



WindSock

The Logbook of Fresh Wind Ministries

Teaching, Modeling, and Imparting Responsiveness to the Holy Spirit for Life and Ministry.

TEACHING: Handling Fear in Today's World

by Mike Flynn

George MacDonald, a favorite author, has one of his characters, Robert Falconer, make this statement:

“Jesus taught—

First, —That a man's business is to do the will of God.

Second, —That God takes upon himself the care of the man;

Third, —Therefore, that a man must never be afraid of anything; and so,

Fourth, —be free to love God with all his heart, and his neighbor as himself.”¹

Words like this are worth posting over one's desk and pondering and praying over periodically.

Regarding fear, it's not denial of the possibilities or cocky braggadocio or chronic quavering that's going to turn the trick. There's got to be some basis for assuming an attitude of protection. That's what MacDonald's first two propositions provide:

“a man's business is to do the will of God

God takes upon himself the care of the man.”

This is a solid basis for becoming fearless. If, indeed, I make it my occupation to learn and satisfy the will of God, then I can rely on Him to take care of me. If He is indeed taking care of me, then it's also my business to refuse to cave in to potentially or

actually fearsome things.

This is why I teach so emphatically that faith is a matter of will, not of emotion or of intellect. With my will I determine to do the will of God. With my will I declare that God is taking care of me. With my will I then refuse to allow myself to be manipulated by fear. With my will I then direct my capabilities and resources into the love of God and neighbor.

A few years ago I heard for the first time a song that has become a favorite. It is “In Christ Alone” written by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty in the UK. Here's the verse that caused me to exult in appreciation as I first heard it:

“No guilt in life, no fear in death:
This is the pow'r of Christ in me.

From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
can ever pluck me from His hand

‘til He returns, nor cause me harm;
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.”

Such words are to be mediated upon, savored, cherished, and shouted out in confident joy.

In my latest book, *How To Be Good Without Really Trying*, I relate an incident when Jesus asked me: “What good am I if I'm not good in you?” I've profited many times from pondering that question. If He's not capable of handling fearsome things, what good is He? If He can't handle them through me, what good am I?

Are there dangerous things? Of course there are. Might they be nearby?

Sometimes. How do I avoid them? By focusing on Him and letting Him handle them and handle me in the midst of them.

What else do I need to do? I put protection very thoroughly on my self, family, and associates every single morning (FreshWind intercessors, donors, board members, board of reference members, team members, clients, and associates). To “put on the whole armor of God” is to get dressed in it daily. What that does is pre-empt the enemy from taking shots at those I've prayed for. From that point on, it's my job to know and apply myself to the will of God, trusting that He is watching out for me and mine. See the re-print of how to put on protection following this article.

What if I get killed in a bus bomb attack? Well, if I have failed to put on protection, then the blame's on me. But if I have put it on, then Ahhh! for it's clear in Scripture that there's a special place in heaven for martyrs. To be a martyr for God is a glorious thing. But to be a martyr for fear is never to have truly lived in victory.

¹ Robert Falconer, *Sunrise Books Publishers, Eureka CA, 1990, p. 363*

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FreshWind Ministries

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Rev. Mike Flynn

FreshWind Scheduled Events

DATE	PLACE	EVENT	CONTACT
Aug 19-21	Butler, PA	Cross-denominational Healing for the City	Fr. Bruce Geary 724-287-1869
Oct 3-7	Brownsville, TX	Cross-denominational Healing for the City	Fr. Chuck Sharrow 956-542-3869
Nov 7-9	King's Seminary Van Nuys, CA	Healing and Worship conf. for Pastors, with Francis and Judith MacNutt, Jim Garlow, Paul Chappell, Parnell Lovelace, Ron Luce	Rev. Jack Hayford 818-779-8500
Jan 27-29	Bloomington, MN	revisit, Healing for Leaders Ventures	Betsy Lee, Prayer 952-831-3125

TEACHING: Preemptive Spiritual Warfare

by Mike Flynn, from *WindSock*, June 1999

Everyday we in the Denver area are still reminded of the Columbine shooting. But headlines almost anywhere speak of other life-ending disasters as well: murders, accidents, natural calamities, diseases, suicides, wars, smart bombs that end up being stupid and the like.

