

Destiny: An Intimate Journey

Session One

Bradley Stuart's Life Testimony A Supernatural Birth for a Supernatural Life

Bradley's entire life is a testimony to the power of prayer and God's supernatural hand at work in a life. God's hand has been upon Bradley from the very beginning. He was born prematurely as a breech baby and nearly died in the birthing process. Soon after birth Bradley contracted jaundice and then had double pneumonia. When his liver began to hemorrhage, the doctors gave him two hours to live. At this news, Bradley's parents and grandparents began to earnestly pray, asking the Lord to spare his life and to use him in God's service. Nursing staff later reported to the family that Bradley's health had taken a dramatic turn for the better at the exact time they had been praying. Because of prayer, Bradley lived.

Developmental challenges

At the age of four Bradley was still unable to walk because of a muscular coordination problem. He was later taken to a school for the cerebral palsy handicapped, where initially he wasn't able to hold a pen or pencil. After six years, the school reported that he had made remarkable progress. There was nothing more they could do for him. This remarkable progress has continued to this day as he sees his co-ordination slowly being restored.

Healing as a recovery process

As Bradley wrestled with the subject of divine healing, the Lord showed him that a miracle of healing happens instantaneously, but a divine healing can also be a recovery process. Mark 16:18 says, "You will lay hands on the sick and they will recover." 1 Corinthians 12:9-10 talks of gifts of healing and gifts of miracles.

Social challenges

After leaving the school for the cerebral palsy handicapped, Bradley began attending a "normal school." He was mocked by the other children for his slow speech and movement; they teased him, tripped him, kicked the sandwiches out of his hands, and called him "spaz" and other derogatory names. This caused him a lot of hurt and bitterness.

Spiritual commitment

Bradley made a commitment to Jesus Christ at the age of 13, but his Christian life was stagnate. In 1982, God spoke to Bradley and said, "I want a total commitment from you." Bradley re-committed his life to the Lord at that time and was filled with the Holy Spirit. This revolutionized his devotional times. The Lord then miraculously lengthened Bradley's leg that had always been shorter than the other, and the Lord told Bradley that He was calling him to full-time service. Bradley resisted the call very strongly as he was afraid of being rejected, but God assured him from the outset, "I am not looking for your ability, but your availability." Shortly thereafter, while at a youth camp, Bradley responded to the Lord, "Here I am, send me. I don't have much ability but I give you my availability."

Theological training

After completing high school, while Bradley worked with youth and served in his local church, he began studying for a two-year theological diploma. He tried hard to get into mission work, but the harder he tried the more the doors were closed to him. About this experience, Bradley says, “The Lord told me that my desire to get into mission work had to die, so I gave it over to him completely.” Shortly after this he began working with a missionary who taught on the missionary responsibility, revival and prayer. At this point, the Lord instructed Bradley that he was *never* to make his financial needs known to anyone. So while Bradley worked five months in this position, the Lord miraculously supplied all his needs. Bradley soon completed his theological diploma. Many people advised him to become a pastor in a local church, but Bradley knew with certainty that he was not called to be a pastor.

Mission in South Africa

In 1986, Bradley went on a one-week mission in Lebowa, South Africa. He returned home nine months later. Regarding this experience, Bradley reported, “When we [the mission team] arrived in Lebowa to preach the Word of God, we were attacked by 16,000 rebellious youths. We went into the [meeting] tent to pray, and we sought the Lord for about 45 minutes. When the leader of the [mission] group was pulled into the angry mob, God told him to raise his hands. As he did this, the mob fled in terror. The group then went back to Pretoria, a town in South Africa, to fast and pray for three weeks, and it was decided that 20 of them should go back to Lebowa. When they returned, some young people came and said, ‘Where is your angel?’ When they [the mission team] asked, ‘What angel are you talking about?’ they told us that when the [mission] leader had raised his hands in front of that 16,000-strong mob, a huge angel had rebuked them in their own language!” After this supernatural deliverance, Bradley moved further north to Venda Land where he continued to minister. He contracted typhoid fever there, and the Lord miraculously healed him within four days. When Bradley returned home, a pastor asked him to come and help start a missionary training school. Seeking God’s direction, Bradley entered a 21-day fast. He asked God to give him a clear indication of His calling on his life and to give him the anointing for that calling. Bradley worked six months helping to establish the missionary training school before traveling to America.

