

BERITA ICCC INDONESIA

JUNI 2016



BERITA INTERN UNTUK
ANGGOTA DAN KOMUNIKASI
BAGI KALANGAN BISNIS DAN
PROFESI KRISTEN

ICCC (INTERNATIONAL
CHRISTIAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE) ADALAH MIMBAR
DIMANA PESAN KRISTUS BAGI
KITA DI ZAMAN INI DIJABARKAN,
DIBAGIKAN DAN DINYATAKAN
TERHADAP DUNIA BISNIS

NEW NATIONAL BOARD

National President
Umbu Pekuwali

Vice Presidents:

- Admin/Secretary
Tonny Soetjoadi
- Finance/Treasurer:
Johanis S. Najao
- Membership/Mentoring/
Network
Simon Aditan
- Teaching / Training
Benjamin B. Juwono
- Business Development/
Micro-Enterprise
Efendi Sitorus
- Young Professionals
Maria Sitorus
- BOARD OF ADVISORS
Manimbul Luhut Sitorus
- Intercessors
Eliezer H. Hardjo

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From the desk of National President

Shalom Mitra Tuhan di marketplace ...

Saya percaya setiap organisasi atau perusahaan baik kecil atau pun besar memiliki budayanya sendiri, demikian juga Kerajaan Allah memiliki budayanya sendiri.

Terlalu banyak contoh yang kita lihat dan dengar tentang kesuksesan tetapi juga kita sebenarnya tahu bahwa cara dan hidup mereka untuk mencapai hal tersebut tidak benar, namun sepertinya kita tidak berdaya dan sengaja atau tidak demi tujuan tersebut kita mengikutinya

Mata Tuhan tidak tertuju kepada kesuksesan kita karena sudah jelas Tuhan sudah memberkati kita tanpa perlu harus memintanya, bukankah Tuhan katakan semua sudah selesai?, mata Tuhan tertuju kepada kita, bagaimana budaya atau proses kita dalam mencapai itu semua

Membangun sebuah bisnis atau karier dengan tujuan kesuksesan adalah persoalan bagaimana melatih dan mengatur atau mengelola semua resources kita dalam budaya yang tepat untuk tujuan tersebut Kami sadar betapa pentingnya dan tidak mudahnya membangun dan membiasakan budaya yang tepat supaya sesuai dengan budaya Kerajaan Allah, sehingga KerajaanNYA hadir di bumi/ditempat kita seperti di surga.

ICCC-Indonesia memfasilitasi agar setiap anggotanya Hidup dalam komunitas bisnis yang mana setiap orang didalamnya dengan rendah hati dan tulus mendorong untuk belajar bersama dan saling membangun untuk bertumbuh maju dalam segala aspek bisnis dan atau kariernya dengan budaya yang tepat, budaya Kerajaan Allah. Sehingga dengan perjalanan iman yang tepat kita dapat membangun bisnis kita secara profesional dan unggul!

Mewakili seluruh Nasional Board of ICCC-Indonesia, saya mengucapkan terimakasih kepada anda yang sudah menghadiri seminar sehari " A New Future In The Making " yang bertempat di SunLake Hotel Sunter sabtu kemarin tgl 28 Mei, 2016. Seminar yang sungguh menginspirasi dan menarik!

Karena itu saya mengundang Anda yang hadir pada event tersebut secara khusus untuk datang pada setiap In Group -TWL session kami setiap bulan, sehingga kita bisa belajar dan melatih dan terus dibangun untuk hidup dalam budaya Kerajaan Allah setiap hari ketika mengelola bisnis kita dan atau karier kita.

Mitra Tuhan di marketplace, mewakili seluruh National Board, kami juga menyampaikan terimakasih atas doa, donasi dan partisipasi anda bagi ICCC-Indonesia (International Christian Chambers of Commerce) Sampai jumpa di edisi bulan depan dan Tuhan Yesus memberkati anda sekeluarga.

