

The Potters House

Preacher:

Sarah Jakes Roberts



SUBTLE UNTIL SUDDENLY

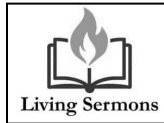
Subtle Until Suddenly

Source: The Potters House

Preacher: Sarah Jakes Roberts

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Foreword

*There are moments in the Kingdom when God chooses to move with unmistakable force—moments that arrest our attention, shift our direction, and mark us forever. Yet, more often than not, the deepest works of God begin quietly, beneath the surface, in ways the natural eye can hardly detect. This message, *Settle Until Suddenly*, captures that sacred tension with remarkable clarity.*

In this generation, many have become fascinated with the dramatic—seeking sudden breakthroughs, instant answers, and visible manifestations. But this sermon calls us back to a truth often overlooked: God is just as present in the subtle as He is in the sudden. The hidden prayers, the private tears, the unseen obedience, and the daily surrender are not insignificant; they are the soil from which divine suddenly moments emerge.

What makes this message especially timely is its insistence that transformation is not merely about encounters, but about process. Through profound scriptural insight and prophetic clarity, we are reminded that conversion may happen in a moment, but transformation is cultivated over time.

Like Paul in Arabia, like the woman with the issue of blood stepping into a new identity, and like every believer pressing through life's hidden battles, this message confronts us with the reality that God is forming something eternal in the secret place.

As you read, I encourage you not to rush through these pages. Allow the Spirit of God to search you. Let this message challenge your impatience, strengthen your faith, and awaken your understanding of how God works in seasons where it feels like nothing is happening.

Perhaps you are in a subtle season right now—where progress feels slow, where answers seem delayed, and where the breakthrough has not yet arrived. Be

encouraged: Heaven is never inactive. What appears small may be carrying the weight of destiny.

May this book remind you that subtle obedience is never wasted, and that in God's hands, what is nurtured faithfully in secret will one day erupt into undeniable manifestation.

Settle until suddenly.

Your suddenly may be closer than you think.

— Wisdom Epsi

Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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Publisher's Note

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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.

Watch the live sermon from which this message was transcribed on YouTube, **at [the Potters House Official YouTube Channel](#)**

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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

Amen. We see you. We love you. And we believe this Word is going to change your life. I'm in Acts 17.

The topic that God has given me is **Subtle Until Suddenly**.

We are in Acts 17. If you have your Bible, say, *"I got my Bible."*

You got your real Bible—not that your phone isn't a real Bible—but I'm giving those of you with pages a moment to flip there. And for those of you who have the app, I'm giving you time to close Instagram. That's a distraction. Don't check your mail. Make your way to Acts 17.

I say this all the time, but I've been using my physical Bible for a few years now. I had gotten into the habit of using my phone. And you know, growing up, we were forced to go to Vacation Bible School. You knew the books of the Bible. You had Bible trivia, and you could flip the Bible open.

Child, I went looking for something one day and couldn't remember where it was. I said, "I need to bring my Bible out because technology is trying to ruin my witness."

So I like bringing my Word so that I can continue to really develop in the Lord and know where to find what I'm looking for when I'm looking for what I'm looking for.

Amen.

The Context of Acts 17

For context, the year most theologians believe this is taking place is around A.D. 50. Paul, who will be our communicator of God's truth for this morning, has left Macedonia and made his way to a town called Thessalonica. Thessalonica is the city to whom the letters to the Thessalonians were written.

It was a place that was religiously diverse. All of the Roman Empire was religiously diverse. They had pagan gods. They were polytheistic, so it wasn't uncommon for them to serve many different gods. There was Zeus. There was Dionysus. There were many gods.

They also worshipped the emperor. There were all of these different religions. I give you that context because sometimes we are so used—especially in America, though we have people watching from all over the world—to Christianity being the dominant religion.

But at this time, Christianity was not the dominant religion. As a matter of fact, some would call it a mystery religion because it wasn't like any of the pagan worship the Romans were used to. And so when we find Paul in the text, he is beginning to evangelise about Jesus the Christ—the Messiah, the Chosen One, the King of kings.

To say He was the King of kings when there was a Roman emperor who was supposed to be the only king was dangerous. But Paul said it anyway.

He had just left Macedonia, where he cast a spirit out of a young girl. And when he cast that spirit out, it caused an issue within Macedonia.

As a result, he was beaten and imprisoned. Yet here he is in Thessalonica doing the same thing that got him in trouble in Acts 16.

Turning the World Upside Down

“Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.”

— *Acts 17:2–3 (KJV)*

And some of them were persuaded. A great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas. But the Jews who were not persuaded became envious. They were envious because Paul was converting both non-believers and Jews into believers of The Way.

So they gathered evil men from the marketplace, formed a mob, and set the city in an uproar. They attacked the house of Jason, where they believed the apostles were staying.

