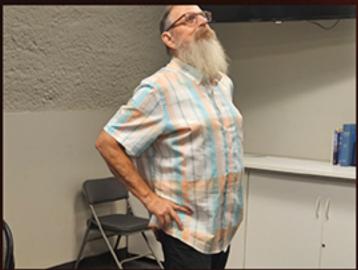


Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Ehrist October 2024













Vision/Imagination - Part 11 By Wade Anderson

Now, let me say, this lengthy message about Vision/Imagination was birthed in me, as I mentioned at the end of last month's message, while I was in the middle of yet ANOTHER bout of UC. This time though, it was my own doing, or I guess I should say, not doing. Let me explain.

In the previous years of this UC the doctors had me on some do-it-yourself shots. Over the previous four years I'd begun to wean myself off of them, believing that I had beaten that lie with my faith. I had weaned myself from shots twice a month, to eventually one shot every third month. In doing this I'd stockpiled many of the shots they were still sending me, in the refrigerator. At some point 'that' doctor had figured out I was doing this and refused to send me any more shots because I wasn't following his direction. By that time, and with 'my' new regiment, I had plenty to last me for another year. It was Thanksgiving 2022 that I ingested that last shot.

This part of the message, of Vision/Imagination started around October of 2023. I had this vision to completely rebuild and refinish my old shop, from top to bottom, to bring it up to the same level as the new one I'd built a few years prior to this. Some of you reading this may remember the 'old shop' as literally the 'dungeon'. I'd piled things in there for over 25 years, making it fit my agenda, at the time, but it was finally time to literally lighten the load and THROW a lot of those things away. Keep in mind, I'd already thrown trash can after trash can full of stuff away years ago, after those first 6 ½ years in time-out. As I started ripping things apart, MOST of the motorcycles and toolboxes were being stored outside, all around our pool. At that point I realized that I'd bitten off a big chunk, and I'd better get the move on!

Really wanting to have this completed before my family all arrived for Thanksgiving, pressing forward to get everything back inside the new shop, I got up every morning and drove myself towards that finish line. Within that first week of 'ripping and tearing' I started to feel this oh too familiar feeling in my gut. With my own agenda in hand, I suppressed these feelings and pushed on. Knowing I only had a few weeks before they were to arrive, I was goal driven. Slowly, day by day, that old familiar feeling kept pressing on me. By the third week I realized my guts were going south on me AGAIN! Still, with my own agenda, I didn't say a word to anyone and pushed even harder, with an urgency to finish this vision/project.

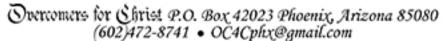
When I first began, I set out to do only the epoxy floor and drywall on one long outside wall. I know, that sounds crazy doesn't it!? But if some of you knew the collector/hoarder that I used to be, you'd understand. Just on that one wall I had two large metal cabinets FILLED with Milwaukee Iron. One had motors, transmissions and carburetors. The other one was FULL of heads, cylinders, pistons and all the small parts to build motors. On that same wall was a HUGE air compressor. Each one of those cabinets probably weighed around 1,000 pounds each, and the compressor was another 400 pounds by itself. And that was only one wall!

All the walls of the shop had that old 70's paper paneling on them. In order to remove that paneling, I had to first move those cabinets away from the wall enough to get to it. That was when I realized the weight I was really dealing with. After moving ALL of the motorcycles, lifts, air compressor and loose things in the shop area outside, I realized I would have to unload these cabinets just to move them by myself. So, I began taking everything out and laying it in another area of the shop floor. Even then, the cabinets still weighed about 300 pounds. I went 'Egyptian' and laid some pieces of pipe under the cabinets and rolled them into the new shop. Then, to get everything off of the floor in order to have the epoxy floor put down, I had to reload all of those parts back inside of the cabinets. Can you see where this is going? It seemed to be endless. But every day as I pressed forward, I was making great progress, with 'my' plans.

