

# THE UNCOMMON MINISTER<sup>®</sup>



**Powerful Steps  
To A More  
Powerful  
Ministry**

V O L U M E  
**6**

***MIKE MURDOCK***

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# **The Uncommon Minister**

*Volume 6*

*by*

**Mike Murdock**

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

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To avoid the burdensome verbiage of him/her; his, hers throughout this book, the simple reference to all of mankind, male or female, is simply “he” or “him.”

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# Establish Your Secret Place For Meeting Privately With The Holy Spirit Each Day.



*Uncommon Ministry is produced by the Holy Spirit.*

The Secret Place is the place where you meet with God every day of your life.

It is where you enter His presence and become changed, corrected, informed and loved. It is the Room where you kneel in humility at the Altar of Mercy and receive forgiveness, restoration and revelation regarding your Assignment on earth.

It is your Prayer Room. It is the prayer closet, or any place you have sanctified and set apart for the *exclusive use of the Holy Spirit* to deal privately and intimately with your life.

Establishing your *Secret Place* is possibly the most life changing, revolutionizing decision you will make during your lifetime, if you correctly discern the dramatic encounters such a place can birth.

## ***15 Keys To Entering The Secret Place***

1. *Enter Daily.* The Psalmist said, “Lord, I have called daily upon Thee, I have stretched out my hands unto Thee” (Psalm 88:9).

2. *Enter Your Secret Place When Your Ministry Is*

*Threatened Or Abused.* “The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them” (Psalm 34:7).

3. *Enter Before Making Any Major Financial Decisions About Your Ministry.* The Apostle Paul understood this. “But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19).

4. *Enter Confessing Your Personal Weaknesses And Expect To Be Made Strong.* Jesus is still the difference in your ministry. “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13).

5. *Enter With A Broken And Contrite Spirit.* Humility is the magnet that never fails to attract God. “The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit” (Psalm 34:18).

6. *Enter When You Feel Disappointed Concerning Unanswered Prayers.* It worked for the greatest king of Israel. “I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor His Seed begging bread” (Psalm 37:25).

7. *Enter When You Need Acts Of Mercy From God.* It was the secret of David’s *anointing*. “He is ever merciful” (Psalm 37:26).

8. *Enter If You Have Fallen Deep Into Personal Sin.* Reaching is the remedy for a preacher’s sins, too!

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in His way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with His hand” (Psalm

37:23,24).

9. *Enter When Someone Is Speaking Slanderous Words Which Are Stirring Up Enmity And Strife Against You.* The arms of God are always your best defense. “Thou shalt hide them in the secret of Thy presence from the pride of man: Thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues” (Psalm 32:20).

10. *Enter When Your Ministry Is Encountering Confusion And Unexpected Change.* Transition is often our most vulnerable season. “My times are in Thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me” (Psalm 31:15).

11. *Enter When You Are Uncertain In Your Decision Making.* Consulting God is never a mistake. “I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with Mine eye” (Psalm 32:8).

12. *Enter When Money Problems Are Strangling Your Ministry.* God wants your ministry to prosper. “This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles” (Psalm 34:6).

13. *Enter Into His Presence When Your Ministry Is Doing Well.* The goodness of God deserves recognition. “I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad” (Psalm 34:1,2).

14. *Enter Into His Presence When Your Dreams And Goals Seem Impossible To Achieve.* God loves to do the impossible.

“O fear the Lord, ye His saints: for there is no want to them that fear Him. The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing” (Psalm 34:9,10).

15. *Enter With Expectation.* God honors it. “... for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

*Expectation is a current.* It sweeps you into the Holy Place. It brings you into God’s presence where you are purged, purified and changed.

Expect God to *respond* to you.

Expect pain to *leave* your body.

Expect *confusion* to depart from your mind.

Expect *revelation* concerning those you love.

Expect supernatural *peace* and *joy* to explode within your heart as you enter His presence.

*Establish Your Secret Place For Meeting Privately With The Holy Spirit Each Day.*

It is One of the Secrets of The Uncommon Minister.

