



## Preparing for the Supernatural

Sunday November 04, 2007

How many of us love to see the supernatural power of God in manifestation?

We as a church are moving into a season where we want to press in to the supernatural power of God and combine this with soul winning (personal evangelism). This is not just a season we wish to visit, a season that we just enter and leave. No! We are looking to break into something that will be a permanent part of us as a church. We want to enter into this realm and keep moving deeper and deeper, higher and higher in the realms of the supernatural manifestations of God.

My desire is to see a supernatural church – **a church where the power of God in manifestation is the norm and where every believer is manifesting the glory of God.** I want to see a church where the supernatural power of God is not only manifested in our services when we gather together but **where supernatural signs and wonders accompany every believer every day of the week, every where** – at home, at school, at college, in the work-place, on the sports field, in the malls, in the restaurants – and every where else that we go!

What would a supernatural church look like?  
Acts 5:12-16 Acts 6:7,8

In the Old Testament, with reference to the Old Testament Temple, the prophet said:  
**"The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former..."(Haggai 2:9)**

The tale of two farmers

If we are expecting God to make us a supernatural church, if we are desiring to become a church where the power of God in manifestation is the norm and where every believer is manifesting the glory of God, where supernatural signs and wonders accompany every believer every day of the week, every where the go – then we need to prepare ourselves for that!

Preparing for the supernatural

### 1. Rising to a new level of cleansing and consecration

**Joshua 3:5**

**And Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you."**

The norm is that God manifests His glory in a place that has been cleansed and consecrated to Him. Sin, rebellion, disobedience obstructs the manifestation of His glory. While there will be exceptions to this norm, where God may overlook the sin and lack of consecration – let us follow the instructions of Scripture in preparing for the supernatural.

While we do not take credit neither do we attribute the manifestation of the supernatural to our own power or holiness or consecrated living – and yet we cannot neglect the fact that this is necessary.

2 Timothy 2:20-22



Isaiah 52:10,11

2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 7:1

This passage of Scripture is most used in relation marriage. However that is NOT the context in Scripture – although it definitely can be applied to the realm of marriage. Scripture must be interpreted in context. The context here is about living life. In every day life – in the way we daily out in our homes, in school, college, in the work place, when wandering through the malls, etc. – do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. In other words, don't just go along with them doing what they do!

Many times we misrepresent the Father heart of God. We portray God as a loving Father who just loves, forgives, never disciplines, never gets angry, will overlook all sin and misbehavior, etc. etc. God is a loving father with wide arms that are always open. And yet this loving Father, has commanded us to come out and be separate, to be holy. **Our relationship with the Father, as His sons and daughters must be exercised in the context of holy living.**

Raising our standards

1 Corinthians 6:12, 10:23

There are many things we say and do that may be "lawful" and "OK". But our desire is not to live by what is just "OK". Like the apostle Paul, we need to evaluate things by these two metrics: (A) Is it helpful – to me, in my walk with God, in bearing a good testimony, in blessing others, in glorifying God, etc? and (B) Is there a possibility that I would be controlled by it?

While we can apply this standard to all areas of life, let me put my finger on two areas that are relevant to our life as a church family, at this time:

Some examples :

- Drinking alcohol (wine and other alcoholic beverages)

**Proverbs 20:1**

**Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.**

There is the possibility for any person to be "led astray" by wine and strong drink, according to the Scriptures.

**Leviticus 10:8-10**

**8 Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, saying:**

**9 "Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink, you, nor your sons with you, when you go into the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations,**

**10 that you may distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean,**

According to this passage "wine or intoxicating drink" is categorized by God as unholy and unclean and therefore not fitting for the priesthood. We are priests in the New Testament, and hence I do not think that God's standard for us would be any different. Did God suddenly change His moral standards from the Old Testament and New Testament and make wine and intoxicating drink permissible for His priests? Did He change His definition of holy and unholy?



In my consecration before God, I choose to refrain from drinking wine or other strong drink (alcoholic beverages).

- Relating to one another with holiness and consecration

Titus 2:1-8

Regardless of our age category and role in the house of God, the essence of this passage is that all of us must **"be reverent in behavior"** (vs 3) and conduct ourselves in such a way **"that the word of God may not be blasphemed"** (vs 5), and others will have **"nothing evil to say of you"** (vs 8). This according to vs 1 is "sound doctrine", that is correct teaching, meaning that if we teaching any thing else we are teaching "wrong doctrine".

1 Timothy 5:1-2

A pastor/overseer/spiritual leader has been instructed by God to treat other women as "mothers" and "sisters", **"with all purity"**.

This church is a church that experiences and gives great liberty to young people. However, based on the Word of God, young people I want to call us to a new level of consecration and holiness.

#### A call to a new level of consecration and holiness

If I as a pastor do not live a life of personal devotion and consecration before God, Monday-Saturday, then I have no right to stand behind the pulpit to minister to you or to lead you as your pastor. Let's extend this same standard to all others in spiritual ministry (ministry of Word, Worship and prayer) in this church.

If you are part of the worship team, but you are not living a life of personal devotion and consecration before God, Monday-Saturday, if you are not personally worshipping God in private, then you should not be up on stage as part of the team to lead a congregation into worship and devotion to God.

From this day forward, let us stop playing church. I am calling us to a new level of consecration and holiness before God.

## **2. Rising to a new level of Hunger for God and His glory**

Psalm 63:1-2

## **3. Rising to a new level of Prayer**

Acts 4:29-33 Hosea 6:1-3 Zechariah 10:1

I invite each one of us, as often as possible, to spend one day of prayer and fasting each week asking God to make us a supernatural church, a church where the power of God in manifestation is the norm and where every believer is manifesting the glory of God, where supernatural signs and wonders accompany every believer every day of the week, every where the go.

Pray that God will increase the level of consecration, increase the hunger level, increase the prayer level in our church.



In cell groups, fast and pray for this to happen to us. (Cell group leaders please lead this!). Starting today, let us have at least one cell group every day of the week, fasting and praying for this.

#### **4. Rising to a new level of true Worship**

2 Chronicles 5:1, 11-14

True worship, worship in spirit and truth, will enable us to experience the glory of God. Let's move to new levels in our worship.

#### **5. Rising to a new level of faith and expectancy**

Jesus healed in response to the faith of the people.

This is partly my responsibility – to pray, prepare and come and minister in such a way that your level of faith and expectation for the supernatural power of God will arise.

#### Invitation :

- Let's move together as a congregation into this realm of the supernatural and on into power evangelism (reaching souls by the power of God).
- Let's prepare our field for rain.
- Let's pray together asking God to bring us as a church to new levels of consecration, to new levels of hunger, prayer, worship and faith.
- Let's have ongoing fasting and prayer for this to happen and be sustained in our church.



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**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

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**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

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