

Sometimes we don't even realise what remarkable miracles happen from day to day in the midst of our ordinary lives. It is so necessary to take the time to sit down and remind at least yourself of these events.

Everyday miracles

These are our stories. These are the miracles that happened to us

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Introduction

It is said: *“My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.*

Let them not depart from thine eyes, keep them in the midst of thine heart; for they are life unto those that find them and health to all their flesh.

Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the outflowings of life.

Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.”¹

I became aware of the fact that the things I keep pondering and focussing on not only, later on, influenced what I am experiencing emotionally but also influence my day to day choices, attitude, words and behaviour.

For that reason it is said: *“A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.”²*

For this reason, I made a choice to spend no more than ten percent of my time and energy on the negative and the needs in any given situation because it will, otherwise, make me negative which will steal away my creativity and ability to bring about effective change.

Day by day so many small miracles happen in our lives without receiving enough attention to bring about change and life in us and others.

I've decided to change that. From this day on I will spend time to record what happened to never forget what happened and to be able to motivate and encourage others with my stories of day to day miracles I've experienced.

Of course, some of these stories won't necessary sounds like miracles to you, but that is your opinion. If you find it here, it is one of many remarkable and wonderful events for which I am very, very grateful.

Yours truly

Christo Nel

¹ Prov 4:21-24 (KJV)

² Prov. 15:13 (KJV)

“Draw me what you see.”

It was February 2004.

We were renting a house in Onrus, Hermanus, with all our furniture stored downstairs in a double garage to my wife’s grief and heartache.

Since we’ve moved from our own lovely and spacious home in Van der Hoffpark in Potchefstroom where we lived for more than four years, we had to rent the one home after the other here in the Hermanus-area where God wanted us to be now while ministering to His people what He taught and told us.

Hetta, my wife, love to make her home her secure nest, where every picture hanging and every pot on the table tell people who she is and what she love. This rented home in Onrus was fully furnished and made it totally impossible.

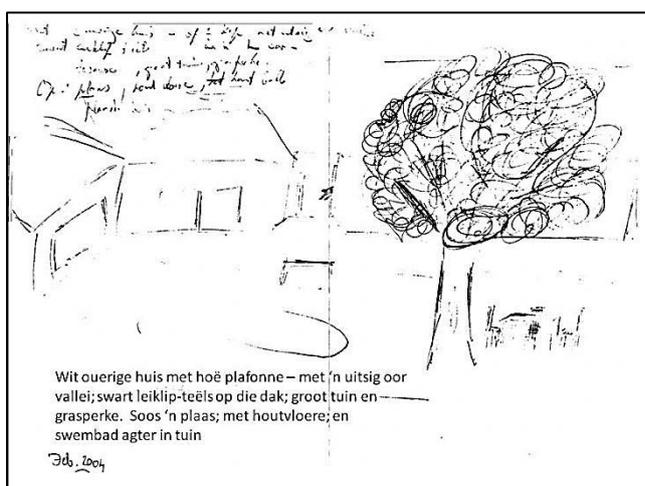
But we’ve decided to cope and bear with it, because we hang on to a word from God that week we left Potchefstroom in May 1997 when He promised that He will gave us again a home of our own.

Earlier that week in the beginning of February 2004 a friend of mine, also a former pastor from the Dutch Reformed Church who moved into renewal, phoned me to ask if I knew of a place where he could go in retreat to spend time in God’s presence and hear what His will is for now in his and his family’s life. I said, come and spend the week in our home. We have a room upstairs that we don’t use and then we also can pray together some days.

So, it happened that we were praying together one day, when suddenly he said, God showed me your new home He wanted to give to you.

I said, well, if you saw the house, draw me what you’ve seen!

Which he did.



And then he said further (and I am translating to English what he said and have written on the page:

It is an older house with a wonderful view over a huge green area, with terrasses. It also has a big garden, with huge lawns and a swimming pool.

He went further: The house is painted a white colour with black tiles on the roof. Inside the home it has high ceilings. The floor of the home is right through these teak

wood floors.

And then he said: It will be as if you are on a farm.

We thanked God for this remarkable vision and kept on praying further. Then suddenly he stopped praying again and said: God said He will give you this home on the 21st of April.

I responded and said: Wow, isn't that remarkable! God just now told me He will show us the house on the 20th April and give us the home on the 21st of April.

Let me tell you the background of where we were in our ministry in Hermanus at this stage. After ministering to Afrikaans speaking believers for about three years without starting a new church of some sort, God told us to unite with an English-speaking congregation to demonstrate something of the unity in the Body of Christ to the rest of the community.

Which we did. I was at this stage co-pastoring this big congregation and head up the Afrikaans ministry for two years in between the rest of my ministry facilitating Biblical renewal among Afrikaans speaking believers in the rest of the Western Cape in about 31 towns and cities, in four towns in the South-Western Cape and nationally.

The end of 2003 God told me to start preparing the rest of the leadership of Bosko-Ecclesia that He wanted us as a family to move to an area near or in Stellenbosch to use us more effectively among Afrikaans speaking believers in the rest of the country.

