Join the Spiritual Navy SEALs

Cool Blessings

Five Years Into It!
IF YOU WERE THE MOON, WHAT WOULD YOU THINK ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR ROLE IN THIS GREAT UNIVERSE? JUST A CHUNK OF DESERT FLOATING IN THE SKY, REFLECTING THE SUN? NOT MUCH OF AN INDIVIDUAL BECAUSE YOU DON’T HAVE ANY SPECTACULAR QUALITIES? MAYBE. BUT THINK AGAIN!

WHETHER YOU CAN JUST SEE A SLIVER IN THE SKY OR A BIG FULL MOON, IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT. THE LIGHT IT GIVES REALLY COMES FROM THE SUN, BUT WHEN PEOPLE CAN'T SEE THE SUN, THEY'RE THANKFUL FOR THE LIGHT THE MOON REFLECTS.

THAT CHUNK OF DESERT HAS INSPIRED EVERYBODY AT SOME TIME OR ANOTHER; IT AFFECTS PEOPLE IN MORE WAYS THAN THEY EVEN KNOW—TIDES, SEASONS, EMOTIONS, YOU NAME IT.

OF COURSE, YOU AREN'T THE MOON, BUT YOU DO LOOK AT YOURSELF AND THINK: "WHAT AM I DOING THAT REALLY COUNTS? WOULD ANYBODY MISS ME IF I WEREN'T HERE?"

MAYBE YOU THINK THAT ALL YOU CAN DO IS REFLECT MY LOVE AND JOY....

...BUT HEY, EVEN THAT ISN'T ANY CREDIT TO YOU!
THINK AGAIN!

JUST LIKE I CREATED THE MOON PERFECT FOR THE ROLE I WANTED IT TO PLAY, SO I CREATED YOU PERFECT FOR THE ROLE I'VE CALLED YOU TO PLAY. THERE ARE MANY WAYS, BIG AND SMALL, THAT YOU AFFECT OTHERS, BUT YOU MAY NOT HEAR ABOUT THEM UNTIL YOU HEAR IT FROM ME.

IF YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING: IN YOUR LIFETIME YOU WILL WITNESS TO THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN SOME WAY OR ANOTHER.

EVEN IF YOU ONLY SPEND A FEW MOMENTS TALKING WITH A PERSON, AND YOU PRAY WITH HIM AND LEAVE HIM WITH A TRACT OR TOOL, MANY TIMES YOU WILL HAVE CHANGED A LIFE THROUGH THAT!

YOUR SMILE, THE LIGHT IN YOUR EYES—A LIGHT THAT EVERYBODY ELSE SEEMS TO NOTICE BUT YOU—YOUR TIME, YOUR INTEREST IN THEM, ALL THESE THINGS ABOUT YOU AND ME IN YOU, HAVE GIVEN PEOPLE SOMETHING TO LIVE FOR, HAVE STOPPED PEOPLE FROM TAKING THEIR OWN LIVES, AND HAVE BROUGHT PEOPLE INTO THE GATES OF HEAVEN!

OK EVERYBODY, HE'S NOT EXPECTING ANYONE TO BE HERE! SO WHEN HE GETS HERE, EVERYBODY YELL “SURPRISE!”
A LONE FIGURE IS ENGROSSED IN TOP-SECRET CYBER-COMMUNICATION.

HER NAME IS ‘TERNITY ...

SHE IS A SPACE REBEL.

BUT HER LOCATION HAS BEEN... UM... LOCATED. OUT IN THE HALLWAY DANGER LOOMS.

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(Jesus:) Some of you who have seen your personal prophecies published in the Blade might wonder, If I’m so unique and special to Jesus, and He gives words specifically for my situation, then how come those words are able to be a blessing to others too?

This is part of a deep mystery, for the Bible says you are all men and women of like passions, yet I have assured you over and over—and I reassure you again—that you are special and unique in My eyes. There is only one of you and I do have words to tell you that I have never said in quite the same way to anyone else.

But think of it this way: Even though you are unique and you are special, what is it that links you to the other human beings on the planet?

It’s the planet!

You’re all on the same orb. You’re all breathing air. You’re all going through life as I planned. That’s your link. That’s why, even though I can give you special words for your situation, those same words can still be a blessing to others. It’s because they’re on the same planet, and they have hearts that beat like yours.