Too often God is somehow blamed or defended as the culprit basically responsible for such events. Now it is certainly true that we can respond to tragedies with the kind of faith that frees God to bring good out of them. We're seeing *hundreds* come to the Lord because of the witness of those killed at Columbine, and there are other wonderful results as well. The snake is being forced to bite his own tail. But to claim that God somehow *caused* the Columbine shootings is to betray spiritual ignorance and simplicity.

Look, "Jesus Christ came to destroy the works of the devil" (I John 3.8); that's one of those summary verses which distills complex realities into sharply focused points. Spiritual warfare is the primary dynamic occurring on the surface of this planet. And to blame God for the things that Satan does is both slanderous and counterproductive.

As I have written elsewhere (*Holy Vulnerability*, ch. 7; *Mustard Seed Book*, ch. 6; *Inner Healing*, ch. 12), Satan does his work through temptation, accusation, deception, and harassment—which includes illness, attack, miscommunication, accidents, mechanical break-downs, glitches. "Know your enemy" is one of the first principles of warfare. Scripture says he is tempter, liar, murderer, accuser, adversary, destroyer, devil. Do you know the truth of this assertion by C. S. Lewis: "There is no neutral ground in the universe: every square inch, every split second, is claimed by God and counterclaimed by Satan"?

My purpose in reminding you of these things is not to make you frightened but savvy. If you take 15 minutes in the morning, you can preempt the activities Satan would like to do against you, your family, your possessions, and those you are responsible for. Just as you wouldn't think of going out into the world without getting dressed, you must come to the realization that you mustn't go out spiritually naked either.

When you put God's available protection on each day, you can claim a vast immunity from the works of Satan. Does this mean that nothing bad ever happens to those who've got the Lord's protection on? No it doesn't. We're in war, and there are casualties in any war. What it means is that Satan can't just pop off any attack on you without God's explicit permission. See Job ch. 1. God

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will only permit Satan to afflict you in ways He means to bring triumph out of. But if you're not covered in His protection, then Satan can do whatever he has the imagination and power to do. And that's substantial.

So on a daily basis, here's what I recommend you do.

"I sign myself with the sign of the cross (do it)

I cover myself with the Blood of the Lamb (some motion to convey covering)

I surround myself with the Light of the Cross (describe circle around you)

and in the Name of Jesus Christ, nothing shall come through to hurt me."

Then put the Blood of the Lamb and the Light of the Cross on your loved ones (one-by-one), home, vehicles, place of work. Then on any special cases or needs—the sick, those traveling. Then on any you think the Lord has given your responsibility for—governmental officials, missionaries, schools, airplanes, athletes, soldiers, policemen, erratic drivers and potential terrorists (to contain their evil), etc.

Another form (from my book, *Holy Vulnerability*) based on Eph. 6:

"Lord Jesus Christ, I greet you this morning as my commander and chief, reporting for duty. But first, I need to clothe myself with your armament, for my own is of no use against the enemy. Therefore, I take to myself the belt of truth. I will desire, speak and act in accordance with the truth. Second, I take on the breastplate of righteousness. Thank you that this is your righteousness, and that it protects my vital organs, especially my heart. I will speak, think, and act righteously.

Third, I put on the shoes of the gospel of peace, and I will prepare that good news by reading your word and by being ready to give an account for the hope that is in me. Fourth, I take on the helmet of salvation. Save me,

Lord, from the world, the flesh, and the devil. And I will trust you to give me the mind of Christ and to think your thoughts in my mind.

Next, I take the shield of faith by which to quench all the flaming arrows of the enemy—arrows of temptation, accusation, deception, and harassment.

Finally, having seen to my defense, I take the sword, that particular word which the Spirit gives, to utter against Satan in whichever way you lead. And I decide that I am perfectly protected aggressively and defensively in body,

soul and spirit, in mind, will and emotion, in circumstance, finance and relationships, and against all assaults of the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Over it all, Lord, I take the mantle of love, asking you to give me your love for all whom I encounter today."

Then ask for protection for others, as indicated above. Daily!

Then walk in the peace that Jesus promises to His followers. The time spent investing you and yours with protection is small price to pay for the peace you can walk in.