This vision in February 2004 just confirmed it.

Over the next weeks we as a family start looking for a house in the Stellenbosch-area and quickly concluded that without a miracle, because of the prices of homes in this area, it won't be possible to buy a house.

But, luckily, we are in the service of the God of miracles! So, we kept on looking.

In the meantime, my brother in law, who was an airport manager planning to go on pension within the next month or two, and who was a bachelor of 59 years of age, contacted us suddenly. He told us that he heard we were planning to move to the Stellenbosch-area and planning to buy a home for ourselves. Then he asked: What of the possibility that we buy a home together? If we are willing, we can buy a home with a separate flat for a million and he will pay half of the asked price, up to an amount of R500 000 within the next month or two in cash!

Wow! And all of this happened after my wife and I spend time at the feet of God and declared that we are willing to trust Him for a monthly instalment of R5000!

What was our disappointment to discover that there wasn't one single property with a separate flat for sale in the Stellenbosch area under a million at that stage?

I remembered coming back one day after looking the whole day at available properties in Stellenbosch, totally flabbergasted and, if I am truthfull, very angry with God.

I remembered asking Him, while driving back home to Onrus: God, we did everything You asked us to do. We've moved from Potch and are willing to move from Hermanus to wherever You want us to. But where is the house You have prepared for us?

Then I heard God said: Turn off at the Old Stellenbosch road!

To my surprise I was coming near Somerset West, and there, suddenly, I saw a road turning left of the R44, called Old Stellenbosch Road!

I turned of down this road and found myself in Somerset West, in Irene road.

“God,” I asked, “I thought the house will be in Stellenbosch. Is it in Somerset-West?”

And I’ve experience that total peace which I got to know being God’s way of saying “yes”.

Just a little further along Irene road I discovered a property agency where I stopped, went in and told our whole story. The agent was Afrikaans speaking and a believer too, and promised that he will find us a few properties to have a look at the next time we came through.

I also phoned Petro, whom I counseled a few years back who I knew was a property agent too. She told me she was going in to hospital for an operation, but will be able to show us houses for sale somewhere in April.

We were also waiting on my brother in law coming down for Upington, where he lived, to come and look at the houses available. In the end, it was arranged that he will came through on the 19th of April and we will go and have a look at the available properties in Somerset West on the 20th. Not one of us even thought of the vision that February previous in the year.

I remember stopping in the street before the second house we went to look at that day, surprised to find a few other vehicles also parked in front of this specific home. The agent explained that the property was sold the previous year in November, but the deal felt through and that this was the first day the property was available for viewing. We were the first potential buyers by appointment to view the home.

We walked up the terrasses to the house, up the small steps in front of the main entrance, and suddenly I saw the house of the vision!³



I also saw the huge number eight on the wall of the house.

“Eight is the simbol of a new beginning,” I heard God saying.

“Don’t be afraid. I am your God and you are My family. I will provide in everything you need.”

Stepping into the house I saw the high ceilings and the oak floors righth through the house.

³ This is a photo of the house a few years later, with the tree in front of the house much bigger than a few years before, when we bought the house in 2004.

My brother in law immediately went to the flat at the back of the house, next to the swimming pool. After he had a good look around, he came back and said what we all knew at this stage: This is our home.

Weel, to make a long story short. We made an appointment with the agent for 16h00 the next day to sign the necessary documents to buy the property.

And 19h00 that evening of the 21st of April 2004 we got a phone call from the agent telling us our offer for R975 000 was accepted and that we can move into the home on the 15th of the next month.

Surprised by the voice of God

My new friendship with Gary Kieswetter, an English speaking pastor in the renewal, was life changing.

I was the last nine years a pastor in the Dutch Reformed Church in Potchefstroom-Moorivier Congregation.



Potchefstroom was a typical traditional South African town with a very theological Reformed character. Which wasn't strange in the light of the fact that it was the home of the Potchefstroom Christian University with the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in South Africa under its wings.

Even though the Dutch Reformed Church of which I was a member and a pastor was not as traditional reformed in its theology as the typical Reformed Church of Africa, we believed in the same typical reformed doctrines as any Protestant Reformed Church. For example, we baptised babies based on our beliefs about God's covenant with believers and their children, and although we believed in the Holy Spirit as God, and his gifts, we believed that some of his extraordinary gifts stopped after the Bible was compiled together in its 66 books as we knew it today in the years three hundred and its thirties.

I loved the Bible and spend a huge amount of time studying and reading it every day of my life since my conversion on the 10th of October 1969 while in my Grade 10 year in Voortrekker High School in Pietermaritzburg. Even in my seven years of theological studies, and the past twelve years of

ministry as a pastor, it was as if I couldn't get enough of spending time reading and studying the Bible.

Why? Because this was the one place where I heard the living God speak to me.



That is why my friendship and times with Gary shook my whole being and belief system, because here was a man who, while driving to me in his vehicle on the highway, without having a Bible in his hands, heard the voice of God speaking to him!

He tried to explain it to me.

