

Priscilla Shirer



HOLD ON TO FAITH WHEN LIFE BREAKS YOUR HEART

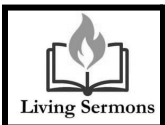
Transcribed and Published by LivingSermons.com

Hold On To Faith When Life Breaks Your Heart

Preacher: Priscilla Shirer

Publisher: LivingSermons.com

Watch Live Sermon [Here](#)



Title: Hold On To Faith When Life Breaks Your Heart

Author: Priscilla Shirer

Publisher: Livingsermons.com

© 2026 **Livingsermons.com**

All rights reserved.

No portion of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning, or otherwise—except for brief quotations in critical reviews or articles, without prior written permission from the copyright holders.

For the advancement of the Gospel of the Kingdom and the edification of the Body of Christ.

Scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version (KJV)* of the Holy Bible, which is public domain. **THIS BOOK IS NOT FOR SALE**

First Edition — 2026

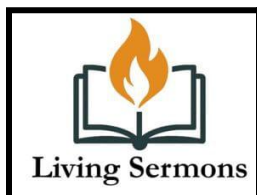
All inquiries and permissions:

info.livingsermons@gmail.com

www.livingsermons.com

Transcribed, Edited, and Published by Livingsermons.com

For Kingdom impact worldwide.



Foreword

There are messages that inform, and there are messages that strengthen the inner man. This sermon falls into the latter. It is not merely a teaching on faith under pressure; it is a timely reminder that God is not absent in seasons where His silence feels loud.

In *Hold on to Faith When Life Breaks Your Heart*, we are drawn into the tension of honest faith—the kind that still believes, yet wrestles; that still prays, yet asks questions; that still follows, even when understanding feels distant. Through the life of John the Baptist and the realities of human suffering, we are confronted with a truth that cannot be avoided: faith is often refined in places we would never choose for ourselves.

What makes this message particularly compelling is its pastoral sensitivity to those in painful seasons. It does not condemn the asking of questions. Instead, it reveals a God who is secure enough to receive them. A God who is not offended by trembling faith, and who does not withdraw His presence when His people struggle to understand His ways.

As you read this ebook, you will find yourself gently brought into a space of reflection, honesty, and renewed trust. It is our prayer that the Holy Spirit uses these words to steady every heart that feels uncertain, to encourage every believer walking through difficulty, and to remind you that what God has done for others, He is fully able to do for you.

May this message strengthen your faith, even in the breaking.

— *Wisdom Epsi*

Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

Table of Contents

Foreword

Publisher's Note

Main Message

A Moment Before the Lord

When It Looks Like Nothing Is Happening

When God Feels Silent

Faith in Unexpected Places

When Life Changes in an Instant

God Is Not Mad at Your Questions

Seen in the Silence

Faith Built in Hidden Places

Extending Grace to Others

Questions in Scripture

The Vastness of God

The Power of Testimony

Closing Prayer

About the Speaker

About Living Sermons

Join Our Team

We Are Social

Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

The live sermon from which this message was transcribed can be accessed here: [Going Beyond Ministries](#)

Livingsermons.com does not claim ownership of this message. All spiritual credit and ministerial authority belong to the preacher through whom the Word was delivered. Our role is that of stewards and editors—serving the Body of Christ by preserving and distributing life-giving messages in accessible digital formats.

Our commitment is excellence without dilution.

Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

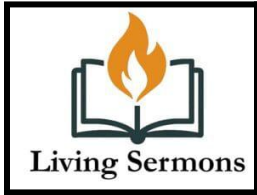
It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— *Livingsermons.com*

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



Introduction

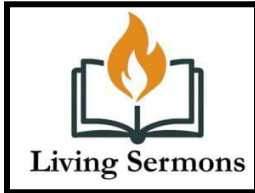
I want to tell you how privileged I always am when I have the opportunity to be a part of whatever Gateway Church is doing. But this gathering, on this occasion—with all of us together in this room like this—feels especially significant.

I remember the days when we were moving from one building to another for Pink Impact. And here we are now. I don't know if you've sensed it like I have, but there is something truly special about this day.

