

Face to Face

by Michael Koulianos

The sermon emphasizes the importance of knowing Jesus and falling in love with Him, rather than seeking power or success.

Duration: 1:06:23

Scripture: Exodus 33:7

Topics: "Christian Life", "The Glory of God", "Intimacy with Christ"

Description

Michael Koulianos emphasizes the importance of seeking a personal relationship with Jesus, drawing from the example of Moses who met God face to face. He encourages believers to prioritize intimacy with Christ over ministry success, asserting that true power and glory come from being in His presence. Koulianos warns against the distractions of church culture that can lead to a loss of first love for Jesus, urging the congregation to return to their earliest experiences of His love and presence. He calls for a deep yearning for Christ, reminding that the essence of ministry is to lead others to Him, not merely to perform tasks. Ultimately, he invites everyone to come back to Jesus, the true source of life and fulfillment.

Transcript

Exodus 33, I'm going to start here in verse 7, and then we're going to turn to the book of Numbers. Don't be afraid. Exodus 33, 7, Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the tabernacle of meeting.

I want you, as I'm speaking tonight, if the Lord starts touching you, I want to give you full permission to forget about me and give all your attention to Jesus tonight, all of it. His touch is Him, the actual Him touching you, and when He comes in that way, the best thing you can do is give Him 100% of your attention. A friend of mine in Reading, we were on this little beach, I guess you'd call it, it was a lake, but whatever, a little sandy area near a lake.

In Reading, they call it a beach. When you're from Florida, you're like, that's not a beach. That's sand dumped on the lake shore.

But he asked me a question. I had just gotten done ministering, ministering the Scriptures in God's presence, and he said to me, when you're building, should you choose the cloud of His glory, in other words, His presence, or should I teach? It was a good question, but oftentimes we... we try to answer questions God is never asking, and we end up making choices God never asked us to make, like should I

walk in power or have integrity? Should I teach the Word or heal the sick? And oftentimes the enemy puts scalpels to areas in the kingdom that God never wanted a scalpel to be placed in. So what maybe the generation before me in many ways articulated, well, if I'm going to follow the call of God, I might lose my marriage, or I either have to pastor the flock or my children.

Which one is it? Such questions are alive from the pit of hell. The best way to teach the Word is from the cloud. It's the only way to really teach the Word properly, because if we don't teach the Word so that people walk into His glory, we're teaching the Word so that they'll agree with our perspective.

And that's really dangerous. We should preach people toward Jesus. We should teach people towards Jesus.

We should worship Jesus and lead God's people to Jesus. It's all about Jesus. Say, Amen.

I'm unable to use much more volume than I am right now, but I learned a lesson again last week that my volume has nothing to do with His glory. And I feel I'm again in the room. I don't know how else to say it, but the air in here is charged.

It's quite amazing. I don't ever want to go back to another way. When Bill was here last, he started crying.

He said, I've tasted of this before. I don't know if you were here for that. He started weeping.

I've tasted of this before. He said, all the ingredients are here for a great move of God. So that's what I'm going to try to do tonight, teach from His glory.

And if he wants to bench me, he's more than welcome. Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of Meeting. This is Exodus 33, as you can see.

And Bezalel, the man who was used to build the tabernacle, is not employed until Exodus 37. What am I saying here? That Moses' home and life was called the Tent of Meeting first, and God could trust him with corporate glory. Let me say this.

The glory of God is the manifest person of Jesus. There are many events you go to that are all about glory, but nobody knows what it is. It's quite bizarre.

And so we settle for the manifestations. And as much as I believe in manifestations that make your head spin, God is not a feather. I'm not saying...trust me, I have seen a lot, and it's glorious, but it is not the glory.

According to 2 Corinthians 4, 6, the glory of God is found in the face of Jesus Christ. If you're wondering what the glory is, the first thing you need to understand is that it's not a what, it is a who. Jesus Himself is the glory of God.

Hebrews 1, 3 says that He is the express image of God, the very brightness of His glory. Jesus Himself. He's not just the glory of God.

He's not just the bright glory of God. He is the very brightness of His glory. He is the apex of it all, Jesus Himself.

