

Stardom to Kingdom

(A Living Faith Life)



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Chapter 1

A call to God

I was converted at the age of 15 after challenging God, if indeed He existed, to reveal Himself to me. I had considered that if He did exist and made this world, with all its pain and suffering, then He owed me some confirmation of His existence and an explanation as to what was going on! I looked at my parents and grandparents growing older and like many teenagers, I was trying to make sense of life, death, and the universe. So I cried out in anger and desperation to God, whilst walking one night on a golf course, at the back of my garden in South Wales... “God, if you exist then show yourself to me, show me God!” My call was, in reality, a very good prayer; it was from the heart, it was honest, it

was real, and in hindsight I can see that it was similar to King David's manner of prayer "*...out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord*" (Psalm 130).

A few weeks after my call to God, I followed a pretty girl, who I liked from school, into a Christian youth meeting one Friday night; yes indeed, God works in strange ways, His wonders to perform! I was unaware at the time, but I had begun walking down the road that would answer the call I had made to God just a few weeks previously. On the third Friday evening, after following that girl into the Christian youth club, in a small meeting hut in South Wales, I prayed a prayer to become a Christian. When I first walked into the youth club three weeks earlier, people nicknamed my friends and I 'Cool and the Gang' because of my John Travolta type walk, my confident strut, but that night after I accepted

Jesus as my Saviour and asked Him into my heart, I didn't need to impress anyone with a cool strut anymore, I was so genuinely happy. It was amazing, something real had happened after that prayer, I felt as light and carefree as a young child once again, free of the weight of my burdens and questions, and I literally skipped down the street home and bursting with enthusiasm, I told my parents that I was a Christian!

Jesus said, "*Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light*" (Matthew 11:29-30). Those words of Jesus now made more sense than ever to me; they had jumped off the page of the Bible and entered my reality.

It was listening to the words of Jesus being read out aloud in

that meeting place that did it for me; for three weeks I listened to the words of Jesus. I understood those words as being true, even as a cynical youth, the words of Jesus cut through my façade and bravado; I accepted their authenticity, something about them rang true deep down inside of me. They were spiritual words and were able to resonate far deeper within me than any other words I'd heard before: *“For the Word of God is quick {living}, and powerful {active}, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart”* {Hebrews 4:12}.

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As a schoolboy I was quite popular; I was the school chess and golf champion and represented my county in both. Having said that, I ought to point out, that the county of Carmarthenshire is only a small rural community, so perhaps it wasn't a particularly huge achievement! Also, I enjoyed drama and music and would play the lead role in our school plays. I left school to become a professional golfer, but soon the golf links were losing their appeal and music was taking over, especially as I had began writing and recording my own songs.

After being told by my parents that I needed to find a job, I perused all the options and narrowed down my search to a job that would fulfil three main points of criteria: 1. Pay me a fortune, 2. Allow me to travel the world, and 3. Be tremendous

fun! What job would meet my goals? The conclusion seemed obvious; I'll become a famous singer! As I look back now, I wonder if the startling naivety of my plan, might disguise one of the main ingredients of success which I had plenty of, the commodity of faith.

I set off to London armed only with my demonstration tapes, an unemployment cheque, and an old suitcase. I walked with tears in my eyes for a mile to the local train station, it was so sad to be leaving my village home in Wales. On the walk to the train station it felt as though I was finally saying goodbye to my happy childhood days, it was time to leave the nest and fly on my own. On the one hand there was sadness, on the other great expectations, what would London have in store for me, where would this adventure lead? I prayed for God to help



Theatre
of World
Renown:
The London
Palladium

and guide me and believed that He would.

You might imagine my parents surprise when I telephoned home after only four days, having secured employment singing on the stage of the London Palladium! Mum and Dad were

as pleased as they were surprised; my adventure had truly begun and far quicker than I thought. Whilst singing at the London Palladium I met an array of interesting people and the doors of opportunity started to open for me. As a boy I had really liked the 1960's 'Pop' group 'The Kinks,' now their manager Larry Page, who heard me sing me at the London Palladium, was offering to arrange a 'Pop' group around me! Larry Page had also been a number 1 music

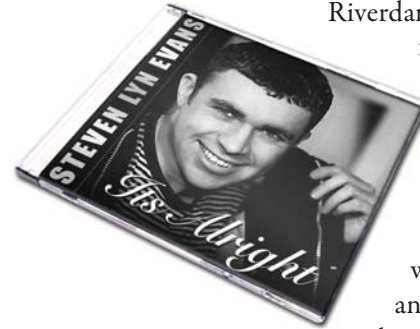
producer for many years and produced classic songs such as 'Wild Thing' for 'The Troggs' in the 1960's. Within a few days of arriving in London, things were moving extremely fast and it was getting difficult for me to take it all in.

