

A Gift of Faith Book

20

Amazing
True
Stories

Book 3

Part 1 (of 2)

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Amazing True Stories

—Book 3—

Part 1 (of 2)

(Stories 51-75 of 100)

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All scriptures are from the *King James Version*

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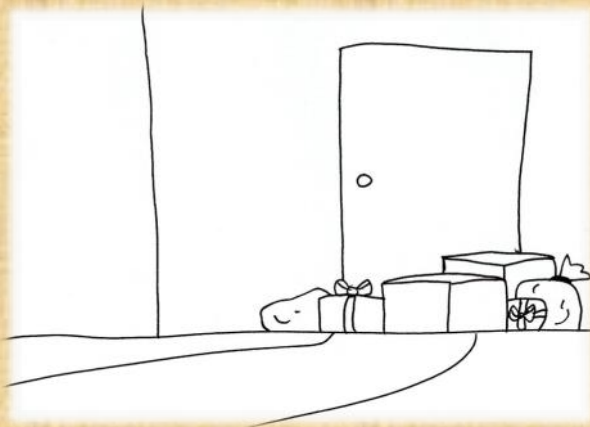
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Books at the Door



51—Books at the Door

I had ordered a big batch of school books to use when teaching my own children at home. I thought I had ordered them enough in advance, so they would arrive at the time I needed them.

It was towards the end of the year, and I was to be meeting with a representative of the city's educational department to explain and show what the children were learning. They would look over our plans for educating our children.

I would be using these new books in the next few years, and so along with the many other things I was going to show that we had done and would be doing I planned to show these new school books.

When the day was getting closer to the meeting, the books had still not arrived. I wrote an email to the company about it, wondering why we hadn't received them yet.

Their reply was, that it usually takes between 4-6 weeks for their packages to be delivered to those who had ordered their material.

It had been about two weeks since I ordered them. I had been praying for them to arrive in time for the meeting, but if I had known about the long shipping time I would have ordered them much earlier. So I didn't worry about it, as there was nothing I could do now.

However, the Lord had a surprise in store for me. A day or two later, on the morning of the day I was to have the meeting, I looked out the front door and found to my surprise a large package! It was the school books I had ordered. They had come! And just in time. How did they get to me in only two weeks?

No one knows. But God knew I was praying for them to arrive in time, and He did whatever it took to get them to me.

Another thing that was great was that normally the package would have needed to be signed for, that is I would need to personally be there at the door when it was delivered, and sign my name saying that I did indeed receive it. But that is a challenge at times, as we don't have a doorbell, so if I missed hearing the knock on the front door I would have missed the delivery, and they would have taken it back to the post office.

I would only have been able to get it later in the afternoon or the next day. Yet, for some reason, the package was just sitting there on the front porch, waiting for me, at just the time I needed it. Great!

I choose some books out of it to show for the meeting that was to happen just a couple hours later. God can do anything—and He is well aware of our schedules and daily needs.

“And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.”

(1 John 3:22)

“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever, Amen.”

(Jude 24-25)

The Miracle Staircase



52—The Miracle Staircase

The staircase of Loretto Chapel in Santa Fe, New Mexico is well known for being surrounded by at least two mysteries: the identity of its builder and the physics of its structure.

No one is able to fully understand how the structure can stand on its feet without any kind of central support attached to it.

There is, maybe, a third mystery, too: although the staircase is known to be made of spruce wood, no one has been able to determine

either what subspecies of spruce it is, or even how the wood got to the chapel.

In 1852, by order of the bishop of Santa Fe, Jean Baptiste Lamy, the Chapel of Our Lady of Light (inspired by the Sainte-Chapelle in Paris) was built. It was placed under the care of the Sisters of Loretto, who were to arrive from Kentucky to found a school for girls.

When the chapel was ready, builders were faced with an unexpected problem: there was no way to climb from the nave to the choir, on the second floor. It was a sad error in the design — one that the building's architect,

Antonio Mouly, could not solve, since he had already passed away.

When the nuns insisted on building a staircase, the builders told them it would be impossible, and that building a normal, regular ladder would take too much room. Finally, they advised the nuns to demolish the choir.

Instead, the nuns decided to pray a novena to St. Joseph, patron saint of carpenters, asking for a solution.

