

Finding the Hands of God

by Carter Conlon

Carter Conlon's sermon emphasizes the necessity for the church to recognize and live in the power of God's hand amidst a generation seeking true spiritual authority.

Duration: 38:38

Scripture: Psalm 78:9, Psalm 89:13, Psalm 89:32, Psalm 89:42

Topics: "Knowing God"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker emphasizes that nothing has changed in Christianity. The same power of God that was present when Christ rose from the dead and sent the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost is still available today. The speaker warns against being drawn away from the true source of God's power by those who claim to speak for God but actually lead people astray. The psalmist's plea to defend the poor, fatherless, and afflicted is highlighted as the cry of the Holy Spirit. The sermon concludes with a promise that those who seek God's power and purpose will experience it throughout their lives.

Transcript

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You'll have a victorious church in America, in the Western world, as well as these other areas that we hear about, these outbreaks of great glory. Thank you, God, for what you're doing everywhere. Thank you for what you're doing here.

We pray, God, today for an anointing that gives us an eye salve that we may see something we may not have clearly understood. God, help our poor hearts to lay hold of you by faith. Help us, God, to be able to desire your kingdom as it is truly revealed in the scriptures.

I pray, God, that you take me so far beyond my limitations of mind and body. Lord, enlarge the borders of this tent and speak through me. I only want to stand as an oracle of God.

Help me, God. Help me, Holy Spirit, to convey these truths and not to get in the way of them, but to allow you to convey them in a manner that they can be understood. I pray, God, you take these loaves and fishes and multiply them and feed those that are gathered and those who will be listening in the days ahead.

Oh, God, let there be a shout of glory in your house and in your church as we truly find the hands of God. I ask it in Jesus' name. Psalm 89, verse 13, is a description of the psalmist of God.

And he says, Thou hast a mighty arm, strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand. And if I may be allowed to just transpose that for you, the psalmist is just making a declaration, God, you have all power. You have all authority.

Everything is in your hand. Your authority is higher than every other authority. And when you decide to do something supernatural, nobody can stop you.

And the psalmist knew the history of Israel, knew the history of when God brought his own people out of captivity and into a land that was supposed to be for them a land of freedom. He knew this. He knew something about the heart of God.

Now, in verses 20 and onward, we find a type of the church of Jesus Christ. He says, I have found David, my servant. Now, this is a Christ type.

Now, David is in the lineage of Christ. So when the Holy Spirit is speaking, he's speaking about a physical king. Then he's speaking about the lineage of the king, which is you'll find Jesus Christ in the lineage of David.

Then he's speaking about the lineage of Christ, which is you and me here today. So he's speaking right into the future, right into our lives. Now, this is the God of all power.

He says, I've found David, my servant, and with my holy oil have I anointed him with whom verse 21, my hand shall be established and mine arm shall also shall strengthen him. Now, God says, I'm going to do a work. I'm going to do an astounding work.

I'm going to do a work that can't be done by anything of human ingenuity or strength. I'm going to come down and do something that brings glory to my name. And it's going to come because I'm going to have a people that the anointing of God rests upon and my hand will be established.

In other words, my power, my authority will be known. That's simply what he's saying through these people. Verse 22 says, the enemy shall not exact upon him, nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

I'll beat down his foes before his face and plague them that hate him. But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him. And in my name shall his horn be exalted.

In other words, my church, the body of Christ is not going to be a defeated body. Folks, we're not going out of this world with a whimper. The church of Jesus Christ is going out with a high hand, going out in victory, going out in glory with a shout of incredible victory.

Verse 25 says, I will set his hand also in the sea and his right hand in the rivers. Now there's the Lord speaking about victory. No matter what is happening around, there's going to be victory that comes through this church.

He shall cry unto me, thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation. Now, folks, we've just come from Burundi, for example, where those of us who went, we saw something so supernatural. We saw the Holy Spirit come down.