But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason instead—because if they can’t get you, they’ll take whoever is connected to you. And they cried out:

“These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also.”

— *Acts 17:6 (KJV)*

Prayer

Spirit of the living God, I need You.

I ask that You would rest in me, God. That You would allow me to become one with You, that I may deliver only what You desire to be said. I've done my studying, but this is Your people. This is Your moment. So I ask that You would align my heart with what You want to see happen in this room.

And God, I pray that You would open the hearts of those who are meant to receive what is in this room. That just for a moment, You would silence doubt, worry, and distraction, and that You would allow them to receive from You. That it would be healing. That it would be challenging. That it would be transforming.

And I thank You, God, that as You do that, we will be radically changed to go out into the world and be like these who turned the world upside down. Have Your way in this room as only You can do. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Understanding God Beyond Familiar Patterns

This weekend we had *Make It Last*. It was our marriage weekend.

Though we have marriage community groups and ways for married couples to be encouraged throughout the year, *Make It Last* was a weekend where couples could come together, have fun, and hear from other married couples in different seasons and stages of life.

It falls on Valentine's weekend, which is often a time when we reflect on relationships and love. Most times it's romantic love. But for me, I try to consider the different expressions of love that exist in my life—even outside of romantic love.

One of the things I've had to recognise about myself in the pursuit of relationships is that I really desire to get to know a person so that I can know what to expect from them.

That's the dance of relationships.

Who are you?

What can I expect from you?

What should I not expect?

And once I know that, I know the best way to engage.

I feel like that dynamic of my personality is part of what made my relationship with God so complicated growing up. Because I was trying to figure out what to expect from God. There's such a complex nature to His being. He is the same yesterday, today, and forevermore. But who He is in His essence—I didn't always understand. Sometimes we create a baseline for who God is. And then we limit Him to that baseline.

His Ways Are Higher

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

— *Isaiah 55:8–9 (KJV)*

That word *ways* is the Hebrew word *derek*. It means a road, a course of life, or a mode of action. So the text is saying that the road I take is not the road you would take. My course of action is not always your course of action. Which means that if you are going to walk with the Lord—if you're really going to let go and let God—you have to let go of this idea that it has to go your way.

Everybody says *let go and let God*, but nobody really talks about what that means. I'll tell you what it means. To let go and let God means I'm going to let go of this idea that it has to go my way so that I can be open to the way You want to take. So that I can be open to the course of action You want to see happen.

My baseline for trusting God is not limiting Him to showing up one way. My spirit has been trained to know that He's going to show up. And my mind knows I may not know how. I don't question whether He's coming. I stay sensitive to *how* He's coming.

One thing I know: My God is on the way. Matter of fact—He's not just on the way.

He's already in the midst.

The God of Detours

I hear God saying prophetically that He changed the road somebody's been taking. And they didn't realise it. Because they thought He was going to keep them on a certain path. But He changed the course of action without changing His mind about who you are.

He says:

I'm still good.

I'm still faithful.

I still have a desire to bring you to an expected end. Just because I changed the road doesn't mean I changed the destination. I've got a million ways to get you there. You were going down a certain path and thought: *This is the path that leads to everything God said.*

And then suddenly there was a detour. But like any good detour, it may change the route—but it does not change the destination. It may take longer.

It may happen with different people. It may not happen the way you imagined. But it does not change the destination. Rebuke the mentality that a detour is a cancellation of destiny.

God says:

I changed the course of action, but I did not change the destination. Sometimes we thank Him for making a way out of no way.

But today—Thank Him for detouring your way. Thank Him for changing your path.

Unlocking the Limits You Placed on God

The job of us as believers is to expand our mentality to make room for the endless possibilities of what God can do. Grieve it if you have to.

I'm not asking you to spiritually bypass it.

Grieve it.

You wanted things to be a certain way.

Admit that.

Because if you don't, it creates distance in your relationship with God. Sometimes we can be passive-aggressive with God. "I'm here, but I don't fully trust You because things didn't go my way."

You have to acknowledge that you are grieving so that God can meet you in that grief and order your steps into His grace. The enemy will trap you in regret, remorse, and distrust. And it creates distance in your relationship with God. You must find a way to unlock the limits you have placed on God's potential. Because when you limit His potential, you limit your own. If you cannot unlock the limits on God's potential, you will never fully unlock the limits on your own.

The Model of Jesus

In John chapter 5, verses 19–20, they were upset with Jesus because He was healing on the Sabbath and making Himself equal with God.

And Jesus said: "The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do..."
— *John 5:19 (KJV)*

I only do what I see my Father in heaven do. The Father loves the Son and shows Him all the things that He Himself does.

