

THE NARROW ROAD

Volume 7

Faith



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The Narrow Road Series

Salvation
Hear and Obey
The Power in the Word
Becoming Useful Vessels
The Pillars of Cloud and Fire
The Weapons of Our Warfare

Faith

Bearing Fruit
Questions and Answers
Purpose Your Heart
Fasting

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Fore-Word

Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But **small is the gate, and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.**

John 15:7,8

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Revelation 12:10

For the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down – he who accuses them day and night before our God. They have conquered them by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.

I would like to thank my wife and children for their support in the living out of these testimonies, and to my dear sisters in Christ Pauline and Caitlin for collating and editing these testimonies into book form.

I have decided to bring these to print as a legacy for my children, grandchildren and brothers and sisters in the Lord as a map of God's principles and testimonies of our journey here on earth.

I believe that in years to come as my relatives hear of our exploits in the Holy Spirit, and their hunger in God is sparked, they will want to know what secrets of God we discovered.

I believe that these testimonies will cause them to search for the truth.

- Raf

FAITH

The Word, the name and the blood. We need to understand the power of the blood. It's a simple thing. We need to apply the blood to our lives.

When we came into the Kingdom the blood of Jesus paid the price once for all for good. It was done. The power of the blood never fails or fades. It's as strong today as it was two thousand years ago.

It paves the way for our healing, our health and our salvation. Everything is in the blood for us. It's the most powerful substance known on earth. When we preach the blood the power of God goes out and people get touched.

When we share the power of the blood it does something. Most tribal people know about sacrifice. They know what it costs. They try to appease their gods. They counterfeited something. It's a counterfeit: once again, a counterfeit.

As we read the Bible we see that the blood was used in the Old Testament by the Israelites to come out of Egypt, cross the Red Sea and go into the desert for forty years.

They could have crossed into the Promised Land in two or three days. If they had cleansed themselves. If they had done the cleaning of the turban. If they had believed. If they had added faith to what they had seen.

In Hebrews it says that they had everything. They had the Word but they failed to add faith to it.

Hebrews 3: 18-19 "And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest but to those who did not obey? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief."

They had everything. They had been given everything. They had miracles. They had the pillar of cloud go before them. They had the pillar of fire at night. They had everything they needed to lead them into a land that God had given them and yet they failed.

They failed because they didn't know who they were. They'd been four centuries in slavery and when they came out of it they needed to be shown how to walk.

Now Moses knew. He had a walk with God. He would get before God and God would show him things.

He would come down from the mountain and find the Israelites already failing in areas; they would give over the gold and make up another idol.

We're in danger of doing the same thing. That's there for us to see that people haven't changed in over two thousand years, or even six thousand years. People are the same: they think the same, do the same things and are prone to open themselves up the same way. It hasn't changed in six thousand years.

And yet we are under a new covenant, a far better covenant and we've been given everything. It's been won for us by our Master and our Lord and our brother. We are a brother (and sister) of Jesus.

He was the firstborn. We all have to go down the same track – die to ourselves to see the things that God has for us.

The door into the spirit realm has been opened to us by our Lord. He paid the price. He cleaned us up so that we could enter in. Now we have to walk and keep on walking.

We have to become active. We didn't get saved to go straight up (to heaven) otherwise we would have been taken the day we got saved. That tells us that there is a job to be done.

Sometimes I wish God had taken us straight up so we had none of these problems but God is building character in us. Character that's going to be found in eternity as something of value. He's building faith in us. Every step of what we see Him do takes us to the next step of what we want to see Him do again. Every step of faith is going to build another level of us going forward.

He gave us weapons. He gave us things to do. He showed us the plans of the enemy and He showed us the weapons He's given us – the Word, the name and the blood.

But unless we apply the blood we're still not using that weapon. It's like having an arsenal that no one can penetrate because they know you have it.

But if they know we can't use it they will overrun us before we learn how to use it. That's the plan of the enemy. It's imperative that we learn how to use the weapons that God has given us so that we can walk in the authority that He has placed within us.

We're here to rule and reign on the earth. We're here to bring down the Kingdom of heaven onto earth and reveal to the people on this planet that there is a way that they can be saved.

If we're born again we're shining lights for Jesus. When people look at us they're looking at Jesus. When people touch us they're touching Jesus. We need to understand who it is that we're serving.

In the Old Testament they were asked to kill a lamb without blemish. They took the blood of that lamb and applied it to the lintels of their doors with a hyssop branch and the angel of death would pass by.

They made a Passover celebration from that time on celebrating what the blood of that lamb had actually done. The Passover was prophetic: Jesus fulfilled it when He came in the New Testament. He became the living Lamb of God, sacrificed for us, so that blood is precious.

There's something about blood. The baby doesn't always have the mother's blood. The baby predominantly has the father's blood. At the time of conception the father's blood is dominant.

We understand that when Jesus was born, Mary's blood had nothing to do with it. Jesus' blood came from His Father at conception.

When the angel appeared to Mary he told her that she had been chosen by God. He told her that she was blessed and she would give birth to the Son of God.

She said, "Let it be done unto me according to your word."

She instantly conceived. I believe that that blood was divine blood even though He was flesh. I believe that that blood was perfect from the beginning because it still had to be perfect at the end.

I believe that that blood was shown in the courts of heaven when Jesus died and it was approved without blemish.

That blood is the most precious commodity this earth has ever seen.

Remember, we are supernatural people. We live in a supernatural Kingdom. We're supposed to be walking in the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth.

