

15 March 2020 New Door - Increase - Opportunity Part 3 Ps John Bendixen (WTB)

Scripture Reference: Psalm 91:1-16 (NLT); Acts 10:44-48 (AMPC)

I'd like you to turn in your Bibles with me to Psalm 91, please and I'm now going to read the whole of Psalm 91. I'm going to read to you the whole of Psalm 91 from the New Living Translation because there's some things that I have to share with you today that are very relevant to the moment that we're living in.

¹Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. ²This I declare about the Lord: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him. ³For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from – from every deadly disease. What? Deadly disease. He will protect us from deadly disease.

⁴He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection. Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night, nor the arrow that flies in the day. ⁶Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness, nor the disaster that strikes at midday. ⁷Though a thousand fall at your side, though ten thousand are dying around you, these evils will not touch you. These evils will not touch you.

⁸Just open your eyes, and see how the wicked are punished. ⁹If you make the Lord your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, ¹⁰no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your home. ¹¹For He will order His angels to protect you wherever you go. ¹²They will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone. Never mind a coronavirus. ¹³You will trample upon lions and cobras; you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet! ¹⁴The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love Me. I will protect those who trust in My Name. ¹⁵When they call on Me, I will answer; I will be with them in trouble. I will rescue and honor them. ¹⁶I will reward them with a long life and give them My salvation." (Psalm 91:1-16 NLT)

I had it in my heart, this morning to read you this passage of Scripture. This is a time where you must trust God. This is a time where you must put your trust in God. If you, and I don't suggest you do this very much but, if you pay attention to what is happening in the world right now; cities, nations, countries are shutting their doors. I'm using those words on purpose.

The United States of America has shut its doors for thirty days, from flights from Europe and Asia. It shut its doors; you may not fly into America if you are from Europe or from Asia.

There was a cycle race that happened this week and I watched a little bit yesterday. I just saw the end part of it and they were talking about one of the Danish riders that was riding in tour in France They actually said the Danish government sent the Danish riders on that Tour, professional athletes. They said, "You must come home immediately, that the tour is finished." Which finished yesterday, but they said, "You

must come home because Denmark is shutting its doors to anybody going out or anybody coming in because of the coronavirus.”

President Donald Trump has had an agreement or has congresses approved and he's about to sign the agreement tomorrow, that the United States will set aside fifty-one billion dollars, for both medical protection and for economic stimulus. So, that companies that are no longer going to be functioning, as a result of people staying home, will not actually go down the tubes. He is offering help to companies.

It's interesting to me that God said, “In 2020 He is going to open a new door for us and we are going to experience supernatural increase like we've never seen before.” Is it any wonder to you that around the world all the doors are closing, not opening? Huh? Very interesting. This looks exactly to me, as I've experienced many things spiritual in my life; when God speaks a Word, the devil comes with his counteraction to try and prevent the Word from going.

You will recall in the Bible, of course, when it was prophesied that Jesus would be born and then Jesus was born. These very wealthy men came from the east, to come and give honour and gifts to the new King that was born, being King Jesus. So, the king of that time, King Herod, heard that they had come to honour a king and he didn't know of another king that was there, except him. So he said, “When you find this king, come and tell me.” But they didn't, but then he realized, actually, there's a King that's been born and this King is going to come and challenge my throne. So, he had all the male-born children, under the age of two in that time, killed. That's a fairly drastic and radical reaction just to stop one child. I mean, I'm talking about if you're a natural king. Kill all the babies under the age of two, so that you can protect your throne. That's rather brutal and ruthless, don't you think? Well, the devil is just like that. He's brutal and he's ruthless and he will destroy and kill, as he can.

I want to encourage you today, that if you stay in the Word of God and you keep Psalm 91 in front of your eyes, this disease, this plague, this thing will not come near you. Not only that, He will protect you, He will shield you and He will honour you. That means your finances as well as your physical body. Just because the world is taking a beating financially doesn't mean to say the Christians must. In fact, I would go so far as to say, that as the world takes a beating, this is a time for Christians to actually begin to shine. This is our opportunity to maximize what God's got for us. We should have that mindset that this is our time for supernatural increase. This is not our time to be in fear like the world.

Okay, so now, what I'm about to tell you, might sound contradictory to what I've just said, but medical advice says, that you need to be cautious about how you touch people. Keep your surfaces clean in your house and wherever you go. As far as possible, if you're going to sneeze or people are doing... make sure that you are protected and covered. All the medical advice that you get - don't shake people's hands and if you do, wash your hands often. You're saying, “But, Pastor John, you know that sounds contrary to what you're doing.” Well, if a medical profession says, this is a way that you must do natural things to protect yourself, then let's do what

they say. It's not stupid to say; I'm going to be careful about these things. It's wisdom.