That means Jesus had such a close and intimate relationship with God that He understood the capacity of God's potential in any given moment. And because He understood that capacity, He was aligned so perfectly that His potential became God's potential.

Jesus understood the fullness of who God is. This is why He is our model. This is why He is our example. He understands the fullness of what God can do. And because He understands the fullness of what God can do, He operates in the fullness of that knowledge.

And when you operate in the fullness of that knowledge, it disrupts other people. It irritates other people because they want you to stay limited to a certain version of what they understand.

But you see, I'm not trying to do *you*.

I'm trying to do *Him*.

I only do what I see.

I only do what I see my Father in heaven do.

That's what we need to understand.

When we have a generation of people we're trying to emulate and imitate, that's where we miss the mark—because we make them our idol.

They are not your idol.

I don't care how good they look on Instagram. I don't care how well they do what they do. Nobody can do what God has called you to do but you. And you cannot do what God has called you to do while looking at them. If you're going to do what God has called you to do, you're going to have to look to Him. Because I've got to be so aligned with Him.

That's a good word to me.

Because it speaks to what's possible when we are fully aligned with who we know God is. If you know who your God is, you will never doubt who you are. If you know who your God is, you'll never doubt what God can do through you.

Because you know He's not doing it *with* you.

He's doing it *through* you.

The word comes through me.

The execution comes through me.

I couldn't do it in my own strength, but God is working through me.

My potential became His potential.

Me, in my own strength, I have no potential to heal.

I have no potential to deliver.

But because I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour, and He is the way, the truth, and the life, it expanded my capacity.

You're right to have imposter syndrome because there are some things you could never do in your own strength.

But when the King of kings stepped down on the inside of you, He said:

Where you're an imposter, I can be the real deal.

And together, Me and you can shake things up.

Relationship Over Religion

So when you read this Book, make sure that you unlock the potential of who your God is so that you can unlock the potential of what you can do in the earth.

This is not just religion.

Miss me with religion.

We've had enough of it.

It has gotten on enough people's nerves. I need some people in this room who want to be in relationship with God.

- I want to know Your heart.
- I want to know Your ways.
- I want to know what's possible when I'm in relationship with You.
- I want to know Your faithfulness.

And I hear God saying that if you would start praying to know His ways, He will show you how to navigate the multiple ways in front of you.

God, Show Me Your Way

We're in Texas.

And let me tell you something—if you get on a Texas highway, you've got to have the Holy Ghost.

There are so many different ways you could take, that if you don't know where you're headed and you don't have somebody telling you how to get there, you could end up lost.

But if you know where you're supposed to go, and you have the right navigator in your ear, you don't have to worry about missing an exit.

Because I've got the right Person leading and ordering my steps. What you see in the physical is what is happening in the spiritual. There are people in this room who do not know which way to take. And I hear God saying: **Stop asking Me which way to take, and start asking Me for My way.**

Because if you ask Me for My way, all the other ways will fade away. And it will become clear. I speak prophetically over whoever is in this room—that God would make clear to you the path you are supposed to take in this season.

Do I leave or do I go?

Do I register or do I wait?

I pray that the moment you begin praying, *“God, what is Your way?”* that doors begin flying open.

And I pray some doors start closing too. So that you understand without a shadow of a doubt: **I am exactly where God has called me to be.**

Wherever You Lead Me

You think I'm in Dallas because I didn't have anywhere else to be?

I'm in Dallas because I kept praying:

God, do You want me to go back home or stay in Los Angeles?

And when I stopped praying, *“God, just make me comfortable,”* and instead started praying, *“God, show me Your way,”* it became increasingly clear that the next dimension of my destiny would be unlocked here.

I said, “But God, Bishop Jakes preached there.”

God said:

If you get in My way, it won't matter who came before you.

It won't matter who comes after you.

I will anoint you and appoint you for such a time as this.

I want you to live for an audience of One. I am not living to feel another man's footsteps. I'm living to take the ordered steps of the Lord. And Lord, if You take me to Dallas, I'm going. And if You take me to Miami, I'm going. Wherever You take me—if I've got to leave some people behind, if I've got to change what makes me comfortable, whatever You say, God—I'm going to do it. Because I trust Your ways over my ways.

I did it my way. And it left me dead. It left me broken. But here I am now with resurrecting power.

It May Look Like Going Backwards

I hear God saying: *What I start cannot be stopped.*

What He starts cannot be stopped. And this is not in my notes, but I hear God saying: *I didn't take you backwards.*

I thought, *God, are You taking me backwards by taking me back to Dallas?*

And I hear God saying: *I would never take you backwards. I only go from glory to glory to glory.*

There is something in this season of your life that is meant to make you look more like God—not more like man.

You don't need to be more popular. You don't need more money. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."
— *Matthew 6:33 (KJV)*

God, what is happening in my life that You want to make me look more like You?