Simplicity frightens the devil. It excites heaven and frightens the devil. Pastors wear themselves out trying to find their next series, and all the while there's a limitless Christ who's available.

Why do we teach people how to achieve their dreams when they don't even know Jesus? And we've limited knowing Jesus to meeting Him at an altar. Or we teach how to communicate or how to preach. Nobody taught me how to do that.

I'm glad. I've never preached a three-point sermon in my life. I wouldn't know how.

I don't even know what they look like. I don't want to preach sermons. I want to preach Christ.

Christ, Jesus Himself, when you talk about Him, it gets His attention. Do you get it? He's a person. Mike Bickle said, one of the most basic forms of beginning intimacy with God is talking to Him.

So Moses here, his house becomes the tent of meeting. I don't hesitate to tell you tonight that many of you might want to fill stadiums, but God wants to fill your room. I have no desire to go to stadium meetings that Jesus has not walked into.

You learn to get Him into your room all alone. That's where your every need is found. I've been once, you get Him in there.

Can you keep Him in there? Verse 8, So it was whenever Moses went out to the tabernacle, when all the people rose, and each man stood at his tent door and watched Moses until he had gone into the tabernacle. You want to change the nation? Learn to walk into His presence. They're watching you.

A whole nation watching one man walk into the presence of God. And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, at the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the Lord talked to Moses. You shut the door.

God's coming in. I said, if you shut the door, God is coming in, and the Lord will stand at the door to make sure it's just you and Him. That part you missed.

God becomes very protective of people who learn to walk in and shut the door. It's like they have nine lives. I'm not joking.

They have made God their purpose, and then God begins to back them as His purpose on the earth. Jesus stood at the door there to keep Moses in and to keep strangers out. If this thing is flying over your head, I can't do anything about it, but the Holy Spirit can carry this straight into your heart right here.

Jesus said, learn of me. Learn me. I'm meek, humble.

Did He not say that in Matthew's Gospel? Lowly in heart. We need a people who know Him, who know Him, who don't settle for their favorite podcast, but who deeply know Him. I would never sit under a pastor of any kind who does not know the presence of Jesus.

And that, friends, is measurable, tangible, and noticeable. I don't care if they fill a stadium a week. Find people whose eyes sparkle, like Heidi's.

Find the few, because it's those people who you can trust. The reason you can trust them is because they love Jesus more than they love you. Those are the ones you can trust.

My heart breaks when I hear, it's all about the people. Church is all about the people. We're about people here.

People are important, but church is not all about the people. The best way to minister to people is to minister to the Lord. Unless you think you can change their lives.

One of the greatest lessons we can learn is that we can't change their lives on our best day. It is not by might. It is not by power.

It is by my Spirit. One of the greatest lessons we can learn as Christians is that unless the Lord builds the house, they that labor, labor in vain. It's the Lord who does the work.

What about loving people? The best way to love people is by falling in love with Jesus, and then he fills you with his love for people. In and of ourselves, we have no ability to love a fly. Who would love one anyway? Or a seminal fan? That would be a mighty test.

In and of ourselves, we are empty. As I said last week, I hope there's just a few of you in the room who wonder what he's like, because he is amazing. He is amazing.

I'm walking steps tonight that I met him on. I learned, and I'm still learning. It's a lifelong project with Jesus, because what he wanted on Monday may not be what he's asking for in the moment on Tuesday.

That keeps you on your toes. Three weeks ago we sang God is here on Sunday morning. Do you remember that? And he stormed the room.

That's not what he wanted this Sunday. He wanted another song. I'm not here to ordain you or commission you to ministry.

I'm here to call you to Christ Jesus himself. Can we kill that fan? It's just blowing me in the face. I feel like I'm on a golf course, which would cause me to speak in tongues.

I think in these seats, I asked the Lord to use me once or twice. Once or twice. Here.

That's not what drew me. That wasn't it. No.

And even if I had asked, I would have asked something way too small. Right? No eye has seen. No ear heard.

No mind conceived what God has in store for those who love him and are called according to his purpose. I didn't ask for that. No.

I didn't know what ministry was. To me the ministry was to wear a collar and look like a priest. But I asked to know what he was like.

