

CONNECTION

chi alpha

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 3 WINTER 2012

1 HELLO, ACCESS

Many Christians are crying out for what they already have. All of heaven is waiting for us to realize who we really are.

4 FREE SPIRITUAL READINGS

Outreach that is limited to the gifts of the Spirit allows God to choose which gift will minister most to each individual.

6 SUPERNATURAL FLOW

Students gain confidence when they realize the Holy Spirit can flow through them in the same way He flows through spiritual leaders.

HELLO, ACCESS

Both heaven and hell are asking the same question every day, "Who do you think you are?" The answer to this question affects everything because we act according to who we believe we are. If you think you're worthless, you're going to act like it. If you believe you're a sinner, well, you'll live that out too.

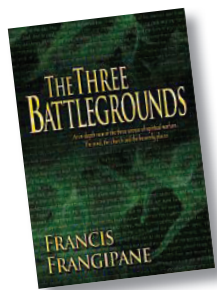
In 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Paul shows us that we are spirit, soul, and body. This is hugely critical for every believer to understand. When we came into relationship with Jesus, our spirit was made new. We received a new nature (Romans 6), became the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21), and were made holy without fault (Ephesians 1:4) just to name a few transformative morsels.

Our spirit is not evolving or maturing, it's already changed. One-third of us in Christ is perfect. It's as good as it's going to get. Our body will decay and be replaced once we arrive in heaven. Our soul (mind, will, and emotions) as well will be replaced because there's no sadness, introspection, over analyzing, etc., in heaven. But our spirit will remain.

This is so important as a believer to understand. We have been given everything we need for life and godliness (1 Peter 1:3) and we share in the divine nature of Christ (1 Peter 1:4), which is a plethora of stuff. We have also been given the measure of faith (Romans 12:3). It's all been deposited in our spirit, free of charge—hello, grace. God is Spirit, so

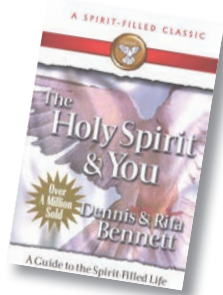
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The Three Battlegrounds
by Francis Frangipane

The Holy Spirit & You
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Rita Bennett



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GUEST EDITORIAL

POWER EVANGELISM 101

How can I hear the voice of God?

This question, asked all too often by many Christians, is a staple teaching taught at the University of Miami. We are committed to allowing the gifts of the Holy Spirit to function in a daily, practical way among students.

We made hearing from God part of Sunday morning services by initiating a time of waiting on the Lord with the expectation of hearing from Him. After reciting Scriptures from John chapter 10 and a moment of silence, we encourage the students, saying, "If you think you got something from God please share it with us." As students share what they are hearing, I function as the moderator, clarifying what I believe some of the students mean. In other words, as students give words of encouragement and/or words of knowledge, use the gift of wisdom, giving application to what they are sharing.

After a period of time, this teaching can transition to "If we can hear from God for ourselves, can we also hear from God for someone else?" creating a practical way to evangelize on the greater campus.

The UM Chi Alpha ministry set up a table in the main area of the campus to begin prophetic evangelism. For Chi Alpha students with no experience giving words, I would allow them to observe, ask questions, and train them how to more practically use the gifts in this manner, how to pray for healing, and how to receive the gift of "speaking in an unknown language."

By training students in the workings of the Holy Spirit, they have seen Jews, Catholics, Baptists, Muslims, international students and even students involved in cults on campus, all touched by the Lord and the Holy Spirit as they have evangelized this way.

If you would like a more in-depth explanation, you can contact Joe Lortie at j_lortie@bellsouth.net.

*See "Spirit Empowerment 101" on page 7 for testimonies from University of Miami students.



Joe Lortie is the Chi Alpha (University Christian Fellowship) Chaplain at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida. He has a passion for equipping the next generation in practically "hearing the voice of God" and equipping them in using the Gifts in everyday life situations both on campus and in the marketplace.

HELLO, ACCESS



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we must fellowship with Him through whom we are in our spirit. Most Christians don't have a faith deficiency; they have a knowledge deficiency. They don't know what they already have.

Our soul (mind, will, and emotions) is to be renewed (Romans 12:2) every day. Every thought that comes our way is based on truth or lies. We will agree with the Father of Light or father of lies. Our spirit is in perfect agreement with God, but our soul can be out of agreement. Thus, we become double-minded. As our mind is renewed, it comes into alignment with our spirit where all faith, knowledge, and access is established. Then our body will act accordingly. That's being single-minded. If our soul leads us, we will be anchored in the natural realm, which is governed by our five senses. But, we are disciples of another realm.