Make me think more like You.

When God's Way Feels Familiar

There are moments where God's way confuses us. We talk about Abraham and Isaac. And we often focus on the faith it took for Abraham to offer his son. But within context, what makes it so perplexing is that child sacrifice looked like the very ancient Near Eastern religions God had called Abraham out of.

So why would You call me out of my father's house into something new, only to ask me to do something that looks like what You delivered me from?

That's the real tension.

The sacrifice wasn't the problem.

The familiarity was.

The test of faith was:

If I called you back to something I called you out of, would you still trust Me?

Would you trust My ways even when it looked like you were going backwards?

I don't know who this is for, but it feels like you've been going backwards.

You trusted God.

You obeyed God.

And now it feels like you're being called back into something He called you out of.

Faithfulness is not just for when things are going your way.

Can you still trust Him?

Can you still believe Him?

Even when things are shifting in a direction you did not anticipate?

The God of Suddenly and Subtly

I have spent a lot of time fascinated by the ways of God. Trying to stretch my mind to understand the different ways He shows up in Scripture. And in the process of studying His ways, I noticed something.

God is the God of both **suddenly** and **subtly**. Moses was minding his business and suddenly a bush was consumed with fire. Mary was minding her business and suddenly an angel appeared. Abraham was living his life and suddenly God called him out.

And I love this attribute of God because it reminds me:

God can interrupt the programme. He is the God of suddenly. At any given moment, everything can change. But He is also the God of subtly. There are moments when He moves obviously, loudly, intensely.

And then there are moments when He moves quietly. Elijah was going through a difficult season. One moment on the mountain. The next on the run. He was used to grand gestures from God. And there was an earthquake.

But God was not in the earthquake. Then a violent wind. But God was not in the wind.

Then fire. But God was not in the fire. He was in the still small voice. As much as Elijah knew Him as the God of suddenly, he had to learn that He was also the God of subtly.

There are moments when we are looking for God to do something big, intense, and loud to remind us He is with us. And we miss Him. Because He's not doing it suddenly. He's doing it subtly.

When the King of kings was born, He was born in a manger. Raised in Nazareth. In a place where people said: *Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?*

God used subtle movement to cultivate proximity and intimacy. So that we would lean in.

Right now, in your midst, God is either moving suddenly or subtly. Maybe part of your prayer tonight should be:

God, help me not miss the subtle ways You are showing up in my life.

Help me not miss the subtle ways You are transforming me.

Because the same way I have seen instantaneous deliverance, I have also seen subtle deliverance.

Sometimes we think that if it doesn't happen suddenly, something is wrong.

But there are people whose testimony would tell you:

It didn't happen overnight.

Matter of fact, it felt like it wasn't working at all.

But one day they looked up and realised—

I'm not who I used to be.

It happened subtly.

The enemy will make you think slow progress is no progress.

But God says:

I don't care how you get free.

All that matters is that you get free.

“Whom the Son therefore shall make free, ye shall be free indeed.”

— *John 8:36 (KJV)*

Subtly Builds Momentum for Suddenly

If you're taking notes, write this down: **Subtly builds momentum for suddenly.**

A lot of times people look like overnight successes. But we only think that because we didn't see the subtle moments. The reason people were so perplexed by Jesus being King was because they expected Him to come with loud announcements.

But it happened subtly. And then suddenly, at thirty years old, He stepped into ministry.

Demons trembled.

Diseases fled.

Because what happened subtly built momentum for suddenly.

The woman with the issue of blood touched the hem of His garment, and the flow of blood stopped immediately.

It looked sudden.

But Jesus told her:

It wasn't the touch that healed you—it was your faith.

Faith is not built overnight.

For twelve years, faith was being built.

Subtly.

And I hear God saying:

I've been building your faith subtly so that when it's time for you to touch, you'll step into it suddenly.

My faith is being built subtly.

- I'm learning to trust You more.
- I'm learning to believe You more.
- I'm learning to use my voice more.

And when God opens that window of opportunity, other people may think it happened overnight.

But me and God will know—He's been building this for years. He's been subtly changing my spirit. Subtly changing my appetite. Subtly changing what I consume. My faith is being built subtly.

No big gestures—just me in my prayer closet. No big gestures—just me in worship. Subtly, He's changing me. Subtly, He's transforming me.

I don't talk the way I used to talk. I don't walk the way I used to walk. And it didn't just happen in a moment—it happened subtly.

My husband—because I'm not on social media—showed me the revival taking place at SEU. Students are worshipping, repenting, and calling on the name of Jesus.

One of the representatives of the campus posted a video online, and everyone kept asking, *"How did this happen? What did you do? This came out of nowhere."*

And he said, *"We've been praying for this. This didn't just happen."*

They had been praying for revival to come.