By the fourth or fifth week I did get some help from my 'brothers', Blake, Roger and Slim. The floor guy finished the epoxy and Slim and I had the drywall, tape and mud on that one wall complete. Once I hit that point, I realized, after hearing my brother Theron say on the phone, "You'll regret it later if you don't do that garage door wall now." I didn't want to remove the garage door, so I furred it out with 2x4's, drywalled and painted over that old door, as it became a wall as well. That left me with another long wall. I really didn't want to attack that last wall due to the HUGE amount of things accumulated inside the cabinets that would also have to be moved. (These are different cabinets) Sitting there catching my breath and believing that I had accomplished great things, Michelle came in, looked around and said, "WOW! Everything looks so good. It's so different to see this place like this. You're NOT going to leave that wall like that, are you?" Doing all of this with \$cash\$, not cards, I believed that was where I would be stopping. When she came in and said that it was like she had just handed me a 'blank check' to finish it. Hearing her response, I quickly took her 'blank check' of approval and answered, "Well, I guess not!"

Over the last two weeks of finishing, first thing in the morning, the gut stuff was really hard to handle. In the last week before the family arrived the new upper and lower cabinets were even installed. Everything was built-in, painted and in its new home. I even had the motorcycles and the lifts back in place. I had finished all of it just a couple of days before they all arrived!

Now finishing with the shop, and not going out there in the mornings, I quickly realized just how bad my stomach had



gotten. All along I knew I was going out on a frail limb by continuing with 'my' plan. By this time, I also realized that Holy Spirit had been trying to get me to pay attention to what my body was telling me. Instead of listening to the pain, I did my best to shove it all down. This proved NOT to be a good decision. Some of you may be familiar with *Proverbs 16:9*, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." Both that Scripture and *Proverbs 19:21*, "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails" is where I soon found myself. I'm not saying that the plans I had were bad or ungodly, but each day, as I said, the pain was getting worse. Having already suppressed this stuff for nine weeks, I decided to push through it this last week, enjoy the time with all of the family, and go see a 'new' doctor 'after' they all left for home.

We all know that there's a process to getting a new doctor and THEN getting an appointment, right? Even though I could hardly set up and stayed in the fetal position to have any relief, this process had now taken me into the second week of December, before I had my first office visit. At this first visit I told him that in the first bout of this stuff (2008 to 2009), that doctor had me on a certain pill, three pills, three times a day. He knew of those pills but also knew of a more up to date pill to where I would only take three pills a day. I started on those and steroids, for now. After that visit it was another two weeks before they could get me scheduled to have a colonoscopy. This new doctor needed to know what was really going on inside of me in order to see how he was going to treat it. After the colonoscopy and in the recovery room, the doctor came in my room and told me, "You are right, it is ulcerative colitis, again. I took several biopsies from multiple different places. One place is real concerning to me. It shows familiar signs of cancer. If that is the case, because this is the 3rd time you've had this issue, the quickest way to fix it would be to remove your colon and add a colostomy bag." When I heard him say this, I said to him, "ABSOLUTLY NOT! I do NOT have cancer, and I WON'T need a colostomy bag!" He looked at me like I was crazy, but said, "It will take a couple of weeks, especially during this Christmas and New Year season, to get the results back. We'll wait for the biopsies to see." Within a few days, not a couple of weeks, he personally called me and told me, "You were right, every biopsy came back cancer free. You won't be needing a colostomy bag, because we won't be removing your colon either."

This Scripture was why I was able to declare, with boldness, that I knew I was still healed, "For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance." (Romans 8:24-25) Wouldn't you agree, it would be crazy for me to hope for something that I already knew that I had? Hebrews 11:1 tells us, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Faith only provides what hope has already seen. Therefore, hope is the positive use of our imagination. Like I've shared many times, I'd already hoped for, and seen my healing in my imagination. But just as importantly, I'd already witnessed healing in my physical body. Sometimes healings manifest almost instantly while other times we're to, "Eagerly wait for it with perseverance." Imagination is a very important concept for us to understand. It's one of the things that will allow us to fulfill God's will for our lives, in this world.

