

## Just Like Jesus

Just like Jesus. If we've been around for much time in the church we've probably heard this term before. It's pretty common knowledge that we are to be living "just like Jesus" and representing Him well to those around us. We know that we are "predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son." We are taught that we are to be Christ like. What usually comes to mind when we think about this? I would say that most usually think, because we've usually heard it taught, that we are to bear Christ-like character. We think of certain attributes like being loving, kind, patient, bearing the fruit of the spirit, forgiving, and living a life that is self-sacrificing for others. I would say that this is usually the context in which we hear being Christ like, or walking just like Jesus, is taught in. Now, I'm not saying that this isn't correct, but I believe there is more to it. We are definitely supposed to live a life of godly character which is foundational to our walk with God, but from there we are to live out a life that truly represents, literally "re"-presents, and is a demonstration of what Jesus' life was here on earth. Christ is literally living in and through us, so what took place in His life and ministry should be coming through our life. Somehow, I believe that being Christ like is more than being kind to your neighbor and hoping they will see the twinkle of light in your eyes and ask you what is different about your life. This caters to our nice Sunday morning religion, but I think this is far removed from and far limited to how Jesus actually walked here on earth and how the early church lived Christ-like.

When Jesus walked the earth He brought radical transformation. He brought revolution. He brought upheaval to the kingdoms of the world systems and to the kingdom of darkness. He brought the message of the Kingdom which brought hope and salvation to the lost, and He demonstrated the power of the Kingdom by healing the sick, cleansing the lepers, raising the dead, and casting out demon spirits from the people. Let's look at a few passages of scripture to see the ministry of Jesus starting in Acts 10:38. It says, "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him." Matthew 4:23-25, "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those that were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them." 1 John 3:8, "...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." So we see here a good picture and idea of what the ministry of Jesus really looked like. Not only did He walk in the love of God, bearing the fruit of the spirit, but He walked in the demonstration and power of the Kingdom. He operated in signs and wonders, bringing healing and deliverance to the people setting them free from the grips of darkness and leading them to the Father. Not only did he operate in miracles but He also operated in the realm of the prophetic. Many times we see Him

operating in the word of knowledge, like when He had a vision of Nathaniel sitting under a fig tree or when He knew the woman at the well had been married five times before. Each of these instances of supernatural demonstration brought the people to faith in Him. We see Him operating in prophecy, discerning of spirits, and other revelatory and prophetic gifts. This was all to reveal the Father and His Kingdom while setting people free from the power of darkness. It's important to understand that Jesus had this authority because He was the Son of God in perfect, unbroken relationship with the Father. Therefore He could be the express image of God and all His goodness and power on earth.

Now I want to read you a passage of scripture from the book of Galatians starting in chapter 3, verse 26, through chapter 4, verse 7. "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."

The revelation is that you, because of the work of the cross redeeming us back to God, are now sons! This is not about male or female but about position before the Father. You are son, an heir to God through Christ and stand in perfect relationship to Him. This is not something you can work towards or attain by religious works, or is it something that you are disqualified from because of your mistakes and faults. You are no longer to be a slave under a system of law and legalism trying to earn your approval before the Father. It is no longer, "God if I do this then will you bless me." "God if I perform right, do steps 1, 2, and 3, then I believe I can receive from you" but if I've failed I'm guilty and unworthy. No, it is now, "I believe in the work of Christ and am declared a son and heir of God with the full rights to all that is the Fathers." Amen! Thank God for His grace! And it because of this, the redemption of the cross, that all our sins are forgiven, we are forever perfected, set free from every work of law to try and earn our righteousness before the Father, and we stand before God eternally blameless and He declares over us, "this is my beloved Son in whom I'm well pleased." And we are now, in the eyes of the Father, just like Jesus! Hallelujah! Declare it now, whether you are male or female, "I am a Son of the living God!" Say it again, out loud, to get it deep in your spirit, "I am a Son of the living God!" → pg 2

## -- REVIVAL RESOURCE --

This month's revival resource is a message on CD by **Bill Johnson** entitled "It's All About Jesus"

Bill Johnson is the Senior Pastor of Bethel Church. Bill and the Bethel Church family have taken on the theme "on earth as it is in heaven" for life and ministry. Healings, ranging from cancer to broken bones, to learning disorders and emotional healing, happen with regularity. This is the children's bread. And these works of God are not limited to revival meetings. The church is learning how to take this anointing to the schools, workplace, and neighborhoods with similar results. Bill teaches that we owe the world an encounter with God, and that a Gospel without power is not the Gospel that Jesus preached.

For more info visit [www.ibethel.com](http://www.ibethel.com) & [www.BJM.com](http://www.BJM.com)



# Ministry Reports, Updates & Testimonies

**Miracle Testimony** - You came to my church, First Assembly of God in Hollywood on Sunday, July 20th. At the 'altar call', you said God wanted to heal knees, that anyone with knee problems to come forward. Well, I had gone to the altar originally for 'more of God', but when you said knee, I was stunned. I had mentioned that I had knee surgery and that my knee had never been the same since. I had a lot of pain, pinching, nerve issues behind the knee, etc.- just problems. When you said God wanted to heal knees, I wasn't really believing He would, but out of obedience I went up to you to pray. Well, nothing happened right away so I didn't think much of it. On Monday morning at

work, I had to stoop down to the shelves on the bottom (I work @ Publix) to change some prices and I did it without thinking. When I got up, I realized I had just stooped! I haven't been able to stoop for 2 years! I haven't been able to completely bend my knee or even to barely bend it without pain! Then I started shaking my knee and the 'knot' in my knee that had been there FOREVER was GONE TOO! ALL DAY I WAS STOOPING! I'm now a 'stoopin fool!' Praise God! Then I got scared and thought "what if this isn't real? But here it is day 3 of stooping, NO PAIN, NO KNOTS, NO NERVE ISSUES, just a perfect knee! Thanks and praise be to our SAVIOUR! - Yours truly, Karen