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Chapter 2

Going for a song

Since my conversion at 15 years of age, I had prayed for help in all sorts of areas, before moving to London I had prayed specifically for help in finding work as a singer. As I look back now it's tremendous to recognise the hand of God helping me, for example, the man who gave me an audition and subsequent employment at the London Palladium was a born-again Spirit-filled Christian brother.



Martin, whose family own the world renowned musical Riverdance, remains a dear friend to this day.

During the next few years, I worked with several leading people within the music and entertainment businesses, sometimes, as an in-house writer and singer for record companies. Also at times, I worked within the wider entertainment industry and on occasions the work would be highly interesting. I can remember one job, for example, where I was presenting a television programme for the Virgin Media Group and one section of the programme involved me being flown in an acrobatic helicopter with the door wide open. Ah! The thrill of it all; those were often very

interesting days, especially for someone with a natural bias towards vertigo!

My love of music had been strong for several years but an unexpected shift occurred one day after an impromptu telephone call I made. For several years I had been the lead singer in a popular London based group called 'Rentintwain' and I had sometimes worked with the well known 'Pop' singers David and Carrie Grant. I first worked with David and Carrie when they were hired by producers to sing backing vocals for a song I was singing lead on in Rentintwain. I can remember being struck at how warm



Promo shots for the group Rocket with Billy Chapman from The Style Council and UB40

and encouraging they were, their Christian faith radiated from them. The producers of that song "Move on Up" written by Curtis Mayfield, were brothers Steve and Paul Jervier, and Jonathan Wales, who whilst producing us, were simultaneously producing number 1 hits around the world for groups like Take That.

On this particular day, I decided to call David and Carrie for some reason and Carrie answered the phone and said, "You're just the person I'm looking for, do you want to perform at the Royal Variety Show?" Well, I jumped at the chance and said, "Yes please, thanks very much!" Little did I realise that the performance on National Television, for one of Simon Cowell's acts, in front of His Royal Highness the Prince of



Singing in my favourite group Rentintwain! Wearing my trademark ☆ t-shirt

Wales, was of secondary significance to an important change that was to take place in my life that day.

On the day of the Royal Variety Show during the afternoon sound check, I turned around whilst on stage and facing me was the headline act, fellow Welshman, the singer Tom Jones. We shared a welcome in our native Welsh language and shook hands. There was a good rapport between us immediately and later on in the afternoon, as arranged, I went up to his dressing room to continue our chat. Tom and I sat around chatting about Wales and the 'Pop' music scene. I was even working with Tom's favourite British engineer, a person that he's wanted to take to



David and Carrie Grant are greatly respected vocalists within the world of 'Pop' music.

America with him. I was having a great time; after all, everything seemed to be pointing to my growing success within the music business.

However, during our conversation, Tom spoke about singing as his destiny or 'calling' he said that, "I'd always felt that somehow, I'd be a singer, you know what I mean?" As he said that, a strange thing happened, something immediately became crystal clear to me, I didn't know what he meant at all! I'd never had that depth of feeling about singing, Tom was completely passionate about his singing, in a way I had never been, it seemed so clear to me all of the sudden. However, I had had that depth of feeling about something else; preaching the Gospel!

During that conversation a 180 degree change started in my life and I knew that I wasn't being

‘called’ into music. Instead, I knew for sure that I was being ‘called’ by God to preach the greatest news ever given to mankind, the Gospel of Jesus



Tom Jones, known within the music industry as ‘The Voice’.

Christ! My conversation with Tom that day awoke my own sense of ‘calling’ which I had been aware of for several years, but was mostly laying dormant. Whenever that sense had come up before, I’d ignored it, but now, perhaps through the way that Tom was so enthusiastic about his ‘calling’, God was convicting me of my own ‘calling’ and my lack of enthusiasm for it. Deep down inside I knew that for me to be a ‘success’, to reach my God given potential in life, I would need to respect and honour that ‘calling’. From that moment on,

to pursue music would have been to have accepted second best; when offers of potential further success came my way, even a hit record; I was simply no longer interested.

At the time, I can remember thinking I was still being called to be a star, but it was a far more lasting stardom, in which I, along with all my Christian family members, were called to *“...shine like stars in the universe”* (Philippians 2:15).

Why it happened in that way, I’m not exactly sure, but the thing I do know is that God was still surprising me by the way He worked in my life.

