All Things Are Possible

A Study by Marylynn G. Stults, Abraham Publishing, Spring 2014

Prayerfully you, the reader of this study, will examine the Scriptures referenced here in context in your Bible asking the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart and teach you how to increase your faith and empower your life. Amen in Jesus' name.

(Please note: Scriptures printed below are from the Amplified Version unless otherwise noted.)

Preface



Matthew 19:26 26 But Jesus looked at them and said, With men this is impossible, but ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE with God.

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There is, however, a caveat to Matthew 19:26:

IF we can believe (reference Matthew 13:58, 17:20).

So the big question is: How do we put **ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE** into action? We can begin by recognizing that it is only **WITH** – **through and because of** – **GOD.** (Consider what He said to Job recorded in Job 41:34c: "Everything under the heavens is Mine; therefore, who can have a claim against God?")

Some things we'll **COVER** here are familiar (:D – God hasn't changed the Bible lately!), but we'll **UNcover** hidden mysteries and pray God will help us **DIScover** what we are (what we can be) in Christ!

We don't teach our children certain things like driving until they're old enough to be trusted with the keys; neither does God. See what He said to and did for two disciples with whom He walked after His resurrection:

Luke 24:44-45

44 Then He said to them, This is what I told you while I was still with you: everything which is written concerning Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.

45 Then He [thoroughly] opened up their minds to understand the Scriptures

...which explains WHY there is still revelation knowledge happening today in the body of Christ – how we yet glean new information from the Scriptures. Yes, they are ALIVE!

Let's pray: Father, as You consider it timely to trust us with Your keys, open our understanding to comprehend the mysteries in Your Word! Amen in Jesus' name.

Let's Get Started

The LORD God performed countless amazing works here when He was the mortal Man Jesus – just like us – here on earth. He made the lame to walk, fed the multitudes, gave sight to the blind, and walked on water! He taught as no other man has ever taught!

Soon, He died and rose from the grave, yet even before that, He Himself, raised and restored others to their families. Apparently, we don't even know the half of it, for the very last words John wrote in his Gospel are: And there are also many other things which Jesus did. If they should be all recorded one by one [in detail], I suppose that even the world itself could not contain (have room for) the books that would be written (John 21:25)... all of which speaks of the amazing works that JESUS did, right? (I'll answer my own question.) Absolutely... yet what did He tell *us* to do?

He told US to do amazing works, too!

John 14:12a

12 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do;

To be sure, man has invented incredible things. Many attribute them to human genius and don't credit The Creator Whom we can only emulate or imitate. HA! If any one of us only knew our potential *through* God! Well, beloved reader, that is our journey today. All of man's inventions combined don't compare to the amazing works of one Man well before even electricity was harnessed. Now, I haven't walked on any water lately so I am not pointing fingers at anyone, but... Jesus didn't just tell us to do His works... He continued:

<u>John 14:12b</u>

...and he will do even greater things than these, because I go to the Father.

"Do even GREATER things!" **GREATER** ones?? Why, I'm not even getting all of His basic works and commands right yet, much less greater ones! Many of us barely get the love and marriage or turn the other cheek thing right!

Jesus asked a lawyer what was written in the law that one must do to inherit everlasting life, and the lawyer replied, You must love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself. The response of Jesus? ...Do this, and you will live (Luke 10:25-28). Was that not a great answer? But the lawyer persisted and tried to justify himself by asking who was his neighbor. Jesus responded with the message of the Good Samaritan, telling him – essentially, us – to go and do likewise (continuing through verse 38). So, as our life's foundation, let's stop underestimating and overlooking His basic tenet: LOVE.



Love – the ACTION verb.

DOING God's work.

For instance, when I hear sirens, I cry, "LORD, send help!" But wait!

Couldn't I - couldn't YOU? - couldn't we? - if we actually

believed All Things are Possible – do what Jesus stated in these keystone Scriptures? I don't mean physically as an EMT when we aren't one, but to HELP AS JESUS HELPED? Let's look at the whole Scripture, John 14:12, that Jesus spoke:

I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these, because I go to the Father.

Aren't we that "YOU" He's talking to?