I also stand on the Word of God that nothing will come near me. No evil will come near me. No plague will come near me. No sickness or disease will come near me. There's a reason God put medical professionals in the world to help us and so we must listen to what they have to say and be wise about the way we conduct ourselves. Amen.

Do you know that in America today, that the majority of churches have shut down? Today, there are big, big ministries - I'm talking about big international ministries with big TV ministries - they have shut down. They are not having church service today. First of all, partly because there's been laws passed; you may not have spiritual gatherings, or any kind of gathering, of more than 500 people. Whether it's faith-based, sports-based, political-based, anything else-based, in America, they are doing everything to control the virus.

A lot of the people, that are not having church services, are people that I think very highly of. So, why would they not have church services? They're having them online. Why would they not? Well, first of all, they can't break a legal law and secondly, they're applying natural wisdom to that. Amen. Praise the Lord.

I went through a period of time and it might not sound like I'm preaching yet, but I am preaching because actually part of what God called me to do is to be able to address matters that happen to you every day, with the Word of God. Otherwise, the Gospel that we preach is not a relevant Gospel - it's just some words that are spoken and people go home with a good feeling, but it doesn't give you anything of substance that you can live with every day. Certainly, for me, I've spent my whole life living that way, that actually if the Word of God doesn't live and work for me every day, then what's the point of it working for me just on Sunday?

So, I live my life in the Word of God. I trust the Word of God with everything, with my life because it's the way I live my life - in the Word of God. I trust the Word, more than I trust my intellect. In fact, Pastor Sharon and I were having a conversation yesterday and we had to remind ourselves, just because of the nature of the conversation, we had to remind ourselves, that you cannot judge the Word of God by people's experience. People's experience must be judged by the Word of God. If you say the Word of God says this, but someone else has had an experience, so I'm not sure that I can believe the Word of God - you're placing someone's own experience of which you have no knowledge of all the context, all the details, and that person's heart and the mental things and the spiritual pressure, you have no context as to what really happened in that person's life, even though you may think so.

The only context you will have is the information that got to you. You cannot judge the Word of God and the Truth of the Word by someone else's experience. If you do that, what you're saying is; someone else's experience is of more value to me because it's real than the Word of God is valuable to me because it's not so real. The fact is; the Word of God is more real than someone's experience because their

experience with the Word of God, you have no idea how they interacted with the Word, you have no idea how they interacted with Truth. Even if I share a life experience with you that is a good testimony, you're going to have your own experience, but in the end, you can't even take my truth and say, "Cause it happened to Pastor John, it must happen to me." You've got to trust the Word for what the Word says. Amen.

In this season where, certainly, South Africa's economy is in a recession and suddenly the world global economy is taking a beating, some people say it's been a long, long time that the world's economy has taken a beating like this. In fact, some people are saying this is a global war, kind of economic condition, like a world war economic condition. This is happening. I mean, literally, European nations are shutting down. If you see pictures of places in Italy, there's no people on the streets. The same thing is happening in America; there's no people in the streets. You find people going into places like Walmart, in America, and people are fighting over toilet paper. It's shocking. There's a fear that's gripping the world and we are not of that sort and we do not permit that fear to come into our lives. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

We've got to take the Word of God and we've got to stand on the Word of God and we've got to believe the Word of God, as it touches our everyday life so that it can influence the things that we are touching in the world around us. It's not a coincidence to me, that there are many doors that are shutting everywhere, but God has said, "I'm going to open a new door for you." Don't change your confession. Don't change what you're believing. Now's the time to even be more focussed and more committed, that God is opening a new door for you and you will experience supernatural increase like you've never experienced before. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

I'm going to share some things with you today that are part of, very real living spirituality that we are doing as a community. So, part of our New Door, Supernatural Increase, the way that God has given it to us as a church to do is *Project Strike, Project Conditioning and Project Celebration*, right? For those of you that have been around me for any length of time you will know, that part of what I do is, when the Lord speaks to me, I find ways where I can be obedient to Him, and set the course, if you like. So, I don't preach to you something and say, you must do something, then and I don't do it. My whole, my whole approach to leadership is, if I really believe something, then I must live it, and if I live it, then I must live it in such a way that you can see it. Come on now.