I read an article where Charles Capps told a story about a thermostat. Whether it was a true story or made up, it definitely paints a clear picture for us. A backwoods country gentleman had come to one of his meetings in the city. Fanning himself to cool down, he watched as an usher went over and turned the dial on this little box on the wall. Shortly afterwards he began to feel the room start to cool down. In amazement, he went to the usher and asked what he did to make the air cooler. The usher explained to the gentleman, "The 'thermostat' allowed me to regulate the temperature in the room." Amazed, the country gentleman asked, "Can I get one of those for my cabin?" The usher responded, "Well of course you can. They sell them at any hardware store." Being excited, the man went to the hardware store, bought one and went to his cabin and mounted it on the wall. After mounting it on the wall, he turned the dial to cool off his cabin. He waited and waited, and of course nothing happened. Why? Because the thermostat has to be connected to an air conditioning system. The thermostat doesn't cool on its own – it simply activates the power unit that in turn cools the air.

Just like the thermostat can be turned from hot to cool, so our imaginations can be focused on positive things or negative things. The positive thoughts are what *Romans* and *Hebrews* is stating as HOPE. Hope turns on the ability of God, and faith is the power that makes things come alive inside of us. In that sense, faith only produces what hope has already seen. As I've stated, I'd already seen this miracle manifest in my physical body. I'd taken 2 *Peter 2:24*, "'He Himself bore our sins' in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; 'by His wounds you have been healed" and meditated on "you have been healed". The statement, 'you have been healed' indicated to me this is something that has already been purchased for me. If it's already been purchased, then all I need to do is activate my faith to see it, wait for it patiently, and that hope will become the reality!

Now we're into the second week of January. Standing firm in my faith and I was starting to have a little relief from some of the pain. Earlier, maybe even a couple of months ago, I wrote that the imagination is our spiritual womb. And just like, in the natural realm, a man has to plant/sow his seed inside of a woman's womb before that seed gives birth to a child, so is God's plan from the supernatural to the natural. Sure, there is artificial insemination, and one might argue that the 'doctors' planted that seed inside of that woman. BUT, let me assure you, that 'seed' the doctor used, at one point or

continued on page 9 ...

THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE WE HAVE IN APPROACHING GOD: THAT IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US. AND IF WE KNOW THAT HE HEARS US - WHATEVER WE ASK - WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE WHAT WE ASKED OF HIM. 1 JOHN 5:14-15 (NIV)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please, everyone, lift my sister Andrea up in prayer. She and her fiancé opened a restaurant in Prescott about two months ago. Well about four nights ago (at the time I wrote this), her fiancé was depressed because his ex-wouldn't let him speak to his children. Also, his family and the Mormon church in Utah where he is from turned their backs on him. That was when he went into the bathroom, with my sister's pistol and he shot and killed himself. It was a small caliber pistol, so no one heard the shot. After a while my sister saw blood coming from under the door and then found his body, without a note. I'm thankful he chose to only take his own life, and not my family. Please join me and pray for Gods protection over my entire family, because He is faithful! My mom, sister and all three nephews were home that night, and I know my sister is hurting. Please keep ALL of them in your prayers. - W.L.

I have a prayer request. I'd greatly appreciate it, please, if all of the OC+C prayer warriors would lift Scott and Scarlet in your prayer times. This last year has been devastating for them with deaths, calamities etc. They both are doing great things for the Kingdom, and consequently constantly under attack from the liar. They'll barely get through one thing then something else hits. I've never seen anyone go through as much crap non-stop. They could use a little boost in spirit. They're still hanging tough faithfully, but Scarlett has never been through such trials and in Scotty's words, "she's getting weary". Let's agree together for strength, patience and perseverance as they both endure and continue to fulfil God's plan for their lives. - Foot

PRAISE REPORTS

The Lord keeps me fairly busy throughout the week plus we must not forget my four day a week workout. I must keep this vessel strong for the Holy Spirit to reside in, right? I'm going to be 65 years old this month and the workout I do, the youngsters can't keep up with me. I'm not tooting my horn because I know it's Christ who gives me the strength, He deserves the Praise! - I.S.

Praise Report: On May 24th my granddaughter Gretchen graduated from high school and printed on top of her graduation cap was *Philippians 4:13*, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Both my children and my grand-children are all chain breakers and strong in their faith. Thank You Jesus!! G-pa was in tears seeing that photo. - Foot

I have a Praise report. All glory, honor, and praise to our risen King, Jesus. So, you know I told you a long time ago, how I longed to share the new creation I've become with those close to me, for them to see Jesus inside of me. Well, my uncle and his wife you meet in the lobby at Living Word Bible Church that day, well they came today to see me for food visit, and they saw it and heard it. It was awesome. I shared a message on faith, hope, and love out of 1 Corinthians 13. I shared how faith is the foundation; hope is the attitude and love is the action. It was good and better because prayer is being answered, Praise Jesus. - P.G.

