

# Encourage

Inspiration for IPHC Leaders

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BY J. LEE GRADY



# CHRIST GOD'S LOVE GIFT

This year, a book of sermons by J.H. King has prepared my heart for Christmas.



BY DOUG  
BEACHAM

DOUG BEACHAM is the presiding bishop of the IPHC. He has served in various roles in the church including Georgia Conference Superintendent, executive director of Church Education Ministries, and executive director of World Missions Ministries. You can follow Bishop Beacham on [Facebook](#) or on Twitter [@DougBeacham](#).

**C**hrist—*God's Love Gift* is the title of this column and the title of a 1969 collection of sermons by the late Joseph H. King. The book was compiled by the late B.E. Underwood, former IPHC general superintendent. Focusing on Christological sermons that King preached, Underwood's book provides a sampling of J.H. King's insights on the person and work of Jesus Christ.

King published the sermon entitled "God's Love Gift" in Falcon, North Carolina, in a 1916 book, *Select Sermons*. Using John 3:16 as the text, and building around Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus, King expounded:

*"The text exhibits the sublimest of all divine attributes. Omnipotence holds all things in their place, power directs all in their movements, justice protects all in their rights, mercy pities all in their miseries, goodness covers all in its kindness, omniscience guides all by its counsel, truth illuminates all with its light, faithfulness fulfills all that is expected, grace saves all who are seeking, but love is the crown of all. Love is the source of all, the force of all, and the bond of all, in Godhead. 'God is love.' Holiness is love in its spotlessness; joy is love in its overflowing; peace is love in undisturbed repose; goodness is love providing; patience is love enduring; zeal is love burning; and wrath is love's vengeance upon the wickedness of an impenitent world."*

My thoughts turned to the portrayal of Jesus in Joseph H. King's writings for several reasons. First, King rightly discerned that Jesus is the Father's gift of love to lost humanity. In the paragraph quoted above, "God is love" is the ground of all existence—from creation's opening moment to the coming of God's eternal kingdom.

Second, Christ as the Father's love gift is an appropriate focus as our hearts are preparing for the Christmas season. The IPHC is focusing on the Advent season with a call for Sunday, November 29, first Sunday in Advent, to be designated [Red Sunday](#). We encourage you to decorate your sanctuary in red and wear red as part of your clothing. It's a way of reminding us of the blood of Jesus, the price that was paid for our salvation.

Third, this year we have focused on our second core value, "We Prayerfully Value Pentecost." In particular, the final quarter of this year we have focused on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We are reminded that the gifts of the Spirit are not about our exaltation or achievement; rather, they are about the body of Christ, God's love gift.

Regarding J.H. King, the King home in Franklin Springs was dedicated as an IPHC museum on November 7. You can find out more about that at [iphc.org](http://iphc.org).

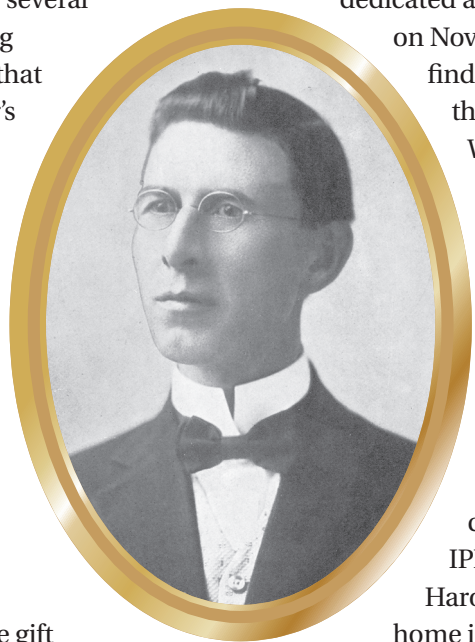
When the last of the four King children died, leaving no heirs, the IPHC was able to purchase this home. Due to the extraordinary work of Mrs.

Sue Carr and her children, as well as IPHC archivist Dr.

Harold Hunter, this home is being preserved as a fitting historical tribute as well as a place to prayerfully reflect on our IPHC present and future.

I am thankful that Dr. Tony Moon, a professor at Emmanuel College, will soon release the definitive biography of Bishop King after several years of historical and theological study. He has pieced together a detailed and compelling account of the life and influence of Joseph H. King and we celebrate this accomplishment. It will surely provide encouragement and enrichment to all who read it. Once released, we will be sure to provide information on how you can purchase a copy.