We saw grievance and murderous hatred broken and joy break out. And not just in one place, but as we've come to understand from border to border in an entire nation, that's what he says. He'll set his hand in the sea and his right hand in the rivers.

He'll cry, you are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation. I've seen your hand in power. I've known what you can do.

Great and glorious God of all majesty. And I'll make also verse 27, my firstborn higher than the kings of the earth. My mercy will I keep for him forevermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

His seat also, this is the seat of Christ, will I make to endure forever and his throne as the days of heaven. What an promise of incredible power victory that is born of our relationship in Christ. We ought not to be living beneath this privilege as believers in Jesus Christ.

We have to be living here. We have to be a people of faith, especially in our generation. Now with all of this talk of victory, then as you turn, at least in my Bible, as you turn the page to verse 38, the psalmist takes a turn as it is in what he's saying.

And he says this in verse 38, but that was cast off in a horde. That has been wroth with an anointed. That has made void the covenant of thy servant.

That has profaned his crown by casting it to the ground. That has broken down all his hedges. That has brought his strongholds to ruin.

All that passed by the way, spoil him. He's a reproach to his neighbors. That has set up the right hand of his adversaries.

And that has made all his enemies to rejoice. Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword and has not made him to stand in the battle. Thou hast made his glory to cease and cast his throne down to the ground.

The days of his youth hast thou shortened. Thou has covered him with shame. And here's the psalmist saying, God, I know, I know that I'm to be living in power.

I know that there's to be a victory and a cry that comes from my heart as day by day, I begin to see this incredible release of your life that can only come through the work that you have done. And the psalmist Christ says, why then are we not seeing this power? What is it that we've done? What has brought us into this place where our enemy seemed to be for this season mocking us? Where the name of Christ as it is in our generation is not held to the esteem that his name should be. Why are people scoffing at the church? Why is the voice of God? It seems even in our generation not to be reckoned with the way the voice of God should be reckoned with.

Why? Why? It's so much of the testimony, not all thank God, but so much is seemingly covered with shame. And the shame is simply a powerlessness where the world is looking and they don't see anything supernatural. Don't see anything that would cause dread in the heart, cause them to begin to fear that they are outside of something that's eternal.

There are many people even here today, you have a deep inner cry forming within you. You may not realize it yet, but it's the Holy spirit who's causing the birth of this cry. The psalmist clearly says it in Psalm 88 verses eight to 10.

Here's the cry. He says, I'm shut up. I cannot come forth.

I've called daily in verse nine. I've stretched out my hands to you. And it's the cry that's in the true bride.

I believe in this time that we're living and says, God almighty, I see this in the scriptures, but why am I so weak? Why am I not laying hold of this power of God? It's all through the scripture. It's undeniable. I see it in the old Testament.

I see it in the new Testament. I see it prophesied by the prophets. I read about it all the way through from Matthew to revelation.

I know what I'm supposed to be as a believer in Jesus Christ, but God, I'm, I find myself more within verses 38 to 45 and Psalm 89 than the beginning verses of that Psalm. Why is this? I'm calling daily to you. I'm stretching out my hands to you, but, but why am I not living in this? And folks, you see, it's the Holy spirit of causes this cry because he intends to answer the cry.

And some will have even come here today. You've you're preaching my, my prayer time right now. This has come from my lips.

Even this very week, God, why am I so weak? Why don't I seem to have any influence? Why have I got no power? Why am I always struggling and fighting with the same battles in my life? When I'm reading about this incredible victory, but I'm living so far short of my inheritance in Christ. I'm stretching up my hands daily. Are you not going to answer me? And the Lord has brought you here this morning because he intends to answer that cry from your heart.

You see, I'm not going to take you there, but I just going to paraphrase it for you. Back in Psalm 82, the Psalmist begins to describe what is really the work of God. And actually go back there just for a moment.

Psalm 82. And in verse one, it says, God stands in the congregation of the mighty. He judges among the gods.

