a conversation with

BILL JOHNSON

MATT Your new book, The Way of Life, is what we are talking about. Would you open the door to what we are going to be breaking down?

BILL The way of life is this—God’s intention is to influence the nature of this world until it reflects the nature of His world. That is our assignment. Jesus told us to pray specifically for heaven on earth. He told us to pray for the will of God to be done here as it is in heaven. That has to be measurable, or we won’t be encouraged by seeing our prayers answered. In John 16 He said you will ask the Father in My name and He will give you whatever you ask, that your joy may be full. The full expression of joy is sup- posed to come from our co-la-boring relationship with God as we see His will done here.

MATT When I read the book, one part—chapter 9, enti-tled Jesus: Unafraid of the Secular—was really spectacu-lar to me. Share what you are talking about in that chapter.

BILL God anointed enemy nations to care for the Promised Land, to take care of it until Israel was prepared to inherit it. Outside of His own chosen people, God used the talent of those nations to care for and build up the land that His people would inherit. In the same way, the Lord has a habit of depositing ideas in the secular culture that are supposed to be used by the church. For example, the word apostle was developed by the Greeks and borrowed by the Romans. An apostle was the lead ship in an armada that would go to a newly conquered area and bring transformation through education, architecture, language, and all of those things. They would make it accurately represent the land they represented. If their emperor would ever visit this newly conquered land, they would feel as at home there as they did in Rome.

MATT On earth as it is in heaven.

BILL Yes, we want God to feel as at home here as He does in heaven, because the culture has changed here to accommodate His presence and to live entirely for Him. The Romans started using this concept to transform the culture so it would be an accurate and healthy representation of Rome itself. This idea helps me to better understand what Jesus meant when He told us to pray “Thy will be done.”

MATT Sometimes it feels like the end game of Christians is to develop a great church, but that’s just really the prepara-tion place. We have to go and transform the world we live in.

BILL Church is just an equip-ping place, and the transfor-mation takes place outside of it. The culture of those cities in our country that have the greatest church attendance are tragically the least transformed (when you look at divorce rates, crime, and all of those social statistics). It’s not because there are so many people in church. Those people are changed, but their impact around them stops because they think that church is the end game. We must realize that we are being equipped to take what we experience in church, outside the four walls of the church. We bring transformation.

MATT Staying with chapter 9... Share more about the secular term for church. This one is really mind boggling.

BILL The word is ecclesia. When Jesus said I will build my church, He used that term—ecclesia. It means wherever two or three are gathered, they carry governmental influence. It’s a secular term referring to an institution that is planted within society to bring about change through that govern-mental representation. It gives great insight to what Jesus meant when He said “where two or three are gathered in My name, there I am in their midst.” He could have used a term that described a corpo-rate gathering or a temple or a synagogue, but in this case, He was describing His peo-ple in their transformational role. Whenever two or three are gathered and they make that commitment together in prayer to a task, they are representing heaven to establish God’s order and influence in that secular environment.

MATT If someone gets your book, what will they learn that may be fairly new to them?

BILL What I long for is for us to experience, in a practical way, the reality of heaven here. In heaven, everything is connected to the presence of God, Himself. He is everywhere at once, shining at the same time, so that tells me that the culture of heaven is a presence-based culture. In the presence of God, there are no shadows in heaven, because He is everywhere at once. In the secular, we have fear operating. It’s a relational journey.

MATT What kind of transform-ation do you want to happen from this book?

BILL I want people to know there is hope despite the sit-uation. God is not nervous about anything. There is always an answer. There is a divine purpose for every part of our lives. My big dream is to be a witness of Him. I want us to learn to think the way that Jesus thought. The goal isn’t to learn a principle so I can duplicate the last miracle. It’s to learn the voice so I can respond to what He’s saying now. That is a relational journey.

BILL You talk about the Kingdom being inside of us, and a lot of people don’t feel that. They don’t have peace in the storm. How do we help those people?