Well, you say, maybe Jesus meant this command allegorically, symbolically, or some other "- ically?" So then, was He just blowing smoke when He said,

Luke 10:19

19 Behold! I have given you authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you.

And how about this?

Luke 10:20

20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits (that mans demons, evil spirits, *and* angels) are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are enrolled in heaven.

I am a writer (a wordsmith). I LOVE words. When no canvas is available, the spoken words of your heart can paint a work of art for another's mind's eye... such as when my three-year-old granddaughter wanted me to stay and not leave, she proclaimed, **"I love you** (dramatic pause)

until it never ends!" Words :D ! They can make your heart beam! Well, that's how Jesus loves us: Until it never ends! He meant EVERYTHING He ever said to us for He *is* the Word Who spoke the world into existence... with what?

Yes, His spoken Word!

John 1:1-3

1 In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself.

2 He was present originally with God.

3 All things were made and came into existence through Him; and without Him was not even one thing made that has come into being.

Life on earth is a continuous school where we learn the Word of God (...or not). Many (most?) don't recognize this. I first realized it about 15 years ago and I've been studying and taking some really rugged tests and copious notes since so we can learn. In this study, we'll go stepby-step to see how to fulfill these Scriptures we've cited, as well as numerous others of Power and Authority in His name.

The 1st Step: Toast

Think about this for a moment – an amazing Scripture showing the prominence and significance of humility:

Number 12:3 (KJV)

3 (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

Is this not the OPPOSITE of natural man's thinking? God chose the most humble man on the planet to fill the greatest position. Why? He was able to use Moses without his ego getting in the way; without his vain imaginations getting in the way; without his plans for self-aggrandizement getting in the way. And Moses knew what side his bread was buttered on.

The very first step on which everything hangs is:

If you think any great work you do you do in your *own* greatness, you are toast.

It's all about God.

Let's consider one (the main one) who thought it was about him.

Satan decided he could do what the LORD God did – and even greater things – on his own, but that pride-thing backfired and got him booted out of heaven.

Jesus said to His disciples,

Luke 10:18

18 ...I saw Satan falling like a lightning [flash] from heaven.

Proverbs 16:18

18 Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.

There's nothing really new under the sun, but through the Holy Spirit teaching us (for example, John chapters 14 through 16), there is greater understanding and further revelation on the Word.



The 2nd Step: Become Children of God

We must become children of God. Have you *become* one? Or did you, like so many, think you – and *everybody* for that matter – was automatically a child of God?

(Note: The phrase "born again" is also accurately entitled "born anew" and "born of God.")

John 1:12-13

12 But to as many as did receive and welcome Him, He gave the authority (power, privilege, right) to become the children of God, that is, to those who believe in (adhere to, trust in, and rely on) His name—

13 Who owe their birth neither to bloods nor to the will of the flesh [that of physical impulse] nor to the will of man [that of a natural father], but to God. [They are born of God!]

Here's a food-for-thought question to you: Let's say you are "saved" – that you've asked Jesus to be your Savior; were you, therefore and automatically as an aspect of that, "born *again*"? Did you receive Jesus and His power (the Holy Spirit) of which He spoke to become His child (following in the footsteps of Jesus) and, therefore, be born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God? (See what John wrote in John 1 above and what Jesus stated in John 3; see also Romans 8:14.)

John 3:1-7

1 Now there was a certain man among the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler (a leader, an authority) among the Jews,

2 Who came to Jesus at night and said to Him, Rabbi, we know and are certain that You have come from God [as] a Teacher; for no one can do these signs (these wonderworks, these miracles—and produce the proofs) that You do unless God is with him.

3 Jesus answered him, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that unless a person is born again (anew, from above), he cannot ever see (know, be acquainted with, and experience) the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter his mother's womb again and be born?

5 Jesus answered, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, unless a man is born of water and [even] the Spirit, he cannot [ever] enter the kingdom of God.

6 What is born of [from] the flesh is flesh [of the physical is physical]; and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not [do not be surprised, astonished] at My telling you, You must all be born anew (from above).

