

The Gospel of Luke

a verse-by-verse study

Session 9

Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



Simply teaching the Bible, simply

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CHAPTER 7

Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



Simply teaching the Bible, simply

The Acts of the Holy Spirit

...as recorded in the Gospel of Luke

- 1:15 – John would be filled with the Holy Spirit
- 1:35 – The Holy Spirit would come upon Mary
- 1:41 – John was filled with the Holy Spirit and leaped in Elizabeth's womb at Mary's greeting
- 1:67 – Zachariah prophesied by the Holy Spirit
- 1:80 – John grew in the power of the Holy Spirit

The Acts of the Holy Spirit

...as recorded in the Gospel of Luke

- 2:25 – The Holy Spirit was upon Simeon
- 2:26 – The Holy Spirit revealed that Simeon would see the Messiah
- 2:27 – Simeon was led into the Temple at the right time by the Holy Spirit
- 2:40 – Jesus grew in the power of the Holy Spirit

The Acts of the Holy Spirit

...as recorded in the Gospel of Luke

- **3:2** – John was led of the **Holy Spirit** to begin his ministry
- **3:16** – John declared that Jesus would baptize with the **Holy Spirit**
- **3:22** – The **Holy Spirit** descended upon Jesus at His baptism

The Acts of the Holy Spirit

...as recorded in the Gospel of Luke

- 4:1 – Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit
- 4:1 – Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit
- 4:14 – Jesus returned from the wilderness in the power of the Holy Spirit
- 4:18 – Jesus begins His public ministry by stating that the Spirit of the Lord was upon Him
 - Quoting from Isaiah 61:1

¹ Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum.

² And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.

³ And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.

Luke 7:1-3

- Jesus has just taught the 'sermon on the mount'
- News of the miracles' Jesus had done had spread and was drawing people to Him
 - This will be the 15th miracle in Luke's account and 12th recorded occasion where Jesus heals the sick
 - What was the prerequisite for this healing?

4 And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:

5 For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.

Luke 7:4-5

6 Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof:

7 Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.

8 For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

Luke 7:6-8

⁹ When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found **so great faith**, no, not in Israel.

¹⁰ And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

Luke 7:9-10

- Jesus highlights this gentile's faith!
- What was it that Jesus said prevented miracles in Nazareth?
 - *“And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief” (Matt 13:58)*

¹¹ And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people.

¹² Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her

Luke 7:11-12

13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

Luke 7:13

- The fact the Jesus had compassion is a statement that this is not how it should be!
- Death and sickness are directly associated with the Fall
- *“For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil”* (1 John 3:8)

14 And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.

15 And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.

16 And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

Luke 7:14-16

The Scandal of Sickness!

- Sickness only came as a result of the Fall
- Sickness is not 'of God'
- God does not put sickness on someone to 'teach them'
 - God is good and does good! (Psalm 119:6)
- James tells us we should count it 'all joy' when we fall into 'diverse temptations' – but this does not mean sickness!
- James specifically tells us to pray for (and expect) healing for the sick! (James 5:14)

Expectation of Healing

¹³ Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

¹⁴ **Is any sick among you?** let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

¹⁵ And **the prayer of faith shall save the sick,** and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

¹⁶ Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, **that ye may be healed.**

James 5:13-16

The Scandal of Sickness!

- We have been deceived into thinking that God uses sickness (and even puts sickness upon us) to cause us to grow in grace!
 - If God intends for us to be sick, surely it would be disobedient to go to the Doctor's when we are sick!?
- God created our bodies with the ability to repair themselves and fight infection
- God is on the side of health!
- God never intended sickness!
- In the new Heaven's & Earth sickness will be gone!
- Consider God's words to Israel:

The God who Heals!

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

² Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

³ Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Psalm 103:1-3

The God who Heals!

¹⁴ Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle.

¹⁵ And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

Deuteronomy 7:14-15

- God does use sickness as a judgment
 - But in Christ our sin is washed away!

The God who Heals!

- Jesus' mandate includes healing the sick!

¹⁸ The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised

Luke 4:18

- Brokenhearted: Gr. *syntribō*
 - those who are physically impaired and / or crushed under Satan
- For most of the 3 ½ years of Jesus ministry He healed the sick!

The God who Heals!

- Jesus commission to the Disciples:

¹ Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

² And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

Luke 9:1-2

- Healing the sick accompanied the preaching of the Gospel!
- The miracles of healing ratified the message

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17 And this rumour of him went forth throughout all Judaea, and throughout all the region round about.

