



Pastor Duaine Johnson

"Take it By Force" pt. 2 (Glory to Glory)

Message Summary & Introduction

Pastor Duaine Johnson's message "Glory to Glory" centers on how believers can advance in their spiritual journey and kingdom effectiveness. Based on Matthew 6:33 and Matthew 11:12, the sermon emphasizes that the kingdom of God faces continual resistance, but this opposition often signals a divine assignment and opportunity for growth. In this week's discussion, we learn that our troubles and tribulations are designed to reveal what is valuable within us and move us from one level of glory to another. Let's get started!

Opening Prayer: Lord, as we discuss and reflect on this message, open our hearts and minds to understand how we can advance in Your kingdom. Help us to see our challenges as opportunities to display Your power and move from glory to glory. Amen.

1. Seeking First the Kingdom

- Everyone is seeking something, but as believers, we are called to seek the "God stuff" first.
- Everything we need is found in the kingdom, and when we prioritize God's kingdom and righteousness, He promises to add everything else we need.

 **Scripture: Matthew 6:33**

- **Discussion Questions:**
 1. What are you currently seeking most diligently in your life? Does this align with seeking first God's kingdom?
 2. How would your priorities and daily decisions change if you truly believed that everything you need is found in God's kingdom?
 3. What practical steps can you take this week to put God's kingdom first in your life?

2. Redefining Trouble

- We must reframe our understanding of trouble; Rather than seeing troubles as obstacles, we should view them as revelatory tools that expose what is valuable within us.

- Tribulation produces character, endurance, and spiritual growth that comfort cannot.
- God often uses difficult people and challenging situations as footstools to display His power.

 **Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:17**

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. How have you typically viewed troubles in your life? What changes when you see them as opportunities for God's glory to be revealed?
2. Can you recall a time when a difficult situation actually revealed something valuable within you that you didn't know was there?
3. What current challenge might God be using to move you from one level of glory to another?

3. Activating Your Gift

- Our gifts are designed to make room for us, but they must be activated.
- When we use our spiritual gifts, room will be made for us to operate in them.
- The people we touch don't just need our gifts—they need the grace located within our gifts.

 **Scripture: Proverbs 18:16**

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. What gifts has God given you that you might be hesitant to fully activate?
2. How do you distinguish between your identity and your gift? Why is this distinction important?
3. In what ways might God be calling you to step out in faith and use your gifts more boldly?

4. Breaking Open Your Gifts

- To move from glory to glory, we must break open our gifts to serve the kingdom.
- We will change the temperature of our region when we break open what God has placed inside of us.
- This process requires submission to God's process, constant pursuit of His Word, and commitment to unlocking our gifts.

 **Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:6**

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. What might be holding you back from "breaking open" the gifts God has placed inside you?
2. How could your fully activated gifts impact your community and "change the temperature" of your region?
3. What does submission to God's process (the hills and valleys) look like in your life right now?

Conclusion & Challenge

Moving from glory to glory isn't an easy journey, but it's the path God has called us to walk. As we seek first His kingdom, redefine trouble, activate our gifts, and break them open to serve others, we participate in God's transformative work in and through us. The kingdom of God does face resistance, but as Pastor Duaine reminds us, opposition often signals we're about to be deployed into a kingdom assignment. By viewing our challenges through this lens, we can embrace the process that moves us from one level of glory to another.

Group Challenge:

- Commit to supporting one another in identifying and activating your spiritual gifts
 - Plan a service project together that allows everyone to use their gifts to benefit others
 - Share testimonies of how reframing troubles has revealed God's glory in your lives
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Personal Challenge:

- Complete a [Spiritual Gifts Assessment](#) to better understand your unique kingdom makeup!
- Make a list of your current tribulations and intentionally reframe them through the lens of Pastor Johnson's message. Ask yourself: "How might this situation be used by God to move me from glory to glory?"
- Identify one specific gift God has given you that you need to activate or "break open" more fully. Take one concrete step toward using this gift to serve someone else this week

 **Closing Prayer:** *Father, thank you for the reminder that you use every circumstance—even our troubles—to move us from glory to glory. Give us courage to activate the gifts you've placed within us, wisdom to redefine our challenges, and faith to pursue your kingdom above all else. May we be willing vessels, breaking open what you've placed inside us for the benefit of others and the advancement of your kingdom. In Jesus' name, amen.*