Many Christians are crying out for God to give them what they already have. We have a gaggle of trainings on every subject imaginable. Christians are being trained beyond their level of obedience. We don't need more training; we need obedience. When it comes to the supernatural, it's less about filling our soul with principles and philosophical mental gymnastic exercises. It's about our soul coming into agreement with our spirit and then releasing it to the world around us.

We need to come into agreement with the Truth. Truth is a person and He is perfect theology. He is the model for the supernatural, and we must be in agreement with Him. Jesus' method of training was, "Heal the sick, raise the dead, and drive out demons." Powerlessness in the church is inexcusable. Through the sacrifice of Jesus, we have been given every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 1:3). Those realms are insanely huge and we have access to all of it. Not only do we have access, we are there (Ephesians 2:6). We are seated with Christ in the heavenly realms above every demonic force. Yes, sitting. He said, we can do the same works and greater works (John 14:12). It would be great to see the church doing the same works, let alone the greater ones. The works He is talking about are miracles, signs, and wonders. We have the same Holy Spirit that Jesus had and relied on. He didn't perform one miracle until the Holy Spirit came upon Him. We don't need to wait for something. The Holy Spirit is in us and He wants out.

"Who do you think you are?" The question is ringing throughout creation. If we don't know who we are, we will live trying to posture, position, and perform our way into the access we already have. God doesn't move in proportion to our performance. He moves because He loves. There's power in declaring God's words over ourselves. Job 22:28 says, "Decree a thing and it shall become established." We must speak what we see, so we can see what we spoke. We need to tell our circumstances and feelings the truth. We aren't feelers; we are believers. Here's a dose of God's words we can declare over ourselves:

"The works that Jesus does, I do also in His name and even greater works I do because He has gone to the Father. Jesus has given me power over unclean spirits to drive them out and has enabled me to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. I will heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, and drive out demons because I freely have received so I will freely give. Like Jesus, I have been anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power. I go about doing good and healing all that are oppressed of the devil for God is with me. He has sent me to preach the Kingdom and to heal the sick. He stretches out His hand toward me to heal, that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Jesus Christ. His Spirit has been poured out on me and I prophesy."

We have everything we need. Our soul just needs to agree, so we can release it. We are children of God, co-heirs with Jesus; everything that's His is ours. That's a lot of stuff. We need Kingdom demonstration, not simply regurgitation. All of heaven is waiting for us to realize who we really are. So, who do you think you are?



Brian Orme is the director alongside his wife, Cecilee, of Chi Alpha UC-San Diego (www.origins.cc) and founder of the nonprofit Kingdomstrate (www.kingdomstrate.com). They have been in campus ministry for 15 years. He surfs, occasionally does stand-up comedy, eats pronounceable foods, and loves his children, Eowyn and Liam.



JEREMY ANDERSON

FREE SPIRITUAL READINGS

“One day I was just walking through the quad on my campus (Modesto Junior College) and I saw a big tent with ‘free spiritual readings’ written on it. I went in searching for answers and I came out with the Answer. Thank you for doing this every week on my campus. I would have never known Jesus if it weren’t for your faithfulness.”

Hundreds of students have told of similar experiences like Daniel’s since 2004 when we began advertising free spiritual readings in the center stage quad areas of our four campuses. The first time we tried this type of outreach at CSU-Stanislaus, there was a line of students for three straight hours and six people gave their lives to Jesus Christ. Daniel gave his life to the Lord recently after another student shared a word of knowledge with him that reshaped his receptive intake from the living God of love. He is being discipled, maturing daily, leading others to Christ, and was baptized in water and the Holy Spirit just last fall.

The premise for what has evolved into our “free spiritual readings” booth as well as several other weekly outreaches is to limit ourselves to the gifts of the Spirit that God gives in the delivery of His message. Meaning, if we are going to give ourselves intentionally and consistently to reaching out, then we will limit ourselves to facets of outreach that require the presence and power of God or we will fail. Doing so requires by default (not compulsion) that each student involved has sought the Lord prior to the outreach and is focused on what the Father is doing and saying during the outreach. We ask the Lord to demonstrate His love and power through the gifts of the Holy Spirit and He apportions to each one the gifts appropriate for the individual being ministered to.