When revival hits our nation, people will wonder where it came from. The headlines may have been saying one thing. The globe may have looked like it was headed in another direction. But there will be intercessors who know it didn't happen overnight.

It happened because somebody was in prayer. I want to speak to someone raising children, waiting for the day they step into who God called them to be.

I came here as a living witness. There was a sudden moment when I came to myself. I know my mother had been praying. I know my father had been pleading the blood of Jesus. And all of a sudden, what they had been praying for manifested.

Let this be a word to you as you build that business, grow that ministry, and raise those children: it may be subtle at first, but when God finishes with it, it will be undeniable.

He is not just the God of overnight. He is the God of subtlety too.

Learn your lessons.

Talk your talk.

Walk your walk.

If they don't see it, it doesn't matter. This is between you and God. It may be subtle right now.

Suddenly Moments Are Sustained Subtly

If subtle moments build momentum for suddenly moments—and I see it in Scripture, and I see it in my life—then there's another truth I must accept:

Suddenly moments are sustained subtly.

This is where many of us miss relationship with God. We become addicted to sudden moments. If it's not dramatic, we don't nurture it. But what God births suddenly must be maintained subtly. Take the woman with the issue of blood.

Her faith built momentum until she touched the hem of His garment. She touched Him and then tried to disappear. But Jesus went out of His way to find her. Not just to tell her that her faith made her whole—but to call her **daughter**.

That was an invitation.

A paradigm shift.

A new identity.

Because before that moment, she was an outcast—untouchable, isolated, rejected. But Jesus said, *“I call you daughter.”*

That means she now had to go home and nurture what God had spoken over her. She had to protect that new identity. God gave her homework.

Step into the identity of a daughter.

Too many of us keep chasing the next suddenly moment and never take care of what God already gave us. Stop asking for another suddenly. Start asking:

“God, how do I take care of what You just gave me?”

- How do I nurture it?
- How do I feed it?
- How do I make it part of my identity?

Because God doesn’t just want encounters. He wants transformation. Transformation doesn’t happen by waiting for sudden moments. It happens when suddenly is bridged by subtle obedience—over and over again. God gives me something.

I take care of it.

It builds momentum.

Then He gives me more.

I steward that too.

And it keeps building. The most important part of what I do is not what happens on Sunday. It’s what happens in my prayer closet.

When nobody’s watching.

When my bonnet is on.

When there are no eyelashes.

This part—right here—is supposed to be the easy part. Because if I’ve done the hidden work, then the public moment is simply the fruit. When you step into your suddenly moment, you won’t feel like an impostor.

You'll know: **I belong here.**

Because what I did in private qualified me for what I'm doing in public. That would cure so many of us from impostor syndrome. Not faking it till we make it— but knowing without a shadow of a doubt that our hearts, words, friendships, actions, and behaviours have been aligned with who we are called to be.

And when God highlights something else in me that needs growth, I surrender.

Because more important than being known—is being aligned.

Conversion Versé Transformation

Suddenly moments are bait. They make you hungry for the process. I know this because in Acts 9, Paul had an encounter on the road to Damascus. He experienced conversion. Conversion literally means **to turn towards**. Saul—before he was Paul—was on his way to persecute believers. He was committed to Judaism. Aggressive. Zealous. Uncompromising.

Then suddenly, a light from heaven interrupted his path. Jesus Himself stopped him and said: *“You’ve been fighting the wrong thing. Turn toward Me.”*

And in an instant, he was converted. But he didn't stop there. In Epistle to the Galatians 1:17, Paul says he didn't immediately go to Jerusalem. He went to Arabia.

Why? Because he needed to nurture what happened on the road. For three years.

- No crowd.
- No applause.
- No validation.

Just process.

Because he didn't just want conversion. He wanted transformation. Conversion is turning towards. Transformation is taking on a new form. And this is where many

believers get stuck. They turn to God. But they never let God transform them. You can be converted and still unchanged.

That's why Jesus said you must be **born again**. Because turning toward Him is only the beginning. Birth is sudden. But pregnancy is process. What happens suddenly is often the result of subtle momentum over time.

If you're going to be born again, there must be subtle transformation in your walk.

God wants to change how you speak.

How you think.

How you show up.

Because transformation requires surrender to process.

God Wants to Change Your Perception

Perception is experienced through the senses. So when we talk about being born again, we're talking about God changing our senses.

- Our sight.
- Our hearing.
- Our touch.
- Our taste.
- Our discernment.

That's why when Jesus blinded Paul on the Damascus road, it wasn't random. He wanted to change how he saw. Because if God only converted him, He could have left him there. But Paul had a Kingdom assignment. And he could not fulfil it in the same form he was in.

So transformation was necessary. And that's what God wants to do with us. Not just change what we believe. But change how we perceive. Jesus touched lepers. That shocked religious people because lepers were considered untouchable.