# 2

# Preach To Reveal The Greatness of God.



*God is the only answer to life.*

You know it. Others do not. Their focus is on their problem. Your focus is on their solution. Connect them to God. The Apostle Paul understood this. “Whereof I was made a minister...that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold Wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Ephesians 3:7-11).

Preaching is more than your political weapon.

Preaching is not a forum for your prejudices.

Preaching is the Oil, healing the wounded.

Preaching is the Bridge out of trouble.

When your people leave a service discussing the greatness of God, you have *succeeded*.

When they leave discussing your preaching skills, you have *failed*.

When your people leave excited and enthused over their future, you have *succeeded*.

When they walk out of the service fearful and perplexed, you have *failed*.

Preach God so *big* your people can no longer see you in the pulpit.

Preach God so *powerful* the mountains your people face appear as pebbles compared to the greatness of their God.

Preach God so *good* your people want their friends to experience His goodness.

Preach God so *merciful* your people expect the most sinful around them to be changed.

Preach God so *loving* your people don't want to leave His presence.

Preach God so *forgiving* your people refuse to hide their sins.

Preach God so *just* the anger of your people subsides.

Preach God so *healing* that sickness and disease cannot survive among your people.

Preach God so *providing* that the financial chains of your people are broken.

Preach God so *accessible* that your people build a Secret Place in their home to meet with Him daily.

*Preach To Reveal The Greatness Of God.*

It is One of the Secrets of The Uncommon Minister.

# 3

# Know Your Staff Well.



*Your future is affected by your staff.*

*A careless staff will destroy your dream.*

*An uncaring staff will destroy your motivation.*

*An untaught staff will paralyze your progress.*

*An arrogant staff will alienate your friends.*

“Know them which labour among you” (1 Thessalonians 5:12).

*Jesus knew His disciples well.* He spoke to Peter, “Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren” (Luke 22:31,32).

## *1. Know The Dominant Gifts And Skills Of Your Staff.*

Who is the most qualified to motivate others? Repair a computer? Show hospitality to visitors? Type your letter? Find flaws in your manuscripts? Who can get things done the easiest? Who has leadership skills? Whose loyalty keeps everything bonded together around you? Their gifts and skills were planted there by the Holy Spirit for the completion of *your* work and calling. (See Exodus 31:1-6.)

## *2. Know The Background Of Your Staff.*

A pastor friend of mine was troubled. “Mike, my Minister of Music simply will not learn new songs that I want him to learn. I have pushed, encouraged and even gotten a little angry. But, he simply will not change.”

As we talked, it dawned on him that the *background* of this Minister of Music was much different than his. He had no feeling for the new songs of praise and worship. He was comfortable with traditional songs. You see, our background has everything to do with our comfort, prejudices and fears. Knowing your staff is vitally important.

3. *Know The Greatest Fears Of Your Staff.* After much discussion, I discovered that one of my associate's greatest fears was the loss of consistent income. His bitter experiences of the past made him very fearful of any job loss. Just the thought of being fired almost paralyzed him with fear. He did not have the confidence that he could find another job easily.

In an interview, a new candidate for a position on my staff expressed concern. According to our policy handbook, they were required to wait 90 days before they securing medical insurance. That was troubling. Why? They greatly feared a sudden tragedy, disease or sickness would catch them "unprotected."

*Your fears affect your decision making.* That is why it is essential that you know the greatest fears of the leaders of your staff. I had a manager who feared firing an employee. Years before, he had experienced a lawsuit because of the firing of an obnoxious employee. It left him devastated and overly cautious. Consequently, he retained one of my employees much too long because he feared another legal battle.