Wanted to know his feelings. I wanted to know what moved him. And I didn't go to the scriptures to gain material.

No. I went to the scriptures to see what he liked and what he didn't like. And then I prayed that it would be my life's ambition to give him what he wants and never give him what he doesn't want.

But I'm not sure we realize that we serve a real, living, breathing King. I said this at Jesus 19 in tears. I was blown away.

I know when the Holy Spirit takes over when I'm preaching, when what I'm saying moves me. I'm like, oh, this isn't me. This is the Lord.

And something I said that I never forgot was, there's a man up there. There's a real man up there. We're so stuck in teaching people how to achieve their dreams that we don't tell them a man pierced the sky and took the throne.

If you want to go start a church, great. If you want to start a Christian business, good. More power to you.

But that's wonderful. But that is not the apex. Why do we teach people how to start things when they don't even know that there's a God-man with skin on seated at the right hand of the Father, representing us before the Ancient of Days forever.

That blows me away. There's a man seated above the highest heaven. What? That should blow us away.

That the Father sees us in him and him in us. And that forever when the Father looks this way, because the Lord is seated at his right hand, when the Father looks that way, he sees Ryan in his son and then sees his son when he looks at Ryan. This is the wonder of the gospel.

This should wound us. This should provoke us. This should change everything.

And now this person named Jesus actually has feelings. Every time Amy dances or Aaron sings, if they're in line with the Spirit, that moves him. That's the ministry.

And when you move Jesus, he comes your way because he's married to you. I said he's married to you. I'll say that again until that arrow hits your heart.

Jesus is married to us. Married. He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with the Lord.

You say, I want to do something great for God. I want to achieve something great for God. Fall in love with him.

Fall in love with him. I want to change the world. Fall in love with Jesus.

No, no, no, no. I got to do more. You can do more.

It's just not what he wants. That's not how it works. You see, you fall in love.

The two become one. The Spirit fills you. God accomplishes it through you.

And then because of his goodness, God rewards you. No. Give him what he wants.

Give Jesus what he wants tonight. Give Jesus what he wants. What does he want? You.

He wants your heart. He wants your love. He wants your thoughts.

I feel the giddiness of God right now. Do you know he loves it when you think about him? Do you know he's jealous of your thoughts in the most loving way? He loves it when you just think about him. Yeah, I give you full permission tonight to get blasted.

If it's fleshly, we know to handle it. But don't stop the river. Do you know he hears your thoughts? Do you remember when Sarah doubted his word? Do you remember when the two angels went on to Sodom and the Bible says, but the Lord remained behind? That was Jesus.

That was not an angel. Three came, two went on, the Lord remained behind. That was the pre-incarnate Christ speaking to his friend Abraham as the word.

And then John pens it beautifully in John chapter 1 saying, and the word became flesh. In other words, that one from the old covenant now has a body like us. And he comes to talk and he tells Abraham, and Sarah's listening, she will be with child in a year, but she's in her nineties.

And the Bible says she laughs within herself. In other words, doubt. And the Lord tells, this is so wonderful, Abraham, why is she doubting? She did not tell the Lord, I doubt you.

She just thought it. And the Lord said, why is she doubting? And Abraham's like, I don't know, ask her. It's quite the Adamic thing to do.

Adam did. He heard her thoughts. Do you want more tonight? Do you know you can have as much of Jesus as you want without him killing you, by the way? He'll hold himself back to a degree so that you don't die, which is why you need a new body.

I am so glad the grave is destroyed. I am so glad the grave is destroyed. I'm very happy about that because that's a marriage deal.

That means that I can actually marry him experientially in the age to come in its fullness because of this new body. Because without it, I fry like a moth in a flame. You say, I've never heard that.

It's in the Bible. We shall behold him and when we behold him, we shall be like him. And Paul goes on to say, and forever so we shall be with the Lord.

You get a new body. This is amazing. This is all beautiful.

You say, how can I receive the presence of Jesus in this way? Well, start by thinking about him and talking to him. I've had that happen so many times. Stressful moments.

Oh, yeah. When I first got into preaching, I thought, I'm ready to conquer the world. How the stadiums are going to fill.