In other words, God is here. We sang it today. Christ is here.

Christ is here in power. Nothing has changed. As the writer of Hebrew says, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Nothing has changed. We're not living in some kind of a substandard power of God Christianity. The same Christ that rose from the dead, the same Christ that appeared after rising from the grave, the same Christ that sent the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost is here with us today.

But verse two is the key. He says, How long will you judge unjustly and accept the persons of the wicked? How long will you allow those who claim to speak for God to move you away from the purpose and strength where the strength of God is found? There's a dilemma in much of religion today is voices rising, claiming to speak for God or not speaking for God. And they're actually drawing the people deeper, darker, and farther away from where the power of God really is.

They claim to walk in power, to know power, and to have some access to power. But they're actually drawing the body of Christ farther and farther away from where the real power of God is. And the psalmist says, How long will you accept these people? How long will you let them preach to you? How long will you turn the knob on, on the radio, television, or tape player, or whatever it is, or mp3? How long will you let their voices draw you away from where the power of God really is? And the work of God is found.

And then he goes on to verse three says, Defend the poor and the fatherless, do justice to the afflicted and needy, deliver the poor and needy, rid them out of the hand of the wicked. This is the cry of the Holy Spirit. Now, after it says God's power is here, but you're allowing people to draw you away from the source of that power.

But if you begin to move back to it, you're going to find your heart is moving in a place that humanity is not going. Only the Holy Spirit is going there. They know not verse five, they neither understand they walk on in darkness, all the foundations of the earth are out of course, verse six is I have said you are God's that word means judges.

That means I've set you in authority. It means I've given you power over the powers of darkness. I've given you the ability to know God to walk in the power of God to put your hands in the lakes and rivers and cry out to God.

You are my father and the God of my salvation. He said, this is what I've declared you to be. All of your children are the most time, but verse seven says you'll die like men and fall like one of the princess.

In other words, if, if you will continue to allow these voices to lead you away from where the source of true life, where the hands of God really are and draw you into this, you will die like ordinary men. God forbid that that should be the testimony of my life for yours in this generation. Psalm 78, go back just a couple of pages and verse nine talks about, says the children of Ephraim being armed and carrying bows turned back in the day of battle.

They kept not the covenant of God and refused to walk in his law. And they forgot his works and the wonders that he had his wonders that he had shown among them. They refused to go forward because of disobedience.

They lost sight of the purposes of God and the supernatural power, which he would freely give to accomplish it. I fear that we're living in a generation where many who go to places that profess to be houses of God have lost sight of what the purpose of the church is, who is the church of Jesus Christ. And they've lost sight of the purposes of God and the supernatural power that accompanies those who walk in this purpose.

Verse 32 says, for all this, they sin still and believe not his wondrous works. Therefore, their days he did consume in vanity and their years in trouble. And the word vanity in the Hebrew means unsatisfying pursuits.

He their their their days were consumed with pursuits, even religious pursuits, but they didn't satisfy. There was something missing. And this thing that was missing produced in them this cry.

And that's why I believe with all my heart, there's a cry now. There's a cry in the body of Christ. People are tired.

They sing, God, I'm lifting my hands to you. Show me who you are. Where is life found? Where is the power of God found? Verse 42 says they remembered not his hand, nor the day when he delivered them from the enemy.

They remembered not his hand. They lost sight of something. Now, I want you to consider with me just for a moment.

I want you to consider the hands of those who heard Jesus voice and accepted the gestures of the one who called them to follow him. Think about it just for a minute now. Jesus Christ is on the seashore and he's calling people.

And he's saying to them, come, consider the gesture of his hand. Come follow me. I think maybe James and John scripture doesn't say, but perhaps he put his hand around the shoulder of a few sign of comfort.

You'll be safe here. I'll guide you. I'm going to teach you.