Umbu Pekuwali
National President
ICCC Indonesia
www.iccc-indonesia.com

MEMBERS FORUM

MEMBERSHIP FEE

Bagi anda yang ingin bergabung dan member yang akan memperpanjang kartu keanggotaan anda untuk tahun 2016 agar segera menghubungi Simon Aditan – V.P. Membership Domain (HP: +62816974647 atau email: simonaditan@yahoo.com)

Annual Membership Fee untuk tahun 2016 kategori Developing Nation menjadi Rp. 800.000 (delapan ratus ribu rupiah) dimana US\$ 50 dikirim ke Kantor Pusat di Swedia sebagai syarat dan kewajiban International Membership

Membership Fee dapat ditransfer ke rekening ICCC Indonesia atau FORUKIN dibawah ini, dan mengirimkan bukti transfernya dengan fax ke alamat yang tercantum pada halamn pertama kiri bawah dari Newsletter ini:

Rekening Bank:

CIMB NIAGA BANK

Cabang Senen - Jakarta

No. 200-01-00012-00-0

a/n : Forum Komunikasi Usahawan Kristen Indonesia (FORUKIN).

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER RUTH MARY JUWONO



Umbu Pekuwali, National President ICCC Indonesia sedang menyematkan pin ICCC dan Membership kit kepada Ruth Mary Juwono, member baru, didampingi oleh Simon Aditan selaku VP Membership dan Benjamin B. Juwono, VP Teaching bertepatan dengan Acara Members Gathering & Seminar di Hotel Sunlake Danau Sunter, pada hari Sabtu, 28 Mei 2016.
A warm welcome to our Sister Ruth.

ICCC INDONESIA



Sesuai dengan rencana, Annual Membership Gathering 2016 yang dikemas dalam Acara Business Network & Seminar dengan mengambil thema “A Future in the Making” telah dilaksanakan dan berjalan dengan baik dan lancar bertemoat di Hotel Sunlake Danau Sunter.

Mengawali Acara, Opening Prayer dan Praise & Worship yang dipimpin oleh Acha Lasut, mengundang hadirat TUHAN untuk hadir ditengah-tengah Acara ICCC Indonesia dan umatNya yang berada di Marketplace.

Kemudian Efendi Sitorus selaku Ketua Panitia menyampaikan “Welcome Speech” dan apresiasi atas kehadiran peserta dan juga para pembicara.

Bpk. Sahat Parulian Hutapea, Asisten Deputy Gubernur DKI bidang Industri dan Perdagangan berkesempatan hadir menyampaikan kata sambutan dari Gubernur DKI yang mendorong agar dunia bisnis Kristiani ikut berperan untuk meningkatkan peran ekonomi khususnya di era MEA (Masyarakat Ekonomi Asean).

Sekitar 70 lebih peserta sangat antusiaas mendengarkan pemaparan yang disampaikan oleh Umbu Pekuwali selaku National President ICCC Indonesia tentang ICCC (International Christian Chamber of Commerce), kemudian Benjamin B. Juwono yang menyampaikan Transformed Working Life (TWL) – an Introduction, dilanjutkan oleh Maria Ellis Sitorus, Vice President for YOUTH, mengenai kegerakan generasi muda dalam bisnis dan mengundang para pebisnis dan profesional muda untuk bergabung di ICCC.

Selanjutnya yang menjadi Agenda Puncak adalah presentasi seminar oleh Coach Yohanes G. Pauly, World’s Top Certified Business Coach, Founder, CEO & Master Coach GRATYO, World’s Leading Practical Business Coaching yang mengulas tentang “God’s Business Success Formula” dan “Life as God want us to be.” Para peserta merasa sangat diberkati dengan pembawaan yang lugas, materi yang bermutu dan kesaksian yang menguatkan dari Coach Yohanes.

Para peserta menikmati coffee dan snacks dan makan siang sekaligus, memanfaatkan untuk membangun "business network" dengan sesama peserta. Keseluruhan Acara dipandu oleh MC, Henki Sundang.

Sampai jumpa di Acara Annual members Gathering 2017.