Romans 8:14

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

(Another Note: This is not to challenge your salvation experience, but to prod you into seeking more, learning more, and growing more in your journey to eternal life, even while you are here on Planet Earth because salvation isn't just for later, but now!)

To be born *again,* one of you should go or there'll be two of you.



Bye-bye old sinful guy!

Some might say this is hogwash; others might think it's just hot air; and others, that being "born again" is just thoughts and words and not an actual experience. But, the Word of God is descriptive about the born of God experience. Look at these:

Romans 6:6

6...Our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

Romans 8:11

11 And if the Spirit of Him Who raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, [then] He Who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also restore to life your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you.

When my friend, a Greek theologian named Richard Bootz, Th.D., examined these Scriptures grammatically, he discovered that they state that an outside force – in other words, ALMIGHTY GOD – **EXECUTES THE ACTION** of this our old man's death – – - AND – – – our subsequent REbirth, hence we are, actually and literally, "born of God." Yes, being born again – born of God – *is* an Act of God in which there is an actual change – a literal execution and rebirth – that takes place in us when we give Him our lives and die to self. He does not take this action until we desire, of our own free will, to be born again.

We commit ourselves to die spiritually to our old selves as described and we, like Jesus, are raised up to be as Christ, quite literally BORN of the Spirit! We ought to hold funeral *parties* – WAKES! – because we are raised as new creatures in Christ Jesus! Babies, though, actually, for the new birth is human's new BEGINNING. 1 Peter 1:23 says You have been regenerated (born again), not from a mortal origin (seed, sperm), but from one that is immortal by the ever living and lasting Word of God. You begin on milk like any baby and you take baby steps as you grow in your new way of life. It's up to you whether you stay a baby or grow into a mature Christian. And *staying* new is the trick. That's up to the individual. The free will part continues. And that is, sadly, where so many just quit growing in Christ (or worse, even regress). I know. I did for many years.

The 3rd Step: The Body of Christ

We become the children of God (John 1:12) to have the opportunity to be like Jesus when we're born of God. Jesus is the firstborn and we are children of God, heirs, and joint heirs with Christ *providing* we suffer with Him (this time see all of Romans 8, not just verse 11); and LIKE Him, we too, are raised from death in order to BE His body here on earth, **the body of Christ**.

Perhaps like me, you've assumed "body of Christ" was a figurative term, like a club or group membership. A bunch of people sitting around having church. NO! or, well, that is but one aspect of it, one which SO limits our potential.

Here is one of my new favorite Scriptures (did you know there were "new" Scriptures? I'm just kidding; I call them new when I get new revelation on them. It is so exciting!):

Ephesians 5:30 (KJV)

30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones.

To say we were members of His body – as of a group of people (Christians) – would have been sufficient had that been all that God meant in the Word; but, He did not have Paul stop there. He continued and said more – said we were also members of His flesh and of His bones. So, surely God means more.

We are made like God; were, from the beginning. God says so, over and over, which means we must look and be like one another,



living forever, or so we did until the Fall... when death entered in.

Genesis 1:26-27

26 God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the [tame] beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth. 27 So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 5:1

5 This is the book (the written record, the history) of the generations of the offspring of Adam. When God created man, He made him in the likeness of God.

Genesis 9:6

6 Whoever sheds man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God He made man.

Since we *became* mortal because of our willful sin, we must be born *again* in order to be restored to God's original plan of life eternal. Enter Jesus, Who came to be one of us and to die like us. And look at this,

Romans 8:29

29 For those whom He foreknew [of whom He was aware and loved beforehand], He also destined from the beginning [foreordaining them] to be molded into the image of His Son [and share inwardly His likeness], that He might become the firstborn among many brethren.

Let's look at that in the New Living translation, too, and receive a little greater clarity:

Romans 8:29 NLT

29 For God knew His people in advance, and He chose them to become like His Son, so that His Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Goes full circle, doesn't it?

