lead me each way it went. The thought came to me: How could He really teach me and test me on following Him if He did not lead me in some ways that were different than I expected or not logical to me? If He only led me in ways I expected, ways He had led me before, that would not really test and grow my ability to follow Him. I was impressed that even if He said: *Do nothing*, I was to follow that. That just might be the best for me at that time.

*I am leading you, like in a maze.  
You do not see each turn or see to the side.  
Just keep following Me moment by moment.  
It is a lonely path, but I am always with you.  
I will always show you the way to go.*

**So my Book of the Future includes following Jesus even though I don't see where this is taking me or what is coming next. Some of this following may be a test. He will always be with me.**

## 10. A VISION: ONE SEED AT A TIME

One day my attention was drawn to some birds eating in the grass outside my kitchen window. I noticed the birds picked up one seed at a time to eat. The Lord gave me a mental picture of a whole pile of seeds. Then He revealed He did not provide a pile of seeds for them, but just one seed at a time - and He would provide for me the same way!

*My Book of the Future includes being provided for as I need it, a bit at a time but enough.*

### 11. A DREAM: WHEN THE POWER COMES

I had a dream. In the dream I saw a house sitting in the dark. On the outside of this house there was an elaborate design formed with lights, like Christmas tree lights. I was hardly able to distinguish their presence, but I gradually became aware of them formed into this design. The lights were not only on the side and front of the house, but even in the yard on the grass. I knew the design was beautiful, but I could not see it.

I began to see faint flickering occasionally from the lights...a tiny flicker here and a tiny flicker there. There was one bulb that seemed to stay on and not flicker. It was shaped differently than the others. This light shone, but I did not see any light coming from it to illuminate the surrounding area. It seemed like it was frosted which kept it from coming forth brightly.

When I awoke the dream was so vivid I remembered it clearly. I asked the Lord what it represented.

It was revealed that this house represented the church, the body. The “lights” are on the house and they are formed into a beautiful pattern that would look glorious if it could be seen. However, the electricity, the power, is at such low voltage the lights do not shine out. We need more electricity, more power, through the Holy Spirit, to empower those light bulbs. I knew I was to pray for the power to come so they can be seen for what they really are: A beautiful design by the Lord to glorify Him.

Then the Lord revealed that, as He lights up those bulbs, I will find some that are not “lightable”. They are dark, black. They either have no ability to shine (not having the Holy Spirit in them) or they are darkened, dead, refusing to let the Holy Spirit empower them and shine through them. The design is by the Lord, but it will be sad to see some of the black places in the design when the rest of the lights are lit.

When the power comes and causes the bulbs to shine that will shine, we will see those bulbs have many shapes, sizes, and colors. Each one will be different.

The one bulb that already shines steadily has light in it, but it is clouded, is self-contained, and does not illuminate others around it.

The reason the lights are on the outside of the house (not on the inside) is because this represents what the outside world sees of the church - a little flicker of light occasionally, not a strong, clear, steady light. But, the Lord says that will change as the power is introduced - soon!

**You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**

**(Acts 1:8)**

*My Book of the Future includes seeing and experiencing the electrical power of the Lord come upon the earth showing the world His Power and Glory.*

## 12. *A VISION: THE WELL OF SALVATION*

As this vision picture began I saw myself standing in front of an old fashioned well - the kind where you had to dip a bucket down into it to get water. Beyond the well was the ocean, yet I drew water from this well.

In my hand was a small dipper. With this dipper I would reach into the well, get a small dipper of water, then reach up and pour that water into the top of my head. It would run down inside me to my feet and begin to fill me.

Slowly I dipped, on and on, filling myself with this water. I sensed the water level rising within me. The task seemed tedious and tiring as it went on for a long, long time

Then, when the water level inside me reached about two-thirds full, I suddenly found in my hand a much bigger dipper. As I dipped with it I filled up much faster! I could sense the water level coming up higher and higher within my body until I was full.

As I meditate on this vision picture and ask the Lord to give me revelation about it, I see that it has two perspectives. One refers to my own spiritual growth that paralleled the picture. It came slowly over many years, and then the growth increased and speeded up at a particular point in my adult life.

The second perspective on the vision picture pertains to the church in the world. It, too, has followed the pattern of slow tedious growth, but it also will come to a time (and perhaps has already come) of the 'big dipper' when the water of the Spirit fills the church quickly.

Instead of being filled with the salt water of the world, (the ocean in back of the well) we are to be filled with the fresh clear clean water from the well of salvation, Jesus.

**With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. (Isaiah 12:3)**

***So my Book of the Future contains being filled more and more with You, Jesus, the Living Water.***

## 14. *A REVELATION: ONE STITCH AT A TIME*

I am sitting in my chair looking at the picture that my mother stitched on canvas for me. It is a lovely picture of a clump of birch trees blowing in the wind. I liked that picture the moment I saw it in the store.