While prophecy (like any gift) never comes by the will of man (2 Peter 1:21), God puts the pursuit of such gifts into our hands (1 Corinthians 14:1) and expects that we desire and use them for His glory. By design, these outreaches fulfill a specific desire; that we could never turn around afterwards and claim that we did it, but

only that the Spirit of God worked mightily through a people surrendered to Him.

From the understanding that it is not God’s will for anyone on earth to be hellbound (2 Peter 3:9) to the fact that each person around us was born with a built-in eternal instinct (Ecclesiastes 3:11) the adventure of delivering the words and ways of God should consume us. These truths and many more affirm the desire within the Father and the desire within humanity for one another. Meanwhile, we represent the area existent between the two: as a bridge, a wall, or an uninvolved mass consumed with self and spiritual-like charades.

The beautiful framework that a free spiritual readings booth provides is that 98% of the people walking into the booth are pre-Christian and spiritually hungry. Most Christians (unless they know us) don’t come to a free spiritual readings booth (call it free prayer and they will come though) and when pre-Christians come into the booth, it is evident by implication that they are spiritually hungry. It is not that God can’t operate outside the booth, but it serves as a great point of contact.

The general approach we take once a student, faculty, or staff enters the booth is as follows: We are Christians and God speaks to us; Jesus said it this way, “My sheep hear My voice.” The Bible describes the thoughts of God toward us like the sand of the sea. We are simply going to pray and ask the Father what He is thinking right now and if there is anything specific He would like to speak to you. Is that okay with you?” Sometimes we ask if they would like us to aim at a specific topic in prayer and most of the time I ask if I could place my hands on theirs or just hold their hands (the point of

contact in touch tends to be a powerful place for the transfer of healing and impartation). The demonstration of the Spirit's power has flowed in every gift, excluding only tongues and interpretation of tongues within these booths. After demonstrating the love of God by the gifts He gives, there is typically one simple question that each encounter yields, "Is there any reason you would not surrender your life to Jesus Christ right now?"

Students like Raj at UC Merced walk in with loaded questions and heavy cases against the Christian religion but run into an unexpected voice in love. Raj was raised as a Hindu in India but found religion to be a worthless waste of time that offered no substantial value to his life. He expressed four pressing issues in his family and academics that he said no god he had prayed to could answer. A peer from one of his classes sat in the free spiritual readings booth that day and said, "My God will answer your four questions in the next three days, or you don't have to believe what I tell you about Christ is true." Raj responded that he would become a believer in Jesus Christ if it were so. Two days later, Raj found his friend and gave his life to Jesus after having two straight days of encounters with Christ that reshaped his thinking and answered the questions of his heart.

While countless students have been healed, delivered, and saved in the free spiritual readings booth, the greatest fruit is in discipleship. Students learn how to hear the voice of God, operate in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and relentlessly reach out to their peers in the power of God just by participating in these outreaches. In the last few years, we have even seen several students baptized in the Holy Spirit in the booth—speaking in tongues in the middle of their campus. In fact, one of our interns was baptized in the Holy Spirit as a student in the spiritual readings booth on his campus at CSU-Stanislaus.



Jeremy Anderson and his wife, Debora, serve as the directors of Chi Alpha in Stanislaus and Merced counties. They married each other in the summer of 2004 and immediately began ministry together at California State University, Stanislaus. Jeremy and Debora have since been blessed with two amazing daughters and serve to advance the kingdom of God on four college campuses and across the globe.

LIMIT YOURSELF

by **Jeremy Anderson**

The approach we take of limiting ourselves to the gifts of the Spirit to deliver the message of the gospel is not new; we are just copying Jesus. We simply believe that if we do not demonstrate in power what we articulate with words, we are hypocritical at best. We were born to walk out adventures of experience that reveal the love and power of God on earth as it is in heaven. Not everyone is called to be an evangelist, but we all have the privilege of evangelizing.

With that said, after having Chi Alpha students from other campuses and Bible college students come to our campuses for on-site evangelistic training, speaking in churches, evangelism workshops, and conferences, we are convinced that the most effective way to serve the body of Christ in such evangelistic equipping as this is to come to you.

The last time we did this, within a few hours of the first outreach, seven students came to Christ and a creative miracle took place where a girl's leg grew out. When students see this stuff happening through them on their campus, it disarms the lies that isolate moves of the Spirit to some other special group. We are not Chi Alpha without any issues or problems (Trust me!). Like you, we are simply trying to lean into our destiny in Christ and we feel specifically graced for this calling to the Body.