Here is yet another Scripture (one you've seen before and will see again) that delineates how much we were made – and born again – to be like God, to be like Jesus:

<u>Romans 8:11 (KJV)</u>

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your MORTAL bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Couple Romans 8:11 with Ephesians 5:30 (which we saw above – that **we are members of His body, flesh, and bones**), and we can readily infer that our second birth is even beyond the most amazing spiritual event we could ever experience: It seems to be a total transformation for us, to the extent we can believe and receive the Word of God. Let me give you some more Scriptures to look up and be encouraged: Romans 7:4, Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 2:15, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Matthew 19:5-6, and 1 Corinthians 6:15-20. And while you're at it, you might search for even more to discover for yourself! Oh, there are great gems in the Bible!

The 4th Step: Revelation on Jesus, A Man Like Us



(The Adoration of the Shepherds, Gerard van Honthorst, 1590–1656, Public Domain)

Before I became a wordsmith of The Word, I really didn't have a clue who Jesus was. Even now, I continue to get divine revelation to know Him more *and* know more about Him. As you pray in the Holy Spirit and read the Bible, you will be amazed at what all He can teach you, whether you've been born again decades or a fraction of a day.

Try this for amazing:

Jesus Who originally made us in His image and likeness... made Himself in ours!

And yet Jesus, even when He was mortal Man like us, thought Himself "in the form of God; equal to Him" (verse 6, below). (We learned earlier the importance of humility; now we're saying we're not only made in God's image but we are gods. Jesus quoted Scripture to that effect in John 10:34. The key is being rooted and founded on love, and recognizing Who the Author and Authority of Life is; furthermore, realizing that only One has our next breath in His hand. One of my next studies is going to be on Reverencing God for He is showing me that the main problem today is man simply does not fear God.)

Philippians 2:5-8 KJV

5 Let this mind be in you (for we who are born again have available to us the mind of **Christ, 1 Corinthians 2:16**), which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God (for He said God was His Father, John 5:18):

7 But made Himself (*His role of Creator creating Himself*) of no reputation (*Jesus had emptied Himself, a process called "kenosis"*), and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men (*us!*):

8 And being found in fashion as a man *(affirms He came to perceive our external conditions)*, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death *(Jesus, God yet mortal man)*, even the death of the cross.

Hebrews 2:17-18

17 So it is evident that it was essential that He be made like His brethren in every respect, in order that He might become a merciful (sympathetic) and faithful High Priest in the things related to God, to make atonement and propitiation for the people's sins.

18 For because He Himself [in His humanity] has suffered in being tempted (tested and tried), He is able [immediately] to run to the cry of (assist, relieve) those who are being tempted and tested and tried [and who therefore are being exposed to suffering].

We see that His likeness to us was necessary both so that He would personally relate to us *and* that He could make atonement for us. (Know any other gods who've done that?)

Furthermore: **He is our consummate and literal example.** (This is, perhaps, the ultimate point of this entire study.)

As we consider what God has made possible for us, we begin to realize we people are truly clueless to our potential. Remember Luke 10:20, that the spirits are subject to us? Please also consider Jacob, a mere – and sinful (i.e. regular!) – guy who lived even long before Jesus came, wrestling with the Angel of the LORD (Who is believed to *be* LORD Jesus).

Genesis 32:28 Amplified

28 And He (the Angel of the LORD) said, Your name shall be called no more Jacob [supplanter], but Israel [contender with God]; for you have contended and have power with God and with men and have prevailed.

You might just want to scrutinize every one of these Scriptures we have offered here today! And now, consider this:

1 Timothy 2:5

5 For there [is only] one God, and [only] one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus

Jesus is *STILL* a MAN! (Note: certainly not mortal; He has satisfied that, yet He is nonetheless a Man.)

Yes yes, of course He is still a Man. Look at this:

Luke 24:36-43

36 Now while they were talking about this, Jesus Himself took His stand among them and said to them, Peace (freedom from all the distresses that are experienced as the result of sin) be to you!

37 But they were so startled and terrified that they thought they saw a spirit.

38 And He said to them, Why are you disturbed and troubled, and why do such doubts and questionings arise in your hearts?

39 See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself! Feel and handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones, as you see that I have.

40 And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.

41 And while [since] they still could not believe it for sheer joy and marveled, He said to them, Have you anything here to eat?