I am the harvester. And then I realized God's first priority is not to use me. According to the Bible, which counts.

God's first priority, according to Romans 8, is to conform me into the image of his son. That's what God's after. What about my ministry? Oh, no, no.

That's not even close to that calling. It's not even in the same galaxy. You want to know what God's after? Making you like Jesus.

And this is what I learned about this process. It hurts. It hurts a lot.

He is thorough. If you surrender and if you fight, he's twice as thorough. His testing is thorough.

If he sees dress, he is after getting it out. He's thorough. You see, we have confused his fire for his fervor.

Fervor is not fire. No, no. The type of fire God is, is a con.

That means he eats you up with his fire. Purges you with his fire. The fire of the Holy Spirit, according to John the Baptist, if you read it carefully, this is a last day's prophetic utterance.

Speaking of the day of the generation where the fire of God would fall on a people and conform them into the image of Jesus because the sun is coming to break the eastern sky with his wedding clothes on. And at the same time, the father is preparing by the spirit the gift for the son that he's a people called a bride that the son purchased through his death. Jesus redefined love and redefined the kingdom.

The kingdom that Jesus operates and reigns over is one of lowliness, one of lowliness. And marriage to Jesus, love to Jesus looks like dying for his bride. When's the last time a pastor taught you how to die? You got shortchanged and robbed.

Robbed of true joy. True glory. True glory.

That's marriage according to Jesus. Death. He proved his love for us.

He bled. He died. It's unquestionable.

Yes, unconditional. A waste of time to doubt it because it's so proven. The tree proves it.

The empty tomb proves it. This is love to Jesus. He purchased his bride with his life.

And it's glorious. I said it is glorious. I think of David, little shepherd boy.

And may I add, there's always a David and a Samuel waiting in the shadows always. God always has your replacement ready. He's always got one on deck.

And isn't it a tragedy when we start to believe that I'm irreplaceable in the kingdom? Isn't that a scary thing to think? And so God has to remind David when David falls, are you not the shepherd boy from Jesse's house? I called you and raised you up. David had to be reminded of what life was like, listen, when he first met the Lord's presence. A little shepherd boy who had a harp and learned to play with no one watching outside under the stars.

It's almost like you can picture him playing one chord, changing keys and discovering what we feel in the room right now, the same Holy Spirit. That measure of weight. And he would discover all on his own, all alone, what Jesus wanted in the moment.

And then he grows and God gives him favor. God starts to use him. David's weaknesses come to the table.

And God reminds him, are you not the shepherd boy I raised up? What was the Lord doing? Bringing his attention back to the earliest of days. I think the greatest blessing of being in this building for me is the constant reminder of the earliest days where I met him. I met him, I'm telling you, I met him and you can meet him too.

I met him, I discovered his beauty, his desire to touch people, his desire to heal people. I met him, I met him, I could feel him come in when we'd sing certain songs or sit under the Word. He was personal and

real, real.

And he would come on us and overwhelm us with his touch. And we'd talk about him and sing all the way here from Tarpon Springs and then talk about him and sing all the way home. And then during the week with Father Sam, we'd have Bible studies because we were addicted.

We were addicted to the one we met. Addicted to him. And then somehow, somehow, I don't know how it happens, life sets in and all of a sudden we start to call death, balance.

Oh, that's a tragedy. Or we let the failures of leaders become our offense, not realizing that that would be us in 10 minutes of bad thinking. That'd be us, wouldn't it? Would it not be us? Is it not by grace that we stand? We forget these things.

The devil comes in and then we become wounded and offended and begin to judge what we haven't been entrusted with. And all of a sudden we've got it all figured out. But that's not how we came in.

Listen to me. That's not how we came in. As a babe in Christ.

Because to the hungry, even the most sour and stale morsel is sweet. Isn't that how you came in? You know, the people you make fun of now are the people you used to watch at 11pm on Christian television. Oh, yeah.

Yeah. You guys or some of you in the room are the ones who have all the bumper stickers or had them on your car. Those are funny.

But we come in like babes. We lose first love and we call it maturity. What a tragedy.