So, you know, Pastor Sharon, when I was away she had my son, Brynn, come and talk about how I gave a word 4X4X40 and he said, "Well that's not for me." He didn't do it and then he made a confession that he was foolish. Right? Well, the Lord has said that for us for 2020, one of the things that we must do, is we must do, we must condition ourselves. For me conditioning is spiritual conditioning, it's physical conditioning, it's financial conditioning, there are many things that you can apply conditioning to.

So, I began to just seek from the Lord in ways that I can just apply this to my life. Now, I can say this to you publicly because Brother Copeland made it public. He made it public on television broadcast, on his Believers Voice of Victory daily broadcast. He made this public statement and he made it about two years ago and he would have been about 81 when he made this statement. This is what he said, he said, "For years, the Lord spoke to me to do physical exercise, but because I didn't like it and I didn't enjoy it, I would stop, start, stop, start because I just didn't like going to the gym, I didn't like, I didn't like the mental thing of, now I've got to go and exercise." So he said, "Now I've got a personal coach and I'm busy exercising." Because he wants to extend his life. So now he has been exercising and so, so something that really impressed me at the end of last year, when we were in Washington was he, he dropped to the floor in front of a few thousand people, that were in a meeting, he dropped to the floor and started doing push-ups, he is now 83 years old.

He began doing pushups, and I lost count at around about 35, 40 push-ups that he did, on the trot. I lost count because I was counting Brother Jerry's pushups that he was doing next to him and Brother Jerry quit at around about 30, 35. Well, that was a smart thing, seeing as he honoured Brother Copeland, don't turn it into a competition in front of a few thousand people.

Anyway, so, for a man who has had surgery on his back, spinal fusion things, had to lose weight, many things had to happen, he now has got a personal trainer that helps him stay in shape physically. To the point that when he travels for a weeks conference away from his home, he takes training equipment, because trucks take their sound system, trucks take all their things to the conference, so they just take some of his training equipment with. So, he doesn't miss days of training.

Hello. Anyway, so, I had it in my heart that over the last year or so, the Lord has had me really focus on some, many things and although I kept myself reasonably fit, I did have an injury that prevented me from really pushing forward and so I went and got medical advice on it, and they taught me how to strengthen my legs and strengthen my muscles, and there are some things that I learnt about, that if you are a cyclist, what it does to the fibres of your muscles and how you lose muscle density if you are a cyclist. If you want to convert from being a cyclist to being a runner also, you have to take time to build up the muscle density, otherwise, you become susceptible to exactly what happened to me, which was I tore my calf muscle.

It's an amazing thing when you're enjoying a level of fitness and you're wanting to get back there and it can take you much longer, and if you're a bit older, it can take you much longer. So, even though you get fit, you find that there are times when other things creep in and you have got to rest them for a week because, you know, just things happen. I don't come and tell you all those things but if I go running and one day I felt this ligament right here in the front of my knee was hurting for a week, so now I had to rest it for a week and so now that puts you back a week.

You understand what I'm saying? So, anybody who has done sport for any time will know that that's the thing that when you actually get an injury, sometimes it takes

you much longer to get back, 'cause it's not that injury that you recover from, there are other injuries that you get in the meantime; that you have to recover from until you get back to condition.

You all with me? I went away for a couple of days, as you know, I was away. Part of my, the peace that I got from God to be able to do this was to combine spiritual conditioning and natural conditioning at the same time. So, I found myself in a cycling tour with a number of people, cycling in the Cape Town area for seven hours a day, 150 kilometers, 140 kilometers, 120 kilometers day after day. Riding in the mountains of Cape Town. Temperatures of between 35 to 45 degrees. It was hot and it was fun. Some of you are looking at me and saying, "That doesn't sound like fun to me." It is to me.

I'm sharing this with you because I did this all on my own, there was no one from the Church with me, there was no one around me, I was able to spend my spare time in the Word, listening to the Word and sometimes sleeping through the Word. Haha. Because you get tired. Just hang with me, stay with me for a little bit, okay? So, there is nobody around me, in this environment and in the world that I mostly live in, people have an honour for me, which I am very grateful for, that's something that God puts in your heart; that's not something I demand. You have a love for me, you have a respect for me and I am very thankful to God that we have this wonderful relationship where I honour you, and I respect you and I love the fact that you are with us in the ministry. Right?

So, it's very easy for me, in this environment for me to receive blessing, favour from you, to me. It's part of the joy that you have in your heart to honour Pastor Sharon and I, in our ministry but now, if you go into an environment where no one knows you, you have a tag, that you have a sticker on your bike and that's just John. You have a thing on the back of your cycling jersey and it says, "John." You are a number; you're just cycling with other guys, no one knows you. It sounds to me like a perfect opportunity for God to show me His blessing and His favour.