God is moving beautifully here at C.A.C.R.F. We now have Bible studies almost every day of the week. And God IS feeding us! Right now, there are between 50-60 men who are on fire for God! Also, several of us have intercessor groups. We meet in our groups every night after count to pray for any needs that come to our attention. Continue in prayer with us, that we would be very effective for Christ. - C.M.

Good morning my brother! After some reflection, some sincere prayer and sincere repentance, the conclusion I've come to is this. Our King is bigger than anything I'm facing or surrounded by. The enemy may surround me, but our Father's angels are surrounding them!! Thank you for hitting me with the truth. I'm good now and blessed. All I want to do now is use my time to win souls. I just wanted you to know that I now fully know and understand that I am a free man right now in Jesus' name. Praise God! No longer blind. Praise God Almighty! I woke up this morning and sent the chaplain an email asking to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. I really feel like I'm on a different path or frequency. I know that I may slip or stumble in the future but as long as I keep my eyes on and my faith in Jesus never minding the wind or the waves, I'll be Ok. Tribulations will come, but our God is in control. - W.L.

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080 (602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com



It's Not but Us - Part 3 By P.G.

Who are we listening to, ourselves, or to the Holy Spirit? Who's "will" are we doing, ours or Gods? Are we ready to move out of the way and allow our Savior to be Lord over our lives? We need to move out of the way, consecrate ourselves, and place ourselves at the feet of Jesus like Mary, so we can listen. Luke 10:38-42 (Message Translation) "As they continued their travel, Jesus entered a village. A woman by the name of Martha welcomed Him and made Him feel quite at home. She had a sister, Mary, who sat before the Master, hanging on every word He said. But Martha was pulled away by all she had to do in the kitchen. Later, she stepped in, interrupting them. 'Master, don't you care that my sister has abandoned the kitchen to me? Tell her to lend me a hand.'"

The Master said, "Warths, dear Warths, you're fussing for too much and getting yourself worked up over nothing.

One thing only is essential, and Wany has chosen it—it's the main course, and won't be taken from here." The
question is who do we want to be, like Martha thinking she was actually doing what the Master wanted her to do? Or
actually doing His will like Mary? Are we ready to move out of the way so God can speak to us? Speak "God I'm ready to
listen!" But not only so He can speak to us, but so we can respond with a childlike faith like Samuel with no hesitation and
without reservation. Remember how Samuel responded to Eli when asked what God told Him?

Now let's look at Matthew 18:1-5 (Message Translation) "At about the same time, the disciples came to Jesus asking, 'Who gets the highest rank in God's kingdom?' For an answer Jesus called over a child, whom he stood in the middle of the room, and said, 'Pin telling you, once and for all, that unloss you roturn to square one and start over like children, you're not even going to get a look at the kingdom, let alone get in. Whoever becomes simple and clamental again. Ilke this child, will rank high in God's kingdom."

Heart check, where is your heart at? Self-centered like the disciples, trying to exalt ourselves to a position of advantage? Or are our hearts for service and the will of the Father? For our glory, or His glory? Other versions use the word converted, which means to turn around to or return to square one. If we have become prideful and pushed Jesus and His agenda to the side a call to childlike faith is how Jesus portrays not only conversion, but to teach a lesson in humility to those who have gained knowledge and allowed it to puff them up. This verse pictures faith as simple and elementary, a helpless trusting as one who has no resources of their own to serve in the kingdom here on earth and to live in the future kingdom. At this point we become dependent on nothing but the working of the Holy Spirit in and through our lives.

This is one of the types of attitudes we should keep. Brother Paul, in *Philippians 3:4-11* (Message Translation) "You know my pedigree: a legitimate birth, circumcised on the eighth day; an Israelite from the elite tribe of Benjamin; a strict and devout adherent to God's law; a fiery defender of the purity of my religion, even to the point of persecuting the church; a meticulous observer of everything set down in God's law Book. The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash—along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by Him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—God's righteousness. I gave up all that inferior stuff so I could know Christ personally, experience His resurrection power, be a partner in His suffering, and go all the way with Him to death itself. If there was any way to get in on the resurrection from the dead, I wanted to do it."