Jesus' conception was supernatural. The blood of the Lamb, the most precious commodity this world has ever seen, paid the price for us. It tells us the value God puts on us. We are precious – we don't realise how precious we are to God.

He now puts His children on the line. His whole army is made up of family. Who would more fight for us than family? God has made His whole army His family and we're all conscripted.

We're all called up – there is no backing out. But He's given us this wonderful, precious commodity called the blood. It's our protection.

We need to learn how to apply it to our lives, to our homes, to our families. Sickness cannot have a hold on us when we understand who we are and what it is that He's given to us.

The basis of every miracle is in the blood of Jesus. The power of that blood resurrected Him. The life is in the blood. He was resurrected – the first one to be raised from the dead.

No other religion can say that. All their prophets are dead and buried in tombs. Jesus's blood is precious. It's a weapon that He's handed to us. He's trusted us with the most precious commodity.

How do we apply the blood of Jesus Christ to our homes so that we are fully protected? We apply it in prayer. The hyssop branch that we use is our mouth.

Our mouth is the centre of spiritual warfare in the universe. We can change the pattern of our lives by the way we speak. We can change the track we are on by the words that we use. Our lives are determined by the words that we speak.

When the doctors say to us that we only have a week to live we need to find some words to change that. We need to get one of God's thoughts in His Word and apply it through our mouths by speaking it into the heavenlies and letting the demons that are trying to oppress us know that we know who we are and they have no hold on us.

This is how we apply the Word of God to our lives. We load our prayer with the Word, the name and the blood and then we start exploding things into the spirit realm.

I had a lady who had multiple sclerosis (MS). Her husband was a sailor, an ex-submariner. He was a lovely man. He was a tough, wiry old fellow. He had a 40-foot catamaran that he called 'Curried Muesli.' He was always sailing it single-handedly and could never take time off for lunch so he'd mix in his breakfast and lunch and have it all together. His wife developed MS. We were building a place for them.

They had a specialist roof they wanted cut and we were contracted for the job. It was exposed timber so it had to be polished. The beams and angles had to be right.

It was an awkward roof – not a normal roof. It was shaped like a phone and it didn't have one straight line or ridge. Everything was curved and twisted – it looked like propellers.

We were asked to build this roof and do the foundations for the place. I walked into this place and wasn't there for more than two minutes when another builder friend of mine who was actually doing this contract told me that these people had had problems.

I could see the problem as I was looking at the lady and could see that she had witchcraft all over her. The spirit of witchcraft had taken hold in this house but I couldn't see that she was crippled with MS. She was sitting behind a table in a very dark, dingy room.

I said, "Look I have to talk to you. Forget the building. If I don't get your job I don't really care but what I see here I have to deal with and help you with."

I said, "There's something happened in your house. There's witchcraft in this place and it's affecting you somehow in your health."

He said, "Yes. My wife has MS." Then I saw the wheelchair in another room. All she could ever do was sit by the fire. It was particularly cold in that part of the country.

I said, "You don't have to live like that. Jesus Christ can touch you."

He said, "We've given our hearts to the Lord." Only last month or the month before someone had come and shared Jesus with them.

I said, "Ok, well you need to deal with this." I said, "Let me pray for you." I prayed.

Nothing happened. I asked the Lord what the reason was for this.

He said, "There's a legality. They're farming through a New Age method."

They'd do funny things like at night getting a bull's horn and fill it with some sort of manure that they'd mix in a vat somewhere – it had to be at the right time of the month – it was a moon worship thing.

These things happen even though places look normal. They used to follow the teachings of a guy called Rudolph Steiner who was a New Age guru.

The Lord said, "That's the witchcraft that's coming into the place."

From the time they brought that in they didn't want to use fertilisers on their land.

They wanted to do the 'green thing.' They got trapped into this thinking, this philosophy and that brought witchcraft into the place.

The day they brought in the witchcraft MS hit this woman. She was a hard case. This woman was filled full of jealousy and rejection. She had

unforgiveness. She had a mountain of demons living in her. All of the things that she had never dealt with.

A root of bitterness will add many things to it. The Bible tells us not to be defiled by a root of bitterness. It's like an open door for other things to come through. A root of bitterness is like a welcome mat to other things.

It doesn't matter how Christian anyone is. This woman had that. I was looking at her and wondering how I was going to break through this.

She was a hard core person. Hard. No emotion until it manifested as jealousy or bitterness or anger. She wouldn't deal with the things in her life. And there she was – crippled.

We're going to come up against some hard cases where we need to share what we know, show them how and reveal the power of God to them somehow. I was looking at this woman and praying and praying and asking the Lord to give me some clarity about this situation.

One day she came to my house. I used to be an alcoholic but God delivered me from alcoholism. But I went back to it and had a drink. Then I struggled with it for a whole year.

I struggled – I wanted a drink but I stopped myself. I had enough of God in me to say "No" but I was craving for drink. As I was craving for this stuff, I lasted a whole year without a drink.

Then I went to a birthday party for a wise old pastor. That night I thought, "Blow it. I'm going to have a wine. I'm not a hypocrite. I'm not going to hide that I have this thing and I want it dealt with."

So I said, "I'm going to have a drink Bob. Would you join me?"

This beautiful, wise, old pastor said, "I'd love to have a glass of wine."

Under the table, you could hear all the women kicking the men – don't drink with him, he's an alcoholic. Someone kicked me – these were all the secret signals going under the tables.

Someone kicked the old pastor as well and his wife said, "He's an alcoholic."

Loud and clear I heard him say, "Listen. In Christ I'm free to be able to and I'm free not to have to."