And these are the hands that had the power as it is to calm the sea. He could raise his hand and calm a storm. These are the hands that had the power to hold bread and fish up to his father and see it miraculously multiplied and feed at least 10,000 people.

There was incredible power in these hands. Some began to follow Jesus for learning. I can see them now as he taught because they called him master.

And many people do today. Oh, master, rabbi, teacher of all teachers. Teach us now.

And I can see them following with their little slates and whatever form of writing instrument they may have had in those days and feverishly scribbling away every little note. We have people like that today. They travel all over the country and they feverishly scribble every little thing that everybody says.

Notes upon notes. If you went to their apartments, you'd probably find a plastic container full of notes that they've taken all over the place. And can you see their hands? Now, they're supposed to be representing God.

They're supposed to be learning something about the one who called them with a word and a gesture. And they get to the point where he said, except you eat the flesh of the son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. I can see them standing there just scribbling away, even if it's just in their minds.

And all of a sudden, you can hear the slates hitting the ground. And others not really wanting to say they're not interested in this. You see, because he was saying, I'm calling you into a place that you can't go there unless it's my life.

Unless you are literally consumed with my life. Unless you are drawing your strength from me, you can't go there. And they're looking at this.

And I can see the little some people are very religiously polite, but they tuck their slates away, put their palm pilot back in their pocket as it is and just walk away. Scripture says from that point, many of his disciples walked away because they said, no, this is not what we came for. We came to learn about God.

We want things about God. But he's calling us into something that is all consuming. And we're not interested in this.

We want to go to heaven. We want a Messiah. We want to be on the cutting edge as it is of spiritual leadership, but not where he's calling us to go.

We don't want to go there. And others came to him and their hands were stretched out for food and provision. John 6, 26, he said, you seek me not because you saw the miracles, but because you did eat of the loaves and were filled.

In other words, your eyes have been focused in the wrong place. You missed what was really happening. You're not seeking me because you want to feed the hungry.

You're seeking me because you want to be fed. You're coming here. You've not come to work the works of God, but you've come to profit from the works of God.

Think of that today. How many people are coming into his house with hands stretched out, but not to work the works of God, only to profit from the works of God. Oh, feed me, feed me, feed me is their cry.

Just, I'll never have enough. I think of those who use their hands for curiosity. Think of Zacchaeus.

He used his hands to climb a tree to get a better view. I think of even Roman leaders who perhaps lean forward on their chairs or held their scepters. As the scripture says of one leader, he had hoped to, he'd longed to see him for a long time and had hoped to see some miracle from him.

And I think of all the people now at airline counters in the last 20 years in the Western world, buying tickets and going on the internet and getting hotel rooms and using their hands to climb higher and higher as they see in God, just curiosity, but not really interested in many cases in the work that needs to come from these hands. I see hands that are extended for the advancement of some personal ambition. I see hands folded around chins as they look at Jesus Christ.

How we could use this now for our agenda. Oh, how we could really move forward and really do something even in the name of God. I see others like Judas rubbing their hands together thinking, oh, this is the way.

I've needed a way to power. I've needed a way to gain influence in society. I've needed a way to feel like I'm somebody.

And they rub their hands deliciously together saying, well, this is the way. This is the way to this. And the whole time these things are happening, the whole time, imagine God sees it all.

He sees everything. He knows everything that's going on. And the whole time, all of these uses as it is of human hands are going on.

They're observing the one whose hands are touching the untouchable, whose hands are feeding the hungry, whose hands are opening prison doors, whose hands are calling out the forgotten from dark

places. They're observing the one who's in Gethsemane, his hands clasped together in prayer, surrendering to the will of his father, seeking the will of his father first. And when the will of his father produces an angry crowd with lanterns and torches and swords coming in, these same hands extend forth hands that had the power to crush this entire universe, folks, are extended forward in surrender because he did not come for the betterment of himself.

He did not come to fulfill his own agenda. He came for you and he came for me. He came because men and women had been created in the image of God.

