

Lord of Life Ministries

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“Magnify the Lord”

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We need to have oneness and unity in the Lord, and that oneness only comes out of a relationship with Him. Each person has to become one with Him first, and as we become more one with God, then we become more one with each other. If the other individual is not really becoming more one with God, then there is an unequally yoked relationship. The woman in the natural you will see, is much more an emotional person than the male. The male today basically holds everything inside, because that is what they have been taught. Some of them are less emotional, and then some of them do not hold everything inside.

A lot of men have heart attacks at a very young age because they do hold everything within, and so we are going to touch on a lot of topics today, and I am really excited about it. We want you to get excited with us. It is an exciting time that we live in and yet a very important time. It is wonderful to see how God wants us to live and move and have our being in Him. As the

oneness develops between the husband and wife and when you really get to know each other quite well, you begin to learn each other's ways and learn how they think and how they respond. This is what the Father wants us to learn about Him and all His ways and how He thinks and how He moves and how the Spirit moves so that we will be able to discern when it is the Spirit and when it is the flesh. These are things that God teaches us and over time you begin to learn these things.

There are times that the male comforts the wife, and then there are times that the wife comforts the husband. So the Father does need comfort from you and me at times. I was asking the Lord, how can we bring comfort to you at times?" That is not really the main subject I want to get into, but I am just going to touch on that a little bit, and maybe we will carry that on later on. But I was really seeing how God Himself has a soul. He got angry a lot in the Old Testament as you can see. There were times that even

God Himself repented. To repent means to change your mind. God Himself had to repent? Yes, He did. There were a couple of times where you will see that the Lord repented, and He had to change his mind and make a different decision on what He was doing. So you begin to learn these things about God, and you begin to learn His ways. Israel was a perfect example for you and me to understand about the ways of the Lord. He wants us to become so in tune with Him that we can tell when He is grieved. He wants us to know when we have grieved the Holy Spirit. He wants us to know when we have even quenched the Holy Spirit, even in the body here, to learn that we are in oneness and we are in the spirit and we are to flow together in a oneness. The Holy Spirit is a gentleman, and the Holy Spirit will always back off, because when we don't respect the Holy Spirit, then we don't respect the Comforter because God, through the Holy Spirit, is our Comforter, and He comes to

comfort you and me. As He comforts you and me, then through Him we can comfort others. God is so wonderful that He comforts you in whatever you go through, through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a "He," and He is an individual that we need to recognize and respect as well as not only our heavenly Father and the Word. So, I began to really see how God Himself operated. You can really picture 40 years. That's a long time, but the word says for 40 years that our heavenly Father was grieved. **Ps. 95:10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways.** How long is He is going to grieve over the United States of America and over other countries.

Christ set three feasts for Israel, and all of you know about the three feasts. The one I want to expound on, is the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Father basically delivered Israel out of Egypt (the world). So He released them out of Egypt and told them they could go into the Promised Land, which was a model at that time in the natural representing the kingdom of God. So He delivered them out of Egypt to separate them unto Himself, and that is what the Father does to you and me. He calls you, he has His hand on your

life, He draws you unto Himself, you have to be willing to come out of the world, and you have to be willing to follow Him. So He was bringing them out to be a people that would be a people unto Himself and that God would become first in their lives, and He supplied everything that they needed. He gave them everything that they needed on this journey. He had the pillar of fire behind them, He had the glory cloud in front of them, He gave them the spirit, He gave them the understanding, He gave them everything they needed for this journey. So the journey took them longer than was necessary, because they kept disobeying the Lord, they kept walking in the five-sense realm, they kept focusing on what was appearing in the natural and in their circumstances. God had brought them out and He had shown them three feasts, but the main feast that He wanted them to understand more than anything else was the Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Tabernacles is that God brought the people together for seven days. For seven days they could not be caught up in work, they could not be caught up in family, they could not be caught up in their friends, they could not be caught up in their problems, they could not be caught up in their circumstances, they could not be caught up in worry, they

could not be caught up in fear, they could not be caught up in anything. The only thing that they were to be caught up in for seven days was to be caught up in God. So for seven days they had to do nothing, and seven means perfection and completeness. So to explain what this feast represents, this feast is a representation of a people coming into a rest in God. They come into a rest, and they come into a place where they are magnifying God. I looked up that little word "to magnify," and I just want to bring that out for a second. To magnify means: to make greater in size. God was really saying to me, "What are you magnifying in your life? In your situation, are you magnifying it in your mind greater than who God is?" I want you to write this down. To magnify means "to make greater in size." So are you making your problem and your situation and your family or whatever it is - your job, or whatever it is, is it greater in size than your almighty God. You need to understand that God is greater than anything in the whole entire world. For seven days they could not focus on family, they could not focus on their situation, they could not focus on their problems, they could not even murmur or complain. The only thing that they were to do for seven days was to worship God and to praise God. They

were to do these things and to magnify Him and to behold Him and to only be caught up in Him, be totally caught up in Him and magnify Him. So for seven days they were to celebrate this feast, and as they celebrated it, what happened was, they came into a rest in their soul. There was absolutely nothing in their soul that was magnifying anything greater than who God was. Can I say that again?