BILL Everything we think and do comes from love or fear. If there’s no realization of pres-ence, then fear is operating. It’s one of the two. At some point, we must believe what God said in His Word is absolutely true. He revealed Himself as Emmanuel—God with us. We can be empowered and directed by Him. For every situation
NEW THIS SPRING ON YOUR TBN

A Prayer from Pastor Bill:

Father, I ask that the presence and power of the Spirit of God would come upon every person that hears this—that there would be such a deep and profound encounter with You, that we would become mindful of You and of Your heart. That we would be contagious in our hope for situations that used to intimidate us, but now we subject them to Your purposes and look at them with great triumph and great victory, knowing that You have already accomplished everything that is necessary to become victorious. In Jesus’ name, I pray that there would be clarity of thought and mind. In everything and every place that we are in life, I pray that You would capture the purpose of those moments and that we could give them as offerings to You. We look for You to come and for the fire of Your presence to fall upon the offering that we give You so that every place of employment becomes a place of habitation—a place where Your presence, Your power, Your glory is manifest in the earth. Let the reality of the Old Testament Promised Land shape how we think, how we approach abundance, how we approach the purpose that we are alive. And for all this we say, Jesus be glorified and exalted in everything we are and everything we do.

Bill Johnson

Bill Johnson is a fifth generation pastor on his dad’s side of the family, fourth on his mom’s. He is an author, speaker, and the pastor of Bethel Church in Redding, California. He is known for his ministries of healing and miracles, and his ability to bridge the gap between generations.

The Way of Life

Find out more about Bill Johnson’s ability to bridge the gap between generations.

Bethel Coming to TBN Weekly

We hope you are inspired by the wisdom and insights of Bill Johnson in this issue. Now you can enjoy ministry from Bill Johnson and Bethel Church every week, as TBN brings you his deep but accessible Biblical insights and practical application of faith into your life. The messages are delivered in a Faith Forward® format that enables us to demonstrate the truth in a way that people can take hold of and understand.

The Show About Everything

Join New York Times #1 best-selling author (Martin Luther, Miracles, Amazing Grace), radio host, and now TBN TV host Eric Metaxas in his new program, The Eric Metaxas Show. “The Show About Everything” may seem like a bold claim, but Eric brings an array of guests, from actor Morgan Freeman to radio host Alan Colmes, actor/songwriter Paul Williams, columnist George Will, and many more.

Check the listings at tbn.org/schedule, or watch on demand at watch.tbn.tv.

FULFILLING THE Great Commission

As January 1, 2020, approaches, we are preparing to present a view of the Great Commission in action. TBN’s State of Faith initiative may be our most ambitious project ever and will shine the light on how Christianity is shaping history and providing “salt and light” to the world. How we engage with global culture and share the Gospel message is a powerful story.

As Christians, we are called to “go and make disciples of all nations” and we will explore how the Good News impacts your life and the lives of billions of other Christians around the world. We’ve sectioned the world into 20 regions—each with a unique history, cultural influences, and challenges for today.

The adventure will begin where Christianity began, in the Eastern Mediterranean. Other regions include: Southeast Asia, Central/South America, the British Isles, and Central Africa. As the story of Christianity unfolds, you will learn how it spread—to the home of your ancestors and to your home today.

As always, TBN seeks to reach as many people as possible around the world with the life-changing message of hope and grace. But the purpose—to glorify God through the Gospel, leading others to a personal relationship with our Savior—will never change.

Countdown to 2020

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4 3 WEEKS 05 DAYS

4 WEEKS 09 DAYS

Tune in to TBN for more Christian History facts!
Did you know that TBN has a network pastor? Pastor D Robinson, affectionately known as Pastor D, serves as the director of pastoral care. He has pastoral responsibility for the employees, volunteers, people who serve, and you, our faithful partners. The love that Pastor D has for his Savior and for you is infectious. He takes every opportunity to serve with the prayer partners, with the consistent message that our identity is in Christ and that we are called to pray “from” victory, not “for” victory.

