

## JESUS IS ON THE MOVE: HE IS CALLING US TO HIMSELF

GLORIA COPELAND AND KELLIE COPELAND

March 12-16, 2018

### DAY 1 – JESUS IS RESTORING HIS PRESENCE

Is your devotion to Him out of dedication or desperation? He will take you either way. When you let Jesus get involved in every area of your life, He will give you the answer to every trouble and temptation, and lead you into every promise in His Word.

#### STUDY IT

- I. Walk in the spirit—invite Jesus into your business because He has the answers for you.
  - Two levels of devotion:
    - i. The dedication of the desperate—waiting until things are bad, and you turn to Jesus for help.
      - It's easier to be dedicated when you're desperate. Jesus becomes your Savior.
    - ii. Your life can be so hidden, directed and perfected by Him that you can deal with any pain, temptation, crisis, lack, etc.
      - Walking with Jesus will give you the peace, freedom and answer that you're looking for.
      - You have to stay hungry in His presence on purpose, or you can grow distracted in your comfortable life.
  - Part of faith is being faithful. People of faith are faithful (like Moses).
  - When you are “perfect” toward Jesus, it means you are dedicated—your heart is turned toward Him and ready for Him to perfect you.
- II. Since the Fall of Man, God has been in the process of restoring the fullness of His presence to humanity.
  - Since the Day of Pentecost, Jesus has been able to fill us up and change us from the inside out. We just have to accept His love, leadership and presence. He's patient.
  - Condemnation makes people draw back from Jesus. Don't let failure make you draw back from God and keep you in bondage.



- Jesus wants to be your Daily-Life-Manager as your daily bread (Matthew 6:11).
  - Your nourishment and fulfillment are in Him.
  - Whatever you've thought your life would be like, break the mold, today!
  - Jesus has poured His life out for you; what a marriage you and He can make when you do the same.
  
- III. It's not our mistakes that mess us up, it's quitting—it's drawing back from His loving correction.
  - Jesus expected more understanding from His disciples. He had just multiplied food.
  - When Jesus said to watch out for the yeast (in Matthew 13:33, the yeast is doubt, disbelief and tradition) of the Pharisees, the disciples got distracted by hunger and began fighting about not having enough bread (Mark 8:13-17).
  - Jesus was trying to prepare them for temptation, but the disciples didn't understand that they had the *Bread of Life* in their presence (Mark 8:18-21).
  - Don't get sidetracked by fears or need. Go to Jesus; He has it all.
  - Just like He did for the disciples, He will keep working with us until we get it!

Additional scripture: Exodus 4-7

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1 Peter 5:6-7 (AMP): "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God [set aside self-righteous pride], so that He may exalt you [to a place of honor in His service] at the appropriate time, casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully]."

Peter knew about getting distracted and sucked into temptation by the cares of this world. Are there cares distracting you today? Take some time today to lay your cares down at the altar of Jesus' feet. First, turn on some worship music, and soak in Jesus' presence, preparing your heart to hear. Next, get a pen and paper. Now, see the paper as your altar, and when you write down each care, let the care flow out of you through the ink and onto the paper. Once your list is complete, give it to Jesus and commit to leave your cares (dead) at the altar.

*Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for caring for me with the deepest affection. I lay these cares at Your feet today, and I repent for worrying, being fearful, and not trusting You for help and direction. I pray for Your wisdom concerning all these things, and I am determined to not spend any more time worrying about them. You are my Savior in every area of my life, and I thank You that You are working mightily in and for me! In Jesus' Name. Amen.*





Now, throw the paper away. Those cares are dead and no longer your burden. Spend some time in conversation with Jesus and time in His Word. You won't leave the same!



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### DAY 2 – WHO IS JESUS TO ME?

Our personal time with Jesus helps us to understand and receive His higher purpose for our lives. When he prepares you for a trial and/or temptation, are you paying attention? Becoming a disciple means listening and responding to Jesus' tough questions and hearing His answers when He speaks.