I bought the kit to make it myself, but did not get around to doing it. Then one day my mother saw the kit and volunteered to stitch it for me. At that time in her life she was retired and had time to sew. So, although I had the initial desire to create the picture on canvas, and bought all the materials to do so, it was not completed and framed until another person, my mother, volunteered to do the actual stitching. Out of that combination came this beautiful picture hanging on my wall.

As I sit here pondering this, the thoughts begin to form in my mind from the Lord about how our lives are similar in relation to Him. He is the One who had the original idea, the initial desire, for our lives. He provided life for us and all the materials needed to stitch a beautiful picture from it. One thing is left for us to do to get the picture completed.

We have to work with Him, using what He has given us, to create that beautiful picture. It must be stitched day by day, one stitch at a time. He will provide the directions for us - as were provided with the picture mother stitched. She just had to follow those to get the picture right. Our directions can be found in His Word, the Bible. If we follow those directions, when we come to the end of the picture, He will put the frame on it, and we can all rejoice in *HIS MARVELOUS DEEDS*.

**I will instruct you and teach you  
in the way you should go;  
I will counsel you and watch over you.  
Psalm 32:8**

***So my Book of the Future includes God's instruction day by day and provision of all that I need to complete this life He has given me.***

### *15. A DREAM*

I dreamed I was in my childhood home. As I looked out the west window of the dining room I saw smoke in the field area behind our property. I went out into the back yard to look. I looked back at the house and saw my sister in an upper story window. I saw a slender stream of fire coming towards me on the lawn. I think I tried to stop the fire, maybe with a bucket of water and/or by stamping on it.

As I walked away, other people then seemed to be there. I wanted them to help me put out the fire. Somehow we had 2 buckets for water. It seems I tried to tell them about the fire danger, but I saw no one concerned enough or moved to help.

I walked around the house to the sidewalk area on the south side, and sensed I was told to look up at the house. When I did, I saw the main beam of the roof area with a flame on it.

I was reminded later:

1. The beam/house wasn't seen as burned/charred,
2. While in the back yard the slender stream of fire came right up to me where I was standing but I didn't see it go to others,
3. This wasn't a fearful dream, just concern about fire burning my house and thinking I should stop it, but not getting it stopped.

An impression in my mind: There are two streams going side by side. One is the church where I have been attending. The other I will call the stream of revival. I'm stepping into the revival stream.

**My Book of the Future holds the fire of the Holy Spirit. He comes to me and my "house." My house represents my family and relationships.**

## 16. A DREAM

In this dream there was a flying/floating large log suspended in air.

I was in a house (my home?) and watched it coming nearer to the upper windows (windows like skylights on the upper side of the house just beneath the roof) It came close, touched the house, then moved back and came forward again and lodged against the house. It just missed the window (which I thought it might break) by about an inch. I wondered how to get it off.

It wasn't fearful; I was just concerned that the window not be broken. I was standing on the floor inside the house watching this up above me.

After I woke up this song kept coming:

With healing in His wings  
With healing in His wings  
The Sun of Righteousness shall come  
With healing in His wings.  
(Malachi 4:2)

**My Book of the Future shows the window of my heart, through which I see Jesus, will not be broken, and also includes healing**

## 17. A REVELATION

The Lord says if His choice for me is to live the rest of my days in peace and happiness, not in spiritual battle and struggle, that I should accept that in faith from Him, and be thankful for it. It does not mean I am wasting my time here on earth. He is still using me in the ways He chooses, and I am to be content with that. And that IS what He is saying to me right now.

Right now what He wants for me is to develop greater intimacy with Him and that comes through prayer/talking/communing with Him - and that is happening in my life now. This is what I really will want to have developed when I get to heaven.

I say "Yes" to you, Lord! I choose Your revealed choice that I live the rest of my days on this earth before the rapture in obedience to You and that means quietly and peacefully. I thank You for this revelation and accept it in Jesus' Name.

**So my Book of the Future includes living the rest of my days in peace and happiness with Jesus, and developing greater intimacy with Him.**

## 18. TWO DREAMS

I was in a house that belonged to me as I had just purchased it or got it somehow. The former owner left it with some furniture and things still in it. I was looking over the rooms, and kept finding more and more rooms - with surprise. I didn't realize it had so many rooms and so much furniture. I remember seeing a knick-knack corner shelf even which didn't fit into the shape of the corner very well. I remember seeing the backs of bookcases in one room. I remember thinking that I could pick one of those rooms just for me to use for my stuff. I noticed there was a ramp way leading upward and I thought I wanted to go up and explore what might be up there also.

Almost the same dream as last night. I again was in my house and looking around at the many, many rooms in it and the furniture in it already. This time I came upon a room with beautiful furniture in aqua blues. Then I saw a stairway curving up. From up that stairway I saw a fan flying down toward me, and I was hit by it, like in the center of my body. I think I exclaimed, "A flying fan!"