Berikut Anda dapat mengikuti Acara tersebut melalui beberapa foto berikut



Berdoa mengundang hadirat dan pimpinan TUHAN



Seksi Registrasi Simon Aditan, V.P. membership dengan Yuri



Nampak para peserta berdatangan dan melakukan registrasi



Menikmati dan berdialog sesama peserta sambil menikmati welcome drinks



Tonny Soetjoadi, V.P. Administration/National Secretary sedang berbincang dengan peserta, Hendro Tjahjono dan Eddy S. Kristiawan sebelum Acara dimulai



Opening Prayer, Prasi and Worship dipimpin Achsa Lasut





Efendi Sitorus, V.P. of Business Development selaku Ketua Panitia menyampaikan Welcome Speech & Appreciation



Umbu Pekuwali, National President ICCC Indonesia sharing tentang ICCC (International Christian Chamber of Commerce), wadah dimana para pebisnis dan profesional bergabung untuk membawa mandat dan Amanat Agung Tuhan Yesus di marketplace, dengan menerapkan prinsip-prinsip Kerajaan Allah (Alkitabiah).



Bpk. Sahat Parulian Hutapea, Asisten Deputy Gubernur Bidang Industri dan Perdagangan menyampaikan Kata Sambutan mewakili Gubernur DKI



Benjamin B. Juwono, V.P. Teaching sedang menyampaikan "Transformed Working Life" an introduction, TWL adalah bahan pengajaran dari ICCC, bagaimana menerapkan prinsip-prinsip Kerajaan Allah dalam dunia kerja.



Ungkapan terimakasih kepada Bpk. Sahat Parulian Hutapea, oleh Umbu Pekuwali, National President ICCC Indonesia dan Efendi Sitorus Ketua Panitia



Maria Ellis Sitorus, V.P. Youth menyampaikan kesaksian dan sekaligus mengajak pra pebisnis dan profesional muda untuk bergabung di ICCC Indonesia



Para peserta sedang menyimak pemaparan yang disampaikan oleh para pembicara



Mohan U. Vasandani, anggota National Board di tengah para peserta



Snacks time ... para peserta menikmati tea dan coffee, serta snacks sambil berbincang satu sama lain



Coach Johannes G. Pauly sharing bagaimana menjadi seorang business entrepreneur, profesional yang berhasil dan menikmati kehidupan yang bahagia sesuai dengan kehendak TUHAN.



Pembawaannya lugas, humoris membuat para peserta dalam gelak dan tawa, namun berisi sehingga sangat memberkati dan menguatkan para peserta seminar.



Banyak orang berdoa "WHAT" meminta berkat ini dan itu kepada TUHAN, namun yang TUHAN kehendaki adalah "WHO" kepada siapa TUHAN inginkan kita menjadi berkat dan menyaksikan tentang Kasih-Nya.



Sesi tanya jawab, dipandu oleh moderator Eliezer H. Hardjo, Board of Intercessor.



Lunch time Till we meet again



Terimakasih banyak Coach Johannes G. Pauly, atas sharing ilmu dan kesaksian yang menjadi berkat bagi semua peserta. Plakat apresiasi disampaikan oleh Umbu Pekuwali, National President ICCC Indonesia



Doa penutup dan berkat oleh Manimbul L. Sitorus, Board of Advisors.

ICCC INTERNATIONAL



INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE™

SAVE THE DATES

ICCC International Conference & IGM
October 27-30, 2016
Geneva, Switzerland

See the enclosed pdf-flyer or visit our website:

www.iccc.net

More information will soon come.

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Wisdom and Testimony

7 Biblical Secrets to Business Success

by [Bob Diener](#)

After graduating law school and practicing for two years, I launched an airline ticket business which was quickly profitable. I sold that business in 1991 and then launched Hotel Reservations Network which became hotels.com. I sold the balance of my interest in hotels.com in 2003 and after a five year non-compete launched getaroom.com. Recently during our weekly Friday night dinner discussion, I mentioned that getaroom.com is growing and profitable and reached some new milestones.

My mother asked me, "How did you know what to do at this company and the others to make them succeed? You didn't go to business school or work in a big company."