What I understood him saying was that the Holy Spirit, living in the body of the believer according to Scriptures, can also speak to the believer from inside of the

body of the believer. And then His voice would sound and you will experience it as if thoughts welled up in you. But what will make these thoughts different than the ordinary thoughts you know will be that they won't "sound" the same as your ordinary thoughts would "sound like". These thoughts will most probably "surprise you and be about things you don't usually think about yourself.

And if they are from the Holy Spirit they will be according to the rest of Scripture and will leave you surprised, but at total peace!

From what Gary said God told him in this way, I was totally flabbergasted, because time and time again it was so surprisingly correct in the finest detail.



The other thing that rocked my theological reformed world was to experienced the so-called extra-ordinary gifts we thought stopped centuries ago as full blown working gifts in the life of Gary whenever he started ministering to people. We experienced words of knowledge, prophecies, miracles and healings as the book of Acts and the rest of the New Testament testified about.

The most remarkable of these happened one weekend when my wife and I and our two daughters went to visit Gary

and his wife, Rhona, at their home in Montana, Pretoria.

I remembered his walking around in their home telling me how God gave them this wonderful property, fully paid, and how He supplied in all their needs, although he, Gary, don't receive a salary of some sort from anybody.

Then he said a strange thing. He said that it was important for him telling me all these things because somewhere in future God will be supplying in all our needs also in this way.

The next morning Gary told us that two prophets called! Which surprised me, because I thought the last real prophet, Agabus of Acts 21 died centuries ago!

No, he said. God is still anointing people today as prophets. And these two people who called said God spoke the whole night to them about me and my wife, and our ministry in future, and if they could come and visit us that afternoon. But, they said, we need to have a tape recorder handy, to tape the prophetic word to test it later and to remember it for the future.

Well, three o'clock that afternoon a man and a lady knocked at the door, came in and just chatted with us for a while. Then they asked us to put on the tape recorder and started prophesying over my wife and I.

I still can hear them saying: You've got a very tender heart towards God. And you've got a wonderful teaching gift. I saw coming out of your mouth words of love to the people. That is why the Lord has drawn so many people to you. Also, many strong men, not a lot of wimps and backsliders; ones that are hot and not cold; strong men in the church. And they've been drawn because of the word you preach, a very strong word coming out of your mouth.

You spend a lot of time in the Word. I saw you gobbling up the Word. And I saw like Solomon's mines ... never emptying of treasures. You've constantly got treasure in you. And all of this is coming out ... coming out...

And as these two prophets continued prophesying, my wife and I, surprisingly but emphatically experienced God Himself speaking to us! And not only about all the wonderful new things God was planning for our future in His service, but even those seemingly small things like ... when God started speaking to Hetta about a pair of shoes and those bed lamps.

Let me quickly say: My wife, Hetta, is a remarkable responsible spender of our money. Not one cent of the money God give us in whatever way He give us, she will spend without taking time to make sure it is spending wisely.

But she loves shoes, and not only ordinary shoes. She loves unique patterned shoes that she believed could show something of her creative unique personality.

So, when God spoke prophetically to her, suddenly, about that pair of shoes she was eying for so long, that she can "go and buy it"!

And then there was the prophecy speaking about those bed lamps she was planning and saving for ... When God told her she can go and buy those special bed lamps she was planning and saving for more than ten years, Hetta knew it only can be God speaking to her!

We heard things about ourselves and things that happened in our lives that nobody else ever knew about, only we and God!

And then God started telling us about His plans for our future and how our whole ministry is going to change. We heard Him telling us of a new thing coming ... And it will be not the kind of thing we

knew up to now. It will be a kind of thing that will make us nervous. We won't know how we going to handle it, but we will just know one thing: that it is from God.

God told us of us shifting ... a total shift. It will be as if where we were then, couldn't contain us anymore.

And all of this will happen because God is going to lead us into these new things ... the things of the Spirit. After which He is going to use us as pioneers, leading others in these new things

The prophecies continued for more than an hour.

And then they prayed for us and laid hands on us for a new anointing with the Spirit ... and because God told them to equip us in this way for the new things in the time to come.

Surprised by the power of God

After our visit that weekend at Gary's place, we went back home but nothing was the same after that.

Yes, I still was a pastor in the Dutch Reformed Church, but everybody knew something happened to us, especially to me as the pastor in the congregation.

I remember so well, for instance, one day while preaching in the congregation when a member of the congregation had a heart attack while sitting in the pew.

When the people around him start taking emergency action, I called on one of the doctors in the congregation, who was attending the service that morning, to come and help.

While they were carrying him to a nearby vehicle I experienced God telling me to calm the people and to pray that God would perform a miracle and heal that man while going to hospital.

Which I did. And then completed the rest of the service.

It was only afterwards, when the doctor came back and phoned me to tell what happened at the hospital, that we heard the rest of this remarkable story.

The doctor told me that when they arrived at the hospital and after taking the man to the Emergency Unit, how he suddenly got up and asked: "Eet 'n mens dan nie iets hier nie!?" ("Doesn't one get anything to eat in this place?")

From then on these remarkable things kept on happening. God did the most amazing things through me. I knew they had nothing to do with me. I was only a hosepipe through which the power of God flow to perform what He wanted to do or wanted to say in a specific situation.