INTERPRETATION: The thoughts of possible interpretations of these two dreams:

- The house is me and the rooms are various parts of me I am discovering/viewing.
- The person who had the house previously and left furniture, etc. was myself previous to now. My "now" person is looking to see what is already there from before and looking to see how to rearrange it to fit my needs/desires currently.
- The many rooms and much furniture delight me now since I can enjoy them now.
- The ramp up and the stairway up represent wanting to explore the spiritual aspect of my life more now. These scenes were at the end of each dream, I think representing toward the end of my life (now) when I am encouraged by the Lord to seek Him more and more. And that is exactly what is happening right now in my life - I am spending more and more of my time/energy/thoughts in communing with the Lord.
- The flying fan: the fan represents wind, air, blowing wind, which makes me think it represents the Holy Spirit...and it is coming to "whop" me, hit me, touch me, in a major way. It also reminds me of the fan vision given me before with my instruction to "follow Me."
- Seeing the backs of bookcases may mean I am turning away from or not looking at, books as I used to.
- I have a choice of picking what part of me I will "live" in - spend time in.
- John Paul Jackson says blue represents revelation. So that room with aqua furniture may represent revelation that I receive.
- I have the stairway up to spiritual life within me.
- Knick-knack not fitting in corner - I'm getting past having to "fit in" with what's around me (or fit in with the other part of me that's square.) It's ok.

**So my Book of the Future includes living in a "new house" which is a new me, and I can look forward to being touched by the Spirit in a major way!**



### 19. VISION SEEN AT CFO CAMP

It was during praise and worship singing time. As I sang, I closed my eyes and “saw” Jesus at the front of the auditorium with His hands outstretched over the people in blessing them as they had their heads bowed in prayer. They didn’t see Him. I was standing in the back left side of the auditorium watching this and He looked at me. Next I saw on the wall on the right side of the auditorium three angels standing there with long trumpets in their hands pointed down.

When the song ended, I opened my eyes, amazed at what I had just seen. We started another song, and I closed my eyes again. I saw the same picture of Jesus and the angels, only this time the angels held their trumpets half way up.

During the next song, the same thing happened with the same picture but the angels held their trumpets up high like they were blowing in them.

It was significant that it was during worship time as praise and worship is a central thing God is drawing me to in my life. My seeing Jesus while others didn’t see Him seems to me to mean that He will let me see Him as many people don’t. It seems to signify that He and I have/will have a special cognizance of each other, a special intimate relationship. The angels showing three different trumpet positions refers to three different divisions or time periods of my life...the third being close to and during the blowing of the trumpets for the rapture of the church. It is during prayer (times of communicating with Him) that I will “see” Him most clearly.

**My Book of the Future holds special close times of communicating with Jesus, seeing Him and what He is doing, whom He is blessing, right up to the rapture.**

### 20. REVELATION REGARDING SEEING AN ANT ON THE FLOOR

I was standing in the kitchen and may have seen an ant on the floor. God spoke into my mind that Satan was like that ant in size in comparison to His power over Satan. I could just step on Satan the way I would step on an ant.

**My Book of the Future holds the power to win battles over Satan due to the great power of God in me in comparison to Satan’s power.**

### 21. VISION OF A TREASURE GIVEN ME

I saw myself along a shore of a lake and Jesus was standing on the shore. As I came up to Him He gave me a treasure. The treasure looked like a jewel.

**My Book of the Future shows I will receive treasure from Jesus - and He is that treasure!**

## 22. VISION PICTURE THAT CAME DURING REVIVAL MEETING

I was attending a revival meeting at church. We were singing, praising, and worshiping, and I was being deeply touched by the Spirit. Then I saw a picture in my spirit of the Pastor standing on the platform in the front. I saw myself kneeling down before him and saw him putting his hands on my head in blessing.

Now, many years later, the Lord is revealing the meaning of that vision picture to me. It was a prophetic picture telling of a promise He was giving me: that I would be kept under the blessing of the authority of my pastors. I look back over the years of my life since then and see that I have surely been under the blessing of the authority of my pastors in the churches I've attended ever since then. I believe this Pastor represents Jesus, and those who have Jesus living in them, who bless me.

**In my Book of the Future Pastors will bring blessing to me and I will receive blessing from them.**

## 23. VISION OF BEING ON A PATH

I had the vision picture of my being on a path and Jesus was in front of me walking backwards so we could keep holding hands. He was leading me so I would not get off the path and fall over the edge of it.

**In my Book of the Future Jesus will lead me on the path of my life and keep me from getting off that path.**

## 24. PICTURE OF JESUS AS SHEPHERD

In this picture I was watching Jesus walking through a lovely valley and I was a sheep walking along at His right side. I saw us from the back and watched us walk.

**In My Book of the Future Jesus and I will continue to walk together through the valley of life...He the Shepherd and me following beside Him. He is my protection through this walk as a shepherd protects his sheep.**