

## **“Pursue Through”**

### **By Brother Kenneth Ray**

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How many of you know that God speaks to the church? To those that know God, and understand how He works in people’s lives, this is not a new idea. We know that He can do this in many different ways: through the Word of God, through dreams, through visions, and through the small, still voice. Do you know *why* He speaks to us? God speaks to you so that He can speak through you. One of my co-workers likes to watch this one evangelist on television, and then tell me about it; not because he agrees with or believes the evangelist, just for entertainment value. But, whether my co-worker realizes it or not, each time he tells me what this televangelist says, he is allowing the evangelist speak through him. Jesus told us, “**ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**” How do you do that if God only flows to you, and doesn’t flow through you? You don’t want to be a roadblock, or a dam. If the light bulb is burned out, that just leaves everybody in the dark.

The promises of God are there for you to pursue after for yourself, but you are what God uses for others to pursue Him through. The promises of God are there in the areas in which we need them; they are not there for others to take from you. If you make a carrot cake, are you going to eat the whole thing? Of course not, you would share it with other people. What’s the point of making it if you aren’t going to share? You’re just going to get heavy. It’s like a college professor that doesn’t teach, or that can’t teach so that people understand.

I have a flow chart here: God worked through the dust to make man. God worked through man to make woman. God worked through woman to make Jesus. God worked through John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. God worked through Jesus to preach to the Jews. God worked through Peter to reach the gentiles. Jesus worked through the twelve to reach the world. The twelve worked through Christ to reach the world.

*Matthew 16:18-19* ...***whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven:***

...

This was in reply to verses 13 through 17. Jesus asked (paraphrasing here), “**Who do men say that I am?**” and the disciples said, John the Baptist, or Isaiah, or Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. In other words, the people really didn’t have a clue. Then Jesus asked, “**Who do you say that I am?**” and Peter said, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus said, “**Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona, for flesh and blood hath not revealed in unto thee, but My Father, which is in Heaven.**” Verse 17 shows that God had spoken to Peter and he had both heard, and understood. Now Jesus is telling Peter that He is going to speak through him. I realize it doesn’t really spell that out, but Jesus is telling Peter that ‘whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in Heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven.’ So Jesus is basically

telling Peter that He going to work through him. Others will be able, through Peter, to seek God's kingdom and blessings.

*Acts 10:1-5 ...send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:*

*Acts 10:9-14 ...What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common...*

We decide whether we can relate to people or not. A lot of times we look at the way a person is dressed, or we look at the age difference, and we decide that they can't relate to us. Drop your perception; get off your high horse, just let God do His work. Remember very clearly: you don't do the work. You are just a tool, and when God tries to use you, He may find lots of rust.

*Acts 10:33-34 ...God is no respecter of persons.*

It's not my opinion. We determine who we share with. Sometimes we forget who's doing the talking; if we just share what we know (or think we know) we aren't really doing any good at all.

*Acts 10:35 ...in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.*

There are no quotas; whosoever will, let him come.

*Acts 10:48 ...he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord...*

Moses tried to tell God that he couldn't go to talk to Pharaoh, because he had a slow tongue, and slow speech. God sent Aaron to be Moses' spokesman. God will meet your excuses. Paul was gangster before it was cool to be gangster. God saved Paul through Ananias.

*Acts 9:15 ...he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, ...*

Ananias knew of Saul the Pharisee, and didn't want to go to him. God gave him some insight into what was going on, and Ananias did what God asked of him. Faith is having a lack of details and then doing it anyway.

*Acts 9:16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.*

Paul's heart was pursued after by God. God had a lot for him to do. Paul ended up writing most of the New Testament. God has a lot that needs to get done today, too. Who's it going to be? Us. It's a lot of work for one person; it's even a lot of work for two people; but if all of us get involved, it won't be but a little bit of work for each of us.

God worked through John the Baptist to prepare the way for Christ. God worked through Jesus to save the whole world. Jesus worked through the disciples, He told them

in Matthew 28:19, “Go, teach all nations, baptizing them...” In the Book of acts, we find example after example of God using the Apostles, so that others could pursue through the work that they did unto God. Maybe you will be like Moses, whom God spoke through to set his people free. Maybe you will work through the military and continue that work that God has given into our hand. When God works through you, then you’re a leader. Think about Mary and Ruth in the Bible who were willing to do whatever it took, or Jephthah, who sacrificed his own daughter. Do what’s right in God’s eyes, because He’s going to be the judge. Whether it is by letting your light shine before men, doing unto others as you would have them do unto you, speaking sound doctrine, or praying without ceasing; consider allowing God to flow through you.