

# CHURCH OF HOPE 17 WEEK EVANGELISM AND MINISTRY TRAINING COURSE



**STUDY GUIDE: WEEKS SIXTEEN AND SEVENTEEN  
(POWERPOINTS)**

**TOPICS THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN: LAUNCHING OUT  
INTO THE DEEP / LIVING IN THE MIRACULOUS AND THE  
IMPORTANCE OF COMMITMENT – PART ONE**

## INTRODUCTION TO WEEKS SIXTEEN AND SEVENTEEN:

- In this teaching we will be looking at the importance and urgency of reaching out into the harvest field and the importance of taking steps of faith so that all that God has planned for our lives and churches will come to pass.
- God is never limited by our ability or by our circumstances, only our availability and willingness to pursue His plan and purpose for our life and churches.
- God is able to meet our every need when we step out by faith to follow His plan for our life and churches.



- In this concluding study guide, we will be encouraging all Pastors and Christians to take steps of faith so as to fully embrace all that God has planned for their lives and churches.



- In the first part of this teaching (Topic thirteen) I will be looking at aspects of launching out into the deep and living in the miraculous that can be studied in God's Word. We must not let our current circumstances determine what we do for the Lord.

- The whole Christian walk is one of a walk of faith.



- When we move out by faith to do what God has called us to do, He moves on our behalf.

**In the book of Hebrews we read, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)**

- God’s desire is that none would perish **(2 Peter 3:9) (Ezekiel 18:32) (1 Timothy 2:3-4)** so when He puts on our heart things to do to reach the lost, we can be assured that God will meet every need and expense that is required to see these things being accomplished.

**The Apostle Peter wrote,**

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” **(2 Peter 3:9)**



**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” **(1 Timothy 2:3-4)**

- A great key to living in the miraculous is walking in obedience and doing things God's way.
- God's work done in His ways will NEVER lack provision.
- The bible makes it clear that God's ways are higher than our ways. **(Isaiah 55:8-9)**



**In the book of Isaiah we read,**

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.” **(Isaiah 55:8-9)**



- Now is the time for the church to rise up and to share the hope that we have in Christ Jesus with all people.
- There is power in the gospel message to transform our cities. **(Acts 8:4-8)**
- There are multitudes in the valley of decision.
- The early church moved in power and miracles and signs and wonders were the norm.
- How we need to be praying for God to move in power in our lives and church meetings.



**In the book of Acts we see after Peter and John had been severely threatened for their faith, that the believers prayed for God's power and miracles to be evidenced in their lives through the Name of Jesus.**



“Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, ‘by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the Name of Your Holy Servant Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.” **(Acts 4:29-31)**



- Given the imminent return of the Lord and that there is world around us so in need of salvation, how we need to be prepared at this time in history to step out by faith into all that God directs us to do in our lives and churches.
- We must be prepared to get out of our comfort zones and launch out into the deep as the Lord directs us to.



- Truly the harvest is ripe but the labourers few

**In Luke 5:1-11 we read,** “So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon’s and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, “Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.” But Simon answered and said to Him, “Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.””



“And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!” For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid, from now on you will catch men. So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.” (Luke 5:1-11)

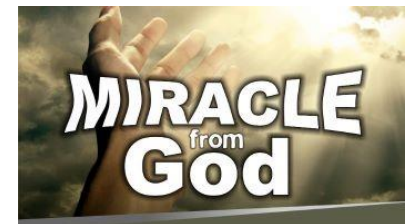


## FROM THIS PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE WE CAN LEARN MUCH

**1) In our own ability we are limited in what we can do.** Peter had fished all night and caught nothing. For us as believers we need to have the hand of God upon all that we do in life.