It is not about us, it's about our Father and His glory, we just reflect it. Bryann Trejo says. "If you get a big head you'd better take a step back, He shares the glory with no one, don't you ever forget that." What happened to Matthew is a lesson in humility. We must get to a point where we realize on our own, we cannot do it, then we will have complete dependence on our Lord and Savior. And if we know it's not about us then we should have the same attitude as Jesus.

Let's read together Philippians 2:5-11 (Message Translation) "Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of Himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of Himself that He had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, He set aside the privileges of deity and took on the

Overcomers for Christ From the Inside

status of a slave, became human! Having become human, He stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, He lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion. Because of that obedience, God lifted Him high and honored Him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that He is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father. Amen."

Romans 12:1-3 (Message Translation) tells us, "So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what He wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. I'm speaking to you out of deep gratitude for all that God has given me, and especially as I have responsibilities in relation to you. Living then, as every one of you does, in pure grace, it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what He does for us, not by what we are and what we do for Him. Amen."

Matthew 18:1-16 (Message Translation) tells us, "At about the same time, the disciples came to Jesus asking, "Who gets the highest rank in God's kingdom?" For an answer Jesus called over a child, whom he stood in the middle of the room, and said. "The talling you, once and for all, that unless you return to square one and start over like children, you're not even going to get a look at the kingdom, let alone get in. Wheever becomes simple and elemental again, like this child, will rank high in God's kingdom. What's more, when you receive the childlike on my secount, it's the same as receiving Me. But if you give them a hard time, bullying or taking advantage of their simple trust, you'll seen wish you hadn't. You'd be batter off dropped in the middle of the lake with a millatone around your neek. Doom to the world for giving these God-believing children a hard time! Hard times are inevitable, but you don't have to make it worse—and it's doomsday to you if you do. "If your hand or your foot gets in the way of God, chop it off and throw it away. You're better off mained or lame and alive than the proud owners of two hands and two feet, godless in a furnese of cleanal fire. And if your eye distracts you from God, pull it out and throw it away. You're better off one-eyed and alive than exercising your twenty-twenty vision from inside the the of hell. "Watch that you don't treat a single one of these abildlike believers arrogantly. You realize, don't you, that their parsonal angels are constantly in touch with my Father in heaven? "Look at it this way, If someone has a hundred show and one of them wanders off, decan't be leave the nihety-nine and go after the one? And if he finds it, doesn't be make far more over it than over the ninety-nine who stay put? Your Father in heaven faels the same way. He descrit want to lose even one of these simple believers."

Matthew Henry writes this about Matthew 18:1-16, "First, you must be converted, you must be of another mind, and in another frame and temper. You must have other thoughts, both of yourselves and the kingdom, before you be fit for a place in it. The pride, ambition, and the affectionate honor and dominion which appear in you must be repented of, mortified, and reformed, and you must come to the end of yourselves."

Besides the first conversion of a soul from a state of nature to a state of grace, there are after conversion from particular paths of backsliding (pride = knowledge puffed up = our own agenda). Every step out of the way by sin, must be step into it again by repentance. Converting to grace makes us like children. Not as foolish children (1 Corinthians 14:20) nor fickle (Ephesians 4:14), nor playful: but as children we must desire the sincere milk of the Word (1 Peter 2:2). As children we are little in body and low in stature, so we must be little and low in spirit, and in our thoughts of ourselves. Amen!

1 Corinthians 14:20 – "Dear brothers and sisters, don't be childish in your understanding of these things. Be innocent as babies when it comes to evil, but be mature in understanding matters of this kind."

Always remember Who we are doing this for, and if you ever get to a point where you are not doing it for His glory, refocus your heart, and thoughts. Put them back on Jesus. Return to Him with a childlike faith!