Your soul is original and unique, but the fact that you’re destined to inhabit this planet for a certain amount of time, links you to your fellow human beings.

Do you get it? It’s a wonderful mystery of My love, that I can love you and speak to you individually, and yet those words can be shared with others, multiplying the effects of My counsel many times over. It’s multitasking at its finest, because you can be sure that My messages for you are as special and as personal as ever, even though they might later be shared to encourage and inspire others too.

Thank you for being willing to share with others the jewels that I’ve given to you.
Hi! My name? Ethan. I’ve been given the gift of being able to look deep into the heart.

My rank? Spirit helper, departed earthling. My mission? To be a strength and blessing to you Family young people in your witnessing.

My age? I’m in my late teens. My age is sealed; I don’t grow older. Why? I’ve chosen to remain this age, as I want to not just remain young at heart, but also young in body in order to help you the best, because in this form Jesus helps me to continue to feel and experience what you feel and experience.

How do I look? I’m Latino. I was born in the late seventies, the eldest of a poor family. I’ve chosen to continue to dress as a normal kid my age, because it kind of goes along with my gifts. I give you the gift of understanding, and help you see past the outward appearance, through to a person’s heart. There are lots of other spirit helpers like me, and you can ask for any one of us if you need help.

All it takes is stopping for a moment and checking in with the Boss, then asking for our help in giving you true understanding and the skills of being a good listener. This will help that person to feel love—the Lord’s unconditional love. We can help you see past all the cover-ups and stuff that gets in the way of seeing the inside of a person. We can help you see his motives and his true feelings, so that you’ll know how to best relate to that person in order to win him with His love.

And not only that, but you can pray for this gift too!—The gift of an understanding heart, to be able to see past the outward appearance to a person’s heart.

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A little about myself? I spent most of my life on the street, saw a lot, experienced a lot, did a lot of dumb things, but tried the best I could to keep an eye out for my brothers and sisters and those around me. But I ended up getting shot in the crossfire of some street gangs at war. Funny thing is, even while on Earth, I noticed I had something inside of me that helped me see past the outside of a person and into what was going on inside of him.

Then when I got Here to Heaven, Jesus told me that He’d given me a special gift for a reason. And that reason is you! This is my mission, to use this gift to help you young people in your witnessing, so that if you simply call on me, I can give you the gift of understanding, and help you see past the outward appearance, through to a person’s heart. There are lots of other spirit helpers like me, and you can ask for any one of us if you need help.

All it takes is stopping for a moment and checking in with the Boss, then asking for our help in giving you true understanding and the skills of being a good listener. This will help that person to feel love—the Lord’s unconditional love. We can help you see past all the cover-ups and stuff that gets in the way of seeing the inside of a person. We can help you see his motives and his true feelings, so that you’ll know how to best relate to that person in order to win him with His love.

And not only that, but you can pray for this gift too!—The gift of an understanding heart, to be able to see past the outward appearance to a person’s heart. As you seek Him and continually ask Him and us for our leading and help, then as a team we can help you develop your own gift! So the more you listen to Him and to us, the more you’ll be able to help and reach others!
If you ask me what the key to becoming an artist or illustrator is, without a doubt, my answer will be: “Practice! Practice! Practice!” Okay, so maybe I was born blessed with an artistic nature. I could entertain myself for hours just drawing … but then there’s the side of me that has vowed countless times to never put pencil to paper again because, “I just can’t get this picture right! Argh!”

On second thought, I have to give credit where credit is due. Ooops! The Lord has given me—and many of you too—a special gift for art. Most artists try to squirm out of admitting that, but drawing is a talent that the Lord gives people in different degrees, just like all other talents. The point is this: While God gifts some people more in the art department than others, YOU—and yes, I mean YOU—can draw too.
Learning to draw takes time, but it’s worth it. No matter what you’re doing, where you are or what your ministry is, having some skill and know-how in artwork helps. Kids love to have Bible stories told to them via stick figures. There’s always a birthday or thank you card to make for friends or family. The possibilities with artwork are limitless. And don’t say that you can’t draw because you have never learned. I will say it again, even though you may not believe me: Artwork is practice! (Case in point: I went through a few of the old HLs and found a good example. Check out HL #5, page 8! Aack!).