Mike's Books Discount Deal

If you buy *How To Be Good Without Really Trying* and at least one other of my books, you'll get a 25% discount off the total price.

For example: *How to Be Good* plus *Holy Vulnerability*: \$13 + \$12 = \$25, minus 25% = a price of \$17.50.

If you buy all 5 of my books, you'll get a 40% discount in which the total price is \$33.

This deal only works if you order the books from me (amazon.com and others will not honor it). So send in or email us your order and we'll promptly reply with a shipment and invoice. Please include your street address.

The stack of letters of commendation for our events is over 5" high, a fourth of which is about the books. So send in your order and we'll promptly reply with a shipment and invoice (including about \$1 each book for postage).

Normal pricing:

Holy Vulnerability, \$12

Inner Healing, \$14

Mustard Seed Book, \$11

Making Disciples, \$5

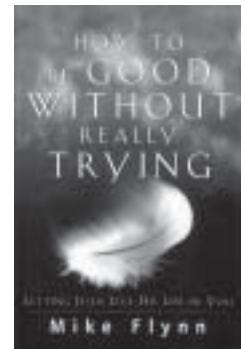
How To Be Good Without Really Trying, \$13

Finally, many are making gifts of my books to loved ones and associates.

Mike Flynn has been a teacher and speaker throughout the world for many years. Learning from him is a compelling spiritual experience. His latest book, *HOW TO BE GOOD WITHOUT REALLY TRYING*, is a very practical and inspiring insight into living the full life that Jesus intends for each of us.

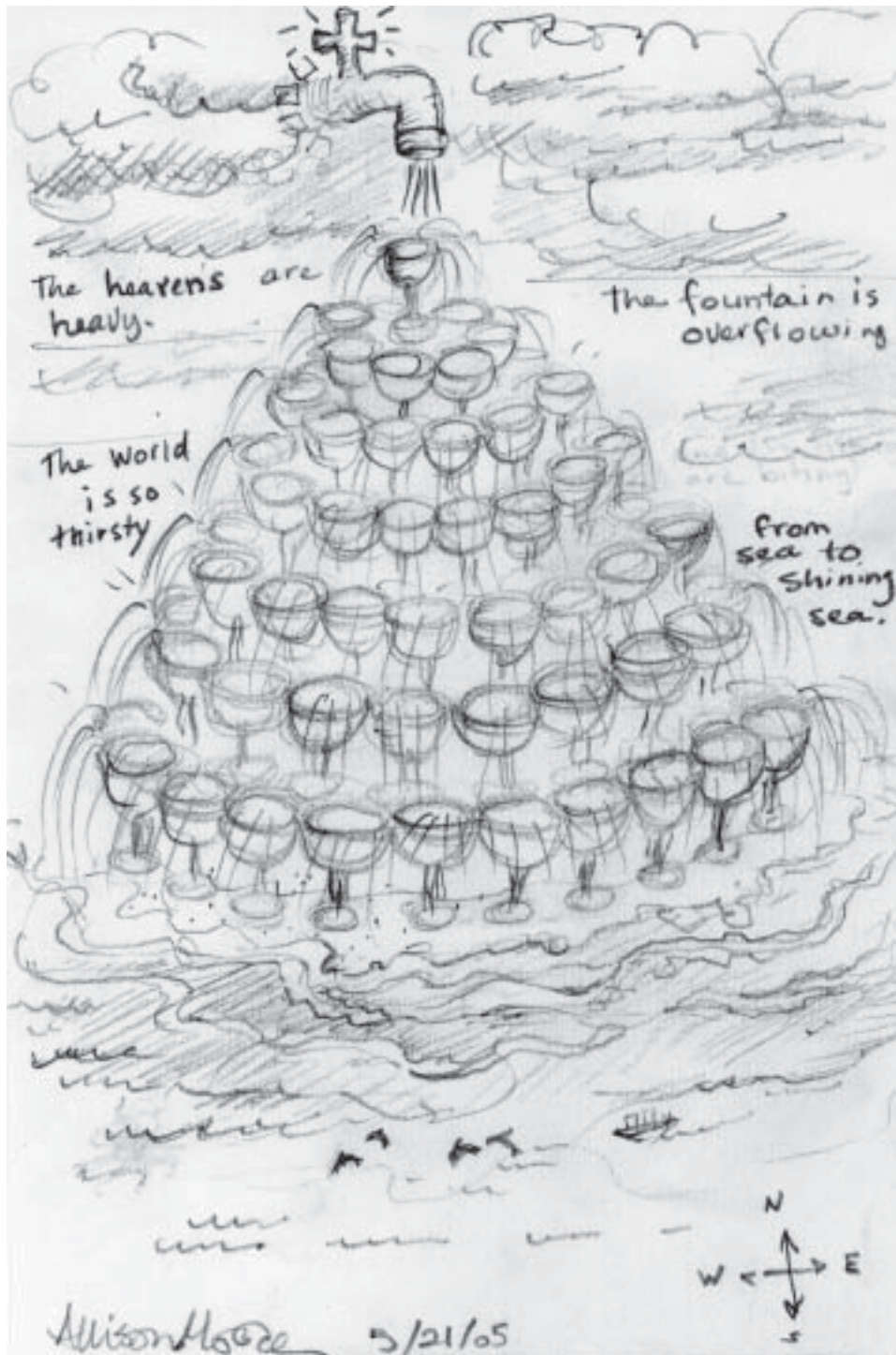
Although committed Christians will already be familiar with some of his ideas, there are terrific breakthrough insights that will get you closer to letting Jesus live His Life within you. The heart of this exchange is developing honest, vulnerable relationships, or the old fashioned word "submission." Sometimes this feat is easier said than done. Even with this serious subject matter, however, some of the stories in here are not only insightful but hilarious.