Foot's Bible Study

Amos 1:1-3:15

Amos raised sheep, not a particularly 'spiritual' job, yet he became a channel of God's message to others. Your job may not cause you to feel spiritual or successful, but it is vital work if you are in the place God wants you to be. God can work through you to do extraordinary things, no matter how ordinary your occupation. (1:1)

Television and movies are filled with images of people who seem to have no fear. Many today have modeled their lives after these images, they want to be tough. But God is not impressed with bravado. He says that even the toughest people will run in fear when God's judgment comes. Do you know people who think they can make it through life without God? Don't be swayed by their self-assured rhetoric. Recognize that God fears no one, and one day all people will fear Him. (2:16)

Revelation 1:1-2:17

The **Book of Revelation** reveals future events, but there is not the gloomy pessimism we might expect. The drama of these unfolding events is spectacular, but there is nothing to fear if you are on the winning side. When you think of the future, walk with confidence because Christ the Victor walks with you.

Pain is part of life, but it is never easy to suffer no matter what the case. Jesus commended the church at Smyrna for its faith in suffering. He then encouraged the believers that they need not fear the future if they remain faithful. If you are experiencing difficult times, don't let them turn you away from God, instead, let them draw you toward greater faithfulness. Trust God and remember your heavenly reward. (2:9-11)

Psalms 129:1-8

The people of Israel were persecuted from their earliest days but were never destroyed completely. The same is true of the church. Christians have faced times of severe persecution, but the church has never been destroyed. As Jesus said to Peter in Matthew 16:18, "Now! say to you that you are Pater, and upon this reak! will build My church, and all the powers of hall will not conquer it." When you face persecution and discrimination take courage, the church will never be destroyed. (129:2)

Proverbs 29:19-20

There is not much hope for someone who speaks without thinking first. (29:20)

"Foot" Notes Hello everybody, I woke up in the of the liar that he uses to cause in ing in their explanation of say as

Hello everybody, I woke up in the middle of the night with an epiphany having to do with secrets. Secrets are a tool of the liar that he uses to cause dissent and mistrust in a relationship. You know when someone is overcompensating in their explanation of say a situation or something that has happened and your "intuition" alerts you that something is BS. I believe that "intuition" is Holy Spirit entering the battle tipping you off and that the whole situation is good and evil in a battle, one trying to blow smoke and the other demanding clarity in a situation.

I'm a firm believer in just keeping it real, granted sometimes the truth is upsetting but you can avoid all nonsense of a full-blown spiritual battle taking place. Secrets never bode well for any type of relationship, and they are satan's way of tearing things up. So, as the kids say these days ... Keep it 100!!!

Love to y'all short and tall ... Vaya con Dios ... Don't ride faster than your angels can fly!"

Vision/Imagination - Part 11 By Wade Anderson ... continued from page 4

another, some human man had donated his 'seed/sperm' which allowed these doctors to insert it into that woman's womb. It's God's plan, not mans, from the beginning of creation, of sowing and reaping that allows a seed to grow in the fertile ground and bring forth a crop/child/idea.

Above, where I firmly declared to that doctor, "ABSOLUTELY NOT! I do Not have cancer, and I WON'T have a colostomy bag", even in that moment I already knew this would not be in my life! Why? Just because the 'symptoms' were the same did not change the picture that I'd witnessed over the previous five years.

Now you may be asking, "Then why did this ulcerative colitis ramp up, again?" None of this was due to a lack in my faith, believe that! I will add, right here, sometimes we hear God and believe God, but like in this case, I misunderstood ALL of what God had spoken to me. That doesn't make my faith weak or God a liar. It's simply my misunderstanding and how 'I' interpreted what God was showing me. Just like the first time around, by my own admission, "Thank God I'm in remission", this time my lack of understanding was the issue as well, when I stopped administering the shots.

From when I first started feeling the 'symptoms' in October, and all the way through that season, I kept standing on the FACT that I KNEW God had healed me of 'this' the second time I went through it! I kept reminding God of the VERY things He said to me that day, and I was NOT going to believe that I wasn't STILL healed! The Holy Spirit then reminded me of a conversation I'd had with our senior pastor, Dr. Tom Anderson, before God healed me in that second bout. In this conversation with Dr. Tom, I told him the treatment the doctor wanted to start me on was three pills a day and two shots a month. Instantly it was as if he had just received a word from the Holy Spirit. He put his hand on my shoulder, looked me in the eye and said, "Don't be afraid of the shots." Funny how he didn't even address the pills, but a few days later, the Word of God did.