Whether you’re a “natural” artist or not, practicing WILL improve your art capabilities. But realistically speaking, just because you practice your heart out doesn’t guarantee that you’ll turn into Michelangelo, or be able to draw like one of your favorite artists. That depends on the amount of talent and natural gift the Lord has given you, which you then hone and practice. But you may have that gift and just not know it, and practice will bring it out. Or you may just have fun drawing, and practice will improve your skills, even if your art only debuts for the kids in your Home. Still, practice is worth it.

It’s incredible how much more you notice about the world around you when you start drawing. It’s so fun! It’s great to have something to do in the evenings; it’s a personal project that is not only fun but also rewarding. It’s an investment.

I went through the Activity Book Art Course (now part of the CVC art course) at least three times. As I speak, I’m going through it again as I give art classes to two JETTs in my Home. It’s a wonder what having a few “ground rules” can do to help you on your way. This art course is the only serious art training I’ve had, and going back for some review is helping...
me now—a good five years into being a full-time illustrator. I won’t lie to you and say that drawing a clock, a duck and a rabbit is a real rush, but getting your art foundation down is very important.—And you get a diploma. What more can you ask for?

PS: A personal motivator of mine is cartoons. One drill I give in my art classes is to put on a Disney cartoon video (animated Bible videos work great, too), find a fun scene to draw and pause the machine. Allow yourself three minutes to sketch your picture. It teaches you speed, and helps you to learn how to break a picture down by starting with the basic shapes. Using this method, in time you’ll be amazed how you’ll be able to get more of the paused frame drawn in each three-minute slot.

As with everything, remember: Have fun with it!
Our orders are to go in there and take the rebel out!

Like take out where? Movie? Bowling? Pizza?

No! I mean eliminate, exterminate, evaporate, eradicate, take out.

Okay, O'Toole! You go in first. I'll cover you and give you back-up. I'll be right behind you. If I'm late, start without me!

Now... move! Move! Move!

Gulp overload!

At that moment, on the street below, the sinister agents of New Planet Order arrive.

Did you send in your entire city police force of 7,542 highly trained special force sharpshooting grade-A, money-back-guarantee policemen to take out the rebel, like we ordered you to?

Rest your eyes here:
SEALS

SPIRITUAL

navy

SEALS

join

the

nurse

Kristen

blade
(Jesus:) You’re living for Me, and I’m so, so proud of you. **But wait**, what’s that disappointment I see?

DID YOU THINK THAT JUST BECAUSE YOU YIELDED YOUR ALL TO ME THAT LIFE WAS GOING TO BE ALL MEADOWS AND FLOWERS FROM HERE ON OUT?

Let me remind you of the historic time you’re living in.

You’re living on the brink of the greatest battle between good and evil,
AND TO PREP YOU FOR ENTERING THAT TIME, I'VE GIVEN YOU A NEW COURSE TO GO THROUGH. YOU CAN CALL IT...

THE SPIRITUAL NAVY SEALS.

WHOA! YOU'RE SAYING, "I NEVER WANTED TO GO THROUGH AN ELITE FIGHTING COURSE—PHYSICAL OR SPIRITUAL. IT SOUNDS WAY TOO STRENUGOUS TO ME!"

DON'T WORRY.

DO YOU THINK I WOULD ASK THIS OF YOU IF I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO FAIL THE COURSE?

YOU WON'T FAIL IF YOU KEEP FIGHTING.
YOU AND I ARE CLOSE.

WE ARE LIKE BROTHERS,

I HAVE TRAVELED OVER EVERY OBSTACLE,

LIFTED EVERY WEIGHT,

WE ARE LIKE HUSBAND AND WIFE,

AND WE ARE LIKE BOSOM BUDDIES.

FOUGHT EVERY FIGHT,

ENDURED EVERY PAIN I WILL BE ASKING YOU TO TAKE ON.

I KNOW EXACTLY HOW IT FEELS, AND EXACTLY HOW TO NAVIGATE THROUGH IT AND COME OUT ALIVE.
When you have completed this particular course, you will encourage others through your example—not your example of being unscratched, or your example of strength, or your example of finding the tests a cinch.
but your example of living simply because of your will to live, of trusting Me simply because I am your Lord and your husband, and of winning simply because you held on to Me and never, ever let go.
I know that you wonder if you can make it. You wonder if you will be able to bear it, or whether you will crack under the strain of what I’m asking of you.