What a tragedy. And the simple teachings of Jesus. You look at the speck in your brother's eye and there's a plank in your own.

When I first got saved, I didn't know the Bible. If someone would have told me that Jonah swallowed the whale, I would have believed it. One of the worst things people can do is go to dead Bible schools.

It destroys people. But don't we all come in that way? Oh, Lord, if you said it, I believe it. And we received here first and it took us years to figure it out here.

That's a beautiful way to live. Simple faith. Childlike faith.

Because faith is not something you stir up. Faith is a substance. It's the Lord.

It's the Lord. You cannot confess your way into faith. He's the author, perfecter and finisher of our faith.

When Jesus comes into a room like he's here right now, faith is available. Not because of our work, but because of him. Him.

I sense the Holy Spirit tonight bringing your remembrance back to your earliest of days. Your earliest of days. I think I told you last week, the first book I read, maybe I didn't tell you, the first book I read when I got saved here was the book of Revelation.

And it freaked me out. Now, since that day, and that's 32 years, since that day I've never heard a pastor say, when somebody gets saved, start in the book of Revelation. I was, oh my gosh, I didn't know what

these horned creatures with wings flying out of pits meant.

I didn't know what anything really meant. My view is much different now than it was back then, but my heart burned. I said, my heart burned.

And I think of young people today and how we parent our children or lead young people. I remember Bill telling me about raising kids. He said, get your kids in the glory of God at all costs.

Whether they know it or not, it rewires them. It's right here in this room, I remember demons coming out of people during the music. You guys remember that, mom? You guys remember that? During the worship, screeches going on.

It was like we walked into Narnia. I've never seen anything like that in church. I was just an altar boy in the Orthodox Church and I saw devils leaving, all of this.

Pretty extreme for a young kid, huh? Maybe he shouldn't see that, but here we are today. Here we are. Let me read on here and we'll see what the Holy Spirit does.

Verse 9, it came to pass when Moses entered the tabernacle that the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle. And the Lord, listen, listen, listen to this, and the Lord talked to Moses. Anybody want that? Does anybody want that? If a thousand of you don't and ten do, if one of you want the Lord's voice, I came for a good reason tonight.

One of you, because we think the Lord's voice is just meant to lead us down the right road. No, the Lord's voice is food. The Lord's voice is spirit and life.

It's literally encapsulated in His very presence. Those that hear His voice come alive according to David. Those who don't live in the pit.

And here we see that under a lesser covenant, God is speaking to a man who wanted Him. Does anybody want Him tonight? I hope that the Holy Spirit tonight is getting on the inside of you and short-circuiting you. And I hope you're wondering what His eyes look like.

I hope you're wondering if He still has holes in His hands, feet, and side. And I'm here to tell you, He does. One season, I was on a 40-day fast before I first went to Greece, and I was attacked on the last night of the fast by demons from hell.

All night, five, six hours, just attacked. I could see them. I wasn't just having a bad night.

I could see them with my eyes, standing in the bedroom. And I looked over and Jess was just chilling, sleeping. I thought, wow, how wonderful.

It must be nice. She was just having a wonderful time. And there they were, mocking me, harassing me.

It was horrible. For the life of me, I don't know why people are so into devils. They're horrific.

Why should we enjoy? Don't build your life on demons. Don't build your ministry on demons. All you do is signing up to be oppressed and eventually possessed.

Burn for Jesus. The most bizarre people I've ever met in the church are the ones who think everyone has a devil, not realizing they're the only one with the devil. It's them.

Seek and you shall. As a man thinketh in his heart, so he. Well, if you think about devils, maybe you need to get them out of you.

I have no time for devils. When they show up, it's glorious getting them out. But after that, I want nothing to do with them.

I'm too enamored by the bridegroom. I want Jesus. I want you to want Jesus.

I want you to crave Christ Jesus. And when he gives you an ounce of his glory, I want you to be willing to die for the second ounce. That's what I want for you.

I want your insides to tremble. I want you to be joyful in satisfaction, yet deep on the inside, living for the awareness that there's more. There's more in him.

There's more. If you have to go on a 40-day fast to see his pinky, go on 10 more 40s to see the next finger. He's that wonderful.