J.H. King died in 1946 before I was born. But I knew his late wife, Blanche Moore King, and their four children. In my opinion, J.H.



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**A place of hope. A people of promise.**

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King was the most significant General Superintendent of our first 50 years as a movement. His roots in Methodism gave him a solid theological and biblical background for effective ministry.

King traveled globally in 1910 and 1911 and was present in many of the places around the world where the IPHC is now very strong. His theological writings, particularly [From Passover to Pentecost](#), remain an IPHC classic.

In this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, I am indeed primarily thankful for Jesus Christ—God's Love Gift. And I am thankful for godly, passionate preacher-scholars like Bishop J.H. King who laid the foundations for us as the International Pentecostal Holiness Church. □

"In this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, I am indeed primarily thankful for Jesus Christ—God's love gift."

KING PHOTO CREDIT: IPHC ARCHIVES



## WHY WE MUST INVEST IN THE NEXT GENERATION

We are running a relay race. All generations must work together to fulfill God's plan.



By  
**SAMANTHA  
SNIPES**

SAMANTHA SNIPES serves as the IPHC Director of Women's Ministries. She and her husband have owned their own businesses for more than 20 years. She was also director of operations at a design firm and worked with ministries all over the world with their marketing. She has been involved in women's ministry for more than 20 years.

Every generation has a unique purpose. Each generation is benefitted by the one that precedes them and the one that follows after. There is a treasured deposit they are to share with each other.

Making that deposit involves relationships, and relationships are vital. We are in relationship so that the older generation will mentor the younger generations, and for the younger generation to breathe new life and ideas into the older.

We serve the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God designed the generations to flow together with beautiful synergy. He made all generations to combine, interact, cooperate, and be with one another to learn, grow and become the mature bride of Christ.

Mentorship, as when Paul disciplined Timothy, is as essential to the church today as it was when Paul penned the letters that became part of the New Testament. In fact, we have the New Testament because of the mentoring relationships in the early church!

The generations are running a relay race. Mentoring and training is the way the baton is passed so that the race will continue. Leaders must always keep this in mind. They must continually initiate and maintain relationships with younger believers.

Sometimes the younger will pursue the older generation, and that is great. But leaders should not wait for that. When leaders are mentoring, they ought to cast the vision for their disciples to disciple others. Then they will ensure that the baton will pass to future generations long after they have left this earth.

Valuing all generations is essential in the mentoring model set about in the Scriptures. Naomi imparted direction to Ruth, and Ruth imparted hope to Naomi.

Each had a purpose, and that purpose was realized in relationship with one another. I believe as we continue to develop a culture of mentoring, all generations will be intrinsically valued.

Author Suzanne Faure gives this definition: “Mentoring is a long term relationship that meets a development need, helps develop full potential, and benefits all partners, mentor, mentee and the organization.”

The corporate world uses the term mentor often these days. But mentoring is actually a concept that the church has had from the beginning, only then it was called discipleship. Jesus commanded his first disciples to go into all the world and make more disciples.

Making disciples is more than preaching the gospel and seeing people saved. It is about helping those newly saved grow into mature believers and find their place in the body of Christ. It is about reproducing yourself. And it is about your disciples going on to do the same.

Here is a picture of what community looked like immediately after Jesus ascended into heaven: “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.” (Acts 2:42–47 NIV) The Holy Spirit works through the community of believers.

Matt Skinner writes: “This describes a community of faith that operates in the power of God’s Spirit. They are signs of the Spirit within a community of people who understand themselves as united in purpose and identity.”

We who are identified as the body of Christ are made up of unique individuals members, serving different functions that are each

“Making disciples is more than preaching the gospel and seeing people saved. It is about helping those newly saved grow into mature believers.”

necessary to reflect Him completely. In every phase of our lives, we present our unique self as a gift to our generation and to other generations. God has specially created us all to serve an irreplaceable purpose that is fitted for the time we are born to, the community we impact, our generation and those that follow.

Let us be faithful to use our gifts to these purposes for this destiny. When we do this in His limitless supply of love, we will be obeying God’s second greatest commandment after loving Him with all our heart, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:34–35 NIV).