She was right. I didn't have any formal business training other than a basic course in accounting and finance. No work experience in a business. No internships. No mentors.

My answer surprised her. "I owe all of my business success to you and Dad for sending me to a Jewish Day School for 12 years. That's where I learned best guide book to running a successful business ever written – the Bible."

Here are the most important biblical principles that led to my success.

1. Do your homework.

I learned the principle of due diligence through Talmudic study. For years, I studied debates among rabbinical scholars on various topics. Nothing was taken for granted – all arguments were considered and debated. I learned to ask

why and to make sure I understood the issues. Studying alone was not enough. We were paired with other students and spent much of our time discussing the issues with the classmate we were paired with before the next class. We learned to tear each other's arguments apart. We read every commentary on the topic we could find.

I approached business the same way. I did my homework. I researched the competition. I tested the market. I argued the other side. There is no shortcut for doing your homework in a business and understanding the competitive landscape. Major mistakes can often be avoided and opportunities found by speaking to experts and analysts, tearing apart business plans, doing market studies and focus groups, analyzing expenses and doing your homework – due diligence.

2. Treat your employees fairly.

One of the most difficult parts of running a business is dealing with employee issues. Employees can be demanding: raises, time off, expenses, conflicts and more. When confronted with these issues, I just thought about the principle of paying employees on time: "The wages of a worker shall not remain with you all night until the morning" (Lev 19:13). The Torah also commands us not to take advantage of your employees: "You shall not abuse a needy and destitute laborer, whether a fellow countryman or a stranger" (Deut, 24:14). This taught me to always treat employees equally and fairly. I applied an absolute level of fairness among all our employees when it came to pay and all other issues. Race, age, gender, religion, color – these had no bearing. It is always difficult to say no, but when you develop a reputation for fairness to your employees, they respect you more and know that they were treated properly.

3. Have the highest level of customer service.

There is a high level of customer service issues in the travel business. Flight delays, lost luggage, noisy rooms, housekeeping issues and more. There are also many that try to take advantage of the system. I employed a very simple standard for customer care: "Love your neighbor like yourself" (Lev. 19:18) – put yourself in the shoes of the customer and treat them as you want to be treated. While many companies struggle with how to handle customer service, following this standard is the best way to build a long term loyal customer base.

We all prefer to patronize businesses that are fair on returns/exchanges and that treat us well. We refer our friends there. When we launched getaroom.com, top customer service was a great competitive advantage in a marketplace of foreign outsourcing and cost cutting. The high level of customer service has differentiated us in the marketplace and enabled us to build a loyal customer base. Treat your customers the way you'd want to be treated.

4. Be honest with customers.

I was constantly confronted with dilemmas: How much do we disclose to customers? Do we deliver exactly what was ordered or something inferior to make a higher profit? Do we put in slightly less weight than the amount the customer believes they are paying for? Do we charge the customer more than we agreed to charge? Do we refund them less? These answers are easy when you follow the Bible's guidance: "You shall have just balances and just weights" (Lev. 19:36).

Even if your customer won't find out – [don't cheat](#) them. "Do not... put a stumbling block before the blind" (Lev. 19:14) means do not take advantage when the other party doesn't know or see what you are doing to their disadvantage. We are often confronted with situations where we can increase profits by cutting corners or otherwise take advantage of the customer in a way that they won't know about. Why not increase profits by using a cheaper material or a second hand product? Use lower cost components even though the customer believes you are using high end components. When confronted with these dilemmas, the answer is easy when following the biblical principle of not putting a stumbling block before the blind. Don't cheat your customers, even if they don't know about it.

5. Always act as if you are being watched.

Your customer overpays you. You receive a refund twice. You are at the cash register and are given a \$100 bill instead of a \$10 bill. Do you keep the funds that were mistakenly given you or do you give it back? Who will know?

The Sages say, "Know what is above you: An eye that sees" (Ethics of the Fathers, 2:1). When you realize that someone above is always watching you, the answer is easy. You act differently and work under a higher standard. You run your business and personal life honestly all the time.