But Jesus was teaching His disciples: *There will be things others refuse to touch that I have anointed you to heal.*

If you refuse to touch them, they cannot be healed.

So God says:

“Let Me change the way you touch.”

Make my hands clean, Lord.

So when I raise these children, I impart healing into their souls. I may have come from a broken home, but they will not carry broken souls. Change the way I touch.

Change the way I build.

Change the way I lead.

Change the way I write.

Change my touch.

Jesus saw Zacchaeus and called him a son of Abraham.

Others saw betrayal.

Jesus saw identity.

When the woman caught in adultery stood before Him, others heard accusations.

He heard shame. That’s what happens when God changes perception. Where others hear rebellion— you hear pain. Where others hear chaos— you hear a call to prayer. Where others hear bad news— you hear an opportunity for God to move. God, help me hear the way You hear.

- Help me see the way You see.
- Help me touch the way You touch.

Because real transformation is not just spiritual. It is fully embodied.

And when you are transformed, you cannot help but be who God made you to be. That is the power of transformation. Lord, help me say it plainly. What God was doing in Paul's life required him to walk into rooms that were hostile. And some of us are called into those same kinds of spaces.

- Not every destiny comes with applause.
- Not every calling comes with open arms.

Some of us are assigned to rooms where they will try to intimidate us out of position.

This may not be for everybody, but there are people in this room who have decided to break generational curses—patterns that kept your family in bondage for generations.

And the moment you make that decision, all hell breaks loose.

Why?

Because sometimes God calls us into identities that threaten old systems. He calls us into assignments that threaten old norms. When God asks you to do a new thing, it will always threaten an old thing. And if you have only been converted, the threat may run you out of position. But when you've been transformed, you recognise the threat for what it is.

- It is not just fighting you.
- It is fighting God in you.

And because it is fighting God in you, you don't have to fight it in your own strength.

- That's why Paul let them beat him.
- That's why Paul let them imprison him.

Because when he was in prison, he prayed.

He understood:

I didn't get myself into this, so I don't have to get myself out of it.

Paul could have fought his way out of chains.

But when you know who is fighting for you, you stop wasting energy trying to rescue yourself.

They took their best shot.

And when they thought they had won, the earth shook.

Read Acts of the Apostles 16.

The prison doors opened.

The chains fell off.

And yet Paul stayed.

He sat in an open prison.

Because he understood something powerful:

I could walk away right now—but I will not move until God orders my next step.

That's maturity.

That's transformation.

You shot your best shot.

And I'm still here.

Bruised—but still here.

Wounded—but still here.

Chained—but God broke them off.

What the enemy meant for evil, God meant for good.

I'm not chained the way I used to be.

I may be bruised, but I am not broken.

And He that began a good work in me is just getting started.

This Is Who I Am

I'm just getting started. Yes, I've been bruised.

Still getting started.

Yes, I'm tired.

Still getting started.

Because this isn't just something I do.

This is who I am.

That is why transformation matters. Because when you are transformed, circumstances cannot strip identity from you. You can beat me, but I will still prophesy through chains.

Because this isn't a performance.

This is identity.

God changed my identity.

And this will be your testimony:

You can't help but be who God made you to be.

Whether in the grocery store.

Whether behind the microphone.

Whether in the cubicle.

Whether in the boardroom.

Whether on stage or behind the scenes.

The anointing is not location-dependent.

It is identity-rooted.

This is not performance.

This is transformation.

If you knew what God did to me—I don't see the way I used to. I don't hear the way I used to.

He changed me.

The Battle Is Always Over Identity

This is why the enemy always attacks your identity. Because if he can convince you that you are not who God says you are, then he can stop you from doing what God called you to do.

But I want you to become like Paul. So transformed that even when you're in bad condition, hell still trembles. Because a bruised Paul was still dangerous. A wounded Paul was still anointed.

And I want to speak to someone who feels like your best years are behind you.

Listen carefully: If you were anointed in your younger years, that same anointing remains in your latter years. Because identity does not expire.

You can't help but be who you are.

When God transforms you, it becomes impossible to be anything else.

Subtle Obedience Still Carries Power

In Acts of the Apostles 17, Paul had already been beaten.

He had already been imprisoned.

He wasn't in the same condition he used to be.

Because life does that.

Life bruises you.

Life wounds you.

Life changes your shape.

But Paul kept going.

Not with the same intensity as before. Now—more subtly. He reasoned in the synagogue. Quietly. Steadily.

And you might wonder: *Can subtle still be effective?*

His enemies answer that question for us. They gathered a mob. They caused chaos. Not because Paul was loud. But because even his subtle obedience was powerful enough to threaten their systems.

That teaches us something: Subtle obedience still carries power. Sometimes the enemy fears your consistency more than your charisma. They feared him because they understood what subtle obedience can produce.