He's that wonderful. So there I am in my room fighting, rebuking. I remember one specifically cursing me, hissing at me.

I was so weak from the fast. And all of a sudden, I finally heard the Lord. After six hours of fighting, which most prayer meetings have become, by the way, spiritual warfare.

Why don't we just worship? Your greatest weapon is first love. It's like, do you think the enemy is afraid of your binding and loosing if you're compromised? He's laughing. He's been doing this for 6,000 years.

He gets it. All these spiritual acts, which some are of the Lord, but some are just quite bizarre. Before you blow a shofar, read your Bible.

If you want to blow a shofar, great. Blow it in your house. Blow it in your bedroom.

Whatever you've got to do, fine. But fall in love with Jesus, or the devil will just laugh at your shofar and your prayer shawl. And you're throwing this and throwing that.

Fall in love with the Lord Jesus Christ. It will send a tremble, a tremor through the gates of hell. Fall in love with Christ crucified.

And don't worry about when the next blood moon is coming. I'm just saying, somebody's got to speak up here. This is about Christ crucified, Jesus.

Which, by the way, if it's a blood moon in one part of the world, it may not be in another. Let me keep going. There I was, fighting, warring, and I finally heard the Holy Spirit.

When I got to the end of myself, of being tormented, I heard the Lord say, stop fighting and lean into me. And I knew what that meant. Just give him my affection.

Think about him. Just think about me and worship me. And so I left the room, because the queen here was sleeping, wasn't getting much agreement.

So I went into my prayer room. I thought, if we're going to get after this, we're going to get after this in my room. I'm going to have a home field advantage.

So I went to my prayer room. And sure enough, there they came. And I just closed my eyes and thought about Jesus and started worshiping him.

Instantly, I heard this on my wall. Boom! And the most glorious light filled my room. I saw it with my own eyes.

And the Lord's glory filled that room, and instantly I was set free and delivered from that attack, and I learned something. I learned something. It is all about Jesus.

It's all about him. I said, it's all about him. Verse 10, all the people saw the pillar of clouds standing at the tabernacle door.

All the people rose and worshiped. Each man in his tent door. Moses' worship triggered national worship.

Oh man, please hear that. The worship that flowed from the heart of Moses triggered the entire nation to worship. Never shortchange your heartfelt song.

I said, never shortchange your heartfelt song. It could bring revival. Verse 11, so the Lord spoke to Moses, listen to this, face to face.

Emma, can you take your instrument? Don't play it yet, just take it. So the Lord spoke to Moses, face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. So the Lord spoke to Moses, face to face, as a man speaketh to his friend.

And he would return to the camp, but listen to this. Next generation, listen to this. But his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.

I have seen more entitled preacher's kids miss the call of God because they thought they deserved it and didn't spend time in his glory. They thought it was their right. But here we see the next generation spending more time with God than Moses.

Joshua, Jesus School students, what is God expecting of you? Whatever you think Jesse and I burn for, or whatever you think I've given to the Lord, which is between him and I, I don't want to lose a reward through getting your applause. All I can say is this, that if you want to meet God's standard, you better give him more than we've given him. That's God's standard.

Then Moses said to the Lord, See, you say to me, Bring up this people, but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, I know you by name. Listen carefully.

I'm going to land this here and then pray for you. I know you by name, and you have also found grace in my sight. Now therefore I pray, if I have found grace in your sight, show me now your way, that I might know you and that I might find grace in your sight.

Consider that this nation is your people. And he said, My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest. Then he said to him, Moses says to the Lord, If your presence does not go with us, don't bring us up from here.

In other words, you're the gift. Canaan is not the gift. I don't want to go to Canaan without you.

I don't want the Holy Land without the Holy One. I don't want a new building, Jesus' image, if God doesn't fill it with His glory. I'd rather meet in homes.

I'd rather meet in cars that are filled with the cloud of glory. I'd rather meet outside at the central floor of the fairgrounds than have the nicest building that Jesus doesn't live in. Now every believer here, listen carefully, is under the grace of God.