**The Apostle Paul wrote, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)**

**In Psalm 127:1 we read, “Unless the LORD builds the house, They labour in vain who build it;...” (Psalm 127:1)**

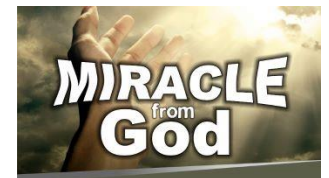


## 2) The Lord will sometimes ask us to do things when it is not convenient for us to do so



- Peter had toiled all night and would have been tired. However at the command of Jesus to launch out into the deep and to let down his nets for a catch Peter did so.
- It is important like Peter that we are always willing to do what God calls us to do, even when it is not convenient for us to do so.
- God's strength is always made perfect in our weakness.  
**(2 Corinthians 12:9-10)**

**The Apostle Paul wrote,** “And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. “Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” **(2 Corinthians 12:7-9)**



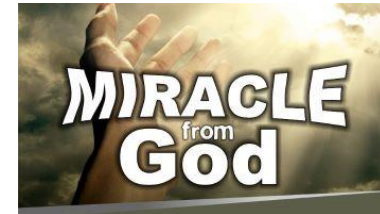


**The Apostle Paul then went on to write,**

**“Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Corinthians 12:10)**



- Often it is when we are prepared to make big sacrifices for the Lord that we see the real miracles and blessings in our life and when we feel like we have nothing to give that we see God's power operating in our lives in a greater way



### **3) When we follow the directions of the Lord we will see the miracles in our life**

- Fruitfulness and success comes from just doing what Jesus tells us to do

- How we need to be continually led by the Holy Spirit in all that we do
- Peter simply did what Jesus told him to do and then he saw the miraculous catch of fish

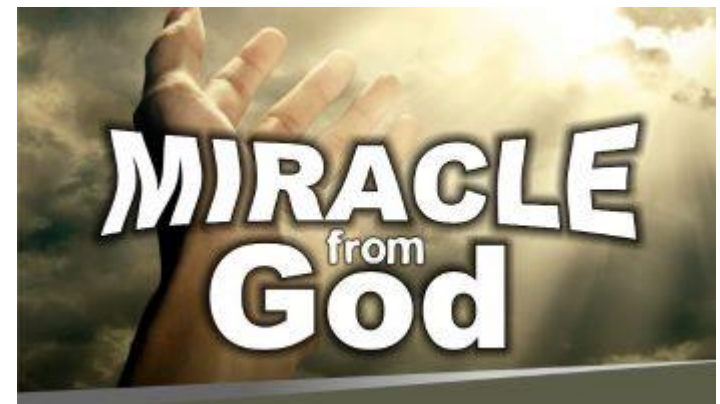


#### **4) At times the Lord will tell us to do things that in the natural do not seem logical**

- The best time to fish is normally at night. But when Jesus tells us to do something there will be success and fruitfulness

## 5) The importance of doing everything that God directs us to do in life

- Jesus said to Peter to launch out into the deep and to let down his NETS (plural) but he only let down ONE net. (Partial obedience) Jesus knew that there would be a massive catch of fish for Peter.



- We can so often limit what God wants to do through our life based on our own human logic (the morning was not the best time for fishing in the natural) and based on our past experiences. (Peter had fished all night and had caught nothing)



**In the book of Proverbs we read,**

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” **(Proverbs 3:5-6)**

**6) God has so much more planned for us than we could ever imagine. (Ephesians 3:20) “For with God nothing will be impossible.” (Luke 1:37)**

- Peter and his fishing partners “were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken” **(Luke 5:9)**



**The Apostle Paul wrote, “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” (Ephesians 3:20)**



## 7) When we do things God's way and in His timing we see the miracles

- How important it is that we allow the Lord to direct our steps in life continually. **(Psalm 37:23)**



**King David wrote,**

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD and He delights in his way.” **(Psalm 37:23)**

## 8) We see how Peter had to call for his partners in the other boat to help bring in the catch of fish.



- There were so many fish caught that both boats began to sink.
- How we need to work together in the body of Christ and to pray for and support one another. Every church needs to be involved in bringing in the harvest of lost souls.
- How important it is that we all work together at this time to help see the harvest of lost souls coming to Christ.
- There are multitudes of unsaved people who need to come to Christ, **And**

9) Peter responded immediately to Jesus' command to launch out into the deep for a catch AND then to follow Him to become a fisher of men.