18 And the disciples of John shewed him of all these things.

19 And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

Luke 7:17-19

20 When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another?

Luke 7:20

- John was expecting a national deliver
 - As were the disciples of Jesus (Acts 1:6-7)
 - As feared the Pharisees (John 11:50)
 - Peter even tried to start the insurrection! (John 18:10)
- The deliverance John was expecting was taking a little longer than he had hoped!
- John was seeking 'evidence' that Jesus really was the Messiah
- What was the evidence Jesus gave?

21 And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

22 Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

23 And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

Luke 7:21-23

- The signs accompanied and confirmed the Gospel!

The God who Heals!

- Jesus' final commission to His disciples:

¹⁵ And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

¹⁶ He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mark 16:15-16

The God who Heals!

- Jesus' final commission to His disciples:

¹⁷ And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

¹⁸ They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them;

they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Mark 16:17-18

- Acts 28:1-6

Preach the Word with signs following!

- Some try to argue that this was just a phenomenon during Jesus' earthly ministry...
- However, the Book of Acts attributes church growth in large part to the miracles done in Jesus' name by the disciples.

Signs	Preaching	Church Growth
2:1-13	2:1-36	2:37-41
2:43	2:42	2:47
3:1-11	3:12-4:3	4:4
8:6	8:6	8:12
8:26-29	8:35	8:38
10:3,10,44	10:34-43	10:47
14:3	14:1-3	14:4
19:11-15	19:10	19:18

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Proverbs 3:5-8

My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.

Proverbs 4:20-23

The Expected Norm

2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper **and be in health,** even as thy soul prospereth.

3 John 1:2

- Promises regarding our health are often linked with assurances regarding our salvation
- We (generally) don't doubt the promises about our salvation...
- So why do we allow Satan to rob us of the promises regarding our health?

Objections?

- *“We don’t pray for healing because not everyone we pray for is healed...”*
 - Not everyone we preach to or pray for is saved, but that does not stop us preaching the Gospel!

Spiritual Warfare

- We are in a spiritual battle!
- Satan does not want to give up his hold on people.
- If he can cause us to doubt, he can create an atmosphere of unbelief that prevents miracles
- It *may be* that in some cases we do not persist in prayer (or pray in faith)...
 - Daniel prayed for 3 weeks before he saw an answer to his prayer
 - God answered immediately, but there was a 'war in the heavenlies' that delayed the manifestation of the answer - see Daniel 9:23, 10:12-13