But I want you to see what Moses does with the grace. The Lord tells Moses, You've found grace in my sight. What does Moses do with the grace, which is the empowering presence of the Spirit by the way? Moses takes the grace and he asks for more of God.

Are you hearing me? He discovered, If I found grace, if I have favor in your sight, give me you. Anyone hearing me tonight? Anybody? If I found you, give me you. You say we're good? Lord, reward me with more of you.

He had received the Lord and then used that reception to ask for more of the Lord. Who does that? Typically when we find grace from the Lord, we ask for stuff from the Lord. But there's a select few, which is legal by the way, scripturally.

But there's a select few who take the grace and say, Now show me your glory. Take your robe off. Unveil yourself.

Reveal yourself to me. If we're like that, show me more of you. He didn't ask for the promised land.

He asked for the promised one. Can you begin playing Emma? I want you to think tonight of those early days. I want you to think tonight of how the Lord has graciously touched you.

I am shocked at the story God has written. I can't believe I'm preaching in this building. I cannot believe it.

It's too much to think of the story God wrote through my ups and my downs, through my betrayal of the Lord. He stayed with me. I want you to think tonight.

Where did you learn him? In fact, if I were you, I'd close your eyes right there in that seat. I'm asking that question by the Spirit tonight. When did he come? How did he come? What did his voice used to sound like? And do you miss it? Do you miss that precious tone, that knowing that you know? Before your husband cheated on you, before things went wrong in the church, before you discovered that people were people, my question is, did you blame Jesus for their failure? What has Jesus ever done to you? I don't like that preacher.

He messed up in his marriage. But Jesus is still married to you. I don't like the way they carry themselves.

Jesus comes lowly riding on a donkey. Nobody's ever loved me. I've been used at the ministry.

Jesus died on the tree. Proved his love for you. Don't you miss his voice? I don't know why I'm saying this.

I feel like in the last five rows on this side, there are many of you right now who feel the need on this side to repent. You might already be born again. Maybe you're not.

But you miss the sound of his voice. You miss that gentle touch. You miss that moisture in your heart.

You miss opening the Scriptures and weeping over them. I want you to get up on this side. You get up and come down here and the Lord will meet you here.

I feel the loving heart of God. It's in the back section, back there on this side. You come, you come.

You come and come to the bridegroom tonight. In fact, listen to me, listen to me. We give altar calls that are not even in the Bible.

Jesus did not come offering an eight-piece bullet point for salvation. He came and offered himself as the sacrifice. And if you feel like you need to come to Jesus tonight and fall in love with him for the first time or the 100th time because you've fallen out of love with him, I would rather you come the 100th time than meet him and not be ready.

Jesus said pray. Pray that you'll be counted worthy to escape the judgment to come. That goes for everybody in the room.

You feel I need Jesus. I'm not in love. I'm not burning.

My sin is too great. He doesn't want me. Get up out of your seat.

Don't worry who you have to step over. Come down here tonight. Come to the Lord.

The hour is too late for compromise. The hour is too late to wonder. The hour is too late to love others.

The hour is too late to entertain lesser lovers. This is the season of full commitment. All or nothing.

True love for Jesus. A true yearning. Some of you discovered church but you fell out of love with Jesus.

Get down here tonight. There was a day when I would never beg. That day is gone.

I am begging you. I am begging you. If the Holy Spirit is moving in your heart tonight, respond.

Respond. Don't settle for the monotony. Don't you do it.

Don't settle for what you've discovered in other people. People do not matter at the throne. Their perspective of you doesn't matter.

Only the love of Jesus matters. There are pastors and preachers in the room. Pastors' wives in the room.

And you failed the Lord. And you thought the Lord would never want to restore me. Never want to redeem me.

Come up here tonight. Come up here tonight. If he would tell his servants to forgive 70 times 7. This is not about you returning to the ministry.

This is about you returning to the one who called you. You come. If your pastor's wife and your husband crushed you and you blamed it on Jesus.

You didn't even know you did. Come tonight. You come tonight.

Come. Come to Christ Jesus. All eyes on Jesus tonight.

All eyes on Jesus. Jesus said if you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. This is as much a promise as John 3.16. Come to the Lord tonight.