Also when they came, there was one thing that they had to bring. They had to bring a burnt sacrifice, and so you are that living sacrifice that God is burning those things up in your soul, anything that is in your soul or in your mind that is magnifying itself greater than who God is. So to magnify is to make greater in size, "to cause to appear greater or more important and to glorify or praise." This is in the Webster's Dictionary. I said, "God, you are too much." They had to glorify and they had to praise God whether they felt like it or not. They had to glorify or to praise God no matter what was going on in their life for seven days. The only thing that they could keep their eyes on was God Himself, and so this is what the Lord through your life is trying to teach you through every situation that you go through, to not magnify anything greater than who He

is but always see that He is greater than your problem, that He is greater than any situation that is going on in your life. Eph. 1:20 I just want to read this very slowly to you and go over it very slowly so that you can comprehend it just for a minute. Verse 20 Which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, v. 21 Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: Eph 1:22 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, Eph 1:23 Which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all.

I know you know this scripture. I know that you've got it down pat, but I am going to go over it again because I want you to see what has happened to you and me, and it is learning to stay there and to live there and to have your being there because God told us many years ago to arise. Now, to arise means to arise in your mind, and so you are going to have situations to occur, but you have to learn how to stay there and not let anything come in to take you out of that place where you are in Him. Now, if you see, in Ephesians it talks about the mighty power that He has been crowned with. He has

been crowned with the glory of God and the mighty power of God. You can see that in verse 20 "...He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places. Where did He do this?? v. 21 Far above - Now where He is, you are also. Can I say that again? You have a supernatural sphere around you, and in that supernatural sphere, you have a lot of principalities and a lot of darkness and a lot of spirits, but Jesus Christ has been raised up where? Far above all principality. So you are above. That's why He told the disciples, "You have been endued with power. I have given you authority to tread on the serpent." But He said, "Don't rejoice in that. Rejoice in your salvation and what He has done for you in your life." He said Far above power and might. Anything that's in the world. Because what happened when He went there, He took you there, too. That's the good news. If you go on to Ephesians chapter 2:21, (I'm not going to go there.), but it says He has raised you up in heavenly places in Christ. So where He is, that is where you are. Now, where have you been raised? You have been raised up above all principality, power - and all power that is in the world, you have been raised above that. All power that is in the world, you have been

raised above that - and all might, and dominion - every dominion, every nation. You see, the word says when He told Israel, He called Israel to be His son. That's the scriptures. Then in Proverbs it says the foolish son grieves the Father. He told Israel in the Old Testament, "If you obey Me, I will set you on high and I will set you above the nations." You have been set above the nations and not only have you been set above the nations, He has given you the nations. Can I say that again? He has not only set you above the nations, but He has given you the nations. **Deut. 28:11 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: 28:2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.**

So that's why He wants you to understand that the saints of the most high God, He is using to minister to the nations. So if He is above the principalities, He is above the powers, He is above the might and not only that - He is above every name. Every name that is in the whole world, no matter what the name is, I don't care what the name is, it doesn't matter. I could care

less whose name it is or what name it is. He is above that name. He is above whatever name the diseases are - cancer, etc. He is above every disease. So you, see, what God has called you and me through Christ to live and move and have our being in Him to where we will live in the supernatural realm and that we will begin to not focus on these things like other people do - and I am going to give you some examples because you need those examples to understand what God is saying. I am getting excited. You need to meditate on that because I was meditating on that over the weekend. I said, "Okay, God, sometimes it doesn't feel like I'm above." He said, "Well, why are you going by feeling?" Can I say that again? I said sometimes it doesn't feel like I am above. Why are you going by feelings? Okay. And it's true. Sometimes you don't feel like you are above. How many of you agree on that one? He said you are not supposed to go by feelings. Why are you going by feelings? He said, "I didn't teach you to go by feelings. I told you to go by what My word said. My Word says that I have set you on high, above all the nations." Why? "Because you are seated there with Me, at the right hand of the Father. You understand that and so basically He said, "This is the day to arise." In Isaiah it talks about "arise,

