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So, you have been praying for a miracle (i.e., you desperately need a miracle), but you have not yet received your miracle. Hmm... Jesus is not going to change – so that means that YOU will have to change something.

**The first thing to do is change your mind set and thinking (repent).** The first new thought would be to realize that with God it is all about relationships. Your relationship with Jesus is expected to mature from childlike to adultlike and that means that Jesus will be expecting an increase in your level of obedience and accountability.

For example, if you read the book “Heaven Is For Real” by Todd Burpo, you will recall that Todd’s son Colton died on the operating table. When Colton’s body temporarily died, Colton was taken on a trip to heaven where Colton met Jesus. When Colton met Jesus, Jesus introduced Colton to John The Baptist by saying “I want you to meet my cousin John.” The Bible tells us that we are a family of believers (Eph 3:15) and so Jesus puts extreme importance on relationships.

Our relationship with Jesus is expected to mature (become adultlike). If you are a parent (or if you are a young person), you understand that parents expect children to grow, mature and behave appropriately for their age. God expects the same from each one of us as his children. For example, we are very tolerant and forgiving of a young toddler (their mistakes are considered comical). But, as time passes on, the child is expected to learn certain things, and even if the child fails to learn those things, the parent will hold the child accountable and responsible for the things that they did not learn. After the age of accountability, we say that “ignorance of the law is no excuse.” So, where do you suppose that expression came from? It is found in Lev 5:17

Do you see where this conversation is going? If you are a believer (have received Jesus as your Lord and Savior), then you are part of the family of God, and God will tolerate some things of you as a young believer, but... with the passage of time, God will tolerate less and begin to hold you accountable and responsible for more and more. Jesus must hold you accountable for the things that you never learned (and do not understand as He explained in Lev 5:17).

This explains why we have observed that Jesus will sometimes give an unbeliever an instant miracle because the Bible says it is “the goodness of God [which] leadeth thee to repentance” (Rom2:4). For example, an unbeliever might be walking in sin, but God uses the faith of a miracle working evangelist to cause that sinner to receive a wonderful miracle. God uses the miracle to get the unbeliever’s attention. You might complain by telling Jesus that you are glad the unbeliever got a miracle, but... you might also explain to Jesus that you have been serving God all these years, so why does He not respond to your prayers?

The answer is simple – you have some sin(s) in your life. Early in your Christian walk (while you were a toddler in Christ), Jesus tolerated and overlooked your sins (like any parent would do). But... with the passage of time, He is now starting to hold you accountable for the things that you never learned – it’s time to let go of your traditions (lies that were taught to you by your church denomination in Sunday school and from the pulpit, and things that you came to believe about God through your interpretation of life experiences but are simply not true).

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Sins Of Omission [Omission: something not done or something neglected]

1. Most people believe that Jesus exists – but that is not good enough according to James 2:19 which explains that the demons also believe and tremble knowing that Jesus exists. In other words, the demons have not asked Jesus to come live on the inside of them as Lord and Savior, and the demons refuse to proclaim that Jesus is their Lord.
  - a. What is the day, month and year that you asked Jesus to come live inside of you as Lord and Savior? If... you did that at a young age...
  - b. You now as an adult are **REQUIRED to confess and publicly proclaim Jesus as your Lord** according to Matt 10:32-33. This public proclamation is what happens when you get water baptized as an adult – you give public testimony that you have accepted and now proclaim Jesus to be your Lord and Savior.
2. Most church denominations call infant sprinkling a baptism – oops, time to let go of your traditions! Remember that the devil teaches his lies from the pulpit. Of course the devil would send your pastor to a cemetery (pun for seminary) to instruct your pastor to call infant sprinkling a baptism because that way you never publicly confess Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Infant sprinkling in reality is a parent dedicating their child to the Lord (which is a good thing), but... now you are an adult. **It is time for you to do adult water baptism** which is a public proclamation of your decision to receive Jesus as not only Savior but also the Lord of your life (Matt 28:19, Act 2:38).
3. Most church denominations teach against speaking in tongues – oops, time to let go of your traditions! Remember that the devil teaches his lies from the pulpit. Of course the devil does not want you to receive the POWER of the Holy Spirit because that would really debilitate and incapacitate the devil (see [Water Baptism, Tongues, Road To Freedom](#) for a more complete discussion including scripture references). Jesus is holding you accountable for your failure to receive the Holy Spirit and pray in tongues (ignorance of the Bible is no excuse, and believing lies from the pulpit is also no excuse because Jesus holds you accountable to read and study what has been written for all to read).
4. Have you read your Bible from cover to cover? **Do you read your Bible from cover to cover EVERY year?** If not, why not? Jesus is holding you accountable for that sin (failure to read and study the Bible, see Lev 5:17, Prov 3:21, Prov 4:21).
5. **Have you joined a GOOD local church or House Church**, or did you just belly flop into some church that is close by or places no demands on you or is so watered down that even the devil is comfortable going to church there! (See [Water Baptism, Tongues, Road To Freedom](#) for a more complete discussion including scripture references.)