The Completed Work

⁴ Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4-5

- *“For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil” (1 John 3:8)*

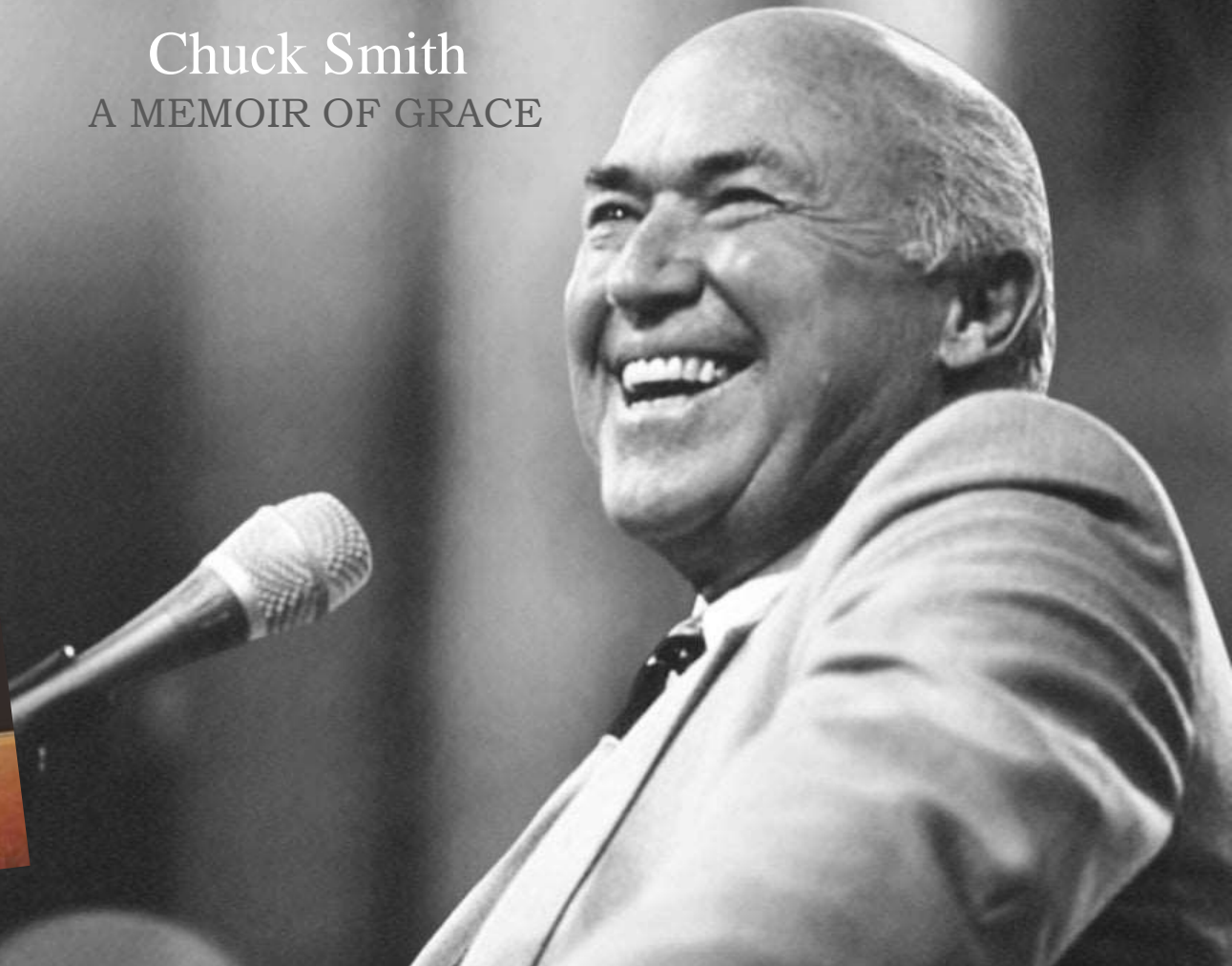
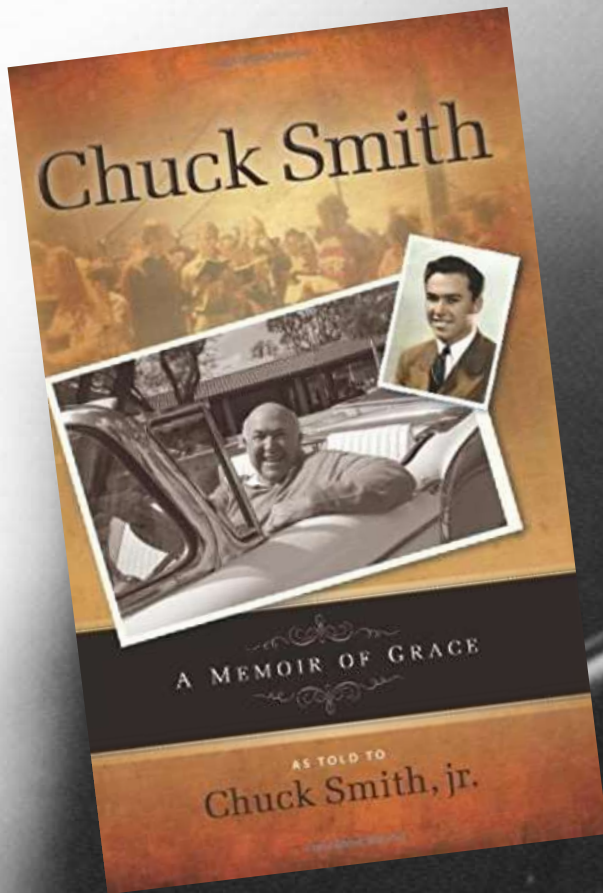
God's Perspective

¹² And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the Lord, but to the physicians.