arise." You sang the song before I even came in here, "Arise, arise." Isa 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. 60:2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And you know the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. You need to let your light shine and so many people today are allowing their circumstances and their problems to keep them down. God is wanting a people today to learn to not go by sight nor by feelings nor go by your emotions but only go by the word and the spirit of what God is saying to you. When you go by that, you cannot go by your feelings at all. There are some things that you have to ignore. I learned a long time ago that whatever you focus on, it becomes your state of being. Whatever your mind is focusing on, then that becomes your state of being. Now, the eye is the window to your soul. Can I say that again? The eyes are a window to the soul, so when you see something, the appearance of something, the first thing it is going to do is register in your mind, but you have a choice and a decision to make at that moment what you are going to do with that. You yourself have a choice.

This is the day that God is telling you and me to take responsibility for what we know and what we understand. This is the day for you and me to walk out what we do know and what we do understand because you can see Israel, that He was showing them that for seven days they were to worship Him, and He was to be magnified. "Come and let us magnify the Lord together." That is really what God is saying for you and me to do today. God does not want you to magnify your problems in your mind. He does not want you to magnify your circumstances in your mind. He does not want you to magnify in your mind even the pain or the diseases or the lack of health that you have in your body. The more you magnify it, the more it gets bigger than God. The more you focus on it, the worse it gets. The more you talk about it, the worse it gets. **In Romans chapter 4.** This is another familiar one. We have been over it two or three times, but I want to go over it again. So how can we comfort God? By not grieving Him. **Romans chapter 4, verse 19 - And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: v. 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving**

glory to God; v. 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. V.22 And therefore it was imputed to Him for righteousness. I want to expound on that for a minute. Abraham ignored his body. He didn't consider it. Not only did he not consider his own body, but also he didn't even consider his wife's body. He did not consider the condition that she was in. You see, once you hear a word from the Lord and He tells you that you are going to do something, then you cannot consider what is going on in the natural. You can't think about it, you can't talk about it, because if you do, what is going to happen is, you are going to descend, and then when you do, then that gets bigger than God. Then you are magnifying the problem, and the problem becomes greater and then you stop the flow of what God wants to do. It says that he did not stagger at the promise of God. Then I looked up "staggered" because I wanted to see what that means. Stagger means to lose strength or confidence. Ah, Staggered means to lose strength or confidence, to move or stand unsteadily, to be overwhelmed with emotion." This is Webster again. "A staggered pattern." So a staggered pattern is an individual that is unstable. They are unstable in their mind. Guess what else he put

there? Several diseases marked by vertigo, confusion and weakness." This is in the Webster dictionary. I will read it over again. Are you writing it down? I want you to really meditate on this. I want you to get hold of it. It is staggered - to lose strength or confidence. And it is so true that when we lose sight of God in our situations, then we begin to lose confidence. Not only do we lose confidence, but we also lose some of the power and the strength that is in God. Is that not true? Anybody in agreement here? I believe you are. The reason so many people have so many diseases today - The United States of America is a big one. Come on, hear what I am saying. He didn't stagger at the promise of God. God made him a promise, and he didn't stagger at it. Now, he had to grow into that. He left his family like the Father told him. He left their beliefs. He left everything behind. He made a mistake and went down to Egypt. He went back into the world for a while, but he learned from all that. Then he built another altar. He got right back with God again. Then he listened to the woman, made another mistake, then God didn't talk to him for a very long time. **Gen 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk**

before me, and be thou perfect. Then God appeared to him again and said, "Get your act together." And that is what God is saying to His sons today, "Get your act together. Now with everything that you know, it is time to put it to use." You don't see him say anything about that in **Rom 4:17** (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. **Rom 4:18** Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. Or in **Heb 11:8** By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. In what you call the "hall of fame of faith." There are times you are going to lose sight of Him, and He understands that.

Jesus Christ came and went to the cross, and He fulfilled the Feast of Tabernacles for you and me. He is the fulfillment of the Feast of Tabernacles. Atonement means to be made one with God, so that feast was made for you and me to become one with the Father so that we could walk in that oneness and that unity with Him. As we allow that, it is

supposed to be a feast of celebration. It is supposed to be a feast of life. He has come that you might have life and life more abundantly. It is supposed to be a feast where people are celebrating and celebrating and they are just glorifying God, and God is getting all the glory and they are worshipping the Father and they are resting in Him, and Israel refused to obey the Father. For 40 years they wandered in the wilderness, and so for 40 years no matter what God did, what amazes me is that God supplied all their needs even when they were murmuring and complaining the entire time, and God took care of them. He always made sure they had food and water. Even when they didn't believe they had water. Not only that, their shoes didn't wear out. Can you think about that? Forty years, and your shoes did not wear out. They wore the same shoes for 40 years. They couldn't haul a bunch of shoes around. Like when you and I go on a trip, we take several pairs, okay? But they were wearing the same shoes for 40 years, and those shoes did not wear out. Now, what really gets me, not only did the shoes not wear out, their feet didn't swell up. Now, can you picture walking for 40 years in a desert and your feet never swell up? Even in all that, they still didn't believe God. They still didn't believe Him.