I was tom about the pills, as they made me nauseous and caused me to throw up. Then, one morning I was sitting out in my 'duck blind' reading a devotional that took me to Matthew 14:22-28 (AMP). Watch this, as we unpack some of this. "Immediately He directed the disciples to get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while He sent the crowds away. After He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When it was evening, He was there alone. But the boat [by this time] was already a long distance from land, tossed and battered by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night (3:00-6:00 a.m.) Jesus came to them, walking on the sea. When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take courage, it is I! Do not be afraid!" Peter replied to Him, "Lord, if it is [really] You, command me to come to You on the water. He said, "Come!" So Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus."

Both Mark and John recorded this same event in their Gospels (*Mark 6:45-52*, *John 6:15-21*), but Matthew was the only one that recorded Peter walking on the water. I'm not sure why, with such a great miracle, they all didn't record the same thing. But think about it, we're pretty much the same. Some of us see God do spectacular things, but more times than not, find a way to dismiss it as simply being coincidence. I've learned that when I fail to give God the glory for the things I do recognize, it causes my imagination to not be able to see the bigger things He does in and through me. Those of us that allow ourselves to believe the **WHOLE** Word of God, will more than likely be witnesses to greater things than those who don't recognize and give God the glory!

Before we move on, let's look at John 14:12, "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in Me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father." What a wonderful promise! We can do the same works that Jesus did! Thank You, Jesus! Most people never witness these types of things happen in their lives because they don't 'believe' they have this power. This scripture makes it very clear that it IS God's plan to do the same miraculous deeds through believers as He did through Jesus. The only reason those 'believers' don't see more miracles today is not because God doesn't will to do them, but rather because very few believe what Jesus has told us. Some of us wonder why Jesus hinged the ability of those who believed on Him to perform these miracles, on the fact that, "because I am going to be with the Father."? Look here, in John 7:38-39, "Whoever believes in Me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified." Jesus later revealed, in John 16:7, "But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you." None of this statement makes us 'gods', but we are children of God, and He has given His Holy Spirit to live in every believer, that we too should believe and do the things He has promised us we can do! Let's get back to where we were, in Matthew.

Notice how Matthew records this, "He (Jesus) directed the disciples to get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while He sent the crowds away." Scripture doesn't say, in these passages, that the disciples were afraid of the storm. It says, "When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and

said, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear." (Matthew 14:26) I would imagine they saw this, "go ahead of Him to the other side" as a regular event and believed Jesus when He said it. It wasn't the storm they feared, this time, it was the ghost they 'thought' they saw. After all, they'd never seen anyone, even Jesus, walk on water before this. Let's be real, some of us walk under a streetlight and get startled by the big shadow that we cast. So don't look down your nose at these disciples.

Let's stop right here, for now. Next month we'll pick back up with Mark and Johns accounts of these events, in their Gospels.

Overcomer's Cestimonies

I would like to share with you all, why I believe, and know for a fact, that Jesus Christ is REAL; all of the words in the Bible are true and trustworthy, and we ARE loved by God beyond any type of measurement. This is my testimony of Jesus Christ, the Son of God in heaven.

Long before I ever came to know 'about' Jesus' words to us, written in John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one cames to the Father except through the", I was shot by an individual at point blank range, with a .22 caliber rifle ... several times. This incident severed two arteries; the femoral artery in my left thigh and a pulmonary artery that supplied my heart from my right lung.

At seeing the very dark blood pumping out of my thigh, I instinctively spoke out to Jesus, "Jesus, please forgive me of my sins. Father, please carry me through this." In the Scripture above, where Jesus said, "No come sources to the Father was forgiven. I expected I was forgiven, by God's grace alone. When I was younger, I had been told that Jesus' Gospel was trustworthy. I believed it back then, and I definitely believed it after being shot.

Ever since then, my faith and belief has been strengthened a lot more. Why? Because our Father in heaven was the only One capable of hearing my cry and knowing the true thoughts and intents of my heart! Amen! It's all truth, my dear friends! Even though, at this very event, my faith was only the size of a mustard seed, God honored His Word. All the glory to God! Listen ...