So, so many things happen, and I've been trying to share some of them with Pastor Sharon, but I'll just share one moment with you that happened to me. We came back on the one day and we had done 144 kilometers that day, 45 degrees. Stinking hot, you understand, stinking hot, that's all I can tell you. Although it's four o'clock now, in the afternoon, the temperature is still 44 degrees, because the sun only sets at about 8 o'clock in Cape Town, you know and it is still 44 degrees and it is like, is oppressive humid heat just hanging in the valley.

So, we arrive back, we are finished and I take my bike and I push it onto the side. They had all these racks there that you put your bikes on, but I put it on, this on the wall and I just went and I sat with my back to the wall in the shade, I took my shoes off, put my shoes next to me and I'm just sitting.

There is a good word for it, I plonked myself down. You understand? I'm finished, tired, *kaput* that's it. I have still got to cycle to my hotel now. So, I decided I am going to just wait a little bit, and just recover, before I cycled to my hotel, which wasn't far

away, two kilometers or so, but I had to go up off half the hill to get to my hotel. So, I'm just going to relax.

One of the vehicles that had been travelling with us that was providing water while we were cycling, one of the vehicles pulls up there and this man, he goes, who was riding the vehicle and he goes and he takes these bags that used to be ice-bags, that are now melted ice cold water that was in the ice box.

He takes them out and he just dumps them on the bricks, the pavement, driveway of the hotel. This gentleman, I mean he doesn't even say a word to me. He walks up to the water, takes one of those water bags and I see him, he's got a tool, he is the mechanic, technician to help you. He takes the water bag, he takes a screwdriver and he punches three holes in the water bag and he walks straight up to me, and he said, "Sir, it looks like you need this. Do you mind if I pour this cold water over you?" I said, "Be my guest." He stood there and he proceeded to take this cold water out of these three holes so that it wasn't like a big gush. He had good sense, to just make three holes not rip the bag open and say, "Have it." It was literally like I had a cold shower. He took this bag and he just held it over me and he held it on my head and then he poured it on my shoulders and then he poured it on my body and then he poured it on my legs, all the way down to my feet, till the bag was empty.

He said, "How does that feel, sir?" I said, "You are an angel sent to bless me." He said, "I am not sure about that, but does it feel good?" I said, "I am so grateful." He said, "Is there anything else that I could get you?" I said, "If you are asking I wouldn't mind a bottle of cold still water." He said, "Let me find one." He goes off and he finds a bottle of still cold, still water. He comes and he puts it in my hand. I said, "Sir what can I say, but thank you." So, we got to know each other.

Some days later in another hotel in another space for the Cape Town cycle tour, I'm in another hotel, I walk into the foyer and here is the same man. He's got a station set up there and he is there at the request of the hotel, paid by the hotel to help cyclists with their bikes, same man.

"How are you?" "What are you doing here?" "The hotel told me to come here and do this job." So, I said, "Well if that is the case, do you mind lubing my chain?" He said, "That is what I am here for, bring your bike." So, he said, "I will come and find you and bring your bike to you." I said, "No, I will stand here and talk to you."

It turns out his father was an Anglican priest. He is a born-again, spirit-filled Christian that's not church-going because of things that the church hurt him with. The one man on the tour that he chooses to bless, the one day, is me. I wonder if God had a design going here. You bless this man that you don't even know who you blessing, but this is my servant and he needs somebody to bless him now, just bless him and so he blesses me.

Then he asked me, "So what do you do, sir?" I said, "You won't believe me if I tell you." He said, "Try me?" "Well." I said, "I'm a pastor." He said, "Wow, wow, you know." He said, "I didn't expect that, but no, he says now that I remember all the

things, now I can see why, yes, yes.” Because when the blessing of God is on your life then it should be speaking everywhere, not just where people know who you are.

I chose to drive down to Cape Town and back because I wanted to spend time listening to the Word and just meditating and being alone with God, you know? I arrive after many hours of driving, I arrive at a garage and low and behold, I find there is a Seattle Coffee Company there. Wow! Thank You, Jesus. When I get to heaven there is got to be somebody making coffee, an angel must be assigned making coffee. An angel, special barista angels that are professionally trained by God how to make coffee.