They murmured and complained all the time, and they wanted to go back to Egypt, complaining all the time. God said, "You have grieved Me for 40 years." He gave them that length of time, 40 years. Forty means: to be tried, proved and tested. The wilderness is nothing but to show you what is in your heart. To show you how you think. He wanted a people to serve Him and to worship Him. He wanted a people who would love Him. He wanted a people who would love Him for who He was and to know Him. He wanted a people that He could really trust and become a friend to Him. The greatest relationship that you can have with your heavenly Father is to know Him as a friend.

Abraham came to the place where he became a friend of God. God was going to do something to Sodom and Gomorrah, but you know what He said in the Word, "Should I keep this from Abraham, my friend? Should I keep to Myself what I am getting ready to do and not tell Abraham?" Because you see, Abraham was his friend. Everyone of you in this room, you are called to be God's friend, but the only thing that you have to do to become His friend, is in **John chapter 15:10-14**, it talks about the fact that there is nothing greater for the disciples that love one another and that lay their lives

down for one another. That is the greatest love that can be, is a people that will lay their lives down for one another. That's one thing that I like about this group, is because you have sat here many times and laid your lives down for those whom God sends here so that He can minister to them. That's the love of Christ and if you can understand that you are literally ministering to God Himself. You have got to get this, you have to understand that every time you are allowing Christ to flow out of you, no matter how long it is, whether it is to the nations or to the world or to one individual, God is literally ministering to Himself through you. Why? Because that individual is a part of Him. The Word says in **Matthew 25:31-40**, in that chapter it talks about the coming of the Lord, when He comes with all of His angels and all of His glory, it talks about Him separating the goats and the sheep. We know the goats are the ones that did not obey Him, and all of you know that chapter, but in that chapter He said, "When I was hungry, you fed Me. When I was thirsty, you gave Me drink. When I was in prison, you came to visit Me. When I was naked, you clothed Me." You can read that chapter yourself, but what He is saying is, every individual is a part of Himself, and every time you let Him do what He wants to

do through you, you are comforting your heavenly Father. You are not only comforting the person that God is ministering to, you are not only comforting the world that God is ministering to, but you are also comforting Him, and there is just such joy that He has within His being when you allow Him to touch someone with His love and with His joy and with His peace. To love your neighbor as yourself in anyone that is next to you that has a need, no matter what it is, the need can be in the natural, the need can be in the spiritual. An individual that is naked is an individual that is not really walking in the spirit of God. It is an individual that is not walking in that relationship with the Father, and so the only way that they can be lifted up out of that is through the love of Christ. But when you are doing that, you are literally touching Him. That is who you are touching. I learned this a long time ago. As long as you see an alcoholic as an alcoholic, he will always be an alcoholic. As long as you see a prostitute as a prostitute, she will always be a prostitute. When you can understand that when Christ went to the cross, He already died for that individual. That's why He said, "Call no man unclean, " because God does not see that individual as unclean. He sees that individual that He died for on

the cross and the blood was poured and shed for that individual. The only way that individual is going to come in is through the love of Christ that's in you and me. Every time you let God's love flow out of you in here to whatever He wants to do, you are touching your heavenly Father. Every time you listen to Him and you do what He wants you to do because you have to understand that in the Old Testament, it was a have-to-do thing. But in the New Testament it is a want-to-do thing. Under the letter of the law, in order to get a blessing, you had to obey God. Under the law of grace, God has given you His Spirit, His word and a new heart. He has given you His power and equipped you to where it is now where "I want you to do it because you want to, because it's by My grace.