4. *Know The Weaknesses Of Your Staff.* I had a tragic experience. One of my favorite friends had supposedly mastered a drug problem. So, I finally accepted him as a travel

assistant to help strengthen and build him up again in the work of the Lord. He assured me that he had not touched drugs in several years. I believed him. Late one night, he and I arrived at a southern city. The pastor and several of his board members met us at the airport and took us back to the hotel. Just past midnight, after we finished praying together in my room, he returned to his own suite. The next morning, I could not locate him. He was not in his room. I rode in the car to the church with a perplexed and heavy heart. Something was wrong. I knew it. That morning, several members of my staff had driven over 200 miles to the service. They were puzzled by his disappearance, also. That afternoon, he never appeared. That night, as I finished the crusade, he was still absent. When the pastor and his men took me to the airport Monday morning, I apologized and said, "I think I know what is wrong. But, I'm not free to discuss it now." I was embarrassed beyond description.

Three days later, my travel associate telephoned. He was cheerful and lighthearted about his "mistake." He had found some friends, taken drugs, and was "out" on them for three days. Obviously, I could not take him back into my home and my ministry. He was upset by this fact. But, his sin had become a very small and playful thing to him.

The pastor and church? He is still one of my favorite pastors. I love the church. But, the embarrassment to my ministry has been so great I have been too uncomfortable to return to the church.

*Some weaknesses of your staff are capable of destroying every dream God has placed in your heart. That's why Achan*

was stoned. That's why the Holy Spirit killed Ananias in the church. That's why Korah was swallowed up in the earth.

*Your ministry cannot succeed beyond the weaknesses of your staff.* Know them. Name them. Correct them. Help them overcome them.

Don't stay ignorant of them.

Know those who *exaggerate*.

Know those who *lie*.

Know those who speak *disloyalty* behind your back.

Know those who are *envious* of your success as the leader.

Know those who will pour out their life for you.

Know those who truly *work* for you. "Know them which labour among you" (1 Thessalonians 5:12).

5. *Know The Friends Of Your Staff.* Someone else is speaking into the lives of your staff, also. You are not their *only* advisor. Yesterday, a young pastor sat here in my home. He was troubled. He had lost two of his favorite people from his staff. As we talked, it became evident that two other friends had caused their agitation. Their *offenses* were *fueled*. As soon as a door opened, they scattered. Friends are photographs of our *comfort* zone. Your staff may love you. They may like you. But, their friends are possibly telling them *much more* than you are. What are the weaknesses of those friends? Think for a moment. What is the passion level of the friends of your staff? What does your staff do for *recreation*? Who do they shop with? These are clues to their life.

6. *Know The Heroes Of Your Staff.* Everybody follows somebody. Whose books do they read? Whose achievements do they admire?

*Know Your Staff Well.*

It is One of the Secrets of The Uncommon Minister.

# 4

# Keep A Receipt For Every Ministry Purchase.



*Document every purchase.*

Sometimes, it may not seem to be important. But, it is very important that you develop the habit of keeping receipts on everything that you buy. When I leave the airport, I secure a receipt for the fifty-cent cost, not because I am desperate for the reimbursement, but I need the *habit* of asking for a receipt to be emphasized and made permanent in my life. I want the habit to become *instinctive*, not requiring my memory or attention.

Something interesting happened many years ago. When I left a motel in Kentucky, I pulled out my credit card to pay for my telephone calls. Usually, the church pays for the room and food. But, I always pay for the telephone calls, faxes or other items. I was in a hurry to leave for the airport. I placed the receipt in my little leather bag.

In those days, I would often go to several weeks of meetings before returning home. Receipts pile up. After a few weeks, you collect a stack of receipts that you cannot begin to explain to anyone! Especially when you are taking flights, shoving \$5.00 bills in the hands of a bellman at the motel, the hands of a skycap at the airport. When you are busy making change and running through airports, receipts become a blur.

(Since then, I try to *write something on every receipt* that explains it so that it will trigger my memory two or three weeks later while reviewing it with my bookkeeper.)

Thirty days later, the telephone rang. I was in my little garage working at my desk. It was my office at the time in Houston, Texas. My pastor friend from Kentucky was on the phone. He sounded rather distant and cool.