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42 They gave Him a piece of broiled fish,

43 And He took [it] and ate [it] before them.

I pray these boggle your mind and thrill your heart! And, yet, I must confess I do not fully understand. I think of God as being entirely a Spirit Being, yet here, Jesus is clearly MORE. Many mysteries still remain, as we shall see in this next Scripture. Jesus continues to be all God and all Man (yet) as God. And, this one is even more (!!– if that is possible –!!) exciting:

1 John 3:2

2 Beloved, we are [even here and] now God's children; it is not yet disclosed (made clear) what we shall be [hereafter], but we know that when He comes and is manifested, we shall [as God's children] resemble and be like Him, for we shall see Him just as He [really] is.

This is phenomenal. Maybe NOW we can begin to comprehend the profundity of our being a son of God – which we are **NOW**, it says – **and grasp the power and authority He has given us while we remain in our earth suits**.

Guess we *will* understand, but later, huh? And guess what? Just in case you still weren't sure how much He made us like Him and Himself like us, here's one more:

1 John 4:17b KJV

17b Because as He is, so are we in this world.

WHAT??? Well, this says we are even NOW as He IS. Here. Maybe even more than we did just a minute ago, we can now begin to see how all things are possible... And, there's more.

Yes, at the Cross, He satisfied the only difference between us – SIN – so we could choose to be like Him through love, holiness, obedience, and faith!

The 5th Step: Mortal Men Doing Amazing Miracles

So, since we now know how fully He was made like us (and us like Him!), the next likely question is:

How did this mortal Man Jesus do miracle works of God since He was a man like us?

We again turn to Romans 8:11. The particular phraseology is meaningful; look:

Romans 8:11 KJV

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus (mortal man Jesus) from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ (immortal God Christ) from the dead will also give life to your MORTAL bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Luke 3 tells of Jesus receiving the baptism not only of John, but of the Holy Ghost. Luke 4:1 says, "And Jesus being FULL OF THE HOLY GHOST returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, Being 40 days tempted of the devil..." Then, in verse 14, victorious over Satan and worldly temptations, even Jesus came out a changed Man, now being "IN THE

POWER OF THE SPIRIT." When He went IN to be tempted, tested, and tried, He was full of and baptized in the Spirit of God; ah, but when He came OUT, He was victorious and empowered, ready for the Father's work.

Luke 4:18: Jesus proclaims in the synagogue, "The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me, because He has anointed (sent!) Me [the Anointed One, Messiah]" (which is what Christ means) and He goes on to list WORKS He has been anointed – sent – to do.

(Ah, here is a major clue to our doing the works Jesus did... and greater!)

Jesus, Who had emptied Himself of ALL deity to become a mortal Man, was filled with, baptized in, and anointed by the Spirit of the LORD to become the Christ – deity – so He'd be able to do the WORKS of GOD! Just like us.

So, "How did this mortal Man Jesus do miracle works of God?" you might well ask. Just like us.

The SAME WAY WE CAN! Wow. We are equipped as He was; He was equipped as we are – we'll see more in a moment! In the meantime, realize that JESUS CAME FULL CIRCLE FOR US: GOD – MAN – GOD.

Jesus had been empowered as God with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He had to to be mortal, though, because Jesus the Christ, although tortured unmercifully beyond recognition, COULD NOT DIE until the Holy Spirit with Whom He had been filled and empowered, left His body.

Mark 15:37 KJV

37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the Ghost.



Now you can see why Jesus had to relinquish the indwelling Holy Spirit – as well as giving up His own Man spirit – from His mortal body to be able to die.

(Again, while we think we know many of these Scriptures, I am praying we will receive them with greater profundity than ever before as the roots of a tree that we can't see grow deeper and more powerful while that which we can see grows more magnificent.)

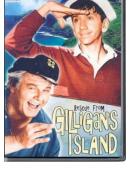
(James J. Tissot, 'Soldier with Spear Pierces jesus in His Side',1896, Brooklyn Museum, Public Domain)

By the way, the Father did not leave His Son in the grave.

The 6th Step: Equipping Us

Would God our Father leave us wandering aimlessly on the planet – shipwrecked without a compass and necessities – yet tell us to do amazing things?