2 Chronicles 16:12

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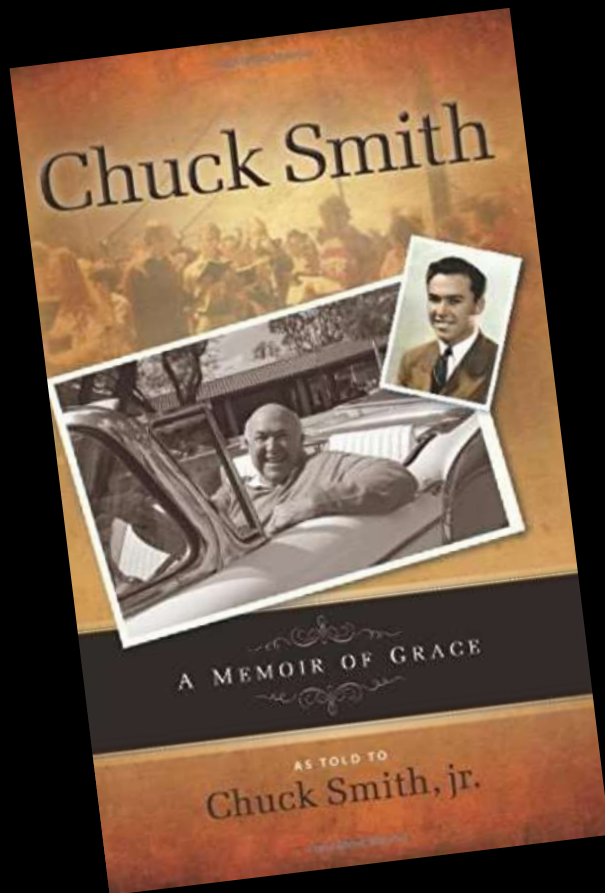
Chuck Smith
A MEMOIR OF GRACE



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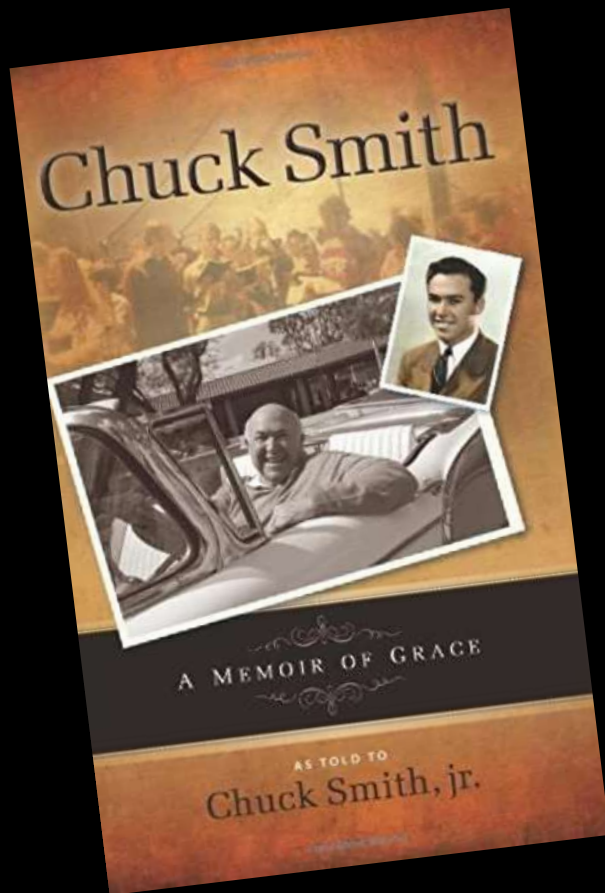
Just prior to my birth, when the Smith family consisted of my parents, Charles and Maude Elizabeth, and my older sister, Virginia, the subject of church was not a unifying topic. My parents were not able to come to an agreement about religion. Dad had been raised in an upper middle class presbyterian home and chose to stay true to those roots. But he had also become disillusioned by some financial decisions made by church leaders while he was an elder, and as a result, his church attendance was sporadic and passionless.

Mom went to church regularly, walking a few blocks each Sunday to a Baptist Church. But on occasions she ventured into the Pentecostal church that was nearer to their home. She enjoyed the lively music she heard ringing from its windows, and the Pentecostal preacher's faith in God seemed stronger than that of her other pastor. Those Pentecostal folks still believed in miracles and divine healing.