Those words came like an arrow to my heart. They set me totally free. From that day I didn't want a drink. I was free. Totally free.

What a freedom it brings when we're able to but we don't have to. That's true freedom.

I'm not an alcoholic. Most people who have been alcoholics stay alcoholics all their lives and speak it out – twelve steps and all the other things. When Christ sets us free we are free indeed.

This day I was doing concrete. I had some of the guys from Adelaide who were musos visit and we were celebrating Christmas.

They brought half a dozen beers with them to celebrate Christmas. Not a good Christian thing to do in some people's eyes. But I wasn't going to stop them as that was where they were.

They asked if I wanted to have a glass with them so I said I would. Wrong choice Raf! This woman came to my place. She had religion all over her. Her husband had carried her up the steps of my house. Because of MS she couldn't walk. He brought her in.

She took one look at the beer and said, "Take me home!"

I said, "What's the matter with her?"

He said, "Nothing. It's the beer."

I burst out laughing.

I said, "Let me pray for you."

She said, "No! Don't touch me!"

I said, "I have to tell you – you're a mean old woman. You need religion to be broken in your life. I have a freedom in Christ that you're going to need. The only way that you're going to get free of that wheelchair is when that freedom comes. I'm going to talk to you about freedom. I'm going to show you how to apply the Word of God to your life right now in one easy lesson. I want you to say thank you Jesus for healing me. For most people it would be enough if they said it ten, twelve, fifteen times a day but you are so mean that I don't know if a thousand times a day would be enough."

Now I was hoping that the husband wouldn't punch me out because he was standing behind me. She was going off.

I said, "You need to have faith come into your heart. You've controlled things for so long and yet you've invited Jesus in. I don't know how to get you out of that other than to teach you to get the Word of God into you and to be free. If I was you, I'd do what I say and say it a thousand times a day. Hope will come that faith can anchor itself to."

When we find ourselves using the weapon of the Word of God things start to happen. Two weeks later that woman knocked on my door, walked up my

stairs and yelled out, "Raf, hope turned up. Faith came with it." She was set totally free.

Our concepts are not God's. Our thinking is not like God's thinking. We need to be loaded with the Word, the name, the blood.

Another woman was in a coma in a hospital. She had been in there eight years with the family looking over her. Eight years in a coma.

The doctors had wanted to 'pull the plug' years ago but the family were Italians and they wouldn't let it happen so they took her home.

They nursed her around the clock. What a wonderful family. Roc, a pastor and my partner in business and I got to hear about this. Roc said to me that he had a word for that woman.

He said, "God told me to play the Word in her ear with a continual looping tape. I'm going to her today with the New Testament on tape and I'm going to get them to play it into her ear. God said He would bring her out of the coma through the Word."

The family put it on her ear and within twenty four hours that woman snapped out of that coma. She was set free.

These weapons are not without power. We need to learn to apply the blood with our mouths. If we learn how to apply the blood with our mouths, if we learn to apply the Word with our mouths, if we learn to apply the name with our mouths and bring everything captive to it, we will start to walk in a powerful walk.

The difference between a powerful Christian and a weak one: (Zechariah 3:5) someone who has had their spirit renewed by the Spirit of Christ yet walks around with the mind of the devil – that's a weak Christian.

A powerful Christian is someone who has had their spirit renewed by the Spirit of Jesus Christ and walks around with a renewed mind by the Word of God. It's for every Christian to walk that way. We see many Christians whose minds are not renewed. They haven't put the new, clean turban on (Zech3:5). They wear the old dirty one; it's comfortable; it doesn't bring challenge to their lives.

The difference between a powerful and a weak Christian – a weak Christian walks around with the Spirit of Jesus Christ but the mind of the devil; a powerful Christian walks around with the Spirit of Jesus Christ and the mind of Jesus.

To be a powerful Christian the cost is: walking with the Lord and cleaning up, applying the weapons to our lives, growing from every incident that God brings in front of us, getting a testimony in our quiver so that we may have faith grow in us.

Faith - Hebrews 4:1-2 tells us that the Israelites couldn't enter into His rest because they didn't mix faith with the Word, because of their unbelief.

Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please Him for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Without faith it is impossible to please Him. Faith pleases God. Worship ministers to Him but faith pleases Him.

Most Christians think that when they get into worship they are doing warfare – no. We have to add some faith to the Word of God in our lives to make it effective. And it pleases God when we do.

Back to the transfiguration on the Mount. I want to talk about unbelief. Matthew 17: 1-13.

After the transfiguration the two disciples realised who it was who was walking with them.

God the Father had spoken to them and said, "Behold this is My Son in whom I am well pleased." (v.5) Without faith we cannot please the Father. Jesus pleased the Father through His faith.

He was always upbraiding His disciples and saying, "Where's your faith?" "O ye of little faith."

So faith is something that's very important to God. It pleases Him when His children walk in it.

Everything that Jesus did was to bring people to see the Kingdom of God. He preached the gospel of the Kingdom of God. He didn't preach the gospel of repentance – John did that. He preached the gospel that I'm sharing, bringing the Kingdom of God down on earth here where we walk.

Then He proved it by doing it. Jesus is our pattern. He's the One that we're supposed to be patterning ourselves on. He's the One we're supposed to be following and doing as He did.

It was by faith that He pleased the Father so Jesus understood the weapons of His warfare. He understood that He was going to become the Lamb who paid the price. He told His disciples that. He shared it with them. He was

always talking to them about their faith. "O you of little faith. Your unbelief is incredible."

He would pray over loaves and fishes, feed 5 000 people the first time and then 4 000 people, tell them to go and pick up the leftovers. Then as He crossed the sea they started to mess around as they were loading the boat.