When I arrived at St. Joseph hospital, in Phoenix, I was put directly into the hands of the world's best Cardiovascular surgeon. This surgeon is world renown, he regularly operates on super wealthy and famous people, like presidents, kings and queens! The very arteries he fixed back then, are STILL in great working order to this very day! I truly believe that 'Poppa, Abba' planned for that particular surgeon to be there for me, God's son, to use the skills God had given him, on me.

Here's why I 100% believe the omniscience proof of God. I later found out that this particular surgeon is **ONLY** in this Country every three years, and only for thirty days!! That day when I was shot, July 20th, 1999, handcuffed by MCSO, and taken to St. Joseph hospital, who do you think the surgeon on call was? I'm sure you've already guessed it was that surgeon! Our Father spares no expense when it comes to the lives of His children. Since He gave His One and only Son to die for our sins, it only stands to reason that He did all that was needed to provide me with such a talented surgeon. And not just once, but twice He provided beyond perfect timing! He loves us **ALL**, because He **IS** love!

I've spoken this testimony several times, to different people, but this is the very first time that I've written and submitted it to the OC+C for the family to read. All of this testimony, covered in the Blood of Jesus, has the potential to help set others free. Revelation 12:11 states, "And they have defeated him by the Blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die." Verily, verily, the Bible is truth, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ can be trusted by ALL of us, and no matter what ... He IS faithful! - J.S.

Quote Worthy

T.S. Eliot (1888 – 1965) a poet, essayist and playwright. He was a leading figure in English-language Modernist poetry
where he reinvigorated the art through the use of language, writing style, and verse structure. He is also noted for his
critical essays, which often re-evaluated long-held cultural beliefs.

WORD OF THE MONTH

Descry

di- skri Pronunciation - de-scry

Verb - 1: to catch sight of; 2: find out, discover

"We couldn't descry the reasons for this sudden departure."

Did You Know ... With descry and the more common decry ("to express strong disapproval of"), we have a case of linguistic double-dipping. That is, English borrowed from the same French root twice. Both words ultimately came from the Old French verb decrier, meaning "to proclaim" or "to decry". English speakers borrowed the term as descry in the 14th century, used to mean "to proclaim" or "to spy out from a distance" (as a watchman might), and eventually simply "to catch sight of or "discover". Meanwhile, in French, decrier itself developed into the modern French decrier ("to disparage, to decry"). English speakers borrowed this word as decry in the 17th century. Be careful not to confuse them; in modern English they have distinct meanings.

Did You Know?

The coastal regions of Antarctica receive 8 inches of annual precipitation. The inland portion of Antarctica receives even less, qualifying the continent as a desert.

Joke of the Month

I bought a wooden whistle. But it wooden whistle. So, I bought a steel whistle. But it steel wooden whistle. So, I bought a lead whistle. But it steel wooden lead me a whistle.

ATTENTION ATTENTION Editor's Note ATTENTION ATTENTION

Hello everyone! We are working with Andrew Wommack Ministries, Charis Bible College, to have their books and Inmate Bible Study (IBS by mail) available to ALL of you that are currently incarcerated. This is FREE of charge! Each month when you write they will ship your requested book, FREE!

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Your giving does qualify as a charitable contribution on your taxes. For donations of less than \$250, your cancelled check is sufficient proof for taxes. For donations of \$250 or more, you will receive a contribution statement from the organization. If you have any questions, please call or write Wade Anderson.

BEHIND DEATHS DOOR By W.R.

Oh, death where is thy sting, behind your doors awaits my King

And Jesus will greet me with a warm embrace, As I enter into heaven with a smile on my face.

And death cannot pluck me from my Father's hands, For His angels will escort me into the promised land.

Oh, death where is thy sting, today I walked through Your doors to be with my King!

Help us be better stewards by sending your change of address when you move to help reduce unnecessary waste and expense

EDITORIAL Wade "Duck" Anderson, Michelle Anderson ART & DESIGN John Dobbins PRINTING Living Word Bible Church

Overweiter & Fried a Ministry of Living Word Bible Church

www.livingwordonline.org jasonlivingword@gmail.com

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080
(602)472-8741 • OC4Cpfix@gmail.com