You would think that the speakers get together beforehand to discuss what we're going to say—to connect the dots and make sure we are all aligned. But we don't do that. We simply trust the Holy Spirit.

And I don't know if you've detected it like I have—the thread of God's Spirit speaking to us today.

If you have not heard the voice of God, then you haven't been in this room with us, because God has been speaking—and I have ears to hear.



A Moment Before the Lord

Last night, I lay in bed thinking about you—talking to the Lord about what I should share. I had a few prepared messages I could have delivered. After all, there's nothing like standing in front of thousands of people and not being prepared.

But as I lay there, some fresh thoughts came. I began to jot them down in my journal. And when I heard what had already been shared today, I realised—this is what the Lord wants to say to us.

So I prayed:

“Lord Jesus, I am asking You to put an exclamation point on this afternoon. Seal in somebody's heart Your love, Your grace, Your care, Your kindness. Use these words to encourage, to call to victory, and to speak personally to every heart. We have worshipped You. We have welcomed Your presence. Now, Lord, seal Your Word in our hearts. In Jesus' name. Amen.”

When It Looks Like Nothing Is Happening

I have three sons—Jackson, Jerry Jr., and Jude. One day, Jude and I were sitting on an aeroplane. He was looking out the window at the wing and asked, “Mom, how do they get that thing on the plane?”

I told him, “I have no idea—but you can ask your uncle Vaughn. He works with aircraft.” Then I said, “You know, you can do anything you want when you grow up.” He looked at me and said, “But Mom, I don’t want to do what Uncle Vaughn does. I want to do what you do.”

I thought, *Well, that’s sweet.* So I asked, “What do you think I do?”

He said, “Nothing. You do nothing all day, every day.” A few days later, my publisher called to tell me that my book had made the New York Times bestseller list—something I didn’t even know.

And in that moment, I realised something powerful: While it looked like I was doing nothing, something was being written.

When God Feels Silent

Last night, I thought about how often we feel like God is doing nothing. We pray. We wait. We circle the same situation over and over again. And it feels like He has forgotten us. We feel like He is not listening. Like He is not for us.

But the truth is:

“No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper” (Isaiah 54:17, KJV).

Even when it feels like nothing is happening, God is crafting something—something that will become a masterpiece in the story of your life.

Still, it can be hard...

Hard to carry the weight of silence.

Hard to keep circling when nothing seems to change.

Faith in Unexpected Places

I was reminded of John the Baptist in *Matthew 11*. This is the same John who once declared of Jesus:

“He that cometh after me... whose shoes I am not worthy to bear” (Matthew 3:11, KJV).

Yet now, sitting in prison, he sends a message:

“Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?” (Matthew 11:3, KJV).

How does someone so sure become so uncertain?

Because he found himself in a place he never expected. And I wonder how many people are in that same place right now— Living a life you never imagined... Facing circumstances you never planned for...

When Life Changes in an Instant

A few days ago, I visited a friend whose life changed overnight. She and her husband had built a beautiful life together—years of work, a thriving business, a home filled with love. Then, in a moment, everything shifted. An accident. A concussion. What seemed like recovery turned into something deeper—something unseen. And suddenly, tragedy struck. She found herself in a place she never imagined she would be. And in a room like this, I know there are many who understand that feeling:

- A marriage that needs resurrection
- A child who has gone astray
- A diagnosis you never expected
- A loss you cannot explain

Like John, you find yourself asking: “Are You really who You say You are?”

What made John's situation even harder was this: While he was in prison, he was hearing about the miracles Jesus was doing everywhere else.

The blind were seeing.

The lame were walking.

The dead were being raised.

But nothing was changing for him. And if we're honest—that's where discouragement often deepens. It's one thing to struggle. It's another to struggle while watching others break through.

God Is Not Mad at Your Questions

But here is the encouragement: When John asked his question, Jesus did not rebuke him. He did not respond with anger or offence. And that means something for us:

God is not mad at your questions. He is not offended by your weakness.

If you have wondered...

If you have doubted...

If your faith has wavered...