### STUDY IT

- I. The key is to do what Jesus tells you to do. He's always trying to get something good to you.
  - When you run from Jesus' presence, you'll miss what He says to you.
  - Jesus will challenge you to get you out of your comfort zone, but you'll like the changes that He brings.
  - He is ever patient with us and our mistakes.
  - The answers Jesus brings will solve every trouble.
  
- II. We need to pay greater attention to Jesus as He prepares us for the challenges that lie ahead.
  - In, Mark 8:27, Jesus asks, "Who do people say I am?" (*NLT*).
    - Don't worry about what others think about you. Look at Jesus, not others, to decide who you are.
    - Let Jesus ask you questions.
    - Be honest with Him; Jesus already knows your problems and faults. Listen to what He says. Don't try to put up a front or give Him all the right answers. Again, listen!
  - Jesus wants us to come as we are.
    - When we confess, we aren't telling something to God He doesn't know about, but we are admitting our faults and our need for Him.
    - Let Jesus be the Way, Truth and Life (John 4:5-43).
      - The Samaritan woman at the well was trying to cover her shame.
      - When she was honest with Jesus: "I don't have a husband," He was able to help her.



- Only honesty with Jesus opens the door for His truth to change our lives.
- Peter spoke up, knowing by revelation that Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus began to prepare Peter for his temptation from that day (Mark 8:28-30).
- To prepare His disciples for what was coming, Jesus explained to them His unjust death, burial and resurrection (Mark 8:31). Despite this, the disciples were still stunned and caught off guard at the way Jesus would die and rise.
- On the road to Emmaus. Jesus appeared to some of them, but they couldn't see that it was Him because they were consumed by what they thought religiously, not by the words He had spoken to them (Luke 24:13-35).
- Each time Jesus predicted His death, the disciples were confused and didn't understand. Jesus opened His heart and spoke freely, openly, honestly and boldly with His disciples; but they refused to listen (Mark 8:32).

### III. Are you God's disciple? Are you His follower?

- Peter rebuked Jesus because he thought Jesus didn't understand His role as the Messiah (Matthew 8:33).
  - The Jewish idea of the Messiah was that He'd show up and win—conquer the earthly political oppressors.
  - Jesus wants a faithful people to be in union with Him, not just to win a battle by Himself.
- How often have we assumed we have a better plan for our lives than God?
- What would He have won? This battle is for you and me!
- When you become focused on Jesus, it empowers you to live in His presence and allow your spirit to dominate your life instead of your flesh.

Additional scripture: Mark 8:22-26

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Like the disciples in Mark 8, it's much easier to turn away from things about our lives and ourselves—we even turn away from God. Take a minute today and ask Jesus if there is something you've been close-minded to. He may have already been dealing with you about something. Knowing that Jesus only has your good in mind, take that step of faith and allow Him to speak to you about the areas of your life or plans that you've withheld from Him.



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## DAY 3 - DELIVERANCE BY DEVOTION

The farther you get from the fire, the colder you get. Don't wait until temptation and trials are raining down on you. The closer you get to Jesus, the more He can prepare you to overcome any trouble or temptation, and the more on fire you become!

## STUDY IT

- I. Incline your ear (pay attention) to learn the ways of the Lord.
  - You can just have head knowledge of the Bible, or you can get to know Jesus more powerfully when you're passionately turned toward Him.
    - Don't lose your first love, Jesus, your Savior (Revelation 2:4).
    - The farther you get from the fire, the colder you get.
  - When we are passionate for the Lord, our lives will be an open book for others to see Him.
  - When you keep your eyes on Jesus, you'll change into that image of Him (2 Corinthians 3:18).
  - Your children, friends and acquaintances will observe your relationship with Jesus. He will draw them to Himself through you, and light a fire in them, too.
  