In Acts 17:6, they said: *“These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.”*

Notice that. Not flashy. Not loud. But still powerful enough to flip systems. Subtle turns into sudden. And when sudden is released, it can turn the world upside down.

This is your word:

If you cannot do it with intensity—do it subtly. You may not have the strength you once had. You may not have the courage you once had. You may not have the confidence you once had. And because of that, you’ve been waiting until you could do it big again.

But God says:

I don’t only move in suddenly moments. I am the God of suddenly and subtly. And this is my prophetic word to you:

When you step into the territory assigned to your name, it will be recognised.

For some, territory is a city. For others, territory is a sphere of influence.

A family.

A business.

A ministry.

A generation.

But when you step into that place transformed, heaven and hell will both recognise you. The enemy will whisper:

We have a problem. Because somebody transformed just stepped into this region. Somebody changed just walked into this family. Somebody delivered just entered this system. And everything that once held power must now come down.

Not Just Overcomers — Overturers

When I was praying, I heard God say: **It must come down.**

That was Paul’s mentality. He understood there were principalities, powers, and strongholds exalted in the earth. And whether suddenly or subtly—he was committed to pulling them down.

That is your call too.

This is not just a message for overcomers. This is a message for overturners. The world is overturned when believers stop processing life through old senses. Because our senses have been changed.

Our sight changed. Our hearing changed. Our touch changed. Our perception changed. And now we can turn worlds upside down. So settle until suddenly.

And when the suddenly comes—you'll be ready. I believe now more than ever that we have been distracted by intensity, by suddenly, and fooled into believing that subtle doesn't matter. Fooled into believing that little things cannot make a big difference.

And because of that, the enemy has footholds in territories, in our families, in our government, and in our economies—because we feel too small to make a difference.

This may not be everyone's experience, but I need you to understand that if you're in this room, your God takes subtle and turns it into suddenly.

Subtle matters. What's interesting is that I haven't called an altar call, but the altar is the place where we come to let go and let God.

And it is fair.

I'm overtime.

And if I were interested in trying to make sure we had cute little church and y'all could get out early so you could go to brunch—which I am interested in some Sundays—I would not do this, because I know it's going to take a little bit of time.

But I want to invite you to the altar anyway.

If you're here and there is a way that you have been holding on to—holding on to how you should show up, holding on to how you think God should show up—and maybe He didn't show up the way you thought...

And maybe you can't show up the way you wanted...

I want to offer you an opportunity to let go and let God.

And I sense there's someone in this room who is nervous and afraid because you don't know if you can suddenly change overnight.

I want to remind you that the point of this message is this:

Some people will come here and suddenly they'll change overnight. Their marriages will change. Their creativity will change—suddenly.

And then there are some for whom this is the beginning of your subtle.

This is the beginning of you saying:

It may take some time, but I'm willing to walk it out.

I may need some additional support, but I'm willing to do what it takes.

Because I don't want to just turn to God and be converted. I want to be transformed until all my senses look like Him. Until I see the way He sees. Hear the way He hears.

Until I taste and see that He is good. It may happen subtly. My spirit won't let me move on because I feel like there's somebody else I'm supposed to be waiting on. I asked God to let me see this room the way He sees it.

It's okay.

We invite Your presence, God. Your mighty rushing wind. Holy Spirit, fill this atmosphere. These are Your sons and daughters, God. You know them better than I ever could. You've been with them every step of the way.

You know every secret.

You know every dream.

Sometimes You showed up in big ways. Other moments they missed the subtle ways You were showing up.

An Invitation to Salvation

If you're here and you don't know Jesus, but you sense something happening in this room that you cannot explain—What's happening in this room is happening as a result of our belief in Jesus.

- Our belief that He can save.
- Our belief that He can heal.
- Our belief that He can set free, transform, and deliver.

And because we believe that, we have been changed. He has delivered us and saved us from sin. And He wants to know you too. If you're here, I want to invite you to come to this altar. I want to pray with you. In your own way.

For some, it may be vocal.

For others, it may be subtle.

But I want you to turn your heart toward God with your own words.

Before I developed my own prayer language, I would have moments like this and simply say:

Jesus. Jesus. Jesus. Jesus. Jesus.

Break every stronghold.

Confront brokenness.

Let love fill this room, God.

Love that heals.

Love that restores.

Sometimes we ask You for power.

Right now, I'm asking You for Your love.

Let it cast out every fear.

Let it confront wickedness.

Let shame go scurrying.

Rest Your eyes on our eyes.

Rest Your ears on our ears.

Give us a hunger and thirst for righteousness.

May the aroma of our praise and worship find its way to Heaven.

Spirit of the living God, thank You for Your consistency and faithfulness.

Thank You for being the God of suddenly.