He said, "Beware the leaven of the Pharisees." I want to put it this way – beware the leaven of the religious people or the 'religiousness.' It will bring us undone.

The disciples wondered what He was talking about. They asked if someone had forgotten the bread. Jesus was talking about the thing that would permeate every one of our lives. The Pharisees were in that crowd. He asked the disciples how many baskets of leftovers they had picked up from the first crowd where they had five loaves and two fish. They said, "Twelve." The second crowd dwindled to 4 000. They were fed with seven loaves and a few fish. The disciples gathered seven baskets of leftovers.

There were more fish and loaves but less baskets of leftovers. The miracle diminished. The crowd diminished. And yet they had more to begin with. Something was eroding the faith of the disciples.

Jesus was saying to beware of the yeast of the Pharisees, beware the religion, beware the traditions: beware men's traditions as they will rob us of the things of God.

Faith was being robbed. The Pharisees were saying that this guy was doing these miracles by Beelzebub.

They would rob the glory from the Lord. Jesus said to be beware of this. Be careful. Jesus was always talking to them about their belief. They were in the boat when the storm came and they woke Him up. He asked them when they would have faith to do these things for themselves. He asked why they were afraid.

These were simple things and circumstances so why were they afraid? Jesus asked, "Why do you fear these things when if you knew who it was who was with you, you would know that He would be able to turn the whole situation around?"

So it has something to do with our condition and not His. Not understanding how to walk strongly with Him. When He came down from the Mount of Transfiguration, a man ran to Him.

Matthew 17:14-17 "And when they had come down to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him saying, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water. So I brought him to your disciples but they couldn't cure him." Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to me."

Jesus called them faithless and perverse. He didn't pull any punches. He would upbraid them.

So faith must have been important. Wherever we see Jesus talking to His disciples He was forever 'having a go' at them about their faith and their unbelief. He was forever trying to teach them that they needed to have this commodity, this substance for some reason.

It's important in heaven. I believe it's the coin of the realm of heaven. In fact, I know it is because if we can operate in it here, if we can have all our needs met here by faith, then all of a sudden we are going to start tapping into a heavenly way of doing things.

We have to learn to walk in it here. When we apply our weapons we can't apply them without faith. When we apply the Word, the name and the blood we must believe that they are going to do what they are meant to do. If we are standing in front of a mob we will need to know that these weapons are effective.

I have a friend who goes into Nigeria and he gets in between crowds of Muslims and Christians and demonstrates the power of God. It takes all the argument out of both factions. It shocks them both equally.

We need to know that our faith is going to be applied with the Word of God as a powerful tool and a weapon and it's going to work. We have to trust that fully.

While I was standing before a mob who wanted to stone us in India I had to trust fully that God knew what He was doing. What is it that makes faith a pleasing thing to God? What is it that's so pleasing to God about our faith that He gets happy? When we please someone it means that we are making them happy. What is it that does that?

There are two components to faith.

Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please Him for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

First component: "Believe that He is," believe that He is with us, believe that He is who He says He is.

We must believe that when He speaks He is going to do what He says He's going to do. We please Him when we come to Him just because He is.

In the beginning He said to Moses, "I Am." It must be important to Him for us to understand these things. We are trusting in God who is rock solid and hasn't changed in six thousand years.

He never will change. He is someone we can depend on and is faithful. We sing songs to Him about it. This is what pleases God about our faith. That we can trust Him, because He is.

Second component: ".....He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." If we believe He is, we will find there are rewards in our walk just by seeking Him.

Diligently seeking Him is not just a casual 'I know He's there.' Diligently seeking Him means that we are pursuing Him with everything that's in our being. That's diligence.

We will have interests that we follow with all our heart; we get consumed by them and diligently seek them out (e.g. sport, painting, literature...).

What about the Lord? What about following Him diligently? What about everything if all we eat, drink, sleep, think about is Jesus? That's diligence.

It pleases God that we believe that He is and that we know He's going to reward us because we are seeking Him. These are the two components of faith that please God.

So when Jesus came down the mountain and saw the man with the epileptic son coming to Him and asking for help, the man had already fulfilled one part of faith. He went to Jesus.

When we're out in the street wanting to meet people, we know they have a need so when they respond they're fulfilling the first part of faith. They're acknowledging that God is.

If we can reveal Him. If we can show Him. If we have an ability to share Him in a way that's palatable to them. Our words generally won't do it because we end up sounding a bit like religion.

Our actions definitely will do it. If they are full of faith. And we're expecting the miraculous to manifest. If they see the manifestation we have lifted their faith level to be pleasing to God.

How did we come into the Kingdom of God? By faith, through grace. We gave our hearts to Jesus by faith through grace.

We are helping the world now to come to the first level of faith by revealing Jesus to them. It's very important because we are starting to reveal Him and bring them into the first level of pleasing Him.

He loves them anyway but now they become pleasing to Him. Then there's a spiritual release.

This man (Matthew 15:14-17) came running to Jesus and fulfilled the first part of faith that pleases Jesus Christ. He said, "Have mercy on my son."

He's just recognised who he was talking to – the Son of the living God. We are sons of the living God. When we start to reveal Jesus we start to walk in His family.

Romans 8:14 "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."

When people look at us they are looking at Jesus. When we touch them Jesus touches them. When we speak to them Jesus speaks to them. We have to keep this mentality: when we speak on behalf of the Kingdom we are ambassadors speaking on behalf of the King.