- It is so important to immediately respond to what God calls us to do in life and ministry. We must simply embrace the God given opportunities that come our way in life
- It is so important that we also redeem the time by always making the most of every God given opportunity to reach out to the lost with the gospel message. **(Ephesians 5:16)**

**Jesus Himself emphasised the urgency of reaching out to the lost when He said, “Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!” (John 4:35)**



- Given the urgency to reach the masses with the gospel message, how important it is as pastors and leaders that we help to equip and encourage all believers to become soul winners. **(Proverbs 11:30)**



**The Apostle Peter wrote, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.” (1 Peter 5:8-9)**



- If we remain fully committed to following God’s plan for our lives and churches we will see God doing great things in and through our lives and churches.
- Commitment is a key to seeing all that God has planned for our life and churches coming to pass.





- In the final part of this study guide I will be looking at things to consider and study from the bible that relate to living in the miraculous and the importance of commitment.
- As we learn to step out by faith to wholeheartedly follow God's plan for our life and churches, we will see many miracles in our life and God's continual provision.
- As we focus on reaching out to the lost with the gospel message, which is God's heart (Jesus Himself said that He came to seek and to save that which was lost – Luke 19:10) we can depend on God's faithfulness to meet our every need in life.



## LIVING IN THE MIRACULOUS (TOPIC THIRTEEN)



- When we read the bible we can see many keys that can help us to live in the miraculous. These include:

**1) Being where God calls us to be. Blessing and favour comes from being where God has called us to be**

- When we position ourselves where God has called us to be, the place of blessing, doing what He has called us to do, we will always see God's provision in our life.

**In 1 Kings 17:1-6 we see how the LORD provided for Elijah the Prophet during a time of drought when he obeyed the instructions of the LORD and went to dwell by the Brook Cherith.**



“And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word.” Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.”  
**(1 Kings 17:1-3)**

“And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.” So he went and did according to the word of the LORD, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook.”  
**(1 Kings 17:4-6)**



## 2) God is able to provide our needs in many different ways

- We must not put God in a box.
- God will use different people at different times to supply our needs.
- God knows how to meet our every need.



**The Apostle Paul wrote, “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”**  
**(Philippians 4:19)**

**We see in 1 Kings Chapter 17 how when the brook dried up that the LORD made another way for Elijah the Prophet to be provided for.**



“And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. See I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.” **(1 Kings 17:7-9)**

- **In 1 Kings 17:8-16 we to see how God supernaturally provided for Elijah through the widow**



### 3) The importance of continually putting the Lord first in all of our plans.



**Jesus Himself said,** Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matthew 6:31-33)

## 4) When we do things God's way we see the supernatural miracles



- It is so important that we follow God's plans for our life and churches and allow Him to direct our steps.
- Following God's blueprint for our life and church is a key to seeing God's ongoing favour and blessing upon our lives and ministries and to seeing miracles of provision in our life.

- We see an example of a great miracle in the book of Joshua when the wall of Jericho fell down flat after Joshua, the men of war and the seven priests bearing trumpets of rams' horns had followed completely the LORD's specific instructions as to how to take possession of the city of Jericho which the LORD was giving to them.



- The LORD gave them specific instructions as to how many times they were to march around the city. ***(We see an account of this miracle in Joshua 6:1-20)***

## 5) The importance of ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit.

- It is always best to pray for people when the gifts of the Holy Spirit are operating in our lives during our church meetings.



- **Worship is a great key to helping us to flow in the gifts of the Spirit.**
- *(The teaching on “The Gifts of the Spirit – Appendix F” can be downloaded from the Downloads page on the Church of Hope website: [www.coh.org.au/downloads](http://www.coh.org.au/downloads) )*

**The Apostle Paul wrote,** “For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.” *(1 Thessalonians 1:5)*



“I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” **(1 Corinthians 2:3-5)**

- **JESUS HIMSELF DEPENDED ON THE HOLY SPIRIT IN HIS MINISTRY HERE ON EARTH.**



**In the book of Acts we read, “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” (Acts 10:38)**

- **It is so important that we are continually filled with the Holy Spirit (*Ephesians 5:18*) and ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

**“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,” (Ephesians 5:18)**



- When we minister in the power of the Holy Spirit we see the operation of the gifts of the Spirit such as the gifts of healings and the working of miracles as the Holy Spirit wills. **(1 Corinthians 12:7-11)**



**The Apostle Paul wrote, “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”**  
**(1 Corinthians 12:7-11)**



**6) That we continually put our trust in the Lord to meet our every need in life and ministry. We must always look to God and not people to meet our every need in life. (Philippians 4:6) (Philippians 4:19)**



- God may at times however put on our heart to make known our need to others.**
- George Mueller was a missionary evangelist who all his life only prayed to God in relation to his needs.**

- George Mueller was challenged to completely rely on the Lord to meet his every need in ministry and to not make known his needs to others.