After finishing the novena, according to testimonies that have passed from generation

to generation since the mid-nineteenth century, a man appeared at the door of the chapel, saying that he could build a stairway, under one condition: he be granted total privacy. The stranger locked himself in the chapel for three months with a saw, a square and a few other simple tools, and disappeared as soon as the work was finished, without ever having asked for any payment for his services.

The staircase, which is around six meters high, takes two full turns over its axis until it reaches the choir. It was built without any nails or glue, and lacks any kind of central support.

The construction itself is said to be “impossible.” According to some, it should have collapsed the very first moment someone used it, although it is assumed that the central spiral staircase is narrow enough to work as a central support on its own.

In any case, the original staircase was not attached to any wall until 1887, ten years later, when the railing was added, and the outer spiral was attached to a nearby pillar.

Tradition claims the mystery of the identity of the carpenter has never been satisfactorily solved.

During those three months, no one saw anyone entering or leaving the chapel.

As the carpenter left before the Mother Superior could pay him, the Sisters of Loretto offered a reward to anyone who could his make identity known, but no one ever showed up. So, yes: since then, the crafting of the staircase has been attributed to St. Joseph himself!

(Article and photo from: <https://aleteia.org/2016/07/06/the-staircase-st-joseph-built-in-new-mexico/>)

“But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”

(Jude 20-21)

“Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me.”

(Micah 7:7)

Tissues in Time



53—Tissues in Time

Something amazing happened one night a few months ago. While putting the children to bed I noticed that we were nearly out of toilet paper. There was only about 2-3 squares left by the time everyone was ready for bed.

I emailed my husband who was still out, to ask him to please bring some home when he came. But he was not able to get the toilet paper that night, as it was too late and the shops were shut. At least there was a tiny bit left for his use when he got home.

I wake real early, and usually need the bathroom around 4 or 5 AM. When I got up, and all was still and quiet, I wondered what I would do when seeing the totally bare toilet roll. Then something special happened. One of those "God cares" and must have literally gotten my guardian angel to take care of me.

I happened to see, very intriguingly, behind the toilet, propped up on a piece of cloth that is never usually there, was a clean, white piece of toilet paper—the exact amount I would need! I was very touched.

No one in our house put it there—and it was done in a very thoughtful way: somewhat out of sight, saved for me, yet kept clean.

The kids had been sleeping the whole time—they didn't do it; and for sure my husband didn't. Heaven helps in the humble ways that are important to us!

(In case you are wondering how we got by when everyone else woke up, in the morning I remembered we had some paper towels in the shed, so all was well until the shops opened in the morning.)

“It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”

(Lamentations 3:22-23)

“Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear.”

(Isaiah 59:1)

Instant Healing— After Communion



54—Instant Healing—After Communion

Early one morning my tummy began having pains. I was going to work on a Bible audio project, and these pains started right then. I carried on working for a few hours anyway.

I wondered if the pains were because of something I ate for dinner, as the children said their tummies felt odd, too.

Usually with stomach troubles, the best remedy for me personally is to fast, and only drink water and sometimes water with apple cider vinegar added.

So I was thinking I needed to fast that day to give myself time to heal. But the thought came to me of making a piece of bread and using some coconut kefir drink (a healthy natural, alive drink), and taking communion to pray for healing. So I prepared that. The children and I then prayed together for healing and each took part of the piece of bread and sipped the drink for the “wine” in the ceremony.

I wasn't expecting what happened next. I knew healing would come eventually, but the fact that it came so suddenly and fully was a pleasant surprise.

My stomach was not only totally fine, right away but I felt more hungry than I have felt in a long time! I felt naturally hungry and eager for food, and could eat and digest so well and quickly, all day! I was better than normal. The children said they felt fine too.

That was the only time that has happened to me. I've never before been able to eat something when my stomach wasn't working, and have it get instantly better—food only prolongs the healing and makes things worse. But that time, the Lord honoured our faith and prayers, our partaking of communion, and claiming His healing that He promised.