So when someone looks at us they are looking at Jesus. When someone in the street sees us they are seeing Jesus – if we manifest Him. How will they know? If we will spend time with Him sometimes we will glow like a beacon and then they will know – we won't have to say anything.

But they will really know if they have a headache and we walk past them and offer to pray for them and the headache goes. We can start with simple things.

I've stopped people in wheelchairs in the street and told them that they need Jesus. They've said they know the Lord but it's not their time yet – who can help them! We have to be available, to be in a place to do those things. If we step out and do that we'll see the miracle.

God will back us. It's pleasing to Him. He is well-pleased when we start to apply the principles of our weaponry, walking, wanting the miraculous, wanting to see His Kingdom come on earth.

We will please God beyond our imaginations. And we'll start to do something for our own lives. All of a sudden our authority will start to grow and we'll end up growing stripes in the Spirit. We'll become a sergeant, or a colonel, or a general in the Spirit realm. God will give us more and more to do.

I didn't start doing these things the day I got born again. I grew like a little child but I saw that I needed to do something.

Some people leave home to serve God. Some people have sold everything they own to serve Jesus Christ – that takes courage.

I did the same thing years ago. I gave everything away and told Jesus that I would go wherever He would send me. From that time I entered into His economy: I couldn't earn what I'm getting with the Lord and I could earn good money.

I would stifle myself if ever I went back into the world. Why? Because when we're doing His work, He pays well. But it's not about money.

For those who have sold everything it has a lot to do with learning about that. The prosperity gospel really is to be satisfied whether we have much or little. Be satisfied whether we have much or little because we're walking in the Kingdom. That's the gospel of prosperity.

The Spirit of God got hold of this man who had an epileptic child. If someone has an epileptic child their time is consumed by looking after them.

We had one man who was brain-scarred for thirty-two years. They said he shouldn't be walking or talking. He was on twelve doses of some sort of drug that would suppress him.

He came to one of our meetings. He came out of the Salvation Army. The first time his wife walked into one of our meetings she started crying. He came the next week because he wondered what had made his wife cry.

They were burnt out from working with alcoholics. They were moving in the things of God but without the Spirit of God leading. They came to our meetings and got filled with the Holy Ghost.

His hands and joints had stiffened from all the drugs he was taking. He used to play piano and the euphonium but he couldn't because his fingers were stiff. In the middle of praise and worship he lifted up his hands and God healed his fingers.

He had a miracle. No-one touched him or did anything. The Holy Spirit came sovereignly. He came up to me at that meeting and asked if I would pray for him. He said he was an epileptic. He said that if God could heal his stiffened fingers caused by the drugs he took, He could heal epilepsy. I asked if he was sure and he said, "Yes."

I had had experiences where people came off their drugs for epilepsy and then the pastors would have a go at me. Faith. Faith needs to be flowing.

When this man said, "Yes, I'll do it," I said that I would back him 100%. I asked if he wanted to go off the drugs slowly and he said, "No. I want to go off them all at once."

He hadn't had a fit in ten years because the drugs had suppressed him. That night he had a fit. The enemy was kicking. His wife phoned me at one o'clock in the morning. She said, "You told him to get off his drugs and now he's fitting."

I asked her to calm down and told her that fear was not going to overcome this thing. I told her to lay hands on him and take authority. I told her to say, "Stop in Jesus' name."

His wife took authority and he stopped fitting. It worked! She started to get some confidence. He certainly was getting confident. Now his wife was working with him and not against him. They had unity. That's very, very important.

Something happened and he had another fit and another and another. For two weeks they were battling. Every time, his wife would phone up and we would come into agreement: "Stop in Jesus' name." Use the name of Jesus. Apply the Blood. Use the Word of God. She had all of the scriptures ready.

All of a sudden this woman knew what warfare was. She was starting to learn how to get her scriptures in line. She was starting to fill herself up with the Word of God. She was going to bring her husband through, her husband who had made the step of faith.

Within two weeks he had stopped fitting. He hasn't fitted again and it's now been seven years. Three years ago he was given his licence back so he is now allowed to drive again. He's working. He hadn't been able to work for years.

This man started to get his self-respect back because he could earn money and support his family. The doctors have checked him out. He has enough scar tissue in his brain to stop him walking, talking, eating and drinking.

He's a walking, talking testimony. Two other people in our fellowship with epilepsy saw this and they started to release their faith and God started healing them.

Epilepsy is a spirit. We have authority. We may have a fight on our hands but we have authority.

We have the authority if we don't let go. A battle means to battle. It means that sometimes there is a tussle. There is resistance but don't back off.

That's when we need to set our hearts. When the world starts to see this we won't need evangelism programmes. Word of mouth will spread quickly. Whole neighbourhoods will get to hear about it and they will start bringing their sick in.

That's how our church filled up – because of what Jesus was doing in that place, not because of us.

He comes and He does it. People get attracted to the place because they know that something is happening there. They hear good testimonies.

I walked into a car park and a woman came up to me. She knew me by name. She told me that she went to the church down the road. Her face was vaguely familiar.

She said, "Would you please pray for me?"

I asked, "What for?"

She said, "I've got a problem with my throat. They want to take me to hospital."

I prayed for her. I didn't know what I was praying for. I was in a hurry. The next thing I knew she was at our church. She had had a miracle.

Three days earlier she had nearly choked and died from the throat problem that they wanted to hospitalise her for. Suddenly something happened: there was a growth on the inside.

When I prayed for her, that growth burst out of the side of her neck and unplugged the throat. That day, a big pus ball went.

Now she was walking in faith. Now she was starting to fight spiritual battles. Demonstrating Jesus is the key to evangelism.

