



## "When God Takes the Lid Off"

*Pastor Duaine Johnson*  
*Holy Spirit: The Gift Giver Series*

### MESSAGE SUMMARY

In this message, Pastor Duaine Johnson teaches on breaking through religious limitations to access God's power. Do you know that we're entering a season of "overhaul" and "overflow" where God is tearing down systems that restrict His power? The gifts of the Holy Spirit aren't for an elite few—they're given to each person to profit everyone. Like a cup filled from the Source, we must allow God to fill us completely, so we overflow into others' lives.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### 1. The Kingdom vs. Religion: Demonstration Over Discussion

##### **Key Scriptures: Acts 1:1-2, James 1:22**

- Jesus didn't come to establish religion but to extend the kingdom of heaven—a realm of power and authority, not just words.
- Jesus "began both to do and to teach" (Acts 1)—action precedes instruction.
- Religion talks about God's power; kingdom living experiences it
- The paralyzed man's story shows religious infrastructure blocking God's power.
- "Be ye doers of the word, not hearers only"—learning requires application.
- The proof of learning is leveraging it into activity.

##### **Reflection Questions:**

1. In what areas of your spiritual life have you been more focused on talking about God's power than actually experiencing or demonstrating it? What would it look like to shift from being a "hearer only" to a "doer" in those areas?
2. Can you identify any "religious infrastructure" in your own thinking or church experience that might be keeping you from a fresh encounter with God's power? What roof needs to be torn off in your life?

#### 2. Breaking Through to Breakthrough: Desperation and Corporate Faith

##### **Key Scriptures: Mark 2:1-13**

- The paralyzed man represents those desperate enough to break through obstacles to receive what God has for them.

- When conventional doors close, go higher than your problems
- The power to heal was present, but religious mindsets prevented receiving it.
- Corporate faith matters—we're called to believe with and for one another.
- Some people are too hurt to believe in themselves and need faith partners.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Who in your life is currently "paralyzed" and needs you to be a faith partner for them? How can you practically carry them to Jesus this week instead of judging their condition?
2. Think about a situation you're facing that seems impossible from every angle. What would it mean for you to "go higher" and approach this problem from a kingdom perspective rather than a natural one?

**3. Manifestations of the Spirit: Spirituality for Everyone**

**Key Scripture 1 Cor. 12**

- The manifestation of the Spirit is given to *each one* to profit *everybody*.
- The gifts of the Spirit aren't reserved for a spiritual elite.
- Gifts manifest the Holy Spirit's presence, not just power.
- We should avoid idolizing gifts instead of worshiping the Giver.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Have you believed that spiritual gifts and manifestations were only for certain "special" Christians? How does understanding that the Spirit's manifestation is given to *each one* change your expectation of what God wants to do through you?
2. In what ways might you have been honoring the gift more than the Giver? How can you ensure that manifestations in your life point people to the Holy Spirit rather than to yourself?

**4. The Cup and the Source: Overflow Living**

**Key Scriptures: Acts 17: 28-31, Psalm 34:8-9**

- You can look and act like yourself, but "you ain't really you yet" without being filled.
- The same DNA in the Source is now in you—you carry God's nature.
- You are the only way some people will ever taste God. When people meet you at your purest, they actually meet God
- Cups run dry and need continual refilling; only Abba never empties.

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Take an honest inventory: In what areas are you trying to function "empty," drawing from reserves you don't have rather than being continually refilled by God? What rhythms do you need to establish to stay connected to the Source?
2. Who are the people in your sphere of influence who will never enter a church building but need to "taste and see that the Lord is good" through your overflow? How can you be a cup that accurately reflects what Abba has poured into you?

**CONCLUSION**

This sermon calls us out of passive Christianity into active demonstration of the kingdom. We're living in a season of divine overhaul where God is dismantling infrastructures that have kept His power confined. The invitation is clear: be filled, be refilled, and overflow. The manifestation of the Spirit isn't for the elite few—it's for each one of us to profit everyone around us. Your breakthrough and overflow aren't just for you; they're for those who are paralyzed and need your faith to carry them to Jesus.

**Weekly Challenge:**

1. **Mindset Check:** Identify one area where you realize you have been **"rich toward yourself"** (Luke 12:21) and write down one action you will take to redirect that resource (time, energy, money) toward advancing the Kingdom this week.
2. **Activate Your Gift:** Identify one **spiritual gift** (even a practical one like service, mercy, or encouragement) and commit to intentionally using it to **profit** one person in your Life Group or in the church this week.
3. **Find Your Partner:** Commit to being a **"faith partner."** Choose one specific person (in or outside the group) whose breakthrough you will pray and believe for, agreeing with them for a miracle this week.