**“Who forgiveth all thine iniquities;
who healeth all thy diseases.**

**“Who redeemeth thy life from
destruction; who crowneth thee
with lovingkindness and tender
mercies;**

**“Who satisfieth thy mouth with
good things; so that thy youth is
renewed like the eagle's.”**

(Psalm 103:3-5)

200 Booklets Just in Time!



200 Booklets Just in Time

I needed a special miracle one morning. I needed to send a whole lot of books and booklets to the printer to get printed right away. I needed them in a couple days to show to someone who was visiting only for that day. It would be my only chance to show her what I'd made.

One of the projects I was making was a series of 200 booklets for teaching reading. I worked hard to get everything done in time, but I still had more to do and not enough time to finish.

I needed to get all the files to the printers by the next morning or else they wouldn't have enough time to print them before I needed them.

I worked all I could in the night, but I remember by the early morning I still had about 20 booklets left to create. They were simple ones, but still it seemed like a lot left to do. Would I be able to reach the goal?

I prayed and just kept on working as fast as I could. I remember the wonderful feeling, when it was still morning time and I found I had been able to, wonderfully with Heaven's help, finish all the booklets!

I still don't know how that happened, and how everything got done so fast, but it was great. I was able to then send the files to the printers, and they did a great job printing them out and getting them to me on time—within an hour or so of when I needed them. Whew!

Jesus can help us reach our goals when we pray and do the best we can. He does the miracle that we might not think is possible, but if it's His will and will benefit us and others, He can help us do the seemingly impossible.

**“And the peace of God, which
passeth all understanding, shall
keep your hearts and minds
through Christ Jesus.”**

(Philippians 4:7)

**“I can do all things through Christ
which strengtheneth me.”**

(Philippians 4:13)

Commanding the Crocodiles to Go!



56—Commanding the Crocodiles to Go!

Missionaries in Indonesia wrote about deliverance from crocodiles in the jungle area of Sumatra. Many times they had to cross rivers while on their mission trips.

One time a man who could not swim was crossing a river it at flood time, and he was struggling to get across. The water was up to his waist as he was walking through the river. Then came along some crocodiles, and they were within three or four feet of him. With their strong tails they could knock even a canoe, breaking it in half.

This missionary man was in danger, but he was on a God's business and had God's protection. He remembered what it says in Mark 16:18, and it gave him faith and boldness over the creatures.

As he stood there in the river he said, "Crocodiles, in the name of Jesus I command you to leave."

The crocodiles came just a foot closer and then swish, they turned around and swam away.

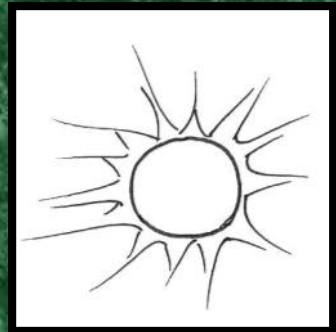
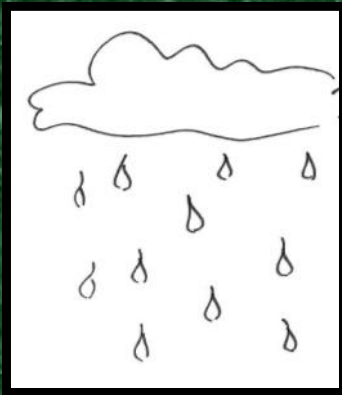
There were some unbelievers standing on the shore of the river, who had been thinking this man would not make it over the river, much less escape the crocodiles.

But when they saw what happened, and what power Jesus and praying in His name can have over the animals, they said, “We have never seen anything like this. The crocodiles obeyed that man.”

Those that realised it was the power of Jesus, chose to believe in Him.

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” (Mark 16:17-18)

“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”
(Luke 10:19)



Rain Halts—People Believe

57—Rain Halts—People Believe

Anana Itap was preaching and teaching about Jesus in Nigeria. Some people were mocking him. He then declared that though it was the rainy season, that instead of the usual rain that fell each day, God would make it be dry weather for four days. And that is exactly what happened.

In the places surrounding the village, the rain fell, but in that village no rain came for four days. God wanted to show a sign to help these people understand that what Anana Itap was saying was true and should be respected and believed.

Because of this, only one person in the village remained a non-Christian; all the rest chose to believe.