- With this simple dependence on God he achieved much.
- Over the course of his lifetime he cared for 10,024 orphans, he established 117 schools and offered education to over 120,000 children (many of them orphans)

**The Apostle Paul wrote, “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”  
(Philippians 4:19)**

## 7) The importance of praying in faith and in line with the will of God for our life



- The bible makes it clear that if we pray in faith and in line with the will of God for our life (*1 John 5:14-15*) we can be assured that our prayers will be answered. Praying in faith is very important in seeing our prayers answered.

**In the book of Hebrews we read, “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” (Hebrews 11:6)**

**Jesus Himself said,**

“Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”  
**(Mark 11:22-24)**

**AND**



## 8) God's timing is always perfect. Sometimes there is a timing delay to our prayers being answered

- But God always has our best interests at heart and knows what is best for us.



- When we pray in faith we need to just keep standing on God's promises and faithfulness until we see the answers and breakthroughs in our life.

**In Psalm 37 we read,**

**“Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. **Delight yourself also in the Lord,** And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.” (Psalm 37:3-5)**



- When we look at the Word of God we can be greatly encouraged that God can do great things in and through our life when we live for Him.**



- When we look at the accounts of God's supernatural help and provision in the bible and all of the many promises in His Word, we can confidently step out by faith to do what God has called us to do.



- We have a God who promises to meet our every need in life when we put Him first in our life and who will help to ensure that what He has planned for our life will be accomplished as we continually commit our plans to Him (Matthew 6:31-33) (Philippians 4:19) (Psalm 37:3-5)

- The bible is full of accounts of God's miraculous power from God parting the Red Sea to make a way of escape for the Children of Israel, **(See Exodus 14:13-31)** to Gideon defeating an army of 135,000 men with just 300 men, **(See Judges 6:11 to Judges 8:11)** to the Lord protecting three young Jewish men (Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego) who were thrown into a fiery furnace for standing up for their faith. **(See Daniel Chapter Three)**



- When we look at these inspiring accounts of God's faithfulness to His people in the past we can have great confidence in stepping out to take on new ventures that the Lord has for us.

- In the book of Acts we see the many healings that were experienced in the early church, **(Acts 5:12-16)** as well as miracles such as an angel of the Lord freeing Peter from his prison chains and opening the iron gate leading to the city to bring him to freedom. **(Acts 12:5-11)**



**In the book of Acts we read, “And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch.” (Acts 5:12)**

“And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, **multitudes** of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, **and they were healed.**” (Acts 5:14-16)



- The bible is full of great promises that we can build our faith on. It is good to continually meditate on the many wonderful promises in the Word of God to keep our faith strong and alive. Just a few of these worth meditating on are: **(Mark 9:23) (Luke 1:37) (John 14:12-14) (Romans 4:17) (Ephesians 3:20) (Philippians 4:13) (Philippians 4:19) (Jeremiah 33:3) (1 John 4:4) (2 Corinthians 9:8)**



**Jesus Himself said, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” (Mark 9:23)**



**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.” **(2 Corinthians 9:8)**

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,” **(Ephesians 3:20)**

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”  
**(Philippians 4:13)**

**The word of the LORD came to the Prophet Jeremiah in prison, “Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” (Jeremiah 33:3)**



**So in conclusion we need to be people of faith and action, (who fully embrace every God given opportunity to advance God’s Kingdom) who move in God’s enabling power and who trust and depend on God to meet every single ministry and personal need.**



- This ends part one of the study guide for weeks sixteen and seventeen of this course



- In part two of the study guide for weeks sixteen and seventeen of this course we will be looking at the importance of **COMMITMENT** in our life and Christian walk and ministry