“Hello, Mike? I just wanted to know why you did not pay your own telephone calls here at the motel when you checked out?” He did not even bother *asking* me if I had paid the hotel for the telephone bill or not. He plunged in with full confidence that the motel people had given him accurate information.

I was taken aback. In fact, I felt rather agitated that he had not questioned me first. The telephone bill was not that high. But, I explained to him that I *had* paid my own telephone bill.

“Well, they have just charged the church for it again, if you did pay it.”

I asked him to hold the line for a few moments. I began to dig through my desk drawer for the credit card receipt. Miraculously, it was still in the stack of receipts. I pulled it out and gave the details to him on the phone. Then, I Xeroxed a copy and mailed it to him. (This was before the days of fax machines! How I bless the person who created the fax machine!)

My receipt salvaged my reputation. However, he was so embarrassed over his attitude toward me that he never again had the courage and comfort to approach me about a crusade. I

had been speaking for him every year. The meetings were tremendous. The receipt episode damaged our relationship.

## ***5 Benefits Of Keeping Receipts***

1. *The Habit Of Keeping Receipts Will Help You With Your Taxes.* When you complete your income tax forms at the end of the year, you'll be thankful for every receipt that can save you money.

2. *Keeping Receipts Keeps You Reminded Of Where Your Money Has Been Spent.* This is important. Expenses are always much more than what you had planned. Keeping receipts helps you in budgeting and thinking ahead.

3. *Keeping Receipts Can Protect Your Reputation Of Integrity.* When you keep receipts, you can prove your honesty.

4. *When You Keep Receipts, You Send A Message Of Organization And Order.* You know what you are talking about, and it shows.

5. *When You Keep Receipts, You Increase The Confidence Of Others Toward You.* They will consider your opinion valuable on other matters as well.

6. *When an employee approaches my bookkeeper for a reimbursement without a receipt, this sends a message to me.* Where they sloppy in their organizing of receipts? Did they really secure a receipt? Did they actually spend the money? Are unconcerned about the finances of the ministry?

The answer? Simple. Get a receipt.

When you fail to secure receipts:

1. You Portray Sloppiness And Disorder.
2. You Send A Message Of Rebellion.
3. You Cause Others To *Doubt* What You Say.
4. You *Slow Down* Reimbursements.
5. You Create A Climate Of *Suspicion*.

Solomon was meticulous about record keeping. Every single animal used in a meal in the palace was accounted for. “Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds” (Proverbs 27:23). Why? “The riches are not forever.” (Proverbs 27:24).

*Keep A Receipt For Every Ministry Purchase.*

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# 5

# Give Your Total Attention To The Immediate Moment.



*Focus produces miracles.*

Whatever receives your focus will grow, improve, and multiply. Whatever you give attention to will *increase* and become better.

Many years ago, I was helped by the marvelous insight of one of my dearest friends, Donna Douglas, a well-known celebrity. Millions still know her as Ellie Mae Clampett on “The Beverly Hillbillies.” Her scrapbooks were thick and piled high regarding her fame. Thousands of photographers had photographed her. Yet, I noticed that when people talked to her, she looked straight into their eyes. She gave them her complete attention. Her schedule was full, but she always *abandoned herself to the moment* when conversing with others.

She explained it simply. “Mike, I am always wherever I am.” She refused to let her mind be in a different place than her body.

Here is how it helped her:

When she conversed with someone, she gave total focus to every word they said. Consequently, her *reactions* were accurate for that moment. Her perception was pure. Her instincts were *incredible*. The person always received *the best* of what she possessed at that moment. Afterwards, it was

unnecessary for her to replay the conversation to see if she had forgotten to *say* the right things, *remember* the right information, or have *any* regrets. They had received the best that she had. The moment ended. It was over. *Now, her future received her undivided attention.*

She was always where she was.

This helped me greatly. You see, many are thinking about their home and family while they are at work. So, their best work *never* emerges. They never taste the results of *total* focus. They *never* reach maximum *quality* in anything they do on their job. They are not *really* where they are. Their mind is elsewhere.