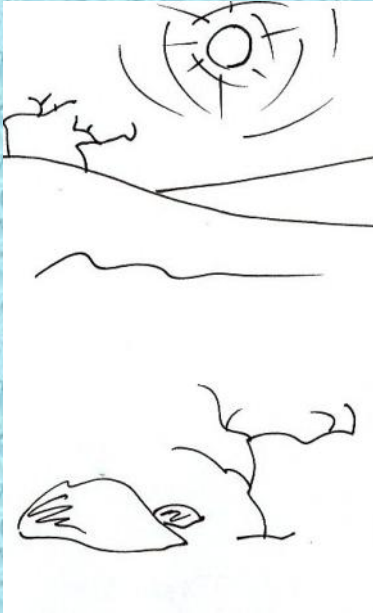
This miracle of the rain stopping, gave them the faith to believe what the Christian preacher was saying.

“He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

“And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.”

(Romans 4:20-21)

Downpour Ends Drought



58—Downpour Ends Drought

A Southern African chief was beginning to get the idea that the prayers of Christians can have a good effect, and God answered their prayers. The area he was living in was suffering from a drought and rain was desperately needed. This chief decided to ask the missionaries to pray for rain.

The missionaries prayed that God would not only send the needed rain right then, but that it would convince those living there, and the chief, that what they had been teaching them about Jesus was true.

That very night there came such a strong downpour of rain that the roads became rivers of water.

The chief was then convinced that there was truth in the words of the missionaries, and the God they served was real and powerful, and the true God. He then respected the message they came to give.

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.” (Titus 3:5)

“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

(John 14:13)

Angel with a Bottle of Milk



59—Angel with a Bottle of Milk

A mother and her children in a time of civil unrest and danger, had to flee and travel quickly from Czechoslovakia to Berlin, Germany. There were thousands of other refugees all walking and travelling. There wasn't much water, and they were thirsty.

At night they would have to sleep out in the open. One night when it was raining heavily, that is when they came to a railway station, and could find shelter there. The baby was crying, however, and was in need of food.

The mother did not have anything to give her, but God knew their need and would help.

Suddenly a kind woman appeared nearby and came towards them saying, “This little baby is hungry, that is why she won’t sleep.” Then within 20 minutes she came back with a bottle of warm milk and gave it to the mother for her baby. This woman was never seen again—could she have been an angel in the night?

Then when this family reached the boarder, by some wonderful miracle, someone special was there.

The father of this family had been searching diligently for them, and they hadn't heard from each other in a long while.

Then at that time and on that day, he was right there at the border and spotted his family. It was a joyful reunion, and they could then travel together and with the daddy's clever help it was a bit easier, and they made it to where they were to live, in Germany. The Lord kept each one of them through that difficult time.

**“For thou hast been a shelter for me,
and a strong tower from the enemy.
I will abide in thy tabernacle for
ever: I will trust in the covert of thy
wings. Selah.”**

(Psalms 61:3-4)

**“Truly my soul waiteth upon God:
from him cometh my salvation. He
only is my rock and my salvation; he
is my defence; I shall not be greatly
moved.”**

(Psalms 62:1-2)

God's Cattle



60—God's Cattle

In Dallas, in the USA, a Seminary was founded in 1924. It was to be a place to teach about God's Word and to help people get to know about the Lord. However, it nearly had to be shut down, due to lack of finances. Those they owned money to wanted payment right away—in fact they wanted what was owed to them by noon on one certain day, or else the Seminary would not be able to continue.

When that day came, they still did not have the money to pay the debt. The founders of

this school met to pray on that morning, for the Lord to supply the needed funds. Harry Ironside prayed and said, remembering the scripture about how God owns everything in the world—the cattle and all:

“Lord, we know the cattle on a thousand hills are Thine. Please, sell some of them and send us the money.”

The Lord took them at their word, and while they were praying, the answer knocked at the door. A cattle rancher had sold two carloads of cattle, and felt the Lord wanted him to donate the funds to this Seminary.

He came to bring the check he had written out to give to them, just at the time these men were meeting to pray.

Dr. Lewis Chafer looked at the check and saw that it was for the exact amount they were needing. He said, “Harry, God sold the cattle!” Ha!

“O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard: Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved.”

(Psalms 66:8-9)

“Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.”