A few months later God started speaking to me about baptism.

As a typical Dutch Reformed pastor, I believed and performed baptising little babies because of our theological beliefs in the covenant' relationship God have with his people right through the Bible. According our beliefs and interpretation of Scripture we belief that because under the Old Covenant boys of 8 days old could receive the symbol of the Old Covenant, the circumcision, children or rather babies of believing parents could receive the symbol of the New Covenant, which we believe to be the baptism.

So, when God started speaking to me through the New Testament about the baptism as a sign and a symbol which only can be ministered to believers, my theological world was shaken to its foundations.

Well, to make a long story about my struggle because of this, very short: My wife and I, and our two daughters, who all were believing followers of Christ, were baptised as believers on Saturday, the 9th of October 1993. That day God told my wife that we are leaving the Dutch Reformed Church and that I had to resign as a pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church, because He wanted to use me in His Whole Body across the country and even later in the world. That following day, the Sunday, the 10th

of October, at five o'clock that morning, God woke me up and told me to resign within the next fourteen days.

Which I did.

It shook the whole congregation, because I was the leader and vision bearer in the congregation the last ten years of us being there. But it also shook the whole Dutch Reformed Church in Potchefstroom, all twelve congregations with their thirty-three pastors, and all because of who I was. Everybody knew that I wasn't very emotional or someone who acted impulsively. They knew me as a very rational thinker and as this theologically balanced and dependable Church leader.

This kind of behaviour was totally out of the ordinary and totally unexpected from my side.

Maybe this explained why nobody, yes, nobody of the 37 pastors in the Dutch Reformed Church in Potchefstroom, except the one the Synod asked to, visited us or asked us about the reasons why we did what we did.



A week later, in obedience to a word of God, we started ministering among a group of Afrikaans believers who came to meetings in the Elgro Hotel, where God told us to meet. Nearly all the people who came were total strangers to us as a family. And when we'd asked them why they came, they told us they were experiencing the same new things we were experiencing and heard what we heard God saying for the now.

God started speaking to us about new wine and new wineskins. And He taught us the things of the Spirit, step by step.

And we were so surprised by the power of the Spirit working among us and through us.

We were so surprised to experience what Jesus told his disciples when He said: *“Verily, verily I say unto you, he that believeth in Me, the works that I do he shall do also; and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto My Father.”*⁴

⁴ Joh. 14:12 (KJV)

A present for my birthday

Resigning as a pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church after fourteen and a half years of faithful service was something I did without thinking or rationalising about the consequences of doing it. I did it because that was what God told me to do, the God in whose service I was.

Of course, it had very practical consequences. It meant that I would immediately had to resign from the pension fund of the Dutch Reformed Church, and would be without any medical fund from now on. We immediately had to move out of the parsonage of the congregation, which was a house specially build for us as a family ten years ago. And maybe the most drastic consequence was the knowing that we would never receive any certain monthly income or salary ever again from a congregation in future.

All we had ... and knew ... and believe ... was a word from God: That if we obey Him and Him alone, and keep on doing exactly what He told us to do, He will supply in all our needs and pay all our bills.

I remembered the day we were moving out of the parsonage, I was walking in the garden while thanking God for the wonderful privilege of being able to stay in this brand-new house build for us from the beginning.

Then God told me: Son, look carefully and intensely at everything around you in this parsonage. See how beautiful everything is. But know this, within a few months I will give you and your family a house of your own for the first time in your life much more beautiful than this house!

A lady in the family of believers God gathered around us during this time, phoned us and told us to come and stay in her flat while she will be on holiday for three months.

So we rented a storage container for all of our furniture and stayed at her flat for these three months. The arrangement was that she would be back the end of January 1994.

My birthday is the 10th of January.

The week before my birthday I was reading the local newspaper when my eyes fell on an advertisement about a property for sale in Van der Hoff Park, the new and very expensive part of Potchefstroom. I just felt God telling me this is our new home.

I told my wife what I experienced and we decided to make an appointment with the owners of the property and to go and see this property.

When we arrived at the property, to our great surprise, we found the doors of the garage painted in a light shade of pink with blue stripes! Which were the colours my wife wanted to paint something for a very long time! Because in a Dutch Reformed parsonage everything is painted in a some shade of white or a tan colour, to fit everybody!

We went in and met the owners of the house to find out that the owner was an outspoken follower of Christ and a bank manager of another bank other than mine.

We told them our story but also what we felt, that we believe this was the house God wanted us to buy. But we had a challenge: we didn't have any securities or any money for a deposit other than the R40 000 I've received from my pension fund in the Dutch Reformed Church.

They told us they understood, but felt we need to go to God and hear what He would suggest we offer them for the property. And the man concluded by saying: If we accept your offer, I would arrange at my bank that they will give you an home loan at the same rate our bank personell get home loans.

Well, that is what we did. We went to the Lord and asked Him what our offer for the house should be. He told us R190 000.

Which meant a payment of over the R2000 per month over a period of 20 years, even while the donations we received from members in our new faith family was in total just more than R2000!