First faith trip

Bradley arrived in the United States with \$379 in his pocket. He stayed three months, living completely by faith in God’s provision. During this time, Bradley was ordained interdenominationally and internationally as a minister of the gospel. Upon his return to South Africa, the Lord prepared Bradley further for full-time ministry as he worked on a Christian holiday farm for six months serving tables as further preparation for the Lord’s work.

His call to teach

One day in 1988 while in prayer, the Lord revealed to Bradley that the church today is just as His people were in the time of Hannah. When the priest Eli saw Hannah in earnest prayer, he thought she was drunk! Actually she was in travail before the Lord (1 Samuel 1). God told Bradley that He wanted him to teach the church about travail. The Lord then began to reveal to Bradley much about travail before Him in prayer, a practice often misunderstood. Bradley was approached to present a series on intercessory prayer, and the Lord opened up a comprehensive seven-part Bible

study course to him. Subsequently, Bradley wrote a book entitled *A Call to Intercession*, covering intercession, travail, warfare, fasting, group intercession, and the character of the intercessor. As this book was amended, it grew to include all of the anointed information covered in the Yada International courses. As Bradley continued to faithfully teach on intercession throughout South Africa, he became committed to a local church in Stafford Virginia USA. This church serves as his spiritual covering and home base.

Open doors

God began to open doors for Bradley to practically apply what he has learned in his prayer closet as he ministers throughout South Africa and the world. When the Lord tells Bradley to go somewhere, he goes without questioning “Why?” and without being concerned about where the finances are going to come from. Bradley has seen God provide in many different ways in big and in small amounts.

School of intercession

In 1990, God linked him up with Angus Buchan of Shalom Ministries. Bradley became involved with the Ministries’ citywide campaigns in various parts of South Africa. His role was to go into the ministry area ahead of the team, teaching and preparing the local intercessors to pray for the campaign. From this experience, the Lord challenged Bradley to start a school of intercession that could disciple Christians in the practice of intercession. Bradley originally thought the school would be established at the Buchan’s Shalom Farm outside Greytown in South Africa, but the Lord had another plan. Much to Bradley’s surprise, in 1994 God led him to teach the first school of intercession over a four- month period in Santa Rosa, California, USA.

School of destiny: an intimate journey

The curriculum for the school has grown extensively since those first sessions. It is now being revised for use via video presentation in churches throughout the nations. The Yada International courses are offered through a media series that is released to church leadership or others who are under proper spiritual leadership and authority. The school, which began as a school of intercession, has expanded over the years into a school of destiny. It now focuses on equipping all believers to come to a place of wholeness in the Lord so that they can know Him better and allow Him to know them better. The course is entitled, *Destiny: An Intimate Journey*. In 2001, Bradley changed the name of the ministry to Yada International. Bradley believes very strongly that while intercessors will be helped greatly by this school, the whole Body of Christ will be blessed through the teaching. Bradley’s vision, which the Lord gave him in 1994, is to see Yada International schools established in at least twelve different nations.

Into the world

The Lord has taken Bradley on numerous international trips to teach about intercession and to apply its practice in 37 nations to-date [2004]. On each occasion the Lord has supernaturally provided the funds needed for his travel and ministry. Sometimes the money has come in at the last minute, but it has always come. In addition to conducting citywide campaigns, Bradley continues to network with various prayer ministries throughout the world in the practice of intercession. A number of businessmen’s groups have invited him to teach on the importance of prayer and intercession as a foundation for godly business practices.

Fathers

In 1998, Bradley visited a church near Washington, DC, in the USA. After he had ministered and prayed for a number of people, the pastor's wife asked if she could pray for him. She filled a bowl with water and began to wash his feet, welcoming him into their home, family and church. This was something unique and out of the ordinary that the Lord led her to do. Her husband was rather surprised at what was happening, as she had not done this before. He said to Bradley, "I know you have a pastor who you are submitted to and a father that you love [in South Africa], but I would like to offer myself as a father and pastor to you when you are in the USA." With those words, he welcomed Bradley into his family and, like his wife had done, he washed Bradley's feet. The pastor's eldest son, who was present, and another man, an elder of the church, then did the same thing. Bradley knew this was a significant and special night, but was not sure of its full meaning. Four nights later, he received the news that his natural father had been murdered in South Africa as a thief stole his cell phone and car. Bradley's return flight to South Africa was one of the hardest flights, but when he got home the Lord Himself carried him through to the day of the funeral. At that time, God allowed the natural grief to flow. The testimony that Bradley has from this event and from his life overall is: It's not so important *what* we go through, but what our relationship is like with the One who can carry us through.