So, when they finally arrive home, their family *still* does not receive their total focus. They mentally replay their day at their job, hoping they did not forget anything. Subconsciously, it is a burden which produces stress. Their mind is always in a different place than their body and efforts.

*Always be wherever you are.*

Have you ever attended a conference and enjoyed fellowship with others? Have you ever talked to someone who was busy *looking around the room* while you were trying to tell them something that happened? It unsettled you. Their eyes were upon *others*, while you were trying to keep their attention. Yet, moments before, they were talking to someone else looking for you! Now, they're talking to you... looking for *someone else!*

This is what happens every day of our lives.

When I teach, I refuse to think about my office and staff. My focus is that service and the people before me. *This frees me.* When I was a young preacher, I would replay the concluded service in my mind over and over again. Today is different. I now realize that I have poured my best into that service. When I leave, the service is *over*. Now, I am released to give total attention *to my future*.

- ▷ Always give your highest Wisdom to the immediate conversation.
- ▷ Always give the highest quality of thought to every conversation.
- ▷ Develop *habitual* excellence in every *moment*. Potential problems will then not worry you. You have developed excellence *with each moment*. Tomorrow then becomes another performance of excellence, *which you have been practicing* every moment of today. This explains why Jesus said, “And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say” (Luke 12:11,2).

*Give Your Total Attention To The Immediate Moment.*

It is One of the Secrets of The Uncommon Minister.

# 6

# Find Your Greatness.



*You contain an uncommon treasure.*

It is and invisible but irrefutable. It is your difference, your dominant gifting, and the magnet drawing others.

It is your *greatness*. “But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us” (2 Corinthians 4:7).

God knows it. He created you. He has always known the invisible purpose for which you were created.

*Your Assignment to preach was decided in your mother’s womb.* “Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations” (Jeremiah 1:5).

*You are not an accident waiting to happen.*

“I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are Thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well” (Psalm 139:14).

*Everything inside you is known, treasured and intended for full use by your Creator.* “My substance was not hid from Thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth” (Psalm 139:15).

*Your flaws do not necessarily prevent God from using you in ministry.* They exist to motivate your pursuit of Him. “Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in Thy

book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them” (Psalm 139:16).

*Your very existence excites God.* “How precious also are Thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with Thee” (Psalm 139:17,18).

Picture an author exulting over his book. The book exists. The author created it. He is excited about it whether anyone else is or not. Imagine a composer, exhilarated over a completed song. He knew its beginning and its ending. Its potential excites him.

*Your very presence energizes God.* He saw your beginning and His desired conclusion.

- ▷ God is looking at something within you *that you have never seen.*
- ▷ God is looking at something inside you that even *satan cannot discern.*
- ▷ God is looking at something you contain that *you have not yet discovered.*
- ▷ God will tell you secrets satan will never hear.
- ▷ The mercies of God have not been wasted on you and your ministry. He has big plans for you life.

The forgiveness of God has validated your ministry. You are *becoming* a monument and trophy of His grace. *God boasts about you and your ministry to every demon who enters His*

*presence.* (Job 1:8.)

- ▷ You are looking at your *beginning*.
- ▷ God is looking at your *end*.
- ▷ You are studying your *flaws*.
- ▷ God is studying your *future*.
- ▷ You are studying your *enemies*.
- ▷ God is studying your *eventuality*.
- ▷ You are *awaiting* your destiny.
- ▷ God is awaiting *your discovery of it*.

*Never consult those who have not discovered the greatness within you.* Their focus will be different, their conclusions inaccurate, their counsel useless.

*Stay in the presence of the One who created you.* You will never quit feeling good about yourself when you stay in His presence. He is looking at something He considers to be remarkable. He planted this greatness within you while you were yet in your mother's womb.

David discerned his greatness and willingly confronted Goliath.

Soldiers saw brashness; the Holy Spirit saw *boldness*.

Soldiers saw anger; God saw justice.

Joseph discerned his greatness.

His brothers saw pride; God saw *passion*.

The brothers saw a threat; God saw a *throne*.