But in obedience we did as God told us.

On my birthday, we received a call back from the owner of the house we made an offer on, that our loan application was accepted at his bank and that the house was ours.

Two weeks after this happened we moved into our new home at 11 Bizet Avenue, Van der Hoff Park.



Even the car we drive is important enough for Him ...

Let me tell you the story, or rather stories about God supplying a motor car when we needed one.

I came from a family where my dad loved cars, all cars, especially fast and grand cars! From where I can remember I remember him buying us a brand-new car nearly every year. So, if I remember it correctly, I can remember us driving seventeen different motor cars while I was still at home with my parents, and that was till 1971 when I matriculated in Pietermaritzburg.

So, that gene and love for cars was in my genes and blood!

My first car was a gift from my godfather, a lovely green Datsun 1200. My wife and I had this car when we married in 1977.



I completed my theological studies in 1978 at the University of Stellenbosch, and went for my two years compulsory military training. But as things turned out, I was selected to be the first chaplain doing compulsory military training still to be appointed as a fulltime chaplain in the Air Force, and as pastor in the Dutch Reformed Church in the congregation near the air force base in a little town called Dunnottar.

Which meant I could buy us a new car. So that was what we did. We bought ourselves a new VW Golf for R5200! O, the good old days of low car prizes!

Because of the monthly car allowance, we've got as pastors, I felt compelled to buy us ever so regularly a new motor car of some sort. So, after the VW Golf we had a VW Variant. Then we had a Peugeot 504. After that I bought us a BMW 318, which was a lovely motor car. While having this car, I bought my wife a Toyota Conquest.

One Sunday I was driving through town and stopped at a Mercedes agency, because I saw out of the corner of my eye a green Mercedes which I immediately knew would be our new vehicle.

The next day I went to the motor salesman at the agency and asked to take the car for a drive. For the first time in my life I felt selling both of our vehicles to buy this vehicle and to make an choice to keep it even for a lifetime!



The Mercedes 200 that I've bought that day had 23 000 kilos on the clock the day I bought it.

Never ever in my life I would even thought that I would be driving that same vehicle for the next 23 years till it would have 375 000 kilos on the clock.

And when the day came that God said He would like to give us a new vehicle, He told us to sow

this Mercedes in the life of one of His children in ministry, Alphonse Niyadusenga, who was working at the Institute for Healing at that stage. How totally surprised he was the day when I told him to come and fetch the car God gave him as a gift!

Then the search began for the vehicle we felt God wanted to give to us.

After driving a motor car for so many years without having any motor lease or debt, and now experiencing God telling us to hire-purchase a vehicle, because we needed a new reliable vehicle for all the many kilos we must travel in the next few years, was a faith challenge for us.

If I think back to the next few months and all that we went through, I know now we failed our faith tests during those months.

But let me try and be brief but tell you the story.

From the beginning, I felt God telling us to trust Him for a reliable vehicle He would show us and tell us to buy. I thought I knew what was best and contacted my brother in the vehicle industry to get me a demo vehicle at the lowest cost. Well, he got me a Nissan Almera, which, according the sales manager, only has 5000 kilos on the clock. A few weeks later I discovered that the Almera had 26 000 kilos on the clock. So I send it back to Nissan in Pretoria. Then they send me another new Almera, this time with 4000 kilos on the clock. Within days I've discovered that this vehicle has overheated at least six times before I took ownership of it. Well, so I send it back again.

By now my wife and I knew God was telling us that He wanted to give us another, more reliable, and even more expensive car.

So, while waiting on the third new Almera to be delivered from Pretoria, we let God show us what car He wanted us to buy.

Within days God showed us a BMW 318 with very low kilos and a motor plan. But it was much more expensive than we thought liable at that stage. I remembered how we asked God a sign that this vehicle indeed was His gift to us.

The moment the new Almera arrived, I sold it and that day the Mercedes was officially on Alphonse's name after many red tape and telephone calls. But the most remarkable was what happened early that morning when we got a call from BMW telling us the BMW was ready and licenced in our name for us to come and get at their agency.

I was having a time with the Lord and was reading as part of my Bible reading plan for the Year from Mark 8. Suddenly God spoke to me from verse 18: "Having eyes, see ye not? And having ears, hear ye not? And do ye not remember?"

Immediately I understood what God was saying from the context of this verse. He was asking me if I don't remember how He supplied in everything we needed up to now. Why would we doubt Him now for not supplying in everything we needed, even the money to pay this car every month?!



To our astonishment, when going to collect our new vehicle, we found that the registration number of the BMW was CFM 53959. And we understood: $5+3 = 8$ and $9+9=18$ (reminding us of Mark 8 v 18), while 5 is the symbol of God's faithfulness.

For the next three years we had the enjoyment of driving that remarkable safe vehicle many kilos while ministering to Gods people all across the country. Till the day came

when God said: It is time again to trust Me for an newer vehicle.

And again He said: He will show us which vehicle to buy.

After taking many brands of vehicles for a test drive, we just one day new after driving an Audi 4 Turbo with 37 000 kilos, this was the vehicle.