It's not by your works, it's by My grace." How do you become a friend of the Lord? The Word says in **John 15:14** that if you do what I command you to do, you will be My friend. A true friend learns submission and learns what unconditional love is. A true friend is not selfish. What makes people get into the appearance realm all the time is all based on fear because you can have anger, you can have unbelief. Unbelief is the beginning of it, but fear is always there, too. So God is really equipping a people

today where they can flow with Him and He can use them to walk in this realm with Him in that oneness and to have an understanding that He wants you to be in that place in Him. He told me this a long time ago. He said, "Joyce when the Feast of Tabernacles has been fulfilled in My sons, they will never go out again." When you finally come into a place where your mind, no matter what is going to happen, you learn not to go there into the appearance realm, but you remain in that state with Him in that oneness, in that union with Him. You will never go out of His presence again, because you have become a people where you are learning to not allow anything to magnify itself except God Himself. You are not allowing any thought that comes into your mind to exalt itself against the knowledge of God. Any thought that comes in your mind that is totally contrary to the Word of God and exalts itself against the Christ, then basically that is a thought that has magnified itself, and then you end up worshipping that thought or you end up worshipping whatever has taken God's place. That's why they had to not let family be first. They couldn't let anything be first, but He had to be first because in that, they were coming into a rest in their soul and living in the presence of God, because that is where God

wants us to be all the time, is in His presence. He said that He would set you in this place that is high and lofty, and we did a teaching on that.

So there are times that you have to ignore a thing when it is taking place in your life. You have to ignore it and not magnify it, not think on it, not dwell on it, but begin to ask the Lord to give you a word that needs to take its place in your mind at that appointed time.

Here is another example. There are times that you have to turn your back on people. There are two examples that I want to give you here. Here David is an individual, very young, and he was being trained to be a shepherd, and God only gave him a few sheep. **1Sa 17:10 And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together. 1Sa 17:11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid. 1Sa 17:12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehemjudah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men for an old man in the days of Saul.**

All of you know the story of David, a very young boy, and here Israel, they were on a mountain, but the mountain they were on was not Mount Zion. They were on Mount Esau. They were on Mount

Seir. And then we had a big giant that had six toes. Six is the number of man. There are a lot of carnal people in this world. This individual had threatened Israel, and they were going to go into battle, and all of Israel trembled as they stayed on that mountain. That mountain was a representation of their mind, the condition that their mind was in. This giant they had magnified in their mind, and this giant had become bigger and greater than God himself. Now David, when he was in the back side, is taking care of those little sheep and learning how to deal with a bear and a lion and how to take care of those wild beasts and slay them to protect his little lambs. He decided to go and bring some food to his brothers, and he was the least of the family and he was young. So he went, and all of you know the story. What I want you to really see is what he did. He knew God. He knew His covenant, too, and he couldn't understand why the whole house of Israel was afraid of this one tall giant that was an uncircumcised Philistine. He said, "He doesn't have a covenant with God. Israel (God's people) have a covenant with Him. What's wrong with you? Why are you so afraid of him? Just a flesh man - why are you afraid of him? He began to question - what do you get if you slay this individual?" He wanted

to know what he was going to get, so they told him what he would receive. They told him his reward, what the king had offered. He had offered him a home and his daughter. You have to read it. So who was there that got jealous? One of the brethren. Wasn't the Philistines. It was one of the brothers, the older one. He got jealous of David. "Who do you think you are? You just think you know it all, little bitty squirt like you. You have just been there on that back side taking care of those little sheep, little nobody, and you think you are going to come here and do something? Who do you think you are? You go on back to those little sheep. You go on back there and you take care of those little rascals. You are just a boy. You don't know how to work. I've got the armor on here. I've been here, been trained and everything. So, what is your problem?" And then he said, "You're full of pride and ego." You know, a lot of people call other people things that are what they have themselves. Can I say that again? Everything that is coming out of their mouth, they are only talking about themselves. What did David do? He turned his back. He ignored what he said. You have to ignore. When God said for you to do something and He gives you the instructions on what to do, you are not going to have a whole lot of people

that will believe with you. You are definitely not going to have your family to believe. Jesus could not perform a miracle around his own family, in his own home, in his own county. So people that know you and become familiar with you, they don't believe you anymore. That's why you can't even minister to your family. You can't even minister sometimes to your friends because they think they know you, but they really don't know you. So he had to leave. He turned his back, and did not let that get in his mind. You see, that's the trick of the enemy. That's the trick of the kingdom of darkness. It's always wanting to get something right in your mind to get you sidetracked, to get you to where you start magnifying that - well, maybe they're right. Maybe that's true, or maybe I'd better look this over again. Well, that giant is a little bigger than I thought it was. Start looking at that giant. No, David didn't look at the giant. He just called him who he was. He understood his relationship with the Father. He knew God's ways and that all things are possible with God. He tried on Saul's equipment, and took it off quickly. And that's what you have to do. Sometimes you are going to have people around you and they will say, "Well, you need to use this." Or "You need to do that." Or "You need to

