

August 12, 2012

## Thought for the Week... —

### Signs Still Follow True Believers

By Dr. Fred Childs



An alarming trend in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century church is the accepted absence of signs, wonders, miracles and healing. Many people believe in but simply have not seen the spiritual manifestations of God. The result is an uncertainty and a lack of confidence in the operation of spiritual gifts and faith. The absence of manifestation makes it difficult to have absolute trust in God's present ability to do anything. Men and women are hesitant to step out and "take chances" on God because they have never seen or experienced God under such circumstances.

This weakens the effect of the Word because the one speaking does not have true faith in its ability. The same Jesus who did not many mighty works in His home country due to their unbelief (Matthew 13:58) will not do many works in your life and church for the same reason.

The more unfamiliar we become with spiritual and miraculous manifestations of God the more humanistic we become in our understanding of Him. It is time for this to change! The weakening of God's Word cannot be acceptable under any circumstances. He is a miraculous and unlimited God right now!

Jesus said in Mark 16:17 that, "these signs shall follow them that believe". This has never changed. The signs still follow. If the signs are not following you need to examine your walk with God. Signs do still follow believers.

Mark 16:20 tells us, 20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

I want to accentuate the "amen" by declaring that these things still occur in abundance. They still follow true believers. A true believer is not merely someone who believes true doctrine, but one who practices true Christian behavior and faith. Faith without works is dead according to James 2:20, 26.

Many Christians limit their relationship to God to their time at church. However, in Mark 16:15 Jesus tells us to go throughout the world preaching the gospel to everyone everywhere. Those who do that will see things happen. They will have testimonies. Signs follow our actions of faith. They do not lead the way, but they follow after us.

Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble; it is a "steering wheel" that directs us in the right path throughout life.

Tune in for Great Gospel Music  
KJIC 90.5 FM  
King Jesus is Coming

# Prayer Practice

Tues night 7:30 pm



Make it a habit too hard to break!



Bro. Walker will be ministering in our evening service today. Come expecting a continuation of the HOLY GHOST POWER of God and demonstration of the spirit. Let your FAITH work with signs following!

## Hospital Ministry Fundraiser Today

The Hospital Ministry will be serving dinner today as a fundraiser. They will be serving sausage potato casserole with cheese, salad, dessert and drink for \$7. You may not be able to go, but by supporting this fundraiser it will help someone else that has this burden- complete the mission and all will be blessed.



## I Love my Church

Anyone CAN do something great for the Lord - He just needs

*Show you care by calling or visiting someone today.*

*PRAY when you can't GO!*

*Try inviting someone that you'd least expect to accept the invitation - you might be surprised- they may just have a need and find HOPE that God sent you their way!*

## Mark Trammell Quartet

Would you like to hear some good Southern Gospel Singing? The Mark Trammell Quartet will be singing at The Clarion @ Brazosport College, 500 College Drive in Lake Jackson on Saturday Night, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 6PM. There will be a \$10 per person donation at the door and all proceeds will go to the Quartet. A good time to grab a friend -have some fellowship- enjoy some good gospel singing and be blessed!

*Birthdays and Anniversary's*  
*Week of August 12 - 18*



- 15 - Warren & Cheryl Kelly
- 17 - David Sustaita
- 18 - Lazetta Boone



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**Rain at 2:30**  
by Dr. Fred Childs

My brother Alan is an evangelist from San Antonio, Texas. He is an example of someone who has had signs and wonders follow him. The following is one of many such true stories. As teenagers, Alan and I both worked Murrell's Corner. It was a full service gas station on the corner of Kenneth and Elgie Streets in Beaumont, Texas. An amazing series of events took place there over the course of three days during the drought of a hot summer. Alan's born-again experience was very real. In his zeal he had witnessed to Murrell, who promptly dismissed Alan as a certified idiot. Murrell was a deacon in his church, and evidently he felt like he had God all figured out. He mocked Alan and told him that tongues were only for the apostles and that it didn't happen anymore.

June of 1968 was a hot and dry month. It had been over 100 degrees for days and there had been no rain. One day Murrell walked out of his air-conditioned barber shop and talked about the weather and how hot it was. Then he said, *"Alan, you speak in tongues, and you say you have these two-way conversations with God. Why don't you speak to God and tell Him to make it rain!"* He then returned to his barbershop in laughter. Unknown to Murrell, Alan began to pray. Later Alan walked into the barbershop and said, *"Murrell, I have a word from God for you. God told me to tell you that it is going to rain at 2:30 PM. When it rains you will know God did it. He wants to reveal Himself to you."* Murrell laughed at him. *"You have a word from God for me?"* he said. *"Get back to work Alan. You are being ridiculous. God doesn't do that sort of thing."* At 2:15 PM Murrell came outside. *"I don't see any rain Alan. Where is the rain?"* Alan simply said, *"It is not yet 2:30. God said 2:30, not 2:15."* At exactly 2:30 a dark cloud came over the shop and it rained on Murrell's Corner. Well Murrell saw it, but he did not believe it. He laughed at Alan. *"I admit it was a coincidence, but I know God did not have anything to do with that rain."* Later Alan went into the barbershop again. *"I have another Word from the Lord for you. God wants you to believe Him, so at exactly 2:30 tomorrow it will rain again."* On the second day at exactly 2:30 a dark cloud came over Murrell's Corner and it rained again. Murrell still refused to believe it was God. Again Alan prayed and returned to the barbershop with a third message. *"It will rain again tomorrow at 2:30 PM."* On the third day Murrell was antsy. He came out multiple times and looked in the sky and made mocking comments. Alan told him to wait until 2:30 PM. Again, for the third day in a row, at exactly 2:30 it rained on Murrell's Corner. Murrell then admitted it was a huge coincidence, but he still refused to believe God had anything to do with the rain. Later he came out of the barbershop and he said to Alan, *"If you will pray one more time and ask God to make it rain just one more day at exactly 2:30, then I might just believe God had anything to do with it."*

Alan prayed again and returned to the barbershop. *"Well, did God tell you it is going to rain again,"* Murrell asked? To this question Alan replied, *"No Murrell. God is not pleased at your hardened heart. God told me to tell you He would not make it rain the fourth day. He will not force you to believe."*

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**Thank You for Choosing**  
**To Worship With Us!**