And there's a passionate love in the heart of God for everyone ever born in this world in his image. He came to get us. Thanks be to God for this.

And subsequently extended his hands to the will of his father and to the madness of this religious crowd. I see his hands extended at Calvary in service to his father and in sacrifice to you and I. Thanks be to God. It was the hands of God that were nailed to a cross first.

The hands of God. No greater way that God could show the depth of his love and depth of his compassion for you and I. And again, after Jesus Christ is risen from the dead in John chapter 21, we see the hands of God through Jesus Christ serving. He meets the disciples who are fishing on the seashore.

Bakes fish and bread. Beckons them to come to the shore. And we see him now serving a failed and a confused and an incomplete band of followers.

He's ministering out of new life to fallen and failed humanity. And folks, this is the key. He's living now in resurrection life.

As I said, the same resurrection life that is promised to us. As Paul says, the same spirit that raised Christ from the dead will now quicken our mortal bodies. Now here's Christ, his physical body raised from the dead.

What is he doing? He's serving. He's serving people who failed. He's serving people who are confused.

He's serving people who are yet incomplete. Ministering out of this resurrection life to fallen and failed humanity all around him. Folks, this is the resurrection life of Christ.

This is where the power of God is found. This is where the glory of God resides. It's not in places with tablets and scribbling.

As wonderful as that is, if it does not lead you to this, you've wasted your time. You'll simply die like other men. That's what the warning was of the psalmist.

You'll go through all of this and all of this claiming to know God. You'll come to the end and you'll die just like any other man. There'll be nothing supernatural accomplished because your hands have been in the wrong places and doing the wrong things and seeking the wrong things.

He says, how long will you accept the persons of the wicked, defend the poor and fatherless? Go to those that are in prison. Go to those that have no helper. Go to the confused and lost of this world and reach out to them in the name of God.

There you will find the power of the resurrection life of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God. Go with me to John please, chapter 20.

John chapter 20. And this is after Christ is raised again from the dead. In verse 27, now you remember Thomas, he basically said, I just don't believe.

I don't believe that any life comes from the path he chose. That's what he was saying. You know, I know what he said because he'd been with him as the others had and taught from the mouth of God for three years.

He knew it. He said, but I don't believe it. I don't believe there's life that comes from this.

I don't believe this was the will of God. I saw the power he had. I know what he could have done.

I don't understand why he chose this path. I don't know like the name in the Syrian, why he just didn't wave his hand and everything would be well and whole. Why did he have to go this way? And Thomas is in effect saying what many are saying, even in our generation, I don't see where the good comes from this.

I don't understand that that's where the power of God can actually be. Jesus appears into a room where they're gathered and he says, peace to you in verse 26. Now, then he said to Thomas, reach hither thy finger and behold my hands and reach hither thy hand and thrust it into my side and be not faithless, but believing.

Jesus, in what God is speaking to my heart, is saying, Thomas, you've really not been willing to embrace my hands, but I encourage you to at least touch my hands with your finger. And many, many people, they'll give us a scant as it is token effort to reach the fallen and the lost. And they'll kind of touch God's hands with a finger and then back away and say, well, I was on a mission trip back in 87, I think it was, for two days to Timbuktu and we gave some grace.

So they kind of touch his hand with a finger. And he says, no, I want you to go deeper than this, Thomas. He says, reach your hand out and thrust it into my side.

Now, we know that the soldier pierced him with a lance and the lance went into his heart. And what he was saying to Thomas is, I want you to go deeper than just a surface understanding of who I am. I want you to reach out now and I want you to thrust your hand into my heart because you see, when you do, something's going to happen to you.

You're not going to be afraid to get blood on your hands anymore. You're not going to be afraid of what you thought was death. You're going to find out it's life.

And there's going to be an impartation to you, something from the heart of God that doesn't come to those except to those who are willing to take that step. They're willing to say, Lord, I've reached out my hands. And the Lord says, well, that's wonderful.