Matthew 17:17 Jesus speaks to the man and says, "Oh faithless and perverse generation. How long shall I be with you?"

The man said he had brought his epileptic son to the disciples but they could not heal him.

Jesus directed his comment to the disciples when he said "faithless and perverse generation."

In my words He said, "O you people who are filled with the Spirit but your minds are still filled with the devil's stuff. O you people who have been born again and transformed by the Spirit of God but still walk with the mind of the enemy."

Jesus said (in v.17 -21), "...How long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me." And Jesus rebuked the demon and it came out of him and the child was cured from that very hour.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"

Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief, for assuredly, I say to you if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

Prayer and fasting. We need to have a look at this. His disciples weren't stupid. They came to Him privately. They didn't want to be berated publicly. They asked Him privately, "Lord, what is it that we were doing wrong out there, that wouldn't allow us to cast that rotten thing out? You gave us authority in chapter 6 – what for? You sent us out two by two. You said that when we prayed for the sick that it would happen. What is it? And then You sent another seventy of us and they saw the same thing. But with this particular thing we couldn't deal with it. Why?"

Because they came privately He taught them and said, "It's because of your unbelief. This type, comes out by prayer and fasting."

Not this type of spirit. This type of unbelief comes out by prayer and fasting. This kind of unbelief is broken by the power of our prayer and fasting. This is how to raise our spirits above our flesh.

When we fast we purge the wineskin that God wants to pour wine into, which is our flesh. He wants to make something new of us. He wants to renew our minds because He's already renewed our spirits.

He wants to do something on the inside of us but He has to get the Word inside us to transform this way of thinking so that unbelief doesn't have a chance.

What was the sin of Satan? It was unbelief. He didn't believe that God was God. He believed that he was better. This is very important to God. Unbelief uproots faith.

There are things we have to do so that our authority comes to a level where God can use us. God wants to break unbelief. He's given us ways of doing it. He's given us ways to break the power of unbelief in our lives.

He's given us weapons – the Word, the name, the blood. He's given us the Holy Spirit. He's equipped us better than any army on this earth so that we can deal with every circumstance.

As a young Christian He taught me that He couldn't give me authority until I had dealt with some things in my life. He told me that I was the first thing He needed to deal with. My selfishness, my ego, me. I asked Him if we could go on to the second thing.

The second thing was just as difficult – it was my family. When we try to step out, family will trip us up and try to stop us. Husbands and wives, don't stop moving forward. Encourage each other. It's important.

The Spirit of God has a use for each and every one of us. God told me to overcome myself and overcome my family and then He would show me how to overcome my circumstances.

I give testimonies because I know that people's problems are in those testimonies. We need to know how to overcome so that we can be effective on the field.

If we're effective Christians we're doing damage against the kingdom of darkness, pushing it back. Then we're starting to herald the coming back of the Lord, which is what we're supposed to be doing.

There's a miracle in every one of us. That miracle is going to lead to another one, and the next one. Every miracle is a milestone, a signpost for the next adventure for us in the Spirit. They're in place but if we can't see them we'll walk right past them and someone will go begging. These things are to equip us.

The Lord wants our unbelief dealt with. We can't please Him unless we believe that He is. He's going to reward us. When the rewards come we will get a shock.

I needed a new car; my old car was just about burnt out. I was doing a lot of miles. I was coming home from Malaysia sitting quietly on the aeroplane.

I didn't speak it out but I said quietly to myself, "You need a new car, Raf."

When I landed, guess what was waiting for me – a new car! I had no idea that it was coming. Then I was wearing that car out.

At prayer the guys were saying that I was wearing out my car and it was getting old so I needed a new one. They said that they were all praying for me. One guy said to me that he thought I needed a Subaru Forrester station wagon.

I said, "Really."

He said, "Yes. I've seen it."

Another guy came up to me and said, "You really need a new car Raf. I'm praying for your car."

My wife said to me, "Raf, are you praying for a new car?"

I said, "Yes but I'm not praying the prayers that everybody else is praying. I'm being specific. I'm looking for something. I want my next level of faith to build my faith. So I've asked Him for a wonderful white Commodore with air conditioning, power steering, electric windows, a great sound system, V6 and tinted windows. Denise, you remember what I've asked for. I don't want to tell the guys."

I was praying and fasting. Not fasting to move God's hand but fasting to move my faith level up. We'll never change God's mind by our fasting.

Fasting purges us so we can take in more of the Word of God and make our spirits rise up against our flesh so that we can reach into the Spirit and get stuff.

Fasting kills the old man so that our spirit man can rise up. Seven days later I woke up on a Sunday morning with a joy in my heart. Denise asked me what I was so happy about. I told her that I was going to get blessed today. I told her that blessing was coming today. She asked if God had spoken to me.

I said, "No but I have a sense in my heart that my car's arriving today."

I went to church that morning and I got blessed: someone came and put \$700 in my pocket. What a wonderful blessing. But I was ticked off because it wasn't what I was expecting in my heart. I was blessed and I thanked them and blessed them. When I got home there were some people waiting for me at my house. I looked at them and asked what I could do for them.

They said, "It's not what you can do for us. It's what we can do for you. Can we pray for you?"

I said they could so I invited them upstairs. They started praying for me as we were sitting around the table. All of a sudden a set of keys was dropped into my hand and they said that my car was outside.

I'd gone straight past it. A white Commodore. With tinted windows, V6, power steering, mag wheels. I loved that car. I ran it into the ground.

It was my favourite car. It was the car I had prayed for. God answers our prayers. When I ran that one into the ground, right on cue, the Spirit of God gave me my next one.