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Chapter 3

Shining like a star

During the next few years my life changed significantly through learning many great Biblical lessons on subjects such as love, forgiveness, and faith. As I look back, there are several key moments and pivotal times during which I was able to make Godly choices, through a growing understanding and commitment to living by Biblical principles.

As a young man, even as a sincere Christian, like so many in the church today, I had not experienced the abundant life that Jesus promised (John 10:10). But why, I attended church, prayed, sang, lifted my hands, shed tears, and often felt very close to God? However, I'd let human reasoning, life's experiences and the pervasive, often negative culture; replace the



promises and hope that were mine in the 'Word of God.' A power packed victorious Christian life often needs to be counter culture, the world has no antidote for sin outside of Jesus Christ, so if they reject Christ, they pave the way for moral depravity and all sorts of chaos ensues. Even within the church it seems that too many Christians conform the Bible to the limitations of their personal experiences, in so doing they oppose Jesus' mandate for true believers: "*Most assuredly, 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 My Father*" (John 14:12). Authentic Christianity demands that we raise our expectations that we break out from our human limitations and into the realm where, "*all things are possible*" (Mark 9:23).

The transformation of my Christian life started one day when I decided to fully embrace the fact that I was not only a member of the Christian Church, but also a son of God. I prayed that as I truly was one of God's sons, as the Bible taught, then I could expect God to help me live in the abundant life that Jesus had promised for me in the Bible. I decided that the Bible was my final authority and I committed to believe that it would lead me in everything I did. That decision has caused me difficulties at times, I've often made a strong stand on an issue when it seemed that most others were compromising, but in the end, those times have proved to be the seeds of Godly blessings. Those sorts of decisions birth character, integrity, honour, and many wonderful blessings from God. I've reached the conclusion that the Bible truly works; it really is a handbook for a successful life!

**An Equation For The
Transformation
of Your
Christian Life**

**Study the Word of God
(RECEIVE IT)**

then

**Act on the Word of God
(BELIEVE IT)**

to

**Experience the Word of God
(LIVE IT)**

*If you want to make a quality
decision to live this way then
demonstrate your intention by
signing and dating below.*

Name:.....

Date:.....

Let me give you a few examples of how I applied the scriptures to my personal situations and received great transformations in my life. It's a case of moving from mere head knowledge and into the realm of occupying heart knowledge and real life also.

Firstly, the scripture below showed me that it was vital for me to change my thinking. As I reflected on it, I could see that things such as the modern media promoted culture, which I had been heavily influenced by, was often highly corruptive to true Christian perspectives. Consequently therefore, I needed to re-examine my rationale on a range of issues, my new criteria was no longer based on things like the shifting propaganda of the media, but the unchanging Word of God.

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and

acceptable and perfect will of God”
(Romans 12:2)

The following scripture showed me that faith isn't merely an idea or a feeling, in terms of the supernatural realm faith is a real commodity, it has substance. Faith is a potent ingredient, integral for a successful life, it can truly move mountains!

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)

The verse below gave me an assurance that God would provide for me, it caused my confidence and relationship with God to grow. Also after reading this and similar scriptures, I was assured that I could ask God to help me in every area of life. He cares for all our physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, our role is to simply ask Him for help.

“If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent.” (Luke 11:11)



These scriptures reminded me that I'm in THE Royal family; I'm a son of God not an insignificant person, a precious child in the great family of believers and most wonderfully "an heir of God!" The best the world has to offer pales into insignificance in comparison with the standing of a Christian, I'm convinced that most



GOOD EVANS: Minister Steve Evans, with some of his congregation

Miracles at minister's services

● From Page 1

In church and people have been healed.

"I am not a healer. We pray to God and He does the healing."

"If God wants them to be healed He will heal them, but He has given us the authority to administer the healing."

Pat Swadlow, 63, of Winstanley, used to have back ache and discovered she had one leg shorter than the other.

When Rev Evans prayed for her during a service, she and other members of the congregation were amazed at what they saw.

Pat said: "I held one foot out and I could see half an inch difference. We started to pray and I could feel the whole of my leg pulling and I could see my foot aligning with the other one."

"I don't know why but I think it's wonderful. I can understand people are saying I imagined it, but other people saw it. I just think it's the power of God."

Genelia Benschaw, 70, of Winstanley, has a similar story.

She said: "Rev Evans put his hand on my head and I immediately felt my spine straighten."

"I had arthritis in my left knee. I used to walk with a stick and stop every few yards."

"But one day, I could walk the whole length of Owell Water Park."