So if we are just like Jesus, and the Word says that the reason the Son of God was manifested was to destroy the works of the devil, and you are a son of God, then the reason you are on this earth as a believer is to destroy the works of the devil as well. If we are just like Jesus, and the word says, "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him," then we too are anointed of God to go about doing good and healing the sick for God is with us! If we are to really be just like Jesus we should be doing what He did while on earth. If you read through the gospels you will see that most of what He did, along with teaching the people and reaching out to the hurting, was operate in signs and wonders. He even said, the works that He did we would do also and greater works than these because He was going to the Father. My friends this is your right and inheritance to walk in supernatural power and authority. There is a dimension that most of the church, the body of Christ, hasn't tapped into yet because they have not known who they are in Christ, with all of its rights and privileges, while religion has tried to keep us under bondage and a spirit of poverty. But now it is time to arise, it is time to be just like Jesus. You can operate in the gifts of the Spirit, you can see miracles take place through your life, you can enter into the glory and presence of God in unbroken fellowship, you can be used to tear down and destroy the works of the devil in the name of Jesus!

It's as simple as knowing who you are in Christ and stepping out. You might say, "well, I don't know if I've prayed enough or am qualified to experience this." Understand it's not about what you can do in your own works, though praying and seeking the Lord is a wonderful thing, but it is about what has been accomplished for you on the cross qualifying you to be a partaker of your inheritance. Galatians chapter 3 makes it clear that the Holy Spirit works miracles among us not because of any works of the law, but because of the hearing of faith. Let your faith rest assured, not in your own qualification or amount of time spent in prayer, but in the work that was finished on the cross. You are now a son who can rightfully take and walk in what is theirs and do not need to be like a beggar pleading with God for crumbs that fall from the table.

So step out and begin to walk just like Jesus. Look for people that you can simply pray for. If you see someone in a cast or a person that is sick take a moment to ask if you can pray for them. Lay a

gentle hand on them and pray a simple prayer declaring and releasing their healing out loud. Make it an adventure and challenge to see who you can be used to deliver miracles to. In times of prayer be sensitive to what pictures and "holy daydreams" God gives you. You may envision things like ministering to others or seeing people healed. This could be God setting you up for an opportunity in the future that you may be used to do. Be sensitive to the impressions that the Holy Spirit gives you while talking or praying with someone. He may be trying to reveal a word of knowledge or word of prophecy for their life. You will never know until you make a decision to step out, ask them, and be willing to be vulnerable. I love hearing the stories of people who have seen the miraculous in the market place. Miracles can happen in the grocery store. One young man had a word of knowledge about a woman standing in front of him in the check out line. She was mostly deaf in both ears and after he prayed for her she was totally healed. The person working the register was so blown away they got on the intercom and made an announcement that God was in aisle 3! People began to ask for prayer and they had revival right there. It's amazing what will happen as we step out and walk just like Jesus. And the amazing thing is that people are drawn to Jesus just as they were in the scriptures. They are looking for the real deal and it's our privilege to re-present Him.

You know everyone that came to Jesus received their miracle. I do not believe it is God's will for people to be sick or bound up under any oppression that has its source from satan. I believe we are living in the age where "your sons and daughters will prophecy" and everyone from the young to the old will have visions and dream dreams. Though we might not be 100 % there yet, and their might be a gap between what we see in scripture and the reality of the level in which we are truly walking just like Jesus, I'm not satisfied with ignoring the true spiritual reality of what we are to walk in. I like what Bill Johnson says, pastor of Bethel Church in Redding, California. He says that He is not willing to write a doctrine or theology to explain away what we are not seeing in order to be comfortable in the church. In other words for far too long, because we have not seen the miraculous and power of God in the church, we have written doctrines to say that those things passed away after the first hundred years of Christianity. Friends, it's time to walk as who we are. It's time to close the gap, to arise as sons of the living God and to walk truly just like Jesus. It's your purpose, it's your inheritance, it's your destiny. - BN

## BNM Itinerary

Revere Christian Fellowship Lamberton, MN	8/8 - 8/9
Fire on the Prairie Clarkfield, MN	8/9
Bethel Assembly of God Immokalee, FL	9/6
Praise Tabernacle Pentecostal Church Port Charlotte, FL	9/18 - 20
River of Life Church Alachua, FL	9/27 - 9/28
First Assembly of God Hollywood, FL	10/1 11
Check our website for recent itinerary additions <a href="http://www.BenNaughton.com">www.BenNaughton.com</a>	



**Ministry Needs:**  
MiniDV Camcorder—  
\$350

## Prayer Points

- Anointing and Open Heavens for Signs, Wonders, and Miracles
- For the Fires of Revival to be released in each church we minister
- Necessary finances to come in to do all God is calling us to do
- Hedge of Protection around Ben & April
- Ben & April to have greater intimacy with the Lord