6. Build a reputation for integrity and honesty.

The Talmud discusses the questions one is asked in the heavenly court at the end of one's life (Shabbat 31a). The first question asked is: Were you honest in your business dealings? This is the first question because it's the true measure of one's success in life. There is no greater temptation to cheat than in a business setting where one can earn more profits. If you can overcome this great temptation, you will reach a high level of character that others esteem. Your customers, employees and those you do business with want to patronize your business. When you are honest, your business grows. You also have the right answer in the heavenly court. As the Medrash says, "If one is honest in his business dealings and people esteem him, it is accounted to him as though he had fulfilled the whole Torah" (Mechilta B'Shalach 1).

7. Be humble: accept and encourage criticism.

"He who loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid" (Proverbs 12:1). Judaism teaches us to be humble. Pride gets in the way of success. We all make mistakes. Never think you are always right. Accept and encourage criticism, especially from your employees that understand the business better than anyone. My best ideas came from customers and employees. We read every customer and employee suggestion carefully. I see so many managers and CEOs that don't listen to their employee suggestions. This is a big mistake. By creating an environment that allows suggestions and criticism, you can greatly improve your business and allow employees and customers to feel more part of the business.

What to do once you are profitable

The Torah teaches us not only how to build a [successful business](#), but also what to do once it is successful. The Bible teaches us to be socially responsible and not forget about those that don't have food to eat. We have a social responsibility to our communities. We are obligated to donate a portion of our profits to the needy. Encourage your employees, partners and customers to also be charitable through incentive, matching and other programs. Donate a portion of your profits to charity. Run promotions that contribute a portion of every sale to charity. Match your employee [charitable giving](#) to encourage them to be charitable. Encourage your employees to do community service. Use your business as a vehicle for

community improvement. "The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself" (Proverbs 11:24).

View your work as a means, not an end. When we help others, we feel fulfilled and accomplished. When you leverage your business to improve the community around you, you wake up every day and appreciate what you have accomplished for the community. As King Solomon said, "Our work is meaningless unless it is to do good" (Ecclesiastes 3:12-13). Let's use our success to be socially responsible and we will live much more meaningful lives.



International Christian Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) lahir dari kepatuhan terhadap visi yang diberikan selama kurun waktu enam tahun kepada seorang usahawan Swedia J. Gunnar Olson, yang diteguhkan dengan nubuatan dan terbukanya pintu kesempatan disekitarnya yang sebelumnya tertutup.

ICCC merupakan panggilan yang serius dan menantang bagi pengusaha Kristen untuk mengenali jaman yang sedang kita masuki dan dengan terang dari pengenalan itu memasuki dimensi iman yang baru yang disediakan bagi mereka yang ..."

takut akan TUHAN ... berbicara satu sama lain ... dan menghormati namaNya." (Maleakhi 3: 16)

Visi ini memanggil para pengusaha dan kaum profesi di seluruh dunia yang terbebani untuk saling berhubungan, bertukar pendapat, memperdagangkan barang dan menyediakan jasa, saling mendukung dan menguatkan secara rohani dan materi. Berdasarkan eksistensi dari visi itu sendiri memproklamirkan otoritas Kristus yang mutlak diseluruh dunia.

Pada intinya ICCC adalah kehendak TUHAN untuk memperluas tali kasih-Nya, melalui gereja-Nya,

didalam dunia usaha. Hal ini menuntut para pelaku bisnis mencari terlebih dahulu Kerajaan-Nya dan segala Kebenaran-Nya.

Urapan tersedia bagi mereka yang dengan mata melihat dan telinga mendengar panggilan jaman.

Sebagaimana halnya Raja Daud yang menerima urapan untuk menjadi raja, jauh sebelum dia menjadi Raja, yang keadaan pada saat urapan diberikan sama sekali tidak mungkin bagi Daud untuk menjadi Raja, demikianlah ICCC memanggil para pengusaha Kristen sebelum peristiwanya terjadi untuk mengalami kebebasan masuk ke dalam dimensi baru, dimana sasaran, strategi dan perencanaan bersama-sama diwujudkan-nyatakan sesuai dengan iman di dalam Kristus.