Pastor D is “on a mission to let the joy of the Lord and the love of Jesus be shared.” His desire is that every precious soul who calls TBN’s 24-hour prayer line will be better when the call is over than when it began. If you happen to encounter Pastor D, be prepared for him to pray over you. And he will always remind you that “Jesus loves you, and I do too.”

Call toll-free at 1-888-731-1000 in the U.S. or +1-714-731-1000 (international). Our prayer partners are available to pray with you 24/7.

As a child, Kandra Albury was a victim of sexual abuse. The trauma left her mute, not able to talk, especially in the presence of adults. She simply did not trust them. Her predator had stolen her voice.

Between the ages of 5 and 7, she realized that her voice, her innocence, and her authentic identity had been stolen. She carried on her own shoulders the blame, the guilt, the shame. She mostly blamed herself.

Her TV was almost always tuned to TBN. Through the messages of hope and grace, God put something in her, and she began to learn that being down was not her destiny. God spoke to her through His Word, particularly in Isaiah where He promises He “will give us beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, a garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness” (see Isaiah 61:3, NKJV).

Through Jesus Christ, she has found healing, and in Him she is righteous. Through forgiveness, she found closure—she found peace.

Kandra has found purpose in her pain, and now she is a children’s advocate, providing education and empowerment. All for God’s glory.

“When you forgive, you’re freeing yourself from solitary confinement.”

“...these miracle signs will accompany those who believe: They will drive out demons in the power of my name. They will speak in tongues” (MARK 16:17, TPT).

Joel Osteen hosts Tyler Perry in a special Praise episode in Houston, Texas. watch.tbn.tv/videos/praise-315

Governor Mike Huckabee, host of TBN’s Huckabee show, joins Matt & Laurie Crouch at the Inspire event. watch.tbn.tv/videos/praise-339

Michael Jr. joins Matt & Laurie to discuss a comedy career that goes beyond comedy! watch.tbn.tv/videos/praise-320

TBN’s flagship program, Praise, continues to get better and better! Here are a few highlights of some very special episodes.

Joel Osteen hosts Tyler Perry in a special Praise episode in Houston, Texas.

Michael Jr. joins Matt & Laurie to discuss a comedy career that goes beyond comedy!

The Beauty of Spiritual Language

Pastor Jack Hayford is a dear friend of the TBN family. In fact, Paul and Jan considered Jack as their pastor for several decades. Matt and Laurie were excited to catch up with him recently as he shared about his timeless book The Beauty of Spiritual Language, one of this month’s featured resources. Pastor Jack’s teaching offers unique insight into the intimacy of spiritual language—a blessed resource to help Believers communicate with the Creator.

“...And these miracle signs will accompany those who believe: They will drive out demons in the power of my name. They will speak in tongues” (MARK 16:17, TPT).
Discover the Beauty of Spiritual Language
in thanks for your gift of $50 or more

This highly acclaimed book by Jack Hayford, one of the Body of Christ’s most respected and admired teachers, brings you insight and clarity about the most misunderstood of all the gifts of the Spirit. Plus, you’ll receive the new Bill Johnson book mentioned above.

Receive and Share “Heaven’s Healing Power”
In thanks for your gift of $125 or more

In addition to two life-transforming books by Pastors Bill Johnson and Jack Hayford, TBN has gathered nine powerful messages on audio CD from these extraordinary teachers, plus a bonus teaching from world renowned evangelist Marilyn Hickey. The Heaven’s Healing Power Collection will bring you a comprehensive guide to receiving and sharing the miracle of healing.

With audio teachings from
Bill Johnson  Jack Hayford  Marilyn Hickey

The Way of Life—new book by Bill Johnson
for your best gift of support for TBN

Bill Johnson’s newest book, The Way of Life: Experiencing the Culture of Heaven on Earth, reveals the keys to seeing the kinds of daily miracles and breakthroughs that bring heaven to earth all around you. Discover how to adopt a miracle-producing Kingdom mindset in your everyday life.

Enjoy these special resources during healing month.

3 WAYS TO GIVE
Your gift is spreading the Gospel worldwide!

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