But again, we just felt asking God for confirmation.

To our astonishment, again, the day when we went to sign the last forms after final registration and collect the vehicle at the Audi agency, there the Audi was with its new registration number: $9-1 = 8$ and 18. Again God used our confirmation passage from Mark 8:18 to encourage us to trust Him supplying in all our needs like He did so many years already!

Moving to the Western Cape ...

It was April 1997.

The new faith family in Potchefstroom grew to a vibrant congregation growing at a rate of 400 per cent every year, with growth coming from people accepting Christ and starting following Him with every fibre in their body.

Afrikaans speaking people, coming from a traditional Reformed background, were changed by drinking the new wine God was serving to us. People moved from serving God in the typical religious way trying to live a "good life" into followers of Jesus Christ as Saviour and King in their life leading them with His voice daily in an intimate loving relationship, while using them to minister to one another and the rest of the community through the gifts of the Spirit.

During 1996 I've experienced God wanting me to write and publish an Afrikaans book about what happened among us as faith family in a understandable language which ordinary traditional Afrikaans speaking people would understand about the new wine truths God taught us over the past three years.

So, the book, WAARHEEN MET DIE NUWE WYN, (Where do we go with the new wine) was published in 1996.

The moment the book came from the press, invitations from all across the country started coming for me to come and speak about what God was doing in our midst. So my ministry of travelling all across the country started to tell Afrikaans speaking people about the new things God is doing among us.

But all the while the new congregation in Potchefstroom stayed our permanent base to come back too to experience more of what God was doing among our family.

Then in April 1997 we received an invitation to the Western Cape to minister to a group in Ceres. The family that took the lead in inviting us, had a vacation home in Vermont, near Hermanus, where they told us, they would leave us a vehicle and where we could rest for a week before driving to Ceres to minister over there.

We decided going by train for a short vacation and a week of ministry during for a total of fourteen days in the Western Cape.

We got on the train later that afternoon the first day. Early the next morning, while the train travelled past towns like Leeu Gamka and Touwsriver, we went to the dining room on the train. While walking through the dining room I suddenly had this vision ... right on the window pane in the train's dining room ... of a revival happening.

And I heard God saying: Do you see the revival happening? I answered: Yes.

The God continued: Yes, exactly as the revival of 1860-61 in the time of Andrew Murray that started here in the Western Cape.

I said: Yes, God. You know I know the details of that revival.

God then said: Yes, and there is a new revival coming again, and it will again start here in the Western Cape, before moving across South Africa and Africa, right across the whole world.

And then God made this remarkable statement: And I want you to be there.

When arriving at the table in the dining coach of the train, I told my wife about what I saw and heard in the vision. And we knew: this wasn't just another vacation!

From the first day we arrived in Hermanus, without anybody knowing us at all, invitations started flowing inviting us to come and tell about what God was doing among Afrikaans speaking people. After ministering for the 11th time in seven days, I just said to God: But God, I am on vacation and should be resting!

God just said: No, My son, this won't be a vacation. I need to show you the need of this area and of the Western Cape. I want you to move over here immediately when you go back to Potchefstroom.

I remember sitting that last day of the first week on a wooden bench while looking at the incoming waves at Vermont. Because my wife and I both knew God was calling us to move to Hermanus, I asked her: What would be a sure sign to you that God is calling us to move to Hermanus?

She thought a while and then said: Well, we are not telling anybody of what we are experiencing now. If somebody, today, here in Hermanus, say to us: If God calls you to Hermanus, here is a house where you can live, we will know it is God calling us!

Later that morning we had a last invitation for tea to meet the wife of a local businessman. While we sat, and drinking tea, the businessman suddenly said: You don't know me very well. Well, this house belongs to me, but not the next one, but both the next two houses also belong to us as a family. If God calls you to Hermanus, you can come and live in that third house whenever needed.

We went to the vacation home in Vermont and start calling the leadership of our faith family in Potchefstroom to ask them to prepare the congregation for the news of our departure soon after we would be back in Potchefstroom. All we have left to do over there was to sell our home over there, appoint a leader in our place and then, move to Hermanus to come and do in the Western Cape what God called us for.

Three weeks after being back in Potchefstroom God sent a buyer for our home and a week later I moved down to the Western Cape to lead the first Word-in-Action-weekend camps that were held in the Western Cape, with my wife and kids following a week later with all our furniture.

Money for a Mac, and other stories

God created me as a very, very creative human being.

When I did the Career Direct educational personality and career test of Crown Financial Ministries, I tested an eighty per cent out of a possible hundred for creativity, which is the highest anybody can test for any single characteristic, ability or interest.

And for the first time after the evaluation of the results of this specific test I understood myself and why I didn't fit into the normal picture of a Christian leader and pastor of an ordinary congregation in the Body of Christ.

When I tell people that there are more than twenty completed manuscripts for possible new publications, they are totally astonished.

But what they don't know is how easily it come to me.

Like this book I am writing today. Yes, after experiencing early this morning to write a book about the miracles in our life and ministry up to now, and more interestingly, writing it in English, which is a second language to me, I started writing and here we are ... already in chapter seven and page 22 of this new book.