When we love like this, the world will see the heart of God in us. They will know that He is real and that we belong to Him.

The words that Jessica Barroso wrote in IPHC’s *Seven Core Values* resonate strongly in me. She explains: “We understand that the Lord’s will for our movement is not limited to those who have gone before or even those who are currently serving, but to the children, youth, and young adults who are coming behind them. Therefore, as the IPHC family, we seek

to make room for, raise up, provide opportunities for, and honor every single member of our Church, no matter his or her age, as we serve the Lord together.”

My family and I moved to Oklahoma this year so I could serve as the director of Women’s Ministries. At that time my son was prophesied over by our children’s pastor that there were connections that he was to make in Oklahoma for ministry which God has planned for him.

This reminded me that God has a plan for each of us—children included! As we work together as a team, we change lives by being obedient to what He has for us to do in this season. At the same time, as we are obedient to be in the relationships that He has called us to, we help form the generations which come after us, positioning them to be right where God needs them to be, and to do what God has called them to do.

We are all here for such a time as this. That was not just a word for Queen Esther—this is an ageless statement! God has a reason for creating us with our personality and the gifts and talents we have. God has a reason for having us born at the time we were born and putting us with our families and the particular people who are around us.

Let’s live in relationship with one another across generations, mentoring one another in love and raising up the emerging leaders who will reflect God’s glory and reveal the one true God to the world. □



# THREE PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT'S WORK

You will not walk in the fullness of the Spirit's power if you don't understand what He does for you.



BY GREG HOOD

GREG HOOD and his wife, Joan, have planted churches throughout the United States and in other parts of the world. Greg leads the Pacific Realm District of the IPHC, which consists of 31 churches and 65 ministries in Alaska, Hawaii and Guam. Greg has a strong apostolic and prophetic gifting, and he and his wife help pastors and local congregations conduct mission trips and revitalize congregations. The Hoods live with their son Micah in Kailua, Hawaii.

**B**efore Jesus went to the cross He promised that He would not leave us alone. He said in John 16:7-11:

"But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged" (NASB).

Jesus is speaking here to His disciples about the coming of the Holy Spirit, who is without a doubt the Helper. This word helper is also translated advocate, comforter and counselor.

Jesus tells us three primary functions that the Holy Spirit will perform when He comes. These three primary functions are key for us to know because if we don't understand them we will not be able to operate at the level of effectiveness in our assignment that Father has purposed for each of us individually and as a Church corporately.

Before we dive into this, I want to give you the meaning of the word "convict" found in the eighth verse. It is important that we understand this word in order for us to see clearly the working of Holy Spirit as it applies in this passage.

The original Greek word translated to convict here is the word *elegcho*. It means “to expose” or “to show.” It is important to know that the Holy Spirit will expose or reveal sin, righteousness and judgment. We might be tempted to think of the word “convict” as negative. But to expose or to show us these things is not a bad thing. Once we understand what the Holy Spirit is doing, we have a greater confidence in Him, which allows Him to release great power and authority through us as we minister.

## 1. CONCERNING SIN

The ninth verse reads, “concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me.” The Holy Spirit’s first work in our life is to convict us of or to expose to us our sin.

Notice that the main problem is unbelief. The Holy Spirit comes to convict the unbelievers of their need for Jesus, so that they might turn to Him. For the believer, sin simply means missing the mark.

The Holy Spirit does not show us our sin to make us feel guilty, to embarrass us or to bring shame or unworthiness. That’s what the enemy does. The Holy Spirit kindly reveals our sin to us so that we will repent of it so that all obstacles that hinder the growth of our relationship with our Heavenly Father are removed.

Conviction is a good thing! It is different from condemnation. In the case of those who have never been born-again, the Holy Spirit is the One who convicts of sin and introduces each person to Jesus in order that they might make Him Lord of their life.

As long as you are alive, the Holy Spirit will continue to convict you of sin. Never allow yourself to come to a place to where you dismiss or ignore the convicting power of Holy Spirit. We must have our sin exposed in order to maintain a life of purity and holiness before our Father. 1 Thessalonians 3:13 says the Spirit will “establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father.”