ICCC mencanangkan panggilan itu sejalan dengan rencana TUHAN bagi jaman ini sebagai kunci memperoleh berkat dan pertumbuhan dan agar dapat bangkit berkemenangan diatas gelombang ombak yang mengancam.

Panggilan ICCC: *"Mereka akan menjadi milik kesayanganKu sendiri, firman TUHAN semesta Alam pada hari yang Kusiapkan. Aku akan mengasihi mereka sama seperti seseorang menyayangi anaknya yang melayani dia. Maka kamu akan melihat kembali perbedaan antara orang benar dan orang fasik, antara orang yang beribadah kepada TUHAN dan orang yang tidak beribadah kepada-Nya."* (Maleakhi 3: 17-18)

KEYAKINAN IMAN ICCC:

- Satu-satunya TUHAN pencipta segala sesuatu dalam kesatuan Trinitas: Bapa, Anak, dan Roh Kudus.
- Kelahiran TUHAN Yesus Kristus. Kelahiran-Nya dari rahim seorang Perawan. Karya penebusan dosa manusia melalui kematian-Nya diatas kayu salib. Kebangkitan-Nya. Hak otoritas diri-Nya atas dunia dan Kedatangan-Nya yang kedua kali dalam Kuasa dan Kemuliaan-Nya.
- Alkitab, sepenuhnya sebagai Firman TUHAN yang memberikan inspirasi dan berbagai peraturan bagi kehidupan yang dilandasi iman.
- Keselamatan pribadi orang berdosa dan kebutuhannya untuk mengalami proses regenerasi melalui8 karya Roh Kudus dalam menuju menjadikannya sebagai manusia yang dikehendaki oleh TUHAN, seutuhnya.



Transformed Working Life (TWL) adalah Pelatihan resmi dari Kantor Internasional bagi anggota ICCC dalam memperlengkapi anggota dengan pengetahuan dan pemahaman latar belakang, tujuan dan penerapan prinsip-prinsip Kerajaan TUHAN bagi dunia bisnis dan profesi.

TWL diperuntukkan bagi anggota dan dapat diikuti secara Cuma-Cuma, namun terbuka juga bagi siapa saja yang berminat untuk mengikutinya.

TWL diselenggarakan dalam bahasa Indonesia dan dilengkapi dengan buku panduannya, yang telah diterjemahkan kedalam Bahasa Indonesia juga, sehingga para peserta betul-betul akan memperoleh manfa'at yang besar dan mengalami transformasi dalam kehidupan pribadi maupun bisnisnya.

TWL difasilitasi oleh anggota National Board yang terlatih dan dikoordinir oleh V.P. Teaching: Benjamin B. Juwono bersama dengan Teaching Team: Johanis S. Najoran dan Eliezer H. Hardjo

Transformed Working Life (TWL) akan ditayangkan dalam salah satu channel di Indonesia agar dapat dimanfaatkan oleh para pebisnis & profesional Kristiani di Indonesia bagaimana menerapkan prinsip-prinsip Kerajaan Tuhan dalam kehidupan berbisnis dan bekerja mereka.

TWL bagi members secara rutin diadakan pada hari Sabtu ke 2 setiap bulan dan terbuka dan dianjurkan bagi semua member untuk mengikutinya sebagai pembekalan wajib.

DEVOTIONAL

Walk in God's Supernatural Power!



8 ways to connect with God's supernatural power

I will never forget the moment a 12-year-old deaf girl stepped onto the platform where I was standing. I had been led to pray for deaf ears to be opened, and as God's presence and glory filled the room, miracles began occurring all over the stadium.

My team brought this young girl up to testify. When they brushed back her long brown hair, I was astonished. She had been born without ears. Where her ears should have been, there were just little holes in the sides of her head. The anointing of God had come upon her when I prayed for deaf ears, and she felt a popping in her ears. At that moment, eardrums were formed on the inside of her head. Her hearing was opened for the first time in her life.