(Psalms 91:14-15)

Locked Wooden Gates



61—Locked Wooden Gates

Rudi Lack went to Haifa with a team of other Christians and was here on a mission trip. They came by boat and had vehicles aboard, that they could drive off the boat when they arrived.

After getting off the boat they had a couple of hours to drive until reaching their first destination. By nightfall they arrived at a Catholic monastery with big wooden doors.

Rudi had learned that the only way to succeed in his work for the Lord was prayer, and lots of it.

He and his friends would spend time each night that they could, praying for people to come to know and accept Jesus; and for their protection, and for whatever the Lord showed them to pray for.

On the night they arrived at their first stopping place, everyone was very tired. Rudi, however, had learned the hard way, if he just gave in to feelings of tiredness and didn't spend plenty of time in prayer, then things didn't go so well.

Even though he was tired, he asked if anyone wanted to join him in prayer. Only one person, a lady, said she would pray together with him.

The challenge of where to pray, where they wouldn't disturb the others sleeping, had to be solved.

The only place they could come up with was to use one of the vans. So out of the big wooden gates of the monastery they went, to the place the vehicles were parked, and had a long and fervent time of prayer together in a van. They knew God wanted them there.

About midnight they heard a loud clanging sound. It seemed as if the wind had blown closed the large wooden gates.

At last it was nearly the wee hours of the morning when they felt they had completed their prayer assignment, and left the van to go to bed and sleep with whatever time was left.

However, when they went to the wooden gates, they were indeed shut. Did the wind blow them shut? No. They had been closed and locked for the night, bolted shut from the inside. They tried pushing on them, but the gates wouldn't budge at all. What were they to do? How could they get back in and get some rest? The lady started to worry and hoped that Rudi would come up with a solution.

Well, there wasn't anything that he could do, but he could ask the Lord, and that he did.

He prayed for a miracle and then tried gently pushing on the gates again. This time, miraculously, they opened! They were very relieved. Too tired to realise how amazing it was, they went to sleep.

But in the morning they found out that the large gates had indeed been shut tightly and locked, and it would have been totally impossible for them to have been opened by gently pushing on them from the outside like that. God opened the doors for them!

**“Ask, and it shall be given you;
seek, and ye shall find; knock, and
it shall be opened unto you.”**

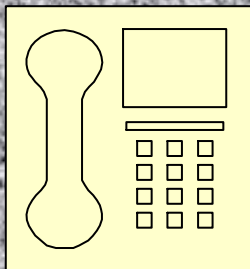
(Matthew 7:7)

**“For where two or three are
gathered together in my name,
there am I in the midst of them.”**

(Matthew 8:30)

Pedro's Mysterious Appointment

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62—Pedro's Mysterious Appointment

Pedro was a missionary who went out to tell people about Jesus. He felt the Lord leading him to go into a certain office building and speak with the director.

He didn't know that that man was particularly busy that day and had instructed his secretary to not have anyone disturb him. He would only speak with those who had previously made an appointment to see him on that day.

When Pedro spoke with the secretary, asking if he could speak to the Director, she asked

for his name and then looked in the appointment book. If his name was not there, he would not be permitted to go in. Suddenly the secretary looked up, smiled, and said, “Yes, the Director is waiting to see you.”

That was surprising.

At this meeting, the Director listened carefully to everything Pedro had to say. His heart was ready to learn more about God and His love, and to hear the things that were shared with him from the Bible. He gave a donation and said, “If there is anything else I can do for you, just let me know.”

Then as Pedro and his team were leaving, he had one more question that puzzled him.

“Who gave you my telephone number and name?” Pedro hadn’t known his name and number and answered that he had just felt that the Lord wanted him to go there and speak with this man.

The Director opened his eyes in wide surprise. He was shocked. He said, “This is impossible! You DID have an appointment! Someone phoned and made an appointment for you! Look, here is your name in the appointment book.”

Pedro looked and was amazed to see that in the book was written his name, and it was written for an appointment to talk with him at that very time of day.

It's amazing what the Lord will do to help someone get close to Him. Perhaps an angel worked out this appointment in advance!

Who knows?

“Grace *be* to you and peace from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ. Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.”

(2 Corinthians 1:2,4)