## 2. CONCERNING RIGHTEOUSNESS

“...and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me” (John 16:10). Jesus was leaving, He had been their instructor, but now the Holy Spirit would teach them what was right and wrong.

But that’s only part of what the Holy Spirit does. Jesus ascended to the Father to make intercession for us. Because of Jesus’ work on the cross we have received a gift of righteousness. The Holy Spirit was sent to us to live within us and establish us in, or reveal to us, our righteous standing in Christ.

The word righteousness simply means, “right relationship with God.” I love how the Apostle Paul puts it in Romans 5:17: “Those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.”

Righteousness is a free gift. You cannot do anything

“The Holy Spirit does not show us our sin to make us feel guilty, to embarrass us or to bring shame or unworthiness. That’s what the enemy does.”

to earn it. It comes with your relationship with Jesus. And as a born-again believer, you are given the power to reign in this life through this righteousness.

So when you become born-again, the Holy Spirit comes into your life to remind you of the free gift of righteousness you have been given. And He empowers you to reign in this life as a king with all the authority that Jesus bought back for us through His death, burial, resurrection, ascension and sitting down at the right hand of the Father.


His gift of righteousness empowers you to do what He did. In John 14:12 Jesus said: “I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.” There is no way to walk this out without the Holy Spirit!

## 3. CONCERNING JUDGMENT

Lastly, the eleventh verse reads: “And concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.” Saints, you must know that the devil is not the god of this world any longer. He has been judged. The accuser of the brothers and sisters in Christ has been thrown down. There is now no condemnation in Christ Jesus!

Satan has no authority in your life unless you give it to him. Jesus said it Himself in Matthew 28:18 just after His resurrection: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”

The last time I checked, all still means all! Allow the Holy Spirit to show you the judgment that has taken place against the enemy. Don’t let the devil bully you around and cause your life to be full of fear and doubt. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. You are the victor through Jesus Christ!

So let the Holy Spirit complete His work in you. Continue to yield to Him as He convicts of sin and helps you to walk free from it. Be encouraged as He reminds you of your righteousness in Christ. And finally, remember that judgment had been made against your enemy once and for all. 



# PLEASE DON'T **FAKE** THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ANOINTING

Many Christians today can't distinguish between the sweat of the flesh and the dew of heaven.



BY J. LEE GRADY

J. LEE GRADY is an ordained IPHC minister who serves as contributing editor of *Charisma* magazine and editor of *Encourage*. He also directs The Mordecai Project, an international missions organization based in Florida. He is a member of the IPHC's Sonshine Conference. You can follow him on Twitter at [@leegrady](https://twitter.com/leegrady) or visit his ministry website at [themordecainproject.org](http://themordecainproject.org).

**G**ideon is one of my favorite Bible characters because I relate to his struggle with inferiority. God pulled this runt of a guy out of a hole in the ground and called him to deliver Israel. Gideon's classic "Who, me?" response reminds me of conversations I've had with the Lord. None of us feels qualified to do God's work, but we know from Gideon's example that reluctant wimps can be transformed into valiant warriors.

I've heard people criticize Gideon because he laid out a fleece of wool on the ground and asked the Lord—not once but twice—to confirm His promise (see Judges 6:36-40). But the Bible doesn't say God was mad at Gideon for wanting assurance. In fact, God answered Gideon both times with moisture from heaven. The dew was a sign of God's favor and blessing.

You know how the story ends. Gideon's impressive army of 22,000 is downsized to a ragtag band of 300, and they carry only trumpets, clay pots and torches into battle. Through their supernatural victory over Midian, God made it clear that His anointing has nothing to do with human ability.

How many of us have learned Gideon's lesson? Do you trust the Holy Spirit to work in you, or do you lean on the flesh? Do you have the precious dew of His miraculous anointing on your life, or have you manufactured a cheap form of human moisture to do the job?

Many Christians today can't distinguish between the sweat of the flesh and the dew of heaven, but there is a big difference. As I have prayed for more anointing in my life, I've realized that we often mistake fake anointing for the real thing. Here's what I've learned so far:

### THE ANOINTING ISN'T IN NUMBERS.

We place so much importance on church size today, yet God doesn't seem impressed by crowds. I have nothing against megachurches as long as they preach the gospel—and many of them do a better job of it than small churches. But we're headed for disaster if we think seating capacity alone reflects God's approval. Remember: The crowds that followed Jesus in the beginning didn't follow Him to the Cross.