You need to know: God sees you. He sees every tear.

“Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle” (Psalm 56:8, KJV).

Not one tear has been lost. Not one moment has gone unnoticed.

Seen in the Silence

As you continue to circle your Jericho, know this:

God sees every step.

Every hesitation.

Every question.

Even when your faith has not been perfect—Even when your circles have not been steady—He sees you.

And He is not angry with you.

Faith Built in Hidden Places

Sometimes, faith is built in the hidden places.

In the quiet.

In the waiting.

In the moments when God does not move the way we expect.

It is in those places—those unseen, uncelebrated places—that our faith is strengthened the most. Sometimes, when we ask questions, that is the very way our faith becomes stronger and more sure. The woman you will be ten years from now will be strengthened and reshaped by the struggles you face today. The woman I pray to become in five years will be different because of the wrestling I am doing in this season.

It is the wrestling that strengthens us.

What I love about this passage with John the Baptist asking that question—one that could have been offensive—is that Jesus does not rebuke him. Instead, it reveals the humanity and frailty of a man who is going through something. And the truth is, many people are going through something.

If you are not, we rejoice with you. But for those who are struggling—for those whose faith is wavering—you need to know this: God hears every question.

Every thought.

Every hidden concern.

Every doubt you have been afraid to voice.

What is so powerful here is that Jesus gives John grace to wrestle. He does not shut him down. He does not correct him harshly. He gives him space. Because while Jesus has not changed—

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever” (Hebrews 13:8, KJV)

—our realities do change.

And when your reality shifts, new questions arise. God is not intimidated by those questions. He loves you enough to give you the margin to ask them.

Extending Grace to Others

If only the body of Christ would give one another the same grace that Jesus gives us. There is only One who could say:

“He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone” (John 8:7, KJV).

And yet, He chose not to. So why are we so quick to judge those who are simply wrestling?

If someone in your life is struggling—If they are questioning—If they are trying to make sense of their circumstances—Do not scold them.

Give them grace. Let them wrestle.

Questions in Scripture

Scripture is filled with people who asked hard questions:

- Habakkuk looked around and said, “Lord, how long will You allow this injustice?”
- Job questioned why so much devastation had come upon his life.
- Gideon asked why God allowed oppression to continue.

God heard them all. And He did not rebuke them for asking. So if you are asking questions—keep asking. God hears you. And He will answer.

The Vastness of God

Life is hard. And sometimes, we must wrestle through our faith.

I wrote this down:

God is like an ocean.

The ocean is vast, deep, and immeasurable. Even with all modern technology, we have not discovered everything within it. Yet, when you step into it, you know a few things for sure:

- It is wet
- It is powerful
- It is salty

You may not understand its depths, but you experience its reality. It is the same with God. We may never fully comprehend Him, but we can know:

“O taste and see that the Lord is good” (Psalm 34:8, KJV).

We know He is good.

We know He is kind.

We know He has a plan:

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you... thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end” (Jeremiah 29:11, KJV).

We may not understand everything, but we can trust His heart. When John asked his question, Jesus responded in a surprising way.

He said:

“Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see” (Matthew 11:4, KJV).

Jesus did not write a letter. He did not go personally. He sent witnesses. People who had seen His power. People who had experienced His miracles. He sent them to strengthen John’s faith.

The Power of Testimony

And I believe that is what God is doing today.

He has placed people around you— Living testimonies— To answer the questions in your heart. There are people who have:

- Seen broken marriages restored
- Overcome addiction
- Experienced divine healing
- Found peace after devastating loss
- Watched loved ones come to Christ
- Recovered from financial ruin

They are evidence that God is still working.

“Look what the Lord hath done” (cf. Psalm 126:3, KJV).

If your heart is broken...

If your situation has not changed...

If you are wondering whether God will come through for you—Hear this:

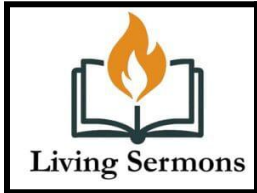
What He has done for others, He will do for you. God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34, KJV).

The same God who healed...