Very early in my ministry God opened up doors where I could use this new found creativity. After my wife and I in 1988 went for a three months training in Child Evangelism at the European Headquarters of the organization, Child Evangelism Fellowship, with their worldwide ministry in more than 52 countries for more than 40 years, I came back and started a countrywide ministry among children from the ages of 4 years to 14 years. What a wonderful opportunity to put all of my creative genes to a test to bring the message of the Gospel and the Bible in an understandable and visual way to children.

A few years later parents came to me, challenging me with the need to minister effectively to their children who went overseas to work and stay over there for at least a year, but experiencing while they are there, that they don't have time among doing two and even three jobs simultaneously, to go the church over there. Because I was loving the computer and waiting for an opportunity to minister to people virtually, I grab the opportunity and started an internet ministry in 1999. This ministry grew over the last 13 years into a ministry with which I have the privilege to minister via a weekly newsletter and a Word from God to nearly 4000 readers across the world on all continents of the world. Furthermore, it grew into a counselling and mentoring service in many of these people's lives over the years.

Because I love to minister the Word and the truths in the Word in series, most of my weekly messages from the Word, in one or another time, became a new manuscript to be publish as a book in the end. In this way second publication about the story of God's working in the early Christian congregations in the book of Acts and the rest of the New Testament, became a book that was published in 2011 as DIE STORIE AGTER DIE STORIE (The Story behind the Story).

During this time I met a fellow Christian with the ability and equipment to make videos. We did two projects together and completed two DVD-series together, one about the work, person and gifts of

the Holy Spirit, called JESUS, DIE DOPER MET DIE GEES (Jesus, the Anointer with the Spirit), and one about knowing the will and voice of God, called, HOOR JY DIE HERE SE STEM (do you hear the voice of God).

During these projects, I learned and did some video edited etc. What an opportunity to be creative this was!

Loving the internet and the possibilities of virtual training, the next step was starting designing my own web pages. This led to designing my own website, www.nuwewyn.co.za and writing and publishing for different other websites as a freelance writer and publisher.

Other businesses and ministries started asking me to design websites for them.

Which all lead to me desiring an Apple computer of some sort because of its digital and designing abilities.

A businessman experienced God telling him one day to buy me an Apple MacBook. What a joy that was to start knowing and working on the Mac!

Till a few months later, when disaster strike. I was busy designing on my Mac when my wife gave me a cup of tea and, totally in a world of my own, I dropped the cup of tea right on the MacBook.

A long, very tragic story made very short: I again, was without a Mac computer and had to work again on my ordinary PC.

Although the PC, with Windows 7, and the new generation of designing software make it easier to do good designing, I kept on praying for a new Mac again.

One Sunday, one of the very few Sundays where I didn't have to minister somewhere else, my wife and I decided to go shopping quickly of dinner that day. But just before that I heard God saying to me: I want you to take all the money in your purse at this moment and to be willing to sow it in the life of who ever I show you. I promise you, whatever you sow in this way, I will multiply by a thousand and give it back to you.

When I took out my wallet to see what was there, I saw there was only a single R20-note in.

While driving to the nearby Mall, coming up to a robot, God showed me a blind man standing begging at the robot and told me to give it to him. Which I did.

Well, we went shopping and came back home within an hour. Arriving at home, I suddenly got a SMS reporting that a deposit was made into my bank account. Someone deposited R20 000 into my account that morning with the following message attached (and I am translating it into English): Use this money to buy that MacBook you are trusting God for.

What a God we serve!

Trusting God for the money we need

I always tell people: When I have a word from God, I can trust Him for anything or willing to go and do anything however impossible it may seem.

For that reason, in 1993, when God told me to resign to be able to minister to the new group of believers He will lead us to, I resign without a blink of an eye.

Even at that stage of my life I knew God as a living, loving, faithful God who supply in all our needs when we obey Him and His Word in all we do.

When He called me into ministry in 1971 while I was busy matriculating, I said yes to His calling from Isaiah 6:8: *Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then said I, "Here am I. Send me!"*

I knew my parents could support me financially during the seven years of theological studies at university, but God called me and I just knew He would be able to support me in all my needs. Which He did.

When He led me to my wife, and said I needed to marry her in my sixth year of my theological studies, I did exactly that. And together we've experienced how the little money she got as a salary as a teacher, and the R30 my mother send us month after month those last two years while I was still studying, totally covered all our expenses and needs, and even left us enough to go to the open-air bioscope outside Kuilsriver where we lived once or twice a month.

I can testify about God's goodness and faithfulness in supplying in all our needs month after month after month.

But, from our side, God required us to be financially responsible.

It all started in 1992 when God called me to translate a book of Crown Financial Ministries, called, **MANAGE YOUR MONEY**, into Afrikaans. Soon after that He opened doors for me to start teaching those principles from that book to Christian businessmen and –women.

One day God challenged me with these words: How can you teach these men and women these principles while sitting yourself in so much debt at this stage of your life?

And suddenly I realized how true it was. Because of my studies for my Master degree and Doctorate, and our visit to Switzerland, we were very much in debt.