You've done that. But now thrust them into my side. Ask for my heart to be given you.

That's really the issue, folks. Ask for the heart of God. This is where the power of God is.

This is this is a people who will finally come to the place of saying, God Almighty, you will put your hands, folks, I'm going to prophesy to you. You'll put your hands at one border of your family and your left hand

and your right hand at the other border. At the end of your days, you're going to see something so miraculous.

And I'm talking to those who have even blown it. You're divorced and your family is scattered all over the countryside. But God says, I'm going to give you an authority.

I'm going to give you a spiritual authority. First, you're going to learn about it in prayer. I'm going to give you the power to go into places that nobody else but those who know God can go to.

And at the end of your days, you're not going to die like an ordinary man. You're going to put your hand on the left board of your family and on the right board of your family. And out of your mouth, you're going to say, the Lord is the God of my salvation.

He's the king over all the earth. There'll be something in you born of God that can only come to those who begin to understand that the power of God is extended through crucified hands. Doesn't come any other way.

God help us in our generation to get back to the basics of what the church of Jesus Christ is supposed to be. We need to gather once again in upper rooms and thrust our hands into the side of Christ. Not just touch them with a finger, but God, let your heart be reflected in these hands.

I've had the privilege, and you know it, of preaching to thousands, tens of thousands in various places throughout the world. But I'm saying this before the Lord. One of the deepest joys of my heart recently was being in Burundi and carrying two goats up a hill to a senior lady's house that had brought the presence of Christ into a village.

She got a hold of God through prayer. And through prayer, the glory of God came into that village. Such pure worship.

I don't know if I've ever experienced anything quite like it. But the privilege for me was just carrying goats up a hill. It was like delivering two Cadillac SUVs to somebody here in New York City, to her.

It was beyond that. It was life. It was a future.

It was a hope. It was the goodness of God extended through hands. Folks, that was the delight of my life.

All my life, I'm going to remember that. I may not remember the crowds. I may not remember all of the masses.

Thank God for these things. It's wonderful to speak for the Lord. But I will always remember running up the hill with goats in my arms for this little lady that God had used.

Folks, you see, this is where the power of God is found. I don't know how else to say it. The crowds are great.

Thank God for the crowds. But that's not where the power of God is found. The power of God is found in laying hold of the compassion of Christ.

For this generation and not being afraid to reach out and touch, not being afraid to go into prisons and believe God to open the doors, not being afraid to go to the untouchables in our society, put a hand on

their shoulder and say, Jesus loves you. And I do too, because his love is in my heart. Not being afraid.

Not being afraid. Perfect love. The scripture says cast out fear.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. The Lord has had me meditating on these things for a considerable amount of time now, because he will have a church in New York City that is going to make a difference.

And I'm not talking about just Times Square Church. I'm talking about the body of Christ. He will have a church in New York City that I believe are going to come back to the simplicity of these truths again.

I know there are people here today. You've been stretching your hands out to God. You were praying even last night saying, God, God Almighty, where are you? Where is your power? The Lord says it's in these hands and it's in this heart.

And I'm talking about the Christ. If you'll be not afraid to let my hands become yours and let my heart become your heart. If you will thrust your hands into my side and touch my heart, I'll touch your hands and your hands will become the hands of God.

The church needs to see the hands of God again, folks. They need to feel the touch of Christ. They need to know that there is a God who cares.

Church of the Western world has been grossly diverted from the simplicity of Christ. But God in his mercy is not leaving his church captive on the hills any longer. He's coming.

He's coming for his church. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God. Thank you, Jesus.

Thank you, Lord. Thank you, God. We're going to worship for a few moments as we do.

If the Holy Spirit is drawing you and you can say, Pastor, I want to go deeper. I don't want to be a Thomas. I don't want to be standing with my analysis of Christ on the sidelines for the rest of my life.