Who restored...

Who delivered...

Is still at work.



Closing Prayer

If you are discouraged— If you are struggling to keep the faith—Lift your heart to God.

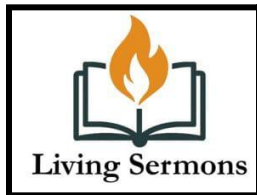
“Lord, in the matchless name of Jesus Christ, I pray for every person who is carrying pain, loss, betrayal, or devastation. Thank You that You are not offended by our questions. Thank You for Your grace that strengthens our faith.

Exchange discouragement for encouragement. Replace fear with faith. Cancel every assignment of the enemy by the blood of Jesus shed on Calvary.

Release hope. Release strength. Release unwavering faith.

Thank You for the testimonies that remind us You are who You say You are—and You can do what You say You can do.

In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

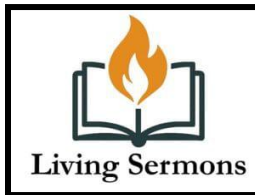


About the Speaker

Priscilla Shirer is a renowned Bible teacher, author, and conference speaker with a global influence in Christian ministry. She is widely recognised for her clear, Spirit-led teaching of Scripture and her ability to communicate deep biblical truths in a way that is both practical and transformational. Through her ministry, she has helped countless believers develop a stronger relationship with God and a deeper understanding of His Word.

As the daughter of Tony Evans, Priscilla Shirer was raised in a Christ-centred environment that shaped her passion for teaching the Scriptures. She serves through Going Beyond Ministries, where she equips believers—particularly women—to study the Word of God with depth and confidence. Her teachings often focus on spiritual growth, identity in Christ, and living a victorious Christian life through faith and obedience.

In addition to her teaching ministry, she is a bestselling author and has been featured in faith-based films such as War Room, where her role further amplified her message on the power of prayer. Across conferences, books, and digital platforms, Priscilla Shirer continues to be a strong voice calling believers to intimacy with God, steadfast faith, and unwavering commitment to truth.



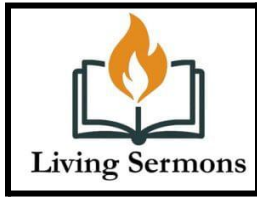
About Living Sermons

Living Sermons is a Spirit-led publishing platform dedicated to transforming timeless messages of God’s servants into books that can reach and impact lives across the world. Our mission is simple: to preserve the wisdom, revelation, and anointing carried in the preached Word and make it accessible in formats that can be studied, shared, and revisited for generations. By turning sermons into high-quality Christian books and eBooks, we extend the life and influence of each message far beyond the pulpit.

At Living Sermons, we believe that the preached Word is living and powerful (Hebrews 4:12). Every sermon carries truth that can instruct, comfort, rebuke, inspire, and transform. Our role is to faithfully capture these words, polish them for clarity and readability, and present them in a way that maintains the preacher’s unique voice and anointing.

Through our work, messages that might otherwise be heard once are preserved as lasting resources for teaching, devotion, discipleship, and evangelism. These books are designed not just for reading but for equipping believers, strengthening families, and advancing the Kingdom of God.

Living Sermons—*the preached Word in lasting form.*



Join Our Team

At **Livingsermons.com**, our mission is to ensure that sermons inspired by the Holy Spirit are accessible in written form for study, meditation, and reference by believers around the world. This work is growing, and we can't do it alone.

We are inviting passionate believers to volunteer in any of these roles:

- **Transcribers** – Convert sermon recordings into accurate transcripts.
- **Editors** – Refine transcripts into polished, readable eBooks.
- **Bloggers** – Create SEO-friendly posts to share new books.
- **Social Media Managers** – Share books online and engage our community.
- **Language Translators**
- **Graphics Designers**

If you feel led to serve in any of these roles, please reach out through our [Volunteer Page](#) on Livingsermons.com. Together, let's spread the knowledge of Christ to the nations.

We Are Social

Instagram: [instagram.com/livingsermons](https://www.instagram.com/livingsermons)

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/livingsermons>