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Chuck Smith

A MEMOIR OF GRACE



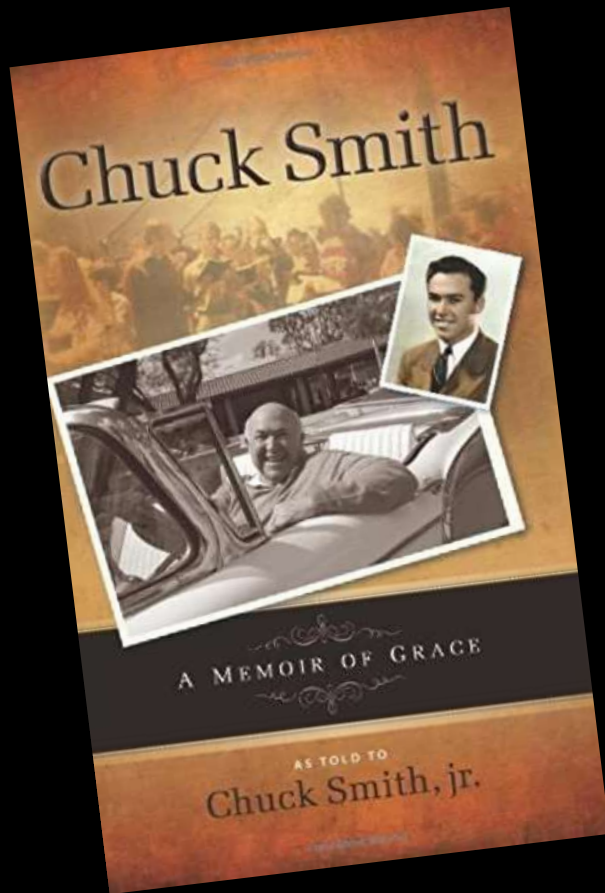
And so, when my sister contracted spinal meningitis, and the cold washcloths and the rocking and singing couldn't stave off her seizures and the inevitable stilling of her breath, Mom picked up Virginia's limp body and ran next door to the Pentecostal Parsonage. The preacher took one look at Virginia in Mom's arms and steered them both into the church building. Only God can save your daughter, he said. Then he told my mother to get her eyes off Virginia and put them on the Lord. He told her to pray and said that if she wanted to see God intervene, she had better fully devote her life to him. My mother went a step further. She vowed that if he would spare and fully heal Virginia, then Mom would dedicate her life to Christian service.

My father was unaware of the drama unfolding on the floor of the Pentecostal church. In fact, he was out earning extra money for the family by playing in a billiards tournament when Virginia had her seizure.

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A MEMOIR OF GRACE



But word reached him that his daughter had stopped breathing. He ran first to their apartment, where someone told him that Mom had carried Virginia's body to the church next door.

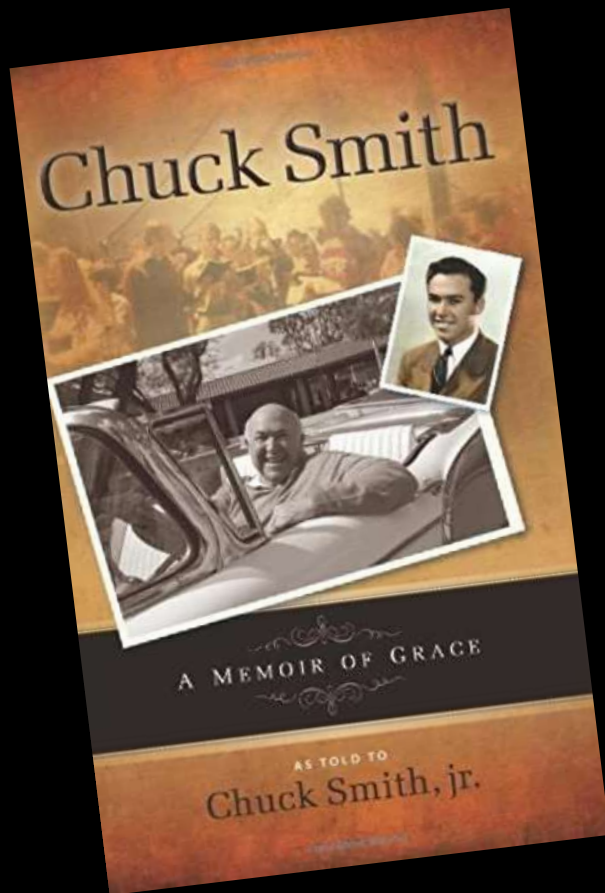
Intending to scoop her up and take her straight to the hospital, Dad ran to the church. But when he entered the sanctuary and saw Virginia's lifeless body lying on the floor, he fell on his knees next to mom and cried out to God. And while Mom was offering up her vow and Dad was pleading for a miracle, Virginia was healed.

The miracle of my sister's recovery changed my father in what must have been one of the most dramatic conversions of the decade! Dad turned his life over to the Lord. But he did not merely become a church member. Rather, he became a true believer who conscientiously lived for Jesus every day for the rest of his life.

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Mom never forgot her vow. She determined that no matter what else she did with her life she would fulfil her promise. In June of 1927, just two months after Virginia's ordeal, I was born.

Though she fully intended to dedicate her own life to God - and did - she also felt and urging to present this fresh, new life to Him. At my birth she prayed, "Lord, I am going to fulfil my promise to you through my son".

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To be continued...

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