Review by Dr. Ted Baehr, www.movieguide.org



Overflowing Chalice

In May I mentioned during a talk at Heritage Church in San Clemente that God had shown me a chalice under a spigot as a picture of how He wants us to look. We get filled up for ourselves and bless others in the overflow. Allison Moore, a young artist, quickly drew this picture. I hope it encourages you to overflow.



Word of Mouth Advertising

FreshWind does very little to promote its ministries, trusting the Lord to bring us to the minds of those He wants us to work with. But God does indeed use His followers to share words about ministries He wants to deploy.

If you have been blessed in a FreshWind event, would you consider sharing that information with your pastor, local pastor's fellowships, and the like? Perhaps you'd encourage them to look us up on our website for further information: www.freshwindministries.org. Here are some of the types of groups who have engaged us: Episcopal, Vineyard, Presbyterian, Methodist, Four Square, Adventist, and Anglican churches; ministries such as the Order of St. Luke, Episcopal Church Missionary Community, YWAM, and InterVarsity; schools such as seminaries, bible colleges, and missions training organizations. Thank you.

Memorial Donations

Bill and Susan Reed have made a donation to FreshWind to honor the memory of Julie Hawley.

Cliff and Geraldine Batham have made a donation in memory of Kathy Jenkins.

These gifts are gratefully received and prayers for those memorialized have been offered.

Responses

FreshWind often donates its time and energy to foreign and domestic churches and organizations that cannot afford to pay normal honoraria and travel expenses. Many of these are missions-focused, as is FreshWind.

About 75% of FreshWind's budget comes from people like you who believe in and feel led to support what we're doing to extend the kingdom.

Here's the bottom line:

- + **renewed, disciplined, and anointed people produce ministry and mission**
- + **FreshWind produces renewed, disciplined and anointed followers**

We ask you to help us "produce" FreshWind.

We highly value all forms of aid: prayer, finances, and ministry team participation. Please look over this response form and see if the Lord would speak to you about your support of this ministry.

PRAYER:

_____ I/we would like to receive Mike's monthly intercessor's letter and pray regularly for your ministry. If we're on email, our email address is _____. Please copy and email this to Mike or mail by postal system.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

• I/we pledge: \$_____ per month for the support of FreshWind Ministries. I understand that FreshWind is a 501(c) (3) religious non-profit corporation and that I will receive regular IRS-approved statements for tax deduction purposes.

• I do not feel that the Lord is leading me to pledge regularly at this time, but I want to send a one-time gift of \$_____.

_____ name

_____ street

_____ city

_____ state

_____ zip

_____ signature

Please make contribution checks to FreshWind Ministries. Thank you.