Then and there before God, my wife and I made a choice to start managing our money in obedience to the Biblical principals God taught us and to pay off our debt as quickly as possible. Of course this meant budgeting for the first time in our lives, but also giving Biblically as God taught us.

Within a year and a half, we were totally debt free.

That was the middle of 1993.

So, when God called us in October 1993 and told me to resign as a pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church, we could take that decision also financially responsible, because we knew we didn't owe anybody anything.

From then on we just trusted God to supply in all our needs through the responsible and obedient giving of His people whenever He told them to give what to us.

This year it exactly is 19 years already in which God supplied in all our and the ministry's needs month after month after month.

I want to explain exactly what I am telling you very practically to give to God sufficient glory for His continual faithfulness in our lives till now.

We are an ordinary family, with all the needs of an ordinary family. We have two daughters, Marilene and Christelle, who have all the ordinary needs and wishes any ordinary daughter would have in the different stages of their childhood, during their teenage years and even as young adults while studying.

My wife and I, and both of our daughters need clothes, even more than most other people because of our lives in the centre of the community and because of the very public role we need to play most of the time. We must eat and exercise, and go on vacations ... just as any other normal human being need to do. Our vehicle needs fuel, and services. And, yes, we also pay for electricity and for our cell phones ourselves.

And yes, although we are always on time and ready to minister whenever we are called upon or invited too, we don't receive any remuneration or salary from any where or any other institution for what we do. And, yes, we made a choice not to ask anyone for money when you ask us to come and minister to Gods people in your area, and we don't even ask for any travel costs.

But that doesn't mean we don't need the money.

We only made a choice to trust God and to trust you and all Gods other people to obey His Word and when He tells you to give to us ... sufficiently and abundantly ... from what God give you financially, because we were willing to give to you what God gave us spiritually to give to you.

To wait patiently month after month for sufficient funds to come in via donations of believers is very challenging sometimes.

When there is enough in time, it is a breeze to trust God and to keep on trusting Him for everything. But to experience needs for months and months that aren't met ... is o, so tough!

But we learned to say after Paul: "I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things, I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Nevertheless, you have done well that you shared in my distress.

Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only.

For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities.

Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.

Indeed, I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”⁵

Yes, as Paul testified, we also know of times when we had abundantly and could give to others in need out of our abundance, but we also know from experience of many times when we didn't have enough and when our bank accounts and credit cards were in the red and nearly at its limits in the rear.

About a year ago I had a serious conversation with the Lord about this very thing because my bank account and credit card were to debited totally to their maximum and it just seems the money coming in was never enough.

It was then God made us realize how many other ministries and people in ministry we, as a family, were supporting financially. God made us count these ministries and people we were supporting month after month from the donations and money we got, and at this stage we are supporting 17 different ministries and people in ministry.

It was then that God told us that the way He would be supporting the money we and others around us are needing will change.

God even send a prophet to confirm this exact word.



The prophet prophesied as follows: God called you as a general among generals, and as a prophet to the nations. Go to the nations, minister to the nations, my son and daughter. Today I am anointing you anew with a new anointing as a prophet to the nations. Till now you only lived in the natural most of the time. From now on you will live in the supernatural. Yes, you will even ride on My waves of supernatural supply.

People, businessmen, will come and put bags with money, even bags full of gold at your feet. You even will trade in gold, yes, gold, My son!

Do you remember in the time of Elijah, Elijah thought he was alone? But God came and told him about the 7000 others, who, as he, were obedient to God and trained by God for the new season.

You, My son, will meet some of the new generation of 7000 I've prepared for this new season for what I am about to do all across the world. And some of these 7000 will also supply the finances needed. They will be in positions of authority in governments across the world; and others will be in business. I have prepared them for this.

⁵ Phil. 4:12-19

You will meet them at the strangest places. Sometimes they will give you money or a bag with all you need in. Other times they even will give you tickets for the aeroplane and tell you where they've already arranged for accommodation for you.

There are many people God wants to use in this way in your life and ministry. Some are already ready and willing to be used, but some are not. There are even some of them you need to pray for ... so that they can be release and come in tune with My heart and will for them and their lives.

Just know, the wealth of the wicked is made up for the just!

There are many who thought they were accumulating enough for them and their children, but all the time they were preparing all that are needed for these end times, because the wealth of the wicked is made up for the just.

My son, will you be willing to obey and stand up and call the wealth of the wicked to be available for what God wants to use it for?

Remember how the children of Israel, after hundreds of years of slavery, were willing to go to their bosses and their wives and claim and demanded gold and silver from them when they departed out of Egypt. That was only because that was their deserved payment for the years of slavery when these people didn't pay them what they deserved. This is what will be happening soon!

This was Gods prophetic word too us a few months ago.

For that reason, I am using this testimony and this opportunity to call on these businessmen and people from governments whom God wants to us to supply in all the needs of His Kingdom coming, to get in tune with what God wants them to do NOW, at this very moment.

I want to call on the wealth of the wicked, in the Name of Jesus, to be available NOW for what God wants to use it for! In Jesus Name!