God, there's something You want to do for some people in this room.

You said they cannot walk out of here the same way they came in.

So for those people, I decree and declare right now in the name of Jesus:

May the sudden power of God fall on them in this space.

May depression be broken.

May pride be broken.

May addiction be broken.

May every plan of the enemy return to hell where it came from.

Not tomorrow.

Not three months from now.

But now.

By the blood of Jesus—let it happen now.

Deliver them in the name of Jesus.

Come out of that woman.

Come out of that man.

Devil, you have no place here.

Demons, you must go.

Their house will not be the same when they return.

Their mind will not be the same when they return.

I decree it.

I declare it.

I establish it on earth as it is in Heaven.

In Heaven they are free.

In Heaven they are whole.

In Heaven there is no brokenness.

I rebuke generational curses.

I rebuke inner-child brokenness trying to ruin adult lives.

Heal that child.

Love that child.

Let it happen now.

Cancer—go now.

Tumour—shrink now.

I serve a God of suddenly.

Let the tears fall now.

Let pride shatter now.

Walls, come down now.

This is not Battle of Jericho—we are not walking around seven times.

I rebuke those walls right now in the name of Jesus.

Let them fall now.

Suddenly.

Strength for the journey.

Suddenly peace.

You came in depressed—now receive peace.

Suddenly joy.

Suddenly laughter.

There are people here anointed for sudden breakthrough.

Lift your hands and give God praise.

Because He inhabits the praises of His people.

And when He sits down in your praise, everything in you that is not of Him must get up.

I speak to depression.

I speak to suicidal thoughts.

I serve you an eviction notice.

You have to go.

The King of Kings has made His home here.

And I hear God saying that what I'm doing suddenly is overflowing into those who've been battling subtly.

And I hear God saying:

I have seen what you've been doing subtly.

And suddenly will be part of your inheritance.

Lord, thank You for allowing us to witness the sudden nature of God.

But I know it is also Your will for people to walk some things out.

And if suddenly is not their portion right now, may they not give up.

May they not feel ineffective because it didn't happen suddenly.

Illuminate what You've been doing subtly in their lives.

Let them not miss that You are not just in the big moments.

But You are also in the small moments.

Make our hearts sensitive to every way You are moving.

May we master the art of subtle obedience.

Subtle relationship.

Until it's no longer clear where You end and we begin.

For those dedicating or rededicating their lives—

Thank You, God, that You don't just ask us to be converted.

You ask us to be transformed.

Change our perception.

Change the way we see this world.

So we understand where we fit in it.

Because the reason some are battling isolation and suicidal thoughts is because they do not know where they fit.

But you don't know where you fit because you are not looking through the right lens.

May your prayer be:

God, show me where I fit in this world and in Your Kingdom.

And I'm sorry you didn't fit in the places you thought you should.

But I hear God saying:

If you had fit there, you would never have come seeking Me.

And now that you're seeking Me—

I can show you what I see.

And the way you should take.

Prayer of Transformation

Repeat after me:

Heavenly Father,
Thank You for Your love.
Thank You for this word.
I receive it.

Thank You for making Him who knew no sin become all of mine—
All of my weakness,
All of my limitations,
All of my insecurities,
All of my fears.

You placed it in His body
And nailed it to the cross.

And when He was raised up,
He was raised victorious.

And because He was raised,
I was raised too.

With all those things put to death.

And now a new life is ahead of me.

I have been born again.

Now change me.
Transform me.
Make my heart Your heart.
My ways Your ways.

Until I see and perceive everything the way You do.

Thank You for the person beside me.

Continue to touch them.

Heal them.

Reveal Yourself to them.

And reveal them to themselves too.

That they may walk in new identity,

With power,

Anointing,

Wholeness,

And peace.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Tell the person beside you:

Happy birthday. You look born again. You look new.

Thank you all for taking the time to intercede and have this encounter.

If you're looking for a church home, we would love for our house to be your house.

We love you, family.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May He make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

May He lift up His countenance upon you and grant you shalom.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.



About The Potter's House

The Potter's House is an intergenerational church passionately committed to uplifting humanity by embodying Christ's call to salvation while addressing the most pressing challenges facing our world—both locally and globally.

At its core, The Potter's House believes that true transformation requires more than spiritual growth alone. In an ever-changing world, thriving demands a holistic approach to human development—one that nurtures spiritual depth, emotional resilience, meaningful community, intellectual growth, and economic empowerment.

With a mission rooted in faith and innovation, The Potter's House meets people at every stage of life, providing practical solutions, spiritual guidance, and empowering opportunities designed to help individuals and families evolve with purpose, strength, and power.

As a global voice of hope and restoration, The Potter's House remains dedicated to building lives, strengthening communities, and advancing the Kingdom of God through transformative ministry.

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