If you would like us to send a team to train your staff and students and help facilitate outreaches on your campus, we would count it as our privilege to serve alongside you in this way. For inquiries or details, please call 209.667.9467 or e-mail jeremy@stanxa.com.



Supernatural flow

STEVEN PAVEK

Something Pastor Brad Lewis has instilled into his students over the past 20+ years of campus ministry, is the importance of being distinctively Pentecostal on our college campus. This attitude and goal in ministry has sparked a fire in students to do just that on the campus of North Dakota State University.

A key element to the ministry at NDSU is having leaders trained and ready to pray with people to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit in a one-on-one setting. It is clear that many people who are resistant to receive prayer for Spirit baptism in a large conference or retreat setting are comfortable to receive prayer in a one-on-one environment. Students here have been baptized in the Holy Spirit in dorm rooms, coffee shops, vehicles, and college apartments. The Holy Spirit can move anywhere.

Why the emphasis on Spirit baptism? It equips and empowers students to be incredibly effective in advancing the kingdom of God on campus. Students get the power to overcome sin in their lives, the courage to share their faith, and a new level of receptivity to the giftings of the Holy Spirit. In other words, this supernatural event opens the door to the potential of an even greater outpouring of the supernatural on campus.

Because of this excitement about the things of the Holy Spirit, student leaders have an excitement for the outflow of spiritual gifts. Last year, a young man who was struggling in his relationship in the Lord came to a meeting. A word of knowledge was spoken out about someone dealing with migraine headaches. We prayed for his healing and he has had no migraines since. More importantly, this experience led him to solidify his relationship with Christ.

Last fall, a young lady came into a meeting, giving God “one last chance.” At the end of the message, a student spoke out a word of knowledge about someone who couldn’t forgive God for something that happened in their life at the age of 16. The presence of God immediately touched this young lady and she knew at that moment that God cared for her and that she needed to make Him the Lord of her life.

Last spring, a young man was very far away from God when he came into a Chi Alpha meeting. At the time, he had a heavy drug addiction and even sold drugs on campus. That night, a word of knowledge was spoken over the group about an issue someone was having with drugs. The presence of God flooded over this young man! He finally surrendered his life to Jesus and has fully overcome his drug addiction with the help of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

So how can the supernatural flow like this on campuses all over the world? Students just need to be receptive to the voice of the Holy Spirit and have the courage to be obedient to that voice. Believing that the Holy Spirit can actually work through us is half the battle. After the man is healed at Gate Beautiful in Acts 3, Peter asks two interesting questions: “Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?” (Acts 3:12, NIV). These questions tell us two very important things. First, the power of God flowing in the supernatural should be a common and somewhat expected thing in our ministries. God promises us this power so many times in the Word. Second, we do not

have to be in a place of qualification or spiritual readiness in order for the supernatural to flow. A common misconception is that spiritual gifts are only for evangelists, pastors, and maybe a few head leaders; however, Peter tells us that it’s not about being in the correct place of position, it’s about being obedient and willing to be used by God.

When students start to realize that the Holy Spirit can flow through them in the same way that they see Him flow in spiritual leaders, a sense of confidence in God starts to build. So many times fear causes us to shy away from the promptings of the Holy Spirit as we ask ourselves, “What if I am wrong?” or “What if this doesn’t work?” The next time the enemy lies to you in this way, ask yourself, “What if I am right?” or “What if this does work?” If it does work, that person’s life has the potential of being changed for eternity. That should give us a hunger and desire to see the Holy Spirit change lives that far outweighs our doubt or fear of being wrong.



Steven Pavek is a senior at North Dakota State University majoring in Education. He has been involved in Chi Alpha at NDSU for four years and has felt a call to do campus ministry after graduation.

EXPERIENCE THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON YOUR CAMPUS

by Brad Lewis, campus pastor at North Dakota State & Moorehead State universities

There are five things you can do to encourage the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on your campus:

- **Persistently seek God.** In our Chi Alpha group, the students regularly call all-night prayer meetings and ask for a continued move of the Holy Spirit.
- **As the leader, be absolutely convinced of the importance of the baptism in the Holy Spirit and praying in tongues in your own life.** Remember, the DNA of any ministry comes from the top.
- **Teach every small group leader how to explain the baptism in the Holy Spirit in detail.** They need to be comfortable with both teaching it and praying for other students to receive it.
- **Bring in retreat speakers who know how to teach on the baptism of the Holy Spirit and how to facilitate this experience in the altar time.**
- **Teach students how to step into the use of the gifts of the Spirit in the marketplace.** Many can be used in words of knowledge, prophetic words, and healing on a regular basis.