I knew the miracle had nothing to do with me. My part was simply to lead the people in worship until the glory of God came and then let God do the rest. That night in Mexico we saw many healed by God's power, even several people who were crippled.

I had first witnessed the amazing healing power of God when I was 14 years old. But during the next several years I couldn't understand why I wasn't

seeing more of that same power demonstrated in weekly church life.

I was tired of powerless prayers. When I prayed for someone I wanted something to happen! Combined with my frustration was an insatiable thirst and longing for a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit. Two things were happening simultaneously: God was making me dissatisfied with the status quo, and He was placing a spiritual hunger in my heart that drove me into hours of communion with the Holy Spirit.

During the last 20 years, God has taught me many things about living a life full of spiritual power. The most important thing is that walking intimately with Him and having a deep grounding in His Word are essential for Him to release tremendous power through us. I've been blessed to witness the demonstration of His power through me thousands of times in the lives of countless people.

Another thing I've learned about God's power and gifts is that although they flow out of His grace and are activated by faith, personal preparation in the areas of character, integrity and holiness enable us to sustain a constant flow of His power through our lives.

However, we must always remember that He is the source, and it is by His grace that we are qualified to be partakers of His heavenly glory. It has nothing to do with our efforts or works. If it did, we could take some of the credit. Since it doesn't, God gets all the glory.

He wants to develop our character so we will be grounded in Christ and will properly steward the power He pours through us. But you don't have to wait until you are a mature Christian to allow God to use you. You can begin to operate in the Spirit the moment Christ enters your heart.

This was true in my own life. I experienced many encounters and many moments of God's power during my early years as a Christian. Those encounters shaped who I am today.

On the following pages are eight secrets to operating in the creative, miracle-power of God. This is by no means a simple three-step process, but I do believe if you apply these principles to your life, you'll see signs and wonders released through you on a daily basis.

1. Cultivate God's presence in your life. The more you can cultivate an environment that's conducive to the Holy Spirit, the more of God's presence you will carry. The more of His presence you carry, the more power you will have.

You cultivate this environment by spending time doing whatever it takes to have the person and presence of the Holy Spirit hanging out with you. Quickly confess and repent of the slightest leaning toward sin or spiritual darkness. Pray in tongues often. Cover yourself under the blood of Jesus. Meditate in the Word. Express worship to the Lord through song and prayer.

Constantly invite the Holy Spirit to be with you in evident ways as often as possible. Avoid anything that would grieve Him. You'll find that as your life is filled with the atmosphere of the Holy Spirit, miracles, signs and wonders will be a natural overflow.

2. Cultivate God's faith in your heart. True supernatural faith flows out of the spirit and affects the mind—not the other way around. Faith defies logic and natural reality for a higher spiritual reality. It causes natural things to line up with what God has already accomplished spiritually.

We must live in the Word and constantly renew our minds. Faith is born from revelation in the heart. When truth is revealed to your mind and heart by the Holy Spirit through the Word, faith comes alive on the inside of you. John 8:32 says, "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (NKJV).

Soak your mind and spirit in God's Word by constantly setting your thoughts on it, and the revelation of truth will produce supernatural faith in your heart. Heart-faith produced by the revelation of truth is the ultimate key to operating in God's power, and the Bible tells us it comes from Jesus: "Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]" (Heb. 12:2, *The Amplified Bible*).

3. Add action to your faith. The power anointing comes for a reason and has an intended purpose. Isaiah 61:1 says, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives,

and the opening of the prison to those who are bound” (NKJV).

The power anointing for healing and miracles will manifest only if you’re praying for sick people to be healed. You must be intentional in looking for opportunities in which this anointing will be needed. The Bible tells us, “Faith without works is dead” (James 2:20). The power anointing is given to help other people in a supernatural way and in the process reveal God’s heart and nature to them.

Don’t allow yourself to get discouraged. Stay focused and tenacious. No matter what you see, set your vision higher, know and understand God’s will and truth, and allow His faith to move you to action. This action will release the power of God and produce the miraculous.