The Council started taking us to Court, fighting us for trying to put our buildings on our land. I said to the Lord that I didn't want to go to court as it was a waste of money.

I was praying asking the Lord if there was another way. We had a witch who was coming against us on the council and she would do anything she could to stop us building on that land that was affecting the whole coast.

I got some lawyers who were involved in town planning. I started going to court. These guys (council) would keep throwing things up in front of us in court making us win a point before getting to the real battle.

They were draining our money. It cost us \$40000. I didn't want to put the church through that. The church paid what it could. My wife and I decided to take out a loan.

We got a credit card and started paying the lawyer's bills. I just kept servicing that card.

\$5 000. \$6 000. \$10 000. \$16 000. The cost got up to \$40 000. Somehow God serviced it all the way along.

Before we got to \$40 000 I was getting tired of doing this; it was slow learning. I turned to the Lord – I needed a new car too at the time.

It would have been better to put money into something that was useful for the ministry. I turned to the Lord and said, "Father, I'm going to put a mortgage on my house. I'm sick of the debt. I don't want to give the debt to the church. I'll keep it but I'm going to mortgage my house if You can't move on this."

I'm speaking to the God of the impossible. Two hours later someone knocked on my door and asked if they could speak to me.

They said, "God spoke to me and said I have to tithe to you." They dropped an envelope on the table. I thanked them for it.

They said, "Please open it." I thought I'd open it later but I opened it up and there was \$40 600. That was their tithe. I asked what they were doing.

They said, "You prophesied over us three months ago. You walked past me, stopped dead in your tracks and said, 'Wealth is coming to you quickly from a place you are not expecting.'"

These people looked as if they didn't have anything. But as the Spirit of God spoke into my heart I shared with them what He was telling me.

Then I forgot all about it. Three months later they got an inheritance of \$410 000. I got a good tithe.

I paid my lawyer's debts and I traded in my car and got another one. The desires of my heart.

When we're walking with the Lord in the centre of His will, know that we can change the circumstances around our lives. It's not easy when we're walking through it – I make it sound easy but this is an accumulation of things that have happened over the last fifteen years of my life.

Every one of them has had a battle. Every one of them has had to be won. Every one of the lessons has been hard fought for and taught by action, not inaction. It doesn't fall out of the sky.

We have to make the first step. When we cut through the unbelief we're suddenly balancing on faith.

Walking with God, trusting Him on a tightrope which is going to take us into a place that is so exciting. It makes evangelism exciting because we don't know what He's going to do next. He'll send us on missions. If we spend time with Him and set our hearts to serve Him, He's going to pluck things out of the air for us to do.

Who wants to hear something like, "Book your ticket, Raf. You're going to Malaysia; I want you there in three days." I've heard these things. I was sitting in my kitchen and the Spirit of God said, "Book your ticket. I'm sending you to Malaysia."

I said to Denise, "I'm going to Malaysia."

She said, "When?"

I said, "As soon as I can. I'm booking my ticket right now."

She asked why and I told her that the Lord had just spoken to me and she said, "Okay." She knows that if I say the Lord spoke to me, He spoke.

On another trip God sent us to the US. My kids were up in the Twin Towers the week before they came down. Then we went to Spain where we wanted to stay. It took a lot to get us and our two youngest children there. When we got to Spain the Lord told me, "Get out of there." The kids wanted to stay.

They said, "Can't we stay an extra week? You haven't got anything on for a week."

The Spirit of God was saying, "Get out of here now. Move. Get home. Get on the plane and get home."

I said to the kids, "Sorry. The Holy Spirit is saying to me that we have to go."

The kids wanted to stay and my wife was saying, "Come on. The kids are here."

We have to overcome our family. I said, "I'm sorry. We're going home." Going home I had the sourest kids and wife anyone had ever seen. I was the meanest fellow.

We got home and that day the airline we were flying with collapsed in Australia. Every one of our flights was tied to the Ansett Alliance. I would have had to find four more fares if I'd stayed an extra day.

We were on the last flight out of Melbourne to Adelaide. The day after that the Twin Towers came down. Airlines stopped all over the world. Flights were frozen for days. Think how God cares. He has everything planned.

He sent me on a mission to Malaysia and told me to book my ticket. My wife asked when I was leaving and I told her that the first available flight was Wednesday. She asked how I was paying for it and I said that God would pay for it. He has the money. I booked the ticket. I had an agent who was really understanding. This agent has never seen me fail to pay when I've booked.

That night a man called me. A man I hadn't seen for three years but had led to the Lord on a building site. When I was doing a roof on an extension this man had had a miracle. He was a retired, very wealthy plasterer who had formed a new method of doing footings with cardboard boxes where they build them up. They formed channels with these cardboard boxes and poured concrete over the top.

I was talking to this man. I could see that he had unforgiveness all over him and he had a foul mouth.

I said to him, "Mate, are you suffering a bit of arthritis?"

He looked at me but didn't say much. He said, "Why?"

I said, "Because your mouth gets you into trouble a fair bit. It's the cause of your arthritis."

He said, "Who are you?" His attitude was who do you think you are talking to me like that.

I said, "I'm just telling you the cause of your problem. If you can change your mouth and not be so critical, you'll find that you'll be healed very quickly."

This was without even bringing the Lord into it. He asked if I was joking.

I said, "Mate, if you would receive Jesus Christ into your heart He would change everything. He would actually heal your arm. What's the matter with your arm?"

He said, "I've been doing plastering for so long that my elbow's wrecked."