And I don't want to die like ordinary men. I want to live a supernatural life. And I want this compassion of Christ to begin to flow through my heart and my hands.

Now, Jesus would say to you today, all you have to do is come. And all you have to do is want the works of God. And I will guide you into this.

I'll guide you. You don't have to figure it all out. You don't have to run out to this church and start giving all your money away on the street.

I'll guide you. I'll guide you into this. You'll all of a sudden start to have compassion for the neighbor that you've been passing all these years with her two or three little kids that barely has enough to make it through to the end of the month.

And you've just never even thought about it. But all of a sudden, there's a compassion that's going to come into your heart and your hands. You'll find yourself at somebody's door with a box of food.

You'll find yourself doing things that you haven't been naturally inclined to do. That is the power of God. That's resurrection life, folks.

It's not what we take to ourselves. It's what Christ is able to give of himself through us. Lord, thank you.

God, thank you. God, thank you. Guide us.

You've been doing the miraculous, Lord. Even last week, you gathered 100 churches into Times Square. Something that so many felt could never be done, but yet you did it.

You spoke it and you accomplished it. And it's only the beginning of what you want to do in this city. Help us to respond.

Help us as a body to respond. Help us individually to respond. Help us, Lord, to thrust our hands and touch your heart.

Father, we thank you for it. God, with all our heart, in Jesus' name. Would you please stand in the annex? You can stand between the screens if you want to come forward.

In the main sanctuary balcony, you can slip out wherever you are. Come and just lift your hands one more time. But this time, thrust them into the heart of God.

Just do this. Just tell him you want his heart. Don't be faithless, Jesus said to Thomas.

Don't be faithless, but believe. Don't be faithless. Don't be faithless.

Don't get to the point of thinking God can't do anything for you or through you. Don't be faithless. Believe God.

Thank you, Jesus. Thank you, Lord. We bless your holy name.

Lord, we want to be a people that reach out and touch your heart. That your hands might become our hands. Lord, that we might truly be an expression of what's in your heart to this generation.

I pray today, Lord, that you send out from this church this morning, a compassionate people. Everywhere that we're called to go, Lord, that we would be about your work. The poor may have the treasure of Christ open to them.

God, the captives might be set free. The bruised in heart might be healed. Spiritually blind might be given sight.

That all men may know this is the acceptable year of the Lord. Let the tenderness of God be in our hands. And Lord, you say that the power that you promised to give will be there working through us.

The same miracle working power that we observed in our Christ will be in the church body. Setting free the oppressed. God, we thank you for it.

Feeding the hungry, giving hope to the hopeless. Direction to the confused. Freedom to the bound.

God, we thank you for it. Lead us, Holy Spirit, in this now. Guide us in this.

Guide us in this, Lord. Lord, we want to take a living Christ to this generation, not theories about him, but the life of Christ being lived in us, Lord. God, we thank you.

We thank you for this. Lift your hands with me. Pray with me, Lord Jesus.

I'm coming today. Not to ask you to touch my heart. But I'm asking you that I may touch.

Your heart. Lord, that your life. Might become mine.

Your motives. The things you do. Might be done in me.

I yield my life. To the purposes of God. Through my life.

May many. Find. New life in Christ.

Through my life. May order. Come into my home.

And all around me. Through my life. May compassion.

Flow. And touch those. Who've only ever known hardness.

And rejection. May they find you, Jesus. Through my hands.

And my voice. I yield myself today. To this purpose.

That you be glorified through me. Now, I thank you. That you promise.

I will know the power of God. I will know the life of God. I will know the purpose of God.

And for this. I give you praise. And thanks in Jesus name.

I give you a promise today. If this is in your heart. At the end of your days.

You're going to. You're going to touch. What began this day with one hand.

You're going to touch. What finishes at the end of your life. And you're going to shout with everything in you.

My God. The father of my salvation. Hallelujah.

This is the conclusion of the message.

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