4. Passionately pursue spiritual gifts. First Corinthians 14:1 tells us to earnestly desire spiritual gifts. I often lay my hands on my own belly during times of prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to stir up and manifest the gifts of the Spirit that are within me. Spiritual gifts of healing, working of miracles, words of knowledge and faith are all invaluable manifestations for the ministry of the miraculous. As you ask God to stir them up, He will.

The Greek word for the gifts of the Spirit is *charisma*, which Strong’s Concordance defines as “gifts of grace; a favor which one receives without any merit of his own.” You can’t work for or earn them. They are given freely by the Holy Spirit just as salvation is. You can have all of them—and the more you pursue them, the more you will have!

5. Practice prayer and fasting. Matthew 17:14-21 gives an account of the healing of an epileptic boy. The disciples couldn’t cure him, but Jesus did. When Jesus was asked why the disciples had no success, He said it was because of their unbelief.

It wasn’t a question of God’s will. Nor did Jesus focus on the boy’s faith. It was the level of faith in the disciples’ hearts. Yet He also pointed out that “this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting” (v. 21).

Prayer and fasting help to release God’s faith within us. It’s the faith that produces the miracle, not the fasting. Fasting and prayer in this instance serve as the passageway into the fullness of faith that exists

in God’s heart. Again, it isn’t by our works, but by His faith and grace extended toward us.

6. Learn to hear God’s voice. To operate in the supernatural we must develop a keen sensitivity to the person of the Holy Spirit. God doesn’t work the same way all the time, and we need to hear His direction for each situation.

Consider Jesus. He saw signs and wonders on a consistent basis in His daily life, but He never prayed the same way twice. Sometimes He laid hands on people; sometimes He instructed them to take a specific action; sometimes He did unusual things Himself such as spit in mud and put it into a person’s eyes. He was unconventional but completely Spirit-led.

The key is He did only what He saw His Father doing (see John 5:19). His ability to hear and see the actions of His heavenly Father came out of the time He spent with Him in prayer and communion. If you want to sensitize your spiritual eyes and ears, you must put yourself in a place where you can see and hear God.

This will often require you to pull away into a “deserted place” so you can place all your heart and mind on Him. When you exercise your spiritual senses by learning to listen and not just talk, you will be led by the Spirit to see wonderful manifestations of His power.

7. Associate with the anointing. A major key for me in being brought to a new level of God’s power was learning that it was OK to go where God was moving. Some people think: *If God wants to give me something, He can come right here into my room. I don’t need to go anywhere.* Of course God can meet us in our own rooms, and many times He does.

However, that doesn’t negate the fact that you can literally “catch” the anointing by putting yourself in a place where God is moving. Find people and ministries that are carrying God and get around them. We learn from one another and receive impartation of power through association.

These corporate encounters with God do not replace your hidden devotion expressed in the place of private prayer. They simply add to and enhance your relationship with God.

I've been blessed to have been able to associate with some of the most anointed people on the earth today. My fellowship with them has not only stirred my faith but also released a transference of wisdom, revelation and power into my own life and ministry.

Anointed fellowship, whether from meeting with another person or from listening to anointed teaching CDs and videos, is crucial to cultivating the anointing in your life. Associate with God's power by hanging out where He is.

8. Be motivated by love. Love must be the foundation for everything you do. Without it, power can lead to pride and self-inflation.

Love is the greatest manifestation of God's power. It was because of love that Jesus walked in total obedience. It was because of love that the power of sin and Satan were defeated.

Love is what motivates our faith (see Gal. 5:6). Love is what causes us to live in the Spirit. Love is the greatest virtue of all.

Without faith you can't please God. But without love you can't know Him at all. Love filled with truth is the ultimate spiritual weapon against sin, temptation, offense, disunity, sickness, oppression and spiritual corruption, and death. Love conquers all.

As you apply these principles to your life with God, expect to see His glorious power and anointing released in you and through you.

There is someone out there who is waiting for a miracle. They need God's touch. Your life and obedience to God may be the missing ingredient!

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