Anyway, I asked them to fill up my car and I go inside and I get my coffee and the car. It's like if you hit a butterfly, where there are lots of butterflies, and you go through them and like all these yellow, and it's like your car is a mess. So, I just asked them to clean my windscreen. I walk out and here are three guys around my car and they are washing my car, the whole car. They are washing the car, just washing it. I didn't ask them to wash my car. I said, “Hey, this is cool.” I said, “Why did you guys do this?” “Sir, we have got nothing else to do here, your car is dirty, we thought we will keep ourselves busy.” I said, “I like your initiative.” And I hauled out some money and I gave them some money and shared out. They were like dancing like this is the deal. Find a guy that you can wash his car and you can have a weekend where you can go and buy some *dop*, because you got some money now.

[Laughter]. You know those guys they took, “Yeah man, yes, you know. You can just see we got money for the *wyn hierdie naweek, jy weet.*” I don't care what they do with the money, it was in my heart. They blessed me, I bless them back. You know it wasn't about, “Oh, you could have got your car clean for fifty bucks from someone else.” It is not the point. They did it out of initiative, they just decided to bless me, whether I gave them any money or not. Hallelujah. I can tell you stories and stories and stories like that, of things that happened to me while I was away where God just blessed me.

Nobody knew me. Nobody knew who I was. Nobody knew what I was doing, just every place, excuse me, every place I went, just there was somebody, there was something, there was divine contacts. There were connections. There were things that happened. Stories, I can tell you stories, stories, stories of the blessing of God. In fact, what happened to me was so powerful in what God wanted to show me that He said to me, He said, “John, I'm doing these things for you so that you can see that you, when you put Me first and you follow the order of My life, and you put Me in your life as your First Love.” He said, “The blessing that is upon you is so powerful that it draws unbelievers and it draws resources and it draws circumstances to you, that you couldn't plan it. You couldn't arrange it. You couldn't ask for it, but I will bring it to you because I am the most High God, that orders things in the Universe that people don't think I order, but I order them in the Universe to make sure you are blessed.” Hallelujah.

Now if you are somebody that has money and you have people that are serving you and you have a lifestyle where everything is done to your satisfaction, that everything

is to the order of the way that you want it. There may be very little scope for God to show you, how He can bless you. That is not a bad thing, it means that you're already blessed so that you can live your life that way.

But, when you get out of your comfort zone and it is one of the things I told you, you can't live in your comfort zone, you have got to get out of your comfort zone. One of the things that happened to me, is that I had this internal argument with myself because I wanted Pastor Sharon to be with me over this whole trip and then we decided, no, she must stay and she must minister and she must be here in the ministry.

I had this thing, but it is not comfortable for me to ride or drive down by myself, ride the bike by myself there is no one close around me, that I know, that if something happened to me that can immediately pay attention to me. I am all by myself. So, all of those things were out of my comfort zone, knowing that I was also going to put my body under immense stress. Hello. I was out of my comfort zone.

If I had measured my future by my comfort zone, I would have never experienced the blessing of God. It is not like God dropped a million bucks in my lap and I can say, "Wow, check out the million." Actually the fact that it wasn't a million, that it was so many little things, that God did for me actually showed me how much care God had for me, that He cared about so many little things happening to me, that it was the little things that I wouldn't have thought about that He just took care of for me. It was those little things that made me realise, you know when you have got this blessing mantle on you it just attracts things into your life. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

Remember what I said: *Do not compare*. Pastor Sharon has shared this with you while I've been gone because I have listened to her messages, but don't, don't compare. Don't compare yourself with someone else, don't compare my experiences with your experiences. I could be that because if I share things with you like this today and something else does or doesn't happen to you, you might try and compare and say, "Well, I'm not experiencing what Pastor John said, I'm experiencing." No, look for your own. God is ready to do some good things for you. Hallelujah.

Is my testimony ministering to you today? In the last twelve days I've cycled about a thousand kilometres, more or less in the last twelve days. One of the days I was riding in Cape Town, when I was in really good condition a couple of years ago, I felt that I could get on the bike and ride all day, and one of the days that we rode, we were riding into a forty kilometers an hour headwind, you know and I just because it was flat, along the beachfront, Muizenberg that whole area you know, 30/40 kilometres from the turnoff, that takes you to Hermanus, all along the coastline to Muizenberg down to Simonstown, all along that coastline the Strand - headwind - southeaster.