If... you are not getting the miracle that you asked Jesus for. If... Jesus is not answering your prayers. Then... Jesus is making an ISSUE of some area in your life that is NOT up to speed. Jesus is holding you accountable and responsible for the lies that have been taught to you from the pulpit that you have failed to denounce. Jesus demands that you grow up spiritually or suffer the consequences of your SIN. He is no longer willing to let you get by as a toddler (1 Cor 3:1-2). Failure to learn what is written and failure to OBEY means God has no choice but to SCOURGE you (Heb 12:5-6, 1 Cor 5:5, Matt 18:34). Failure to repent of your sins of omission gives the devil a legal right to attack and afflict you [Afflict: to distress with mental or bodily pain].

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One of my favorite Bible teachers is Kenneth Hagin, and in his book [I Believe In Visions](#) on page 97, Jesus explained to Hagin that many Christians are not walking in obedience to God's written Word (the Bible) and/or fail to walk in obedience to God's inward leading. **By living in God's permissive will (rather than His perfect will) God will choose to allow difficulties to come into our lives.** These difficulties force us to examine our lives more carefully to see where we have made a mistake (been disobedient, committed a sin). On page 96, Jesus explained to Hagin that living in God's permissive will rather than God's perfect will (if it had not been corrected) **would have shortened Kenneth Hagin's physical life to only 55 years** (instead of the actual 86 years that he lived from Aug 20, 1917 to Sep 19, 2003).

In addition to the Sins Of Omission discussed above, there is also a long list of Do Not's (see [Victory Teaching Versus Freedom Ministry](#)). At a future time, I hope to focus at least one newsletter on how to find unrecognized and therefore unconfessed sin which gives the devil an open door of attack to torment and afflict us until the sin is recognized and confessed. **(Jer 33:3 tells us to ask God to reveal to us what we do not know but need to know.)**

For example, I had gotten rid of all nightmares except one in which I would re-live in my dreams the college situation of being unprepared for an upcoming class exam. At age 59, I knew my authority as a believer in Christ, and I had commanded the devil to stop tormenting me with that dream. And yet, on average about once every month (twelve times per year) for 40 years, that nightmare would torment me in my sleep. I finally realized (by revelation from Jesus) that 40 years prior I had committed a simple sin of fear at age 19 (anxious and worried about being unprepared for an exam and I therefore had also failed to give the concern and worry to the Lord). When I confessed and repented of not giving that fear, concern and worry to Jesus in my younger years at age 19, I was then able to not only confess and repent of the unrecognized and therefore unconfessed sin, but I could also then successfully renounce participation with the past act of fear (one time sin of fear of 40 years prior), and broke the curse of that simple sin of fear, and successfully commanded the devil and his demons to leave. The result... I have never had that dream since – not even once.

### **That was quite a lesson:**

1. If bad things are happening, then there must be a sin that has to be discovered because the devil must have a sin as his legal right to attack, torment and afflict.
2. To ask for God's help to discover what the sin might be (an unrecognized and therefore unconfessed sin).

That unrecognized and unconfessed sin gave the devil a legal right to attack me. By confessing (acknowledging, admitting) the now recognized sin, and repenting (telling Jesus that I will give Him all of my past and future fears), I could then ask Jesus to forgive, cleanse and heal me. Finally, I was then able to renounce my past participation in the sin of fear, break the curse of that sin, all of which removed the devil's legal right to stay so that now, when I commanded the **devil** to leave, he had no legal right to stay and **had to buzz off**.

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