*The opinion and observation of others is not the foundation for your greatness.* So, stop pursuing their approval. God is looking at something inside you they *cannot see, refuse to see, and may never see.*

The brothers of Jesus could not discern His *Divinity.*

The brothers of Joseph could not *interpret his dream* properly.

The brothers of David could not *imagine him* as a soldier.

The friends of Job could not discern the satanic scenario *before his crisis.*

Haman could not even discern the nationality of Esther.

Nobody is completely accurate in their assessment of you. *Nobody.*

Your flaws are *much less* than they imagine.

Your greatness is *far greater* than they will ever discern.

The Holy Spirit *alone* has accurately assessed your *future*, your passion, and the *willingness* of your heart to become great. That's why He keeps reaching, pursuing and developing you in the midst of every attack and crisis.

God never *gives up* on you.

God never *quits looking at you.*

God never *changes His plans* toward you.

God never quits believing in your future.

Remember this continuously, God is seeing something inside you that keeps Him excited and involved. It's something

nobody else can see.

*Find Your Greatness.*

It is One of the Secrets of The Uncommon Minister.



# Teach Your People The Power of Asking.



*Asking is the key to receiving.*

Jesus made this very clear. “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened” (Matthew 7:7,8).

Many *desire* more money.

Many *wish* for more money.

Many *dream* about more money.

But, they never have understood the *power of asking*, and asking *specifically*.

“I really need more money,” one elderly lady told me late one night after a lecture.

“How much are you needing?” I asked.

“Oh, I just need more!”

She was even more persistent. “I just need more, that’s all!”

Finally, I pulled a nickel out of my pocket and handed it to her saying, “Your prayers just got answered.” You see, she wanted more, and I gave her more. But, she never asked for a *specific* amount.

1. *Many Rebel Against Asking.* Asking is an agitation to them. You see, asking really is a portrait of humility. When you ask somebody for something, you are admitting lack and limitation. That is not taught in our society today.

Self confidence is often the currency in the world of success.

Asking is considered to be a weakness. Yet, it is the Golden Key to receiving.

2. *Many Refuse To Ask God For A Financial Harvest.* Why? They have disobeyed Him and every instruction He has given and know it. This destroys their bravado and boldness. You can only be bold when you know you are right.

When you have ignored faithful church attendance, tithing and putting God first, you usually lack the audacity to approach Him for anything. It's very difficult to spend Sundays on your boat in the lake and then feel comfortable to ask Him for money on Monday morning.

3. *Many Refuse To ask God For Specific Amounts Of Income.* Why? They do not know how much they even owe their creditors.

Many years ago a young man came to me in desperation. He said, "I'm going bankrupt. I'm going to lose everything I have. Would you help me?"

"Tell me exactly how much you owe your creditors," I replied.

He looked puzzled and bewildered. "I have no idea how much money I owe."

“Well, sit down and make me a list of each person that you owe, the amount you owe them, and how much you can set aside each month to pay them off completely.”

He took the conversation another direction. I brought him back to it.

“Stop beating around the bush. Sit down and make me a list of what you actually owe. You cannot use your faith without a target. *Faith requires an instruction*. If faith has an option, it will not work. Faith must be given a specific Assignment.” “A double minded man is unstable in all his ways” (James 1:8).

4. *Many Refuse To Ask God In Faith*. They whine, cry and even weep bitterly in church services. But, they refuse to wrap their request with the garments of faith and *expectation*. “Without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

*God wants to be believed*. His only pain is to be doubted. His only pleasure is to be believed. Every effort of God has one focus—to find a person who believes what He says.

- ▷ God has an obsession *to be believed*.
- ▷ God *destroys* those who doubt.
- ▷ God *rewards* those who believe. (See Deuteronomy 28:1-14.)

*Tears* alone do not move God.

*Desperation* does not move God.

*Manipulation* does not move God.

*Education* does not influence God.

*Faith is the only force that impresses God to do miracles.* You must ask in faith. Faith comes when you hear God talk. “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God” (Romans 10:17).