I said, "Hey, I will ride in the front." Nobody wants to ride in the front because of slipstream because it makes your life a lot easier - I said, "Hey I will ride in the front." I put my hands in the drops, I put my head down, and I just went. I stayed in the front until, I don't know twenty, thirty kilometres, I said, "Lord, I feel, I feel that conditioning

coming back. I feel that strength coming back. I feel that place where I was before, you know, I am back. It's like in my heart I said I'm back - watch this space Lord. I am going to get even better at this, me and You spiritually, physically, nutritionally, in every way - watch this space."

There is a divine communication that you can have because you are putting yourself out there to do the things that God wants you to do. I am ready to take myself out of many comfort zones. What about you? If you don't do something about it, you never will and then you are going to be 81 like Brother Copeland, and you have got to make an admission that you have not done in 81 years. Imagine if he had been doing it for 81 years, he may never have had to have a back operation. Possible.

Do not compare. Prevent comfort zone crime. Is the way I said it. Don't connect to the past for confirmation of what is happening to your future. Be unchained from my current status and look for a status that God wants for your life. Walk, see, talk covenant future. Don't talk, what the world is talking, especially not now. Be courageous and obedient to His guidance.

I am going to read.... The last time, I was talking to you, I talked about a man by the name of, well he was a centurion, his name was Cornelius and he was a man who had a great deal of respect and honour for the children of Israel. He spent his money creating, buying churches, if you like, building synagogues, places of worship for them, so he had obviously been a very successful soldier and had been on campaigns where he had accumulated a lot of wealth and he was a captain in the army and he used his wealth in respect and honour.

Understand this, that he was a captain in occupying a land. He was the authority and he did not have to do anything that he was doing. As an authority in the land, he chose to honour the people because he saw that they had something with God that he did not have. He has a divine encounter. He sends people to go to Peter's house, to go and find Peter. Peter who does not think that God is for the Gentiles, but he goes and he obeys God and he goes to the Gentiles. He goes to Cornelius's house and he preaches the gospel to them, and the Holy Spirit falls upon them and they get filled and baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Acts chapter 10 verse 44, **⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all who were listening to the message. ⁴⁵And the believers from among the circumcised [the Jews] who came with Peter were surprised and amazed, because the free gift of the Holy Spirit had been bestowed and poured out largely even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶For they heard them talking in [unknown] tongues (languages) and extolling and magnifying God. Then Peter asked, ⁴⁷Can anyone forbid or refuse water for baptizing these people, seeing that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we have? ⁴⁸And he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (the Messiah). Then they begged him to stay on there for some days (Acts 10:44-48 AMPC).**

This is an important thing because God opened a door, that no one else except Peter would have walked through being the senior leading disciple. Being the bold

one, that would also get out of the boat and walk on the water. Being the one who would pull a sword in the Garden of Gethsemane and say, "Jesus, I will die for you." Then cut off a soldier's ear, which actually meant certain death to Peter. Yes, I know Peter had weaknesses and then he also wanted to betray Jesus in the next couple of hours after that. That should be a sign to us that you shouldn't live in your weaknesses, you should live in the strength that God has given you.

Because your assignment and your purpose is in your strength, it is not in your weakness, and if you allow your weakness to dominate your life, then you will never fulfil what God wants for your life. When it comes to the new door, you are going to need to be brave and you are going to need to be courageous, and you are going to need to be bold and you are going to have to walk through doors. You are going to have to embrace circumstances that you would not have normally embraced, as I was travelling and as I was spending time with the Lord, I received this assurance from the Lord, which I share with you today.

The assurance is this, that the new door that the Lord has for you, is not something you are going to wonder about. It is not something that is going to have to, it is not going to be perplexing, it is not going to be confusing. It is not going to be doubt about it, it is going to be clear, it is going to be something you can obviously see, and you will know it spiritually before you even know it naturally. In this case with Peter, he got a vision to show him the meaning of what he was about to walk out in the natural. I don't know if God is going to give you visions or dreams or whatever, but be prepared for whatever God, even if he speaks something very strongly to your spirit man, be ready to act on it. Hello. Praise the Lord.

I have a final, another story to tell you about my trip when I'm cycling. We will see if I get to it. Remind me. They closed roads for us, remind me.

So, with Peter, with Peter, you have to recognise the moment that God begins to talk to you about your new door. *You have to recognise the moment fully.* Come on now, I am giving you some pointers. If you don't recognise the moment and you only consider it to be something, "Well, you know God has spoken to me before." Then one moment becomes another moment and another moment that you don't recognise and you just put it on hold. Well, that means that you put your whole future on hold.

Revelation must continue through conversation and action. So, when you recognise a moment the revelation that you begin to receive, must continue in your conversation and it must drive you to action. If you receive some recognition and revelation, but it doesn't come into your conversation and it doesn't drive you to action, then you are still going to not step through the new door.