But I also see the anticipation, the curiosity, the feeling of pride at being counted worthy to endure what I have in store, and I love you for it.
Do you think I can borrow your camera?

“Do you think I can borrow your camera?”

Are you crazy?

Of course not!!!

“Are you crazy?”

Huh?

Huh?

“Huh?”

(Jesus:) It happened so long ago, but you never forgot it, did you? Standing in the hallway, you were a curious ten-year-old, listening in on a conversation happening right in front of you.

Uncle Arnie was asking Uncle Eman if he could borrow the video camera to film a show they were going to do.

You don’t know why you were standing there, or why the thoughts you were thinking were even running through your head—but you distinctly remember thinking, “Now what does a Family member do in that situation?”

Uncle Eman could have said anything he wanted. He didn’t know you were listening. He didn’t know the thoughts going through your head at the time. He didn’t know that what he said at that exact moment would be remembered for a long time to come.

Uncle Eman shared what he had without hesitation, was the conclusion of that encounter that you walked away with, and have remembered ever since.

What sort of ripples are you sending out? Are you checking your words and actions with Me carefully, or do you just spout off your mind and follow your impulses heedlessly? I’m here to help you, and to help you help others. Let Me make it easy for you to be good.
Now that you're getting older, I'm going to expect more of you. I'm going to expect you to start looking at things in a more mature light. I'm going to expect that instead of you wondering why things are or aren't happening in a certain way, and maybe complaining or murmuring in your heart about it, or even out loud, or sort of letting it get you on a bummer or in a bad mood, that you figure out why things could possibly be that way. Find a solution for it personally.

Finding a personal solution doesn't mean that you figure out how to change things so that they go your way. It means finding a way to be cheerful and in the victory nonetheless, finding a way to be a blessing, to not let your disappointment show through. Doing that means that you have to have faith in Me, because that's the only way your disappointments can be turned around into really cool blessings later on.
Did you know that it makes Me especially happy when you have a good reaction to something that didn’t turn out quite as you would like? Of course, I want you to be happy and I try to give you things and make the circumstances so that you’re happy with them. But that’s not always possible. So when something is tough for you, but you’re able to trust Me and smile through your tears or disappointment anyway, it shows Me what a strong young man you are. It shows me that you have potential. And it shows Me that you’re ready for one of My blessings—something that I probably wouldn’t have sent your way [otherwise], because some blessings have to be earned, and they’re usually the ones that you want the most.

So don’t forget that! I’m not telling you this because I want you to try to improve in this area just so you can get cool blessings, but it does help to have some incentive, so I’m letting you know that you will be getting something out of it as well.
You and your life have been a long time in the making.

You can’t see how beautifully you fit in with the overall fabric of life and the balance of the universe, but I can.

Someday you’ll be able to fully drink in the beauty of it and marvel together with me at how wonderfully it all came together.

(Jesus:) A long, long time ago, in a realm not as far away as you think, I set this vast universe in motion.
I love variety! There’s nobody in the world just like you, and that’s one of the things I like most about you.

I went out of my way to make life different for everybody, in every way—

Their looks, their feelings, their talents, their relationships.

Don’t listen to the Enemy, who seeks an inroad in your life, making you focus on what you think is your less-than-perfect body, abilities, strong points, or personality.

Oh, I’ll never amount to anything.

What is perfect?
I have formed you as an imperfect being, yet a beautiful one. I love all with a perfect love and passion.

I know what’s best for everyone. I create balance.

I will be able to use you more if you don’t have your mind on what you don’t have that others do, or dwell on how you are different from them.

Think not of what you lack, but think of Me.

Be thankful for how I’ve made you.

If you were perfect, you would have no need for Me or others.
Sylvia, that dress looks great on you!

But not half as great as it would look on you, Ange.

Lord help me not to compare negatively.

And let me take Carmen. You haven’t danced yet.

Lighten up! Focus on other people and stop worrying about how people perceive you, and you’ll probably find that they’ll perceive that you’re a great person. They’ll love you for being you.

Thanks!

Go have some fun!
Look at Gabriel! Even though we're on our engagement period, the other girls flirt with him like crazy ...

(Dad:) Happiness doesn’t come because of situations—it comes from inside, and from the Lord.