follow this for this to work." Then they tried it on and knew that's not going to work. He knew it immediately when he got it on. He said, "Mm, that's not God. That's not going to work." Sometimes you don't know right at that moment exactly what you are to do. When someone gives a suggestion, you listen, but if you hear within, "That's not right," then it's not right. Okay. He ignored it. In the book of **Acts, chapter 9:36** Peter learned a lot from Jesus. A woman had died, and this woman had many works that she had done for Christ. So she had lot of women there weeping and crying because she was dead. There were times that Jesus, when He was getting ready to pray for someone and even particularly those that had died, He would tell others to leave the room. He got all of those out of the room that had no belief. He would take three disciples with Him, and if you study their names out, faith, hope and love. That's why He would take them with Him. He wouldn't take the others. Now the interesting part about it, if you look at the scriptures very closely, you can see that Peter did something. He made all the women leave the room.

Now, remember, the eye is the window to the soul. So sometimes the condition of people when you look at it, it takes away some of that faith, because you are looking at the

appearance and the condition that individual is in, so if you look at the scripture, it says that he turned around and faced her and said, "Arise." But when He was praying, He had His back turned to her. He wouldn't have had to turn around and face her if His back hadn't been turned to her. Do you understand what I am saying? So, He had His back turned to her, then He turned around and faced her. Then He said, as He was praying, He got in there and He heard from the Lord, He heard God say that He wanted to raise her up. He heard the instructions from the Lord. He had the faith. He wasn't looking at the body. He turned around and he said, "Arise and get up," and she did.

This is another one that is familiar, and I know you've heard it before. But I like this one better than any of them to be honest with you. All of you know about the disciples. All of you know that there are times that God will give you instructions to do certain things, but He doesn't give you all the details. Nor does He tell you exactly what is going to happen during wherever He sends you that He tells you to go somewhere. He doesn't tell you what you are going to go through when you get there. He doesn't tell you there is going to be a storm in the middle of it because He knows if He does,

you wouldn't go. Half of you wouldn't. I mean, He has sent me places sometimes, and people got mad at me and hit me and gave me a black eye. And I sat there for a solid week in an old trailer. "Why did you send me here?" But I had to get my act together and start praising Him no matter what. And then when He finished what He wanted to do there, He released me and took me to another place, and this was the individual that He wanted to get to. He said, "This is why I have brought you here, and even what you went through," He said, "That is not in vain." He said, "It touched another individual." So you have to understand that God doesn't tell you everything that you are going to go through when He sends you on an assignment. He only tells you a certain amount. To be honest with you, I am glad He doesn't tell you everything. There are times when the Lord will tell me to do something, and I can feel my soul, and it is all going, "Oh, no." But I know that I want to do what He tells me to do. And I am asking the Lord, ""Why is my soul troubled?" He said, "Don't worry about that right now." Then later on when we get into the situation and do what He said, I go, "Oh, okay, now I understand why my soul was troubled." My soul knew what it was going to have to

go through. See, your soul knows. Your spirit knows. But then when you obey the Lord and you go through it and you see the fruit of it and you see the result of it, you rejoice and you praise Him and you thank Him. God is trying to get us to a place where we will praise Him all the time no matter what we go through. That's why He said in everything give thanks because this is the will of God. So he tells them, you know, "Hey, you boys cross the Sea of Galilee." They just saw a great miracle, and they participated in it, the feeding of all those people. He said, "I'll meet you on the other side." So Jesus goes up the mountain to pray, and all of you know this story. What does Jesus do in a storm? He sleeps. The Bible says He was asleep in the boat in one of them, and the disciples were all emotional and upset because of the appearance of this storm. I am getting to a point here, so just be patient.

There was one individual that we want to talk about, and that is Peter. Here in the middle of the Sea of Galilee is a horrible storm. They are petrified. They don't know what to do. The waves of the waters are just a-roaring, and there are many, many times that you will have thoughts in your mind that are roaring in your mind, but you have to understand that God is greater than all of that roaring that is

in your mind. **Psalms 93:3-5** It talks about the waves of the sea are like a roar, like a roar, and so the waves of the sea for you and me is of the understanding that we have in our mind of the appearance of things that are on the outside of us, and so they were looking at the storm, and fear hit them. Out of that fear and unbelief came the emotional situation that they were in. Then, all of a sudden, they see this individual walking on the water, and you would have probably thought the same thing they did. They thought it was a ghost. Peter said one thing, "Lord, is that you?" There are times - a lot of people today are sitting in their own little boat, full of fear, full of emotions, because you have to understand today there is an ocean of thoughts. You have to understand today in the world is a fear of humanity with human thoughts. All of the nations today are living in fear. Turmoil is going on all over the world. There is no good news on TV today. The only good news is in the kingdom of God. All over the world today, even in the United States of America, they are on the TV talking about recession. Well, saints of God, if you are in the kingdom, there is no recession in the kingdom of God. So my question is, where are you living? If you are living in the kingdom, there is no recession. So why do you