*5. Some Do Not Ask Because They Believe That Provision Is Sovereign, Based On The Whim Or Impulses Of God.*

“Mike, if God wants me to have money, He will give it to me.”

So, I replied to this brother, “That means had He wanted you to comb your hair this morning, He would have combed it for you. If He wanted you to wear clothes, you would not have been born naked.” How absurd! God wants everyone saved, doesn’t He? But many are going to hell. Your will is involved. Provision is a *choice*.

*6. Some Do Not Ask God For A Financial Harvest Because They Believe That Money Is A Trap.*

“Don’t you think satan gives people a lot of money, so they will go back on God?”

I replied to this lady, “If money can make you backslide, why hasn’t satan overdosed you with it?” If money could cause you to move away from God, satan would back a semi-truck to your house and unload \$100 bills all over your yard.

*7. Many Never Ask God For Financial Wisdom.* They never enter the Secret Place before making major purchases such as a house or an automobile. They never consider fasting

three days before accepting a new job. They depend on their own mind and perception. They ignore the Holy Spirit who will advise them in all things.

*The early disciples asked the Holy Spirit about everything, even the places they should minister.* Read these fascinating words, “As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabus and Paul for the work whereunto I’ve called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus” (Acts 13:2-4).

They were not moved by the needs of people.

They were moved by *the voice of the Spirit.*

They did not go where they were *needed.*

They went where they were *commanded.*

8. *Many Refuse To Ask For A Specific Miracle.*

“I really need a house,” said a young man one night.

“Describe the house you’re asking God to provide, “ was my reply.

“Oh, just anything. I just need a house.”

You know, God could have given him a dog house and he would not be able to complain. If you are asking God for a specific house, peruse magazines until you find exactly the house you have been asking God to provide. *Focus your faith for it.* If you’re asking God for a specific automobile, find the color, the model and the specific car in some magazine and hold

that page up to God in intercession daily and claim it in your future.

If you are asking God for a specific financial miracle, post the amount on your bulletin board. Inform your circle of intercessors. Hold that sheet of paper high in prayer during your seasons of intercession.

Clarify. Be specific. Focus your faith with precision. Faith will not respond to an uncertain sound. God responds to directness. Persistence. Tenacity.

*9. Few Really Know What They Want Financially Out Of Life.* Precision is rare in conversations. I have sat at restaurant tables while friends have looked into the face of a waitress they have never met in their life and asked, “What do you think I should eat today?” It puzzles me.

I have seen friends purchase clothes that the *salesman* liked! In fact, a salesman that they had never even met before in their lifetime. Think about it! Someone they’d never met making decisions about the clothes they are wearing!

When you ask God for anything:

Ask *specifically*.

Ask *persistently*.

Ask *expectantly*.

Ask *largely*.

Ask *honestly*.

*Teach Your People The Power Of Asking.*

It is One of the Secrets of The Uncommon Minister.

**W**hen God wants to touch a nation, He raises up a preacher. It is Uncommon Men and Women of God who have driven back the darkness and shielded the unlearned and rebellious from devastation by satanic forces. They offer the breath of life to a dead world. They open Golden Doors to Change. They unleash Forces of Truth in an age of deception.

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*"The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." Isaiah 61:1*



**DR. MIKE MURDOCK** is in tremendous demand as one of the most dynamic speakers in America today. More than 17,000 audiences in over 100 countries have attended his Schools of Wisdom and Conferences. Hundreds of invitations come to him from churches, colleges and business corporations. He is a noted author of over 250 books, including the best sellers, *The Leadership Secrets of Jesus*, *Secrets of the Richest Man Who Ever Lived* and the creator of *The Master 7 Mentorship Program*. Thousands view his weekly television program, *Wisdom Keys with Mike Murdock*. Many attend his Schools of Wisdom that he hosts in major cities...and his church, The Wisdom Center located at 4051 Denton Highway, Fort Worth, TX 76117.

## Volume 6

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6. Find Your Greatness
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