When you’re stuck in a situation that’s not to your liking, you’ll be amazed sometimes at what a little positivity can do. You will be happy if you decide that you’re going to be happy and thankful for what you have rather than dwelling on what you don’t have. It’s a law of the spirit. Although it may not seem logical, it works.

Whereas the guys act like I have a big "go away" sign on my forehead ...

... maybe it’s because I’m usually helping Diane with Carmen.
Look for what you can appreciate about a situation and extol the virtues of it, and the things that you don’t like about it will fade into the background. It’s not that things get perfect overnight if you focus on the good instead of the bad. The circumstances may not change a bit.

Carmen just adores him! He’d make an excellent daddy.

I know he loves me, and he has been such a blessing to the Home.

But if you change, it will be as if the circumstances have too, because the way you perceive them will be different.

Want to dance?

Sure Tod, thanks!
I’ve given each of My children gifts. Each of these gifts gives you a special link to Me. You shouldn’t look at others’ gifts or envy them. Instead look at the gifts that I have given you that make you special to Me.
Be happy with the beauty, personality, and the talents I've given you. As you enjoy them, they become all the more splendid.

When you worry or compare, the beauty begins to fade and your gifts and abilities don’t have the chance to perform as creatively.

Your personality loses color.

To find out what you do best, ask your Maker—me!

Find out what you’re gifted in and what talents and strengths I’ve given you, and then exercise those.
No, Sir. I totally leant to my own understanding and figured that as there is only one single rebel up there, that our two best policemen, Officers Hallahan and O'Rourke would be able to handle it and take out the rebel, Sir.

Your officers are already finished, expired, finito, history...

NEVER underestimate these rebels!

AND NOW A WORD FROM THE EDITOR...

While we applaud the fact that Police Chief Shenanigan (as an unwitting stooge of the evil agents of darkness) leant to his own understanding, we cannot stress enough how absolutely VITAL it is that you, as ELITE TROOPS, do NOT lean to your own understanding but in all your ways acknowledge HIM...

and He shall direct your PATHS

BACK UPSTAIRS, IN THE HALLWAY...

MOVIE! MOVIE! MOVIE!
(Jesus:) If you keep busy filling yourself with My love, My Water of the Word, My Wine of the Spirit, I will fill you to the brim, and there will be no room for the Enemy's compromises.

—("Applying the "Conviction vs. Compromise" series" ML #338|38)
In early 1973, Dad happened upon a Gypsy tent, one he had often passed before. It bore the sign: “Madame M.—Clairvoyant. Psychic Reading.”

How could so many Gypsies have that gift? he mused. I wonder what she’d get on me!

With a strong curiosity welling within him, Dad asked for an appointment. On prior occasions Madam M. had always been busy or booked up. And once more upon asking for an appointment she told Dad that she had no openings.

Quietly Dad prayed: “Lord, she says she’s all booked up, but you can make her take me last, at 7 p.m., please, so we won’t be rushed. Please, Lord?”

Suddenly Madam M. changed her mind. “I guess I could take you last, at 7 p.m.,” she offered.

Inside of the booth stood a small table, separating the two of them; Maria sat on the floor beside the table. A crystal ball was placed on the table. Madam M. turned Dad’s palms upward on the table, and looking at their physical appearance, she began, speaking slowly, deliberately, and pausing thoughtfully between statements.

“Your hands aren’t very strong at all! That’s surprising, because I expected you to have much stronger hands, more businesslike hands, not the hands of an artist or psychic. Are you psychic?—You have such vibration. It’s quite fantastic! Your hands are overwhelming. I couldn’t do the reading if I touched them—it would knock me out! I wouldn’t be able to hold my own. You have such power.—Like Merlin the magician!

“You’re going to be quite a famous man. You can’t avoid it! It’s just one of those things that you must accept along with everything else. But ordinary could never be the word!”

The words flowed from her mouth, as they told of the history and of the events to come in the life of a man she knew nothing about. The words she spoke were not only revitalizing for Dad, but they provided equal encouragement to her—a reimbursement of the spiritual energy she spent on each palm reading. “I long for someone spiritual to come in and give me back my energy,” she said. “People like you don’t drain me.”

That evening Dad had become the spiritual recharge that this psychic so desperately needed.

Read the full account in “Madam M.—Or, From One Psychic to Another” (ML #285, Vol. 2).