That would make no sense at all. The Holy Spirit Who had lived in and anointed Jesus, left His mortal body only to serve the appointed purpose of Jesus' death, then He returned to Him to bring Him back to life. And according to the Scriptures we've been studying – in particular, Romans 8:11 – we understand we have the same potential and security of power and protection in the promises of God that Jesus had. Let's look at this Scripture one more time, yet with yet another perspective – that we are **EQUIPPED** with the Holy Spirit.



Romans 8:11 KJV

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Jesus – "shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire" – Matthew 3:11b – and again and again (albeit without the fire reference in Mark and John) – in Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16, and John 1:33.

You can see how He has endowed us as He Himself was, with the baptism of the Holy Spirit (and fire) so <u>we, too, can do the works – the things – Jesus did.</u>

Ah, it is understandable to ask, but are we doing them?

And, how about this biggie: Did JESUS do them?

John 14:1-10

14 Do not let your hearts be troubled (distressed, agitated). You believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely on God; believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely also on Me.

2 In My Father's house there are many dwelling places (homes). If it were not so, I would have told you; for I am going away to prepare a place for you.

3 And when (if) I go and make ready a place for you, I will come back again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.

4 And [to the place] where I am going, you know the way.

5 Thomas said to Him, Lord, we do not know where You are going, so how can we know the way?

6 Jesus said to him, I am the Way and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except by (through) Me.

7 If you had known Me [had learned to recognize Me], you would also have known My Father. From now on, you know Him and have seen Him.

8 Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father [cause us to see the Father—that is all we ask]; then we shall be satisfied.

9 Jesus replied, Have I been with all of you for so long a time, and do you not recognize and know Me yet, Philip? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say then, Show us the Father?

10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? What I am telling you I do not say on My own authority and of My own accord; **but the Father Who lives continually in Me does the (His) works (His own miracles, deeds of power).**

Jesus *the Man* wasn't doing the works; God the Father was doing them *through* the Man!! And, is!! We don't do diddly except act as God (God our Father AND the LORD Jesus Christ AND the Holy Spirit of the Living God) guides us to do and pray in faith believing. Yes, we MUST pray; God does not impose His will. Way back in Genesis 1:26-28, He gave us dominion over Planet Earth. He does the works according to our prayers, our will, and His will.

There are no instances in the Bible of Jesus failing to heal a person who came to Him. Is it possible He might have failed? I don't think I've ever even thought of that before this moment, but this Scripture just rose in my heart:

Luke 5:17

17 One of those days, as He was teaching, there were Pharisees and teachers of the Law sitting by, who had come from every village and town of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was [present] with Him to heal them.

"And the power of the Lord was present with Him to heal them." Well. If that don't beat all. If the "power

of the Lord" weren't there, would healing have occurred? Hmmm...

Now, look what Jesus did just before He went to teach that day to make sure the "power of the Lord *was* present to heal them":

Luke 5:16

16 But He Himself withdrew [in retirement] to the wilderness (desert) and prayed.

Uh huh. Looks like preparation

– PRAYER –

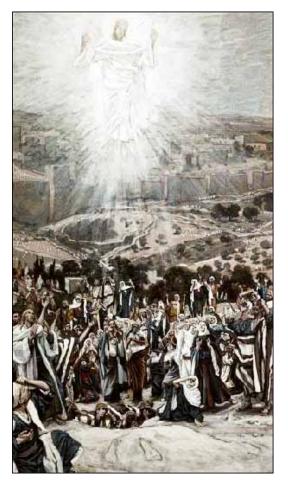
is the essential foundation, huh?

Wait! Don't we need something *more* than Jesus had since we're *to do more*? After all, would God tell US to do more than He Himself did, *without more*? Of course not; and, Jesus implied more for us, too!

John 14:11-12

11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me; or else believe Me for the sake of the [very] works themselves. [If you cannot trust Me, at least let these works that I do in My Father's name convince you.]

12 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these,



<u>because</u> I go to the Father.

YUP! Do greater, He said to us; have more, is directly implied because He said "**because**."