have any fear or any emotion about what you are to do? The only thing that you are to do is to follow the Lamb and stay on that path of life because there is no such thing as recession in the kingdom of God. There is no such thing as stress in the kingdom of God. Stress has caused a lot of diseases today. You have to be careful, including myself. I have to every now and then check to see if I am doing too much, and sometimes I have to pull back because your body is telling you when to slow down. Do you follow what I am saying? The whole world today is caught up in fear. Fear is all over the world today. Jesus was walking on top of the waters.

Jesus said in the Word that you have been raised above all principalities, that you have been raised above all the things that are going on in the world, that you are seated with Christ in heavenly places. In the kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. When we begin to celebrate this Feast of Tabernacles and in everything give thanks and praise God and magnify Him in every situation that we go through, because in the kingdom of God, there is no problem that He cannot solve. We have a God that solves problems. He is greater and bigger than your problem. There is nothing impossible with God.

Everything is possible with God.

Peter got the idea, "Well, if He can do that, I can do it, too." He had the understanding that Jesus was the pattern and the way. He had the understanding that He was teaching him, and he even told him when I go that you will do greater works than I did. So Peter got out of that boat, and he began to walk on top of the waters (all his surroundings.) **Mat 14:28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. Mat 14:29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. Mat 14:30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. Mat 14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?**

He was walking in faith. You have heard this before, but we need to hear it again, because of what is going on in the world today, you need to get grounded and rooted in this word. Doing it every day in your life in every situation. What did Jesus do? He only said one word. "Jesus, if that be you, then tell me so that I can walk on the water, too." Now you would like Jesus to give you a lot of instruction.

"Yes, son, you can come because I am God and in Me you can do all things and it's going to be all right, and you are going to be safe, and I'm going to catch you. It's okay. I'm here. You know, you just take these few steps forward, I'll be here to catch you. I will take care of you. You won't fall. I'll take care of you." No! He just said one thing, "Come!" Now, remember, when God gave me the gift of prophecy, how we would stand there and I would wait because He said, "Prophecy," and I would wait. We haven't given anything. "Open your mouth, Joyce. I'll say it through you." He would give me one little word, and then it just rolls. You see, we are wanting Him to tell us the whole thing, the whole picture, everything. Well, if He did, what kind of faith is that? It's not faith. So He just said, "Come." And he was doing fine until: We are always going, "But if, but if...But what about this? But what about that? But so and so said this." You know, we are just - let it go. The mistake that he made was he lost sight of Jesus. He looked around him and what did he do? The eyes are the windows of the soul. He took his eyes off the Word. He totally took his eyes off, and he got into the appearance realm. We are still, saints, living in the appearance realm. There is not a one of you in this room

that has gotten there fully yet. You are still living to a degree in the appearance realm. The Word says we are to look at the things which are not seen. We are to look at the things which are not seen, not to look at the things which are seen. When he looked at the things which were seen, unbelief and fear gripped his heart, and he started sinking. You and I many times get in our emotions and our feelings, and our hearts sink because of behaviors of other people, what we see that they are doing. It is hard sometimes. That's why the Word says know we no man no more after the flesh. **2Co 5:16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. 2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

Don't know Jesus Christ any more after the flesh, but know Him as the resurrected Savior.

Jesus didn't stand there and say, "Well, look, boy, look what you did. You really goofed. You really made a whopper mistake." No, I want you to understand that there is a hand, there is a hand that is always stretched out. Notice the scriptures, if you read it very carefully, it said He immediately, stretched his

hand out to him. You see, God will only let you go so far, but there is someone that He uses that knows how to work the hand. The hand represents the works of the kingdom of God and the power of the Lord. A hand that has a signet ring on, a hand that knows how to use the signet ring, an arm that is stretched out. You are that arm. You are that hand, and every time we come together on Friday night and Thursday mornings and Sunday and we sit there His hand is reaching out, stretching out because there are so many people in the world today that are sinking in the sea of all those thoughts in their mind, and there is so much fear in people's minds and lives today because of what they see and hear. Some of God's own people are not walking in that sureness.

The Bible says that Zion goes from strength to strength. It is a people who are learning to walk in the Spirit of God, and they are walking not in their own strength, but they are walking in God's strength and abiding in Him. They are having a union with Him and a relationship with Him no matter what they go through.