PLAN WOULD ELIMINATE TUITION

Rising tuition costs prompt students at the University of California-Riverside to propose a plan to study now, repay education costs later. They suggest this payment plan would increase revenue for the university.

<http://www.sfgate.com/>
SEARCH: eliminate tuition



CHINESE STUDENTS LURED TO FIND JESUS

As evangelical schools capitalize on the desire of affluent Chinese families for the prestige of an American education, many Chinese students are learning first-hand how the Bible Belt got its name.

<http://www.businessweek.com/>
SEARCH: chinese atheists

SPIRIT EMPOWERMENT 101

1. When I first started going to Chi Alpha, I didn't believe God would ever talk to me. Despite that belief, I continued to attend Chi Alpha because I really liked the message that was preached. After attending for a few weeks, I began to think that maybe God might want to have a relationship with me. In time, I let my defenses down and began trying to hear from Him, and I heard a small voice say, "I love you." Chi Alpha started Hearing 101, a time during service for us to try to hear God speak. One day, I received a word for another member of Chi Alpha who I barely knew. I gave the word and it was precisely relevant to that person. I was amazed. God had actually spoken to me (Me!) in order to uplift and encourage another person. It blew my mind.

OMAR

2008 UM graduate currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Social Work

2. In early October, I was at a gathering and speaking to a woman I had never met before. I asked God to give me a word for her. In my heart, I saw a flower spring up out of the ground in front of her and it grew until it was as high as her waist. Then it opened and inside of it was a Bible. Seated in front of her, I saw about a dozen little kids, and the woman was reading the Word to them and breaking it down in such a way that they understood it. Through her teaching, many children were receiving Jesus as their Savior, and God was preparing the children to use them in a mighty way.

When I told her this, she began to cry. She told me that she currently had a job working with children and was thinking about quitting, but something had stopped her from doing so. The word I gave her was confirmation that God had her right where He wanted her, and that her ministry to the children was impacting their lives and would impact many other people's lives through them.

AMANDA

Junior Finance major at UM

3. One day, I was forced to go to the Secretary of State's office for my job. I had been dreading going all week. I had already attempted to go twice that week. The first time, I got lost and they were closed by the time I got there. The second time, they told me they couldn't accommodate me after a certain time. Finally, the third day, in between classes, I took the opportunity to go.

When I arrived, I was annoyed at the long line just to get a number and contemplated leaving, but something told me to stay. I'm not going to lie, at first I was like, "God, you know I have a lot of work to do. Couldn't you have opened up the place for me?" Then I remembered something I learned at UM—I could use that opportunity to see what God was doing in this situation. So I started up a conversation with the lady in front of me (something I don't do often). She started to tell me about how she might need to quit her job because she couldn't stand being on her feet all day. She had just had her second knee replacement and said that she was in constant pain. She didn't know how she could continue working but also didn't know if she'd be able to find another job.

At first, I just showed sympathy and said some nice things to encourage her, and I thought about maybe asking to pray for her job situation. But then I was like, "Why don't I just pray for her healing?" Mind you, people surrounded me, the place was packed, and this is out of my comfort zone. But I asked her if I could pray for her anyway and she readily agreed.

After asking if I could lay hands on her knees, I just began to pray. After less than 60 seconds, she jumped away from me and said she felt like her knees were on fire. Then she just started to cry. I wasn't sure if there was still any pain so I asked her if she was able to do anything she couldn't do before, but she couldn't really talk, she just kept crying. Finally she started doing lunges and squats, and just kept crying. She then started telling the people around us in line that her pain was completely gone and that God had healed her.

KELLY

2011 UM graduate currently pursuing an MSW at the University of Michigan

you've been baptized with the Holy Spirit...
now what?



free weekly e-mails show you how to use His power every day

Check ChiAlpha.com for a resource available to those recently filled with the Holy Spirit: Now That You've Been Baptized in the Holy Spirit. This free online resource is produced by the Spiritual Empowerment Task Force led by Dick Schroeder, Chi Alpha Mentoring and Leadership Resource.

In Dick's warm story-telling approach, he gives practical pointers on how to use the power of the Holy Spirit on

campus, on the job, or in a small group.

Dick interviewed many people to gain their insights and stories of the power of the Holy Spirit working through their lives. Out of this research, he produced a year-long free weekly e-mail sequence available at www.yougottheholyspirit.com.



www.yougottheholyspirit.com



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