- II. Your own perfection does not enter into the equation of becoming like Jesus.
  - God has the ability; He wants your availability.
  - When your abilities are about Jesus (not just you), He can anoint your abilities.
  - We have to humble ourselves and realize our ability is for God's glory. When your availability meets His anointing on your ability, then it can really change the world.
  
- III. Jesus wants to prepare you for every temptation of the enemy.
  - Temptation isn't just sin, it is trouble and every evil plan of the enemy.
    - What are you going to say when sickness is at your door?
    - Will you respond to problems with faith in Jesus Himself, His love and His Word, or in fear focused on circumstances?
    - Jesus wants to deliver you, and prepare you *before* problems come.



- Spending time with Jesus will give you more and more security in His love as you grow rooted in Him.
- As we draw into His presence, He draws even nearer to us (James 4:8),
- We need to live daily near Jesus, *remaining* in His presence (John 15).
- Don't be afraid of the Lord's rebuke (Mark 8:32-33).
  - Jesus was tempted by Peter's idea of what the Messiah was supposed to do (conquer the political yoke of slavery, not the spiritual one).
  - He was rebuking the temptation of Satan, not just Peter. Jesus refused to go down the road that Satan wanted for Him.
  - Peter's heart was not set on God's plan, but his own.
- You have to spend time together to know someone. Examples:
  - When a husband and wife don't spend time together, they grow apart.
  - When you feel like you have to be perfect for a spouse, you have to hide.
- By not spending time with Jesus, we miss out on what Jesus wants to do in our lives. We miss out on seeing things from His point of view.
- Don't disconnect. You can be in constant communion with Jesus (Deuteronomy 18:15; Psalm 2:7; Isaiah 42:1; Mark 9:7)!

Additional scripture: Mark 8:22-33

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

If you constantly talk to and listen to Jesus, you'll always be in the right place. First Thessalonians 5:18 (*NLT*) says, "Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

If you're wondering what God's will for you is, getting in His presence today is the best place to start! Spend some time thanking Him for all the wonderful things He has done for you. It is always God's will for us to give thanks to Him in every circumstance! When you give Jesus thanksgiving, you are right in the middle of His will for you, and you open the door for His presence and fire to flood your life!



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### DAY 4 – JESUS IS EVERYTHING

All that Jesus is has been offered freely to those who give all that they are to Him! Jesus delights in the details of your life. Is He *your* passion, or do your desires lie elsewhere?

### STUDY IT

- I. Jesus is calling us to Himself!
  - Since the Day of Pentecost, Jesus has been pouring Himself out to fill us.
  - Layer after layer, He leads us deeper into Him.
  - When you want to be Jesus' partner, He'll be your Partner!
    - In every area and everyday life, Jesus wants to be our Partner.
    - God delights in the details of our lives. He delights in helping us.
    - If God's not your Source for everything, you're missing out.
  
- II. Is your heart on God's plans, or your own?
  - Jesus rebuked Peter because his heart was not set on God's plans, but man's (Mark 8:34).
  - Jesus didn't just rebuke Peter; He used Peter's mistake as a teaching moment.
  - God's ultimate goal is to have a people, not just to win.
  
- III. Jesus wants us to continually surrender to Him (Mark 8:34-35).
  - He doesn't want us to go from problem to problem to problem.
  - The key is remaining in Jesus and His WORD, and this includes correction (John 15:4).
  - His correction is not a thing to run from.
  - Your passion is where your desire is. Either the flesh or the spirit will dominate.
  
- IV. Where is your desire? Where do you spend your time? The answer shows where your spirit life is.
  - The "lusts of the flesh" are simply strong desires and pressures.



- Not all desires are bad, but desires can mess us up when they aren't surrendered to the Master.
- When your attention and desire is toward Jesus, He'll anoint you to fulfill your desires and change the desires that are harmful for you.
- Your heart/desire will follow wherever you will put your time, money and focus.
- We should examine ourselves in this area frequently.
- Set your desires on things above, not below (Colossians 3:2).
- Love Him with all your heart, soul, mind and strength (Luke 10:27).
- Jesus is everything. All He is has been offered freely to those who give all they are to Him.
- Give Jesus your time; He'll make it worth every minute!