Israel continued to walk in that appearance realm, in unbelief and murmuring and complaining all the time. Never experiencing the Feast of Tabernacles and worshipping Him in spirit and truth. They kept magnifying

everything else except Him. God sent His Son, and He obeyed Him. He learned obedience through the things which He suffered, and He said, "I do always the things which please My Father," because He had an understanding that you cannot even please God unless you walk in faith. Faith and obedience go together, because if God tells you something and you don't do it, then you didn't believe Him. Faith and obedience go together. There is always a hand, even in the failures that Peter made, and you and I have failures at times. There are times that you will experience other failures, but I want to tell you, the grace and mercy of God has a hand to reach out to you and me, and He doesn't condemn you, because He wants you to understand that He wants to lift you up again in this love, grace and mercy to get you back on track again so that you will not fall again. He wants you to learn from your fall, He wants you to learn from your mistakes, and He doesn't want you to do it again. He wants you to be consistent in that walk with Him because He is going to have a people that will come into a place where the Feast of Tabernacles will be operating in them every day in their life. They begin to walk in that peace that passes all their understanding, and they begin to understand that the power

that God wants them to have really comes by walking in this realm that He has called us to walk in. When someone has fallen down, we have to be honest with them. If you are friends, you will tell them the truth, but you will reach out with a hand, and you will try to lift them up and bring them up and not condemn them but bring them back under the grace of God and say, "Learn from that mistake. Go and sin no more. There is this old song that we sing many times, "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His wonderful grace." That's true, and there are times you have to go within. My problem is, sometimes I get my eyes off of Him because of problems in so many people's lives or whatever, but I know to go within and get rid of those thoughts and give it to Him and move forward.

David said come and let us magnify the Lord together. Magnify means to make greater in size. Israel saw themselves as grasshoppers. Now, there is really an image you have got to get rid of. You know, a lot of people's problems today are how they see themselves. It is the image that they see themselves as. It is so true, so very true. To magnify means to make greater in size, to cause to appear greater or more important, to glorify or praise.

Years ago He told me this. He said, "Joyce, what are you focusing on?" And I said, "Well, you know. I don't need to tell you. You know, Lord." He said, "Well, that's why you don't have peace right now." I asked Him to explain it to me. He said, "You are focusing on thoughts that are not coming from Me, and it's not lining up with My Word." Then what else are you trying to tell me?" He said, "Now you are worshipping your thoughts." Wow. He said, "You are spending energy on thoughts that bring no life. You are spending energy on thoughts that can bring nothing but death, and that bring you out of My Spirit. You are spending energy on thoughts that are causing you to lose peace and joy." He said, "I have given you everything in the Word. I have even told you how to think. Phi 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Phi 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

He said, "It is going to take time because you have developed patterns over the years." I have learned a lot of

people that have gone through a lot harder things than other people, it takes them a little longer than other people, and that is why you have to be patient with them. I remember I used to go to the nursing home and I said, "Lord God, all they talk about is the past, and all they talk about is dying. I went there seven years, you know, and the Lord told me, "Joyce, it takes longer with people like this because they have developed these strongholds of patterns for years, and you are going to have to be more patient with them than you have to be with others."

My question is, what are you magnifying? We are to be led by the Spirit of the Lord every day of our lives. I have had so many people who don't understand me. They ask me, "Why aren't you making plans for a trip? Why don't you just go do it? Why don't you just do this?" And "Why don't you just do that?" When you become a prisoner of Christ, you are not your own. You don't belong to yourself. You are learning to listen to the instructions of your Father, and you are obeying Him because, you know, I don't want to grieve Him because the more you get to know Him the more you become His friend, that's why He chose these things ahead of time, because you have become a friend.

A friend is someone that you have to trust. So God gives you little things. Even myself, I start with the little things and find out if I can trust you or not. If I can't trust you, then some of those things will have to be removed because we have to find some that we can depend on and trust and rely on. That's what the Father is always looking for. He is looking for an individual that He can trust, that they love Him for who He is, and so He starts them out with little things and then He gives them more responsibility. Do you want to be used more of God? Then you be faithful in what He has given you already. If you are faithful in that, then He will expand you as far as the ministry He has called you to. That is how it works. Ask the Lord to teach you to know when you have grieved Him. He is not going to condemn you. No! You just tell Him you are sorry. The grace of God and the mercy of God gets you going again and you take a step forward. Maybe you won't get it right away right at first. That's all right, but keep it up. Don't be an individual that quits. Just keep going forward. **Let us magnify the Lord together.**

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