"Another incident was when I asked for a prayer because I had a pain in my back."

"I had one leg shorter than the other and when Steve prayed the congregation could see one leg grow to match the other one."

Peter Aspinall, 63, of Winstanley, suffers severe pains in his leg and neck after getting meningitis 20 years ago.

He said: "It was very painful one night and I prayed like Steve and I have had no problems since. It's all down to what we believe in really."

A spokesman for the Free Methodist Church confirmed the stories and said other Free Methodist Churches have experienced similar healings.

Christian TV channels, God TV and God Europe - claim to show similar healings, and Rev Evans has put a video on YouTube of a "miracle."

Christians would walk a little differently if they truly accepted their place in THE Royal family.

“And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.” (2 Corinthians 6:18)

“Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.” (Galatians 4:7)

Conclusion:

I can truly say that no amount of fame or fortune could ever compare with the adventures of faith that I've had as a Christian. Performing at great events such as the Royal Variety Show has been a tremendous honour and privilege, but the feelings that performing gave me, are nothing in comparison to participating in life as a member of God's Royal family.

The greatest privilege in life is reaching out to people, preaching the Gospel, and seeing Jesus, the living Saviour, wonderfully transforming peoples' lives.

I can remember once sitting in a recording studio with a world famous musician, we'd been recording songs for weeks and were becoming good friends, one day he explained to me that as a teenager he dreamed of fame and fortune. When he was just a young man, he found great fame and fortune through 'Pop' music and he told me that, "It ended up being the biggest disappointment of my life." The truth is that fame and fortune promise so much, but they deliver very little because they don't deal with the BIG issue of life, which is mankind's separation from God. We've been separated because of our sin and only faith in Jesus and His sacrifice on the cross deals with that issue. The 'Good News' is that you have an

opportunity to change. Are you willing to turn from your sin and repent, change your mind? Sin might taste sweet at times but like sugar in the end it rots and destroys! And of course the consequences of sin are far more serious than mere sugar, Hell is a reality, don't be tricked! Listen to the greatest Man in history (Jesus Christ), quoted in the most authoritative and important book, the Holy Bible.

"But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear Him, which after He hath killed hath power to cast into Hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear Him" (Luke 12:5).

"... except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:5).

"... but now commands all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30).

Take this opportunity to change, turn from your sin and repent, say "Yes" to the love and call of Jesus Christ in your life.

Finally, we've witnessed many great miracles, the local and national press have been reporting on some of the miracles and sometimes with front page headlines! It's been said that front page reports like these have not been seen in England since the days of Smith Wigglesworth. Well, God hasn't changed has He; if we believe the Word of God we will see great things take place. Every believer is called as a minister of the Gospel to some degree, I hope that you will reach your full potential in God, go on, you can do it, be a star!

“So that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe”

(Philippians 2:15).



A Prayer to Become A Christian:

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to you in the name of Your Son Jesus Christ, He was crucified, rose again, ascended into Heaven, and will return one day.

Your Word says “... *the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out*” (John 6:37), so I know that You won’t cast me out, instead You accept me and I thank You so much for that.

You said in your Word “...*whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved*” (Romans 10:13). I am calling on Your name and I know that even as I pray these words, You have been faithful to Your Word and saved me.

You also said, “*that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation*” (Romans 10:9,10). I believe in my heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. I believe that He was raised from the dead for my justification, and I confess Him now as my Lord. Your Word says, “*For He made Him who knew no sin (Jesus) to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him* (2 Corinthians 5:21). I have therefore now become the righteousness of God through Jesus Christ, please help me follow You with Godly integrity and help me help others to do the same.

Thank You Lord. A. Men.

Signed:..... Date:.....



Steve and Mikah Evans

Rev. Steven Lyn Evans left his home in South Wales as a young 20 years old with an unemployment cheque and a dream to become a singer; within four days he was singing on the stage of the world famous London Palladium! In 1996 whilst performing at the Royal Variety Show Steve spent time with fellow Welshman Tom Jones and became convinced that his 'calling' was to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Steve studied for three years at the London Bible College where he attained a B.A. (Hon's) degree in Theology and a Higher Education Diploma in Evangelism. Following on from these studies, Steve trained at St. Michael's College, University of Wales, where he attained his Masters Degree in Theology.

Steve ministers the Gospel of Jesus Christ many times with miracles following and has preached in a cross section of churches, special events, conferences, and on both radio and television. Steve, his Canadian wife Mikah and their baby daughter moved into Pastoral ministry at Living Faith Church in Lancashire, England, at the end of 2008.