His elbow sounded like a ratchet. The forearm would spin around the joint and we could hear it. He said that he was in pain and that he couldn't use that arm.

I told him, "You really do need the Lord, mate. You really do need to change the way you use your mouth. I'm telling you something. You need to start forgiving your family. You need to start talking right and not be so critical. You need to give your heart to Jesus and get your life straight and that thing will be healed."

I gave him the testimony of the lady who just said thanks – it was fresh in my mind when I walked up the stairs. She was healed just by saying, "Thank you Jesus for healing me."

I said, "Just thank the Lord a bit, mate. See if He touches you. He's gracious. He loves you. He might touch you without you doing any of the other things."

We went back on the roof and two hours later he called out, "Who are you?"

I said, "Why? What's the problem?"

He said, "My arm's just been healed. I decided to try what you said and I gave thanks. My arm is totally healed." He gave his heart to the Lord on the spot.

I hadn't seen him in three years but he carried on with the Lord because it gave him a bit of very basic training. He entrenched himself in a church in Adelaide.

Three years later he phoned me and said, "Raf, can you come and have lunch with me? I know I haven't talked to you for a while."

I asked him what the problem was and he said that the Lord had spoken to him and he really needed to talk to me. I told him that I would be down the next day.

So I went down and he dropped an envelope on the table. There was \$2 500 in it. I asked him what it was for and he said, "God spoke to me and told me you were going on a trip."

I said, "Yes. I just booked it yesterday."

I said to the Lord, "You've given me enough for three tickets. What do You want me to do with the rest?"

He said, "Take two other people with you and train them."

I said, "What am I going for?"

He said, "You're going on the basis of Isaiah 22."

Isaiah 22 is a terrible scripture. It's a scripture of a man called Shebna. Shebna had a high and honourable office in the King's court, yet he used it to glorify himself. He did not honour God, who sent Isaiah to proclaim God's judgement on Shebna, remove him from office and strip him of his authority. He was replaced by Eliakim whose heart was turned towards the Lord.

I said, "Lord, are You relegating me to second position? I haven't even got to first position yet."

He said, "This isn't for you. As you go to Malaysia, this is the scripture that you'll be using."

I said, "Who's it for?" and He told me to mind my own business until I got on the plane. So I got on the plane and as soon as I sat down I got a download.

The Lord told me that I was looking for an Anglican minister who couldn't forgive the man who had taken his place. He had been relegated to second position and now he was dying from the unforgiveness in his heart.

It had caused a disease. I had two guys with me and they wanted to know why we were going. I told them while we were sitting in our seats after I got the download.

We got a hotel room in Seremban. It had seven tiered swimming pools. I couldn't get these two men out of the swimming pools. I was up in the room praying about where I would find this fellow. I was in that hotel room for seven days, praying, asking the Lord where this man was.

I said, "You've brought me this far. You haven't told me this for nothing. Who is he?" I was looking in the phone book. I was doing everything that I knew how to do. I was looking for Anglican churches. There are very few of them in Malaysia. We were waiting.

I said, "Father, do something to bring this to pass. I'm running out of patience and money."

That day He brought me an AOG pastor who had heard that we were in the country. He asked us to come and minister in his church.

I said, "No mate. I'm on a mission. I'm looking for an Anglican pastor."

The AOG pastor said, "Well at least have lunch with me." So we had lunch. He said that he'd take me to the only Anglican he knew.

We walked in to the Anglican's house and the AOG pastor said, "I've got an Australian guy here and he's got a word for you."

I was thinking, "What if it's the wrong fellow?"

Now I was in a pickle because the guy was looking for a word. I looked at him and said, "Sir, I'm going to ask you one thing. Are you sick?"

He looked at me and said, "Yes. I am."

I said, "Can I ask you another question then? Have you just been made second in charge of your church?" All of a sudden dark clouds came.

He said, "Yes, I have. Why?" I knew that I'd found the right fellow.

I said, "God sent me from Australia to tell you this. You're dying and the doctors can't stop it. What is it?"

He said, "I'm bleeding from the bowels. They've cauterised me and done everything they can but it keeps erupting and I'm bleeding to death. And they have no cause for it. They don't know what's causing it."

I said, "I do. You're going to be healed straight away but you need to do one thing. Forgive the man who took your place. Release him now and repent to the Lord." He got on his knees – he dropped to his knees like a stone. He asked me to pray for his wife as well. I prayed for him. God set him free.

God showed me that day how much He cares for one person. One of us is very important to Jesus. One of us. If He's willing to send a person like me from South Australia to another country to set one man free, how much does He care for each one of us? How much does He care for those who are going to hell and we're set in place to bring them into the Kingdom of God?

Missions are so exciting. God has sent us on different missions to do different things.

Through the word of knowledge and hearing and going. It becomes the most exciting life. The most exciting things are when we go and don't know what He's going to do. We please God because we know He is and He's a rewarder of those who act on what He tells them. We're going to be writing history. That next part of Hebrews 11. We'll become champions in the faith because it's Jesus who's living in us.

Final-Word

If the testimonies in this booklet have impacted you, it's never too late to begin your own journey down the Narrow Road with Jesus.

Please feel free to read this simple prayer aloud:

Lord Jesus,

I believe that You died on the Cross for all my sin. I believe that You rose from the dead.

*Please forgive me for all my sins. Make me clean.
Please come into my heart, save me, heal me and set me free.*

*Write my name in Your Book of Life.
Fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Be my personal Lord and Saviour.*

Amen.

If you prayed this prayer, welcome to the family of God and a new life walking every day with Jesus.