Come to Christ Jesus tonight. Come to Christ Jesus tonight. Come to Jesus tonight.

Come to the Lord Jesus tonight. Oh we worship you Lord. We worship you.

We adore you. There are people in this room who are licensed. I feel this strong.

You've been ordained in the ministry but you don't know Jesus. You don't know him. Get down here tonight.

Get down here tonight. Come to him. Come to the Lord.

Who else spoke these words? Come unto me. If you're weary, if you're tired, if you're heavy laden. Come.

Come to me. Who is so wonderful to say these words? Come unto me. For my yoke is easy.

My burden is light. I'll give you rest. You'll have a rest for your soul.

Anybody in the room feel like they're constantly running and don't know why? Constantly anxious and don't know why? Feel like they're running from something that doesn't even exist. That's the darkness of hell. Come out tonight.

Come into the light. Find true rest. Find true rest.

Find the one who won't burden you with the things of the world. Who has the easy yoke. Hallelujah.

Thank you Lord. Yeah, you come. You come.

You come. I don't know what would have happened in my life had I not gotten out and just walked this aisle. Running to the one.

I'm not the important one. The Lord Jesus is here. He promised to be here.

Listen to me. If two or three gather in my name, I am there. Even, even, even, even in the midst of them.

I'm there. I'm calling you to Jesus tonight. I'm not calling you to me.

I'm not calling you to our church. Jesus himself is calling you through me. He wants a bride that adores Him.

A bride that loves Him. A bride who wants to think of Him and look at Him and talk to Him. This is what He wants.

This is what He wants. Wedding is coming. A wedding is coming.

I said a wedding is coming. I'm speaking to you by the Spirit tonight. A wedding is coming.

He's coming for His inheritance. He's worthy of a bride that adores Him. Who only wants Him.

Some of you have grown up in revival, so to speak. But you don't know Jesus. You know revival.

You've grown up in kingdom environments. But nobody talks about Jesus. That's not the kingdom.

And here Jesus, He's here tonight. Unveiling Himself. Making Himself known.

In the mighty name of Jesus. Come tonight. Come out of darkness.

Come out of darkness tonight. Hallelujah. Church, I want you just to close your eyes and begin ministering to the Lord.

Right there in your seats. Hallelujah. We're going to do things a little differently tonight.

I'm going to ask the Lord to come upon you in such a measure that it will be no doubt in your mind that you are talking to a present Christ. That's the secret. That's the secret to this whole thing.

That's what changes your life. When you know He's there. Everything dead comes to life.

And everywhere that river flows, whatever it touches comes to life. And that which is dead comes to life. Your dead heart will come to life tonight.

Hallelujah. Church, listen to me. I want you to pray with me.

In full faith that the moment we start praying that the power of the Holy Spirit will come upon these precious people. That they will never, ever be the same. Are you ready? Are you ready to receive? Father, in the mighty name of Jesus, we are here in your presence wanting your Holy Son, Jesus to be our all in all.

And we cannot do this on our own. It is only by the Spirit. Holy Spirit, let the weight of your glory come upon these precious people.

Now, come upon me. Come upon our families. Fall on your people.

Deeply convict us. We give you full permission to do whatever you want to do. Do it.

Do it. In Jesus' mighty name. Do what you do, Lord.

Heal the sick. Set people free right now. Torment in Jesus' mighty name.

The Lord rebuke every foul devil, every foul spirit. The Lord rebuke you. Every lying spirit that has tormented your mind.

Be gone in Jesus' name. Be gone in Jesus' name. I want the entire house to pray this out loud.

Heavenly Father, I come tonight wanting to know Jesus, confessing my sin. You promised to forgive my sin and cleanse me. Do it now, Holy Father.

Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross, shedding your blood, taking my death, taking my burial, and thank you for being raised so that I will be raised tonight and on the day of your return. I give you my life. Fully receive my life.

Let the fire of the Holy Ghost burn in me. Let first love for Jesus burn in me. Have me fully my precious bridegroom.

I am yours. You are mine forever. I turn from my sin.

I turn from the mixture in my life. I turn from everything that is lukewarm. And I look at you, beautiful King, in the mighty name of Jesus.

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