### THE ANOINTING ISN'T IN ELOQUENCE.

Some people have an uncanny way with words (including non-Christian motivational speakers), but persuasive skill isn't the same as spiritual anointing. The dew of heaven is holy. It brings conviction and repentance—not self-awareness and an ego boost. Just because a slick-haired preacher can get everyone to stand on the pews and wave handkerchiefs does not mean he is full of the Holy Ghost. True preaching does not exalt the preacher—it crucifies him and focuses all attention on the Son of God.

### THE ANOINTING ISN'T IN LOOKS.

In today's cool evangelical scene, rock star pastors are expected to be sexy, and everyone in the praise team needs trendy clothes. There's nothing wrong with dressing to reach your audience, but I hope we don't think the Holy Spirit is impressed with hipness or the latest spiky hair gel. The dowdy grandmother wearing orthopedic shoes might have a word from the Lord for the congregation—but will we allow her on the stage?

### THE ANOINTING ISN'T IN TECHNOLOGY.

I love to use digital graphics when preaching. But some of the most anointed meetings I've been in were in Third World countries where we didn't even have reliable electricity, much less computers

**"Let's turn away from every false anointing and ask the God who answered Gideon to soak us with His heavenly power."**

and projectors. When genuine anointing falls on a preacher, he or she can talk for two hours without having to entertain. Put your trust in God's power, not PowerPoint.

### THE ANOINTING ISN'T IN EMOTIONALISM.

In many churches today, lack of anointing creates a vacuum that is filled by screaming, swooning and other forms of religious theater. It doesn't matter

what is preached—it is "anointed" as long as the preacher punctuates it with enough volume and the people shout back. (One preacher I know had everyone hollering while she quoted lines from a Beyoncé song!) Remember: Backslidden Israel shouted so loud that the earth quaked, but by the end of the day the Philistines had plundered them (see 1 Sam. 4:5-11).

If we are honest, we will admit that in the IPHC we have sometimes judged a preacher by his or her volume level—rather than sermon content. Preachers come in all shapes, sizes and delivery styles. The important thing is not the mannerisms or inflections but the evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence.

The anointing isn't in contrived manifestations. I love it when the Holy Spirit does miracles. But when people fake the supernatural in order to get an audience response (or a big offering), I run for the door. I am so tired of seeing preachers push people to the floor so they can feel that their message was powerful. If you have to push, you are in the flesh. If we had the fear of God we would never pretend to have the anointing by pushing, jerking, slurring words or stretching the facts in a testimony.

Charles Spurgeon referred to the Holy Spirit's anointing as "unction," and he said of it: "Unction is a thing which you cannot manufacture, and its counterfeits are worse than worthless." Let's turn away from every false anointing and ask the God who answered Gideon to soak us with His heavenly power. □

## THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT:

STORIES FOR CHILDREN /  
STORIES FROM THE MANGER /  
STORIES FOR GROWN-UPS

Many of us have special memories filled with the sights and sounds of the Christmas season, and IPHC General Superintendent Doug Beacham is no different. In December 1990, while serving as senior pastor of Franklin Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church, Beacham began writing an original Christmas story each year as a special gift for his congregation. They were read on Christmas Sunday or during the Christmas Eve candlelight service. After leaving the church to serve as an IPHC executive in 1994, Beacham continued the tradition of writing a new Christmas story each year until 2001.

"By then, those stories were written for my family; but community people still would ask if I had written another," Beacham writes. "Sometimes I read them at the Franklin Springs church; other times, I read them on Christmas Eve in our home where upwards of forty people would attend. I also began to read them in the Christmas chapel service for some of the U.S. Army Reserve units in Georgia for which I served as chaplain."

Now, over two decades after the first entry was penned, Beacham's Christmas short story collection is available in a single volume. *The Christmas Spirit* includes a variety of stories set within the context of the biblical narrative, stories specifically for children, and contemporary stories intended more for adults. The collection is filled with wit, wisdom and Christmas wonder that can be shared by the entire family this holiday season.

Order your copy from LifeSprings Resources by calling (800) 541-1376 or visiting [www.lifesprings.net](http://www.lifesprings.net).

—Sara Ray