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Gloria and Kellie spoke of a very telling way to honestly assess where your devotion is by answering the question: Where is my desire?

Take a few minutes to answer these questions:

- Where is my desire focused?
- Is my heart on God's plans or my own?
- How much time, thought and energy do I give Jesus daily?
- Am I developing in my awareness of the presence of Jesus throughout the day?



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### DAY 5 - FIND YOURSELF IN THE PRESENCE OF JESUS

Jesus desires to be your Savior every moment of every day. His precious fellowship can be your refuge and your fortress of blessing, safety, freedom and salvation if you will take the time and energy to watch and pay attention to Him.

#### STUDY IT

- I. If we don't give time and attention to Jesus, how can He redeem our lives?
  - Letting Jesus in (like the woman at the well) will allow Him to free you.
  - Because Peter ignored Jesus' warning, he was not prepared for temptation (Mark 14:37-38).
    - Jesus asked them to watch and pray—He needed them, but they fell asleep.
    - Can we not watch and pay attention for an hour with the Lord?
    - Keep alert. Watch and pray, and you won't enter into temptation. You'll be ready when it comes.
    - If Peter had watched Jesus handle temptation, he would have been prepared for the later temptation.
  - If you're going to truly follow Jesus, you must give Him your time and attention.
  
- II. Commune with Jesus; He wants us in His presence.
  - Worship will help you set your heart on Jesus.
  - You will operate in the supernatural in His presence, and it will become natural to you.
  - In Psalm 91, you position yourself by *saying*, "He's my refuge and my fortress."
  
- III. Jesus wants to be your Savior all the time—don't wait for eternity.
  - John expressed to us what his fellowship with Jesus was like (1 John 1:1-4, *TPT*).
    - Jesus was the living expression of the Father.
    - John says they watched Jesus live face to face with His Father.
  - Jesus is calling us into that same intimacy with Himself.
  - He wants sin out of our lives, because it blocks intimacy with Him.



- His presence in our lives drives sin out.
- Jesus wants you to find yourself in His presence today.

Additional scriptures: John 4:5-43; Psalm 19:12

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1 John 1:1-4 (*TPT*): “We saw him with our very own eyes. We gazed upon him and heard him speak. Our hands actually touched him, the one who was from the beginning, the Living Expression of God. <sup>2</sup> This Life-Giver was made visible and we have seen him. We testify to this truth: the eternal Life-Giver lived face-to-face with the Father and has now dawned upon us. <sup>3</sup> So we proclaim to you what we have seen and heard *about this Life-Giver* so that we may share and enjoy this life together. For truly our fellowship<sup>[1]</sup> is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus, the Anointed One. <sup>4</sup> We are writing these things to you because we want to release to you our fullness of joy.”

1 John 1:1-4 (*MSG*): “From the very first day, we were there, taking it all in—we heard it with our own ears, saw it with our own eyes, verified it with our own hands. The Word of Life appeared right before our eyes; we saw it happen! And now we’re telling you in most sober prose that what we witnessed was, incredibly, this: The infinite Life of God himself took shape before us. We saw it, we heard it, and now we’re telling you so you can experience it along with us, this experience of communion with the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ. Our motive for writing is simply this: We want you to enjoy this, too. Your joy will double our joy!”

John begins the letter of 1 John explaining what He and the other disciples had seen of Jesus from firsthand experience. You may not have looked at Jesus with your physical eyes, but you have seen Him work in your life. Can you recall in detail an event or time when Jesus was so real to you that you truly experienced Him? Maybe it was the time He came into your life; maybe even before accepting Jesus, you could see Him working in your life. Take a few minutes to write your experience. Now, get ready to share it with someone to bring joy to their lives, as it did to yours.

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