Even When You Don't See It... He's Working by Pastor Tim Dilena TSC MISSIONS Discovering Inner Beauty and New Skills A Mission of Empowerment in Honduras More Than a Building In-Person or Online, Together We Are the Church

### Prayer Points 2025

#### FOR OUR CHURCHES

 We believe for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the pulpit and the pews.

#### FOR OUR CITIES

 We believe for God to raise up a gospel witness all over our cities in schools, universities, and the workplace.

#### FOR OUR COUNTRIES

We believe for God to raise up Daniels, Esthers and Josephs in gov't offices around the world that will be a voice from heaven to the nation.

#### FOR THE WORLD

• We believe for God to save 1 billion souls.



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# **Even When You Don't See It... He's Working**

### by Pastor Tim Dilena, Senior Pastor

I've come to deeply believe in the providence of God. Not fate, not luck, not coincidence but God's intentional, invisible hand at work in the details of our lives. If you belong to Him, then nothing that touches your life is random. God has a plan for all of it. I've seen this firsthand.

Years ago, I pastored a church in Detroit that used to be a XXX movie theater. Yes, you read that right. The same screen that once played pornography began showing worship lyrics and Scripture. We turned that place of darkness into a house of freedom. On one side was a prostitution motel, on the other, a strip club. But God wanted a church right in the middle.

Our first convert there was a woman named Kimutchie. She had been turning tricks in that very theater, charging \$10-15 each time. When she came in, she called me "Father Tim" and asked for prayer—but when I reached out to her, she pulled back. "I don't have any money," she said. She thought prayer cost money because that's what others had told her.

She didn't understand that grace was free, that salvation was a gift. So I took her to the Word—Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Romans 10:9—and she thought the numbers were



#### Even When You Don't See It... He's Working (continued)

lucky lottery picks. But God was using those verses to light up her soul.

She said to me, "You mean there's a place I can go where no man will ever abuse me again? Where I'll never have to cry myself to sleep? Where I won't have to sell my body?"

I said, "Yes, there is."

Then I opened to Revelation 21:4 where it says, "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

And right there, Kimutchie gave her life to Jesus.

When the church moved into that old XXX theater, it was really God working his plan for Kimutchie's life. It was God's providence. That's what happens when God steps in.

If chance exists, then God doesn't. Chance would mean something was outside of God's control. But nothing is. God doesn't deal in luck—He deals in plans. He's always working. Even when you don't see it or feel it.

God's providence is His day-to-day involvement in your life. It's why the Bible says all things work together for good—not just some things. He's working when doors close. He's working when prayers seem unanswered. He's working when you're frustrated by delay or confused by a detour. Whether you see Him or not, He's working His plan and bringing His will into the reality of your life.

One of my favorite stories in the Bible is Esther. God's name is not mentioned in that entire book—but He's everywhere in it. From a rebellious queen being removed to a Jewish orphan being crowned as her replacement, from an overheard assassination plot to a sleepless king reading old records—every piece fits perfectly. Why? Because God was putting the puzzle together behind the scenes. Few could see Him, but He was there protecting His people and carrying out His plans.

I remember preaching during the pandemic to an empty sanctuary for 18 months after becoming senior pastor at Times Square Church. And I'll be honest-there were moments I wondered, "God, what are you doing?" But now I see clearly. Those quiet, painful months were preparation. He was working even when I couldn't see it.

If chance exists, then God doesn't. Chance would mean something was outside of God's control.

There's a verse in 2 Corinthians 4:18 that says, "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen." That's a challenge because we all want to see results, outcomes, answers. But God invites us to trust Him in the unseen.

If you've ever baked anything from scratch, you know the ingredients don't make sense on their own. Flour, oil, raw eggs—none of it tastes good alone. But put them together in the right order, apply heat, and something good comes out. That's what God is doing with your life. The individual ingredients may be bitter or confusing, but don't judge the recipe until it's out of the oven. You may be experiencing a "raw ingredient" season right now. But God sees the whole picture. He's writing a story that's bigger than your current chapter. And as Psalm 34:8 says, "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."

Don't lose heart.

Don't walk away.

Don't get bitter.

God has not forgotten you. He has not failed you. And He never will.

Even when you don't see or feel it, He's working.

He never stops.

"Be confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will complete it" (Philippians 1:6, NIV).





## Discovering Inner Beauty and New Skills

#### A Mission of Empowerment in Honduras

Last March, a compassionate team from Times Square Church Missions, joined by dedicated volunteers, embarked on a unique mission to Honduras. Their goal: to empower students with hearing and speech disabilities and local mothers, through hands-on workshops rooted in creativity and Christ-centered love. This initiative assists our longstanding partnership with the Esmirna ministry and its School for Deaf Children, a school previously built and supported by the Times Square Church congregation through missions and the ChildCry feeding program, and the initiative also demonstrates a deep and ongoing commitment to this special community.

What made this mission truly exceptional was the inclusion of a professional hairdresser from Colombia and a cosmetologist from New Jersey. These generous professionals volunteered their time and talents to lead engaging beauty and self-care workshops. With open hearts and willing hands, they not only equipped students and mothers with practical skills but, more importantly, reminded them of their inherent worth and God-given beauty. The two-day workshops, which ran from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., were meticulously designed to be both instructional and uplifting. Students from Esmirna School were divided into two groups: one learned facial care techniques with the cosmetologist, while the other received hairstyling lessons from the hairdresser. These sessions transcended mere technique; they became moments of profound discovery. Many of the children, who often face social barriers due to their disabilities, experienced newfound joy and confidence. They learned to care for themselves and saw beauty reflected not only in the mirror but in the way they were valued and encouraged.

Local mothers were also invited to participate, many of whom run small, home-based beauty businesses. They eagerly embraced the opportunity to refine their skills. The workshops provided them with new tools to grow their enterprises, better support their families, and contribute to their community's economy.

"We saw how God uses every gift and profession for His glory," shared one of the mission organizers.

Gloria, a schoolteacher, added, "It was a

blessing to witness these students and mothers light up with confidence and purpose. They weren't just learning beauty techniques; they were discovering the beauty within themselves."

This mission was a vibrant expression of the Gospel in action. By addressing practical needs, empowering individuals through education, and affirming the dignity of each participant, the team demonstrated Christ's love in tangible ways. The workshops not only imparted valuable skills but also opened doors for