Thankfully, He didn't leave the "because" without explanation like we do at times when we tell our kids to go and do something just "BECAUSE" or "BECAUSE I SAID SO!"; no, He said the why: because <u>I GO TO THE FATHER</u>."

And He did. He went. So what "more" is it that we have since He went to His Father? Herein lies our great DISCOVERY:

That! – it is THAT He went to the Father – the POWER that results from His going to the Father, ALIVE!

(The painting is Ascension from the Mt. of Olives, Public Domain)

Power over death! Power over evil! It's that Romans 8:11 thing – don't make me go there again :D – for Jesus was victorious and we, too, are victorious, in His name! All that we lost in the fall was restored through the power of HIS RISEN LIFE! It is finished; accomplished!

Philippians 3:10 KJV

10 That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death

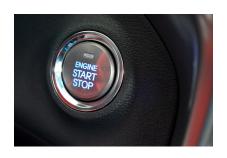
RESURRECTION POWER so that we can do the works that Jesus did and even greater ones.

Move over Christopher Columbus - we have DISCOVERED GREAT THINGS!

This POWER begins – has its very first step – in the KNOWLEDGE that we must have it; secondly, then, that we *do*, indeed, have it. Him, actually, for Zechariah 4:6 says the Lord of hosts states that it is not by might nor power, but "**by My Spirit.**" Without His Spirit and at His express guide, we cannot even implement His power in the first place. Ah, but *with* Him...

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!

The Seventh Step: IGNITION



This final Scripture teaches us the ignition for this teaching.

John 14:13-14 KJV

13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in My name, I will do it.

It seems almost anticlimactic, doesn't it? So simple. Yet, who among us today is living in this fullness as a member of the body (and of the flesh and of the bones) of Christ? Are we holy? Are we humble? Are we ready? Do we believe?

All I know is this study is what the Word of God says, and I believe the Word of God *is* the Word of GOD. Do you? Then, let's pray and believe, in Jesus' name, do the amazing works and even greater ones than Jesus did, and then, at the end of the day, say, **"Yup. All things are possible."**

Thank You, Father. Amen in Jesus' name.

Important Notes:

While we greatly use the King James Version of the Bible, for the purposes of this Study, Scripture references are from the Amplified Bible unless other noted. It often gives us a greater understanding of the words used; other versions, such as the NIV (New International Version), New King James Version (NKJV), and New Living Bible (NLB) can help us to have greater understanding by simplifying the English; and the Strong's Concordance has assigned a number that provides the definition of the original Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament) words.

Receiving Christ as your Savior and becoming a Christian – one born of God – doesn't lessen life's trials; it opens your eyes to realize what Jesus has done to help you overcome them even while you are a mortal being, as your faith grows through prayer, reading the Bible, and fellowship. As you mature in Christ, you begin to love as He loves and to see beyond the material realm; you commune with the Holy Spirit, God present both in and with you, Who teaches you, and even empowers you, when you are willing and desirous; hungry for God and the Love only He represents.

There are allegedly as many as 41,000 Christian denominations – mind boggling, huh? – so there are at least that many ways man has found to present God's word. Many are, by their sheer volume, alone, in great conflict with others, yet each believes theirs is the correct interpretation. My point is that you may or may not agree with my studies which most certainly is your prerogative, but they are predicated entirely upon the Written Word of God and, prayerfully, without man's doctrines interjected. I offer these studies to you free, without obligation, and in love and prayerful hope that they are beneficial to you in your Salvation walk. Should you have any problem or disagreement with them, I am even further excited for you should take it to the throne of God and ask Him to clarify what He meant. Proverbs 25:2 says, "2 It is the glory of God to conceal a thing, but the glory of kings is to search out a thing." Be the king God has called you to be!

If, through this website, only one person comes to know Jesus as their LORD and Savior, my life and this effort will have been worthwhile.

I believe The Apostle's Creed which states: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and only Savior, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy universal church that Jesus Christ established through the Apostles and Disciples; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Love in Christ and Amen in the name of Jesus, Marylynn G. Stults * <u>abrahampublishing@gmail.com</u> * <u>www.achristianstudy.com</u>