You must reflect on your daily commitment to this season. Don't let a day go by where you don't recognise that this is a season where God is pulling us out of our comfort zone, we mustn't look to our past to determine our future. We can't afford to be in a place where we are comparing ourselves to our past, or to anything that anybody else is doing. We've got to be led by the Holy Spirit right now, and so

you've got to be ready on a daily basis to see things that you couldn't otherwise see. Amen.

You must respond to both small and large, Bible and Holy Spirit inspired changes. When I say Bible inspired changes, if you read your Bible, and your Bible says, "Rejoice in the Lord daily, and again I say rejoice." You don't have to have anybody come and tell you to rejoice. If you read it in your Bible, then do it. Just do it. That means, today I give praise to God. I just let thanksgiving and joy come out of my mouth. I had this conversation with Pastor Sharon, because of all things that God showed me Himself, so greatly in so many little details, His care for me, His love for me, His overwhelming compassion and desire to just bless me all the time. It's impossible to go through a time frame where you just don't want to give thanks. It's just like, "Thank You Lord, thank You Lord, thank You Lord, thank You Lord." Hallelujah.

My final point here is, *rejoice always*. It doesn't matter what the circumstances are saying, it doesn't matter what coronavirus is saying, it doesn't matter what governments are saying, rejoice. Rejoice, rejoice and give thanks to God for what He is doing for you. If you can't give thanks to God for what your circumstances look like now, give thanks to God for what your circumstances will look like because His Word is about to change your future. Hallelujah.

We were different groups of riders, different strengths, different speeds that were riding and I'm certainly not a rider that was riding in the fastest bunch of riders. Much younger, fitter, stronger, faster riders than me. We were riding and the next minute we came up on this bunch of riders that are stopped on the side of the road, the traffic police have stopped them. Now they are racing and riding, but they're all stopped, the traffic officer stopped them.

Part of the reason for that is because there was a partial road closure that was to happen and it happened to be on the N4 that goes from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth and for that stretch of road that we were going to ride on, the traffic officer said, he made a decision, "I'm not letting bunches of riders through here. I'm going to wait for all the riders to come together and we're all going to ride together on the N4 and then do..." Now, this is completely against the race riding protocols, you know what I'm saying, so now you have all the fast guys with all the slow guys. All the young guys with all the old guys. Do you understand what I am saying? So all the thin guys with all the fat guys, "Thank you, babes."

I don't find myself in any of these categories for some reason, young or old, skinny or fat, fast or slow [laughter], somewhere in between. Anyway, so we stop there and so the organiser of the race or the ride is there, lots of talk and there's phone, radio calls and then cell phone calls to higher government officials, and eventually we all end up going together on the N4 and we get to our place and, all of that. Something happened in the conversation between all this mess, because the next day we were going to ride from Gordons Bay into Cape Town, to the centre of Cape Town, to the Southern Sun Cullinan Hotel that just happened to be the where we were just going to end our ride, ok?

It's a long ride. The owner of the race and the guy who is the organiser and owner of the race, he managed to talk to the chief traffic officer of Cape Town, as a result of this. I don't know what title he has, anyway, the end result of it is they decided because of their mix up they were going to close partially one lane, they were going to close from Long Beach, all the way to the end of Chapmans Peak into Hout Bay, they were going to close the road for all of us to race and ride over Chapmans Peak as a exclusive one time deal.

This guy gets up to all the riders and he says, "I have good news for you. This has never happened in all the years that we've been doing it. He told me it's a one time deal, but we've got road closure over Chapmans Peak." He is like, "Check what I can do." I'm standing and I'm saying, "China, you have no idea, this thing did not happen because of you, you were just a vessel because God wanted to bless me."

I mean, I know what your logic can say, but this is not just the first time that something like this has happened to me, my whole trip. It's just everywhere I go. Sometimes and often, most often, the blessing that came over me, touched someone else. And in this case, it touched all the cyclists. They didn't even know that amongst them is a spiritual covenant, blessing, favoured, highly favoured man, that God wants to favour. They just happened to be part of the favor. Praise the Lord.

You see; if you don't recognise that, if I didn't recognise that, I could have just said; "Wow, this man's got connections, hey? This man can make things happen, hey?" Then if I do that, I take God out of the picture and I say the man is the man, but in my life, is it a coincidence? That I'm there, in that group cycling and this has never happened to them before and he's saying it's never going to happen again. Hey? But, I'm there, I'm standing there listening to him.

He was riding quite a number of the segments with us and eighty percent of the time he was riding, he found himself riding next to me. Just wanted to talk to me, all the time he wanted to talk to me, this man. Didn't ask me what I did; I didn't ask him what he did. We just wanted to talk about stuff, cycling stuff. So, but afterwards, he came to me and he said, "Hey, you and me, we must stay in touch, I want some things to be, I want us to organise some things." I said, "I know, we'll stay in touch."

See, he doesn't, he doesn't actually understand what it is that's drawing him to me, but because he's a man that's in authority, he understands when favour is around; when, when there's someone around that can make things happen and that makes things happen. They can see it. Like that man came to pour water on me. He was drawn to me because there was this live spirit inside him. I don't know if he touched that spirit inside of him for a long time, but he couldn't help himself. The Spirit of God came all over him to come and pour water on me and bless me because God wanted to bring a blessing to him. Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord. Praise Jesus. Praise Jesus.

I want to tell you, it doesn't, it doesn't matter to me. I can tell you lots of stories but I'm going to finish here. Do you know that there's another big cycling event that was supposed to happen and it's supposed to start, I think today? It was the ABSA Cape Epic. If you're not into cycling, you may or may not know this, but it's like the premiere off-road marathon mountain biking cycle race in the world. The whole world. You understand? I mean, the biggest names of sport come and race this event for eight days in Cape Town. They cancelled it. It's closed. Shall not enter; shall not cycle; shall not ride.

Why? Because there are people that come and ride from Europe and they may be coronavirus carriers. Closed; no more ride; you shall not pass. I am just wanting to say this to you; the peace from God I had, to go to Cape Town and ride the race, to do all of that. All of that stuff happened to help me get conditioned and now all of these things are closing. I got in to do it before all these things got closed. Come on now. God will open a door for you, and you must walk through that door because you don't know when the enemy's going to try and close it, or other people are going to try and close it. Walk through the opportunity and go. Move on. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

Did you get something out of this service today? Praise Jesus. Praise the Lord. So now, you know, if you come on the Clarens; and I'm expecting you all to come on the Clarens trip. And you want to eat muffins and rusks, and we'll have it all there for you. And you want to eat cake, we'll have all of that there for you, you know. It's part of celebration and we are going to celebrate properly. Hot chocolate, you want it? You can have it. Coffee, you want it? You can have it. Muffins, cake? You can have it. But when you come back, then you got to get conditioning. You can't live like you celebrate all the time. So why? So, you can celebrate the joy of living, by conditioning. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

We are going to have a party. We are going to have a Holy Ghost party. We are going to have a lot of fun. We are going to have a lot of good things happening when we go to Clarens. Just remember, next Sunday we will have service as normal, but the Sunday after that which is the 29th, we are closed. Not because of coronavirus, but just because we got the Holy Ghost virus; we got a rejoicing camp meeting virus; we got a celebration virus that's hitting us. Hallelujah. Stand to your feet, everybody. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord.

I really want to encourage you; I believe that what has happened to you today; is that you have touched the blessing of the Lord. You have touched the love of God and the joy of God and the way that God wants to just oversee details in your life. He wants to be part of everything that's in your life. Did you touch that today? Did you receive that today? Hallelujah. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.

It is my desire that this anointing, this spirit of God's blessing and His favour and the fact that you are a covenant child of God, will stay with you. He doesn't just want to bless you because you do everything right. He wants to bless you because you are covered by the Blood, and when He sees you, He just sees you through the Blood. He wants to bless you because the Blood has taken care of you, and it's not about

how well you do, because then that would become a performance-based reward system, and God's not into that. He wants to bless you just because you're a son of Abraham; you're a son of Jesus; you're a son of God and you're covered by the Blood. Next week I'm going to talk to you about that. How you can just walk in that blessing all the time. Hallelujah. Praise Jesus.

I pray that your week is filled with the blessing of God. It is filled with the peace of God. It is filled with all the good things that God wants for you this week. Do you receive it?

Put your hand on your heart; *I am a son of God. I receive the blessing that the Father wants to bring to me. I will look for it, I will be alert for it, I will recognise it and I will just respond to it, and I will have a joyful attitude in my life until the new door is there for me to walk through, in Jesus' Name. I am a son of God.* Hallelujah. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Glory to Jesus.

Hey, Sons of God; go walk in your blessing. Go walk with your blessing and go and bless those that are around you, go and speak blessing over them and enjoy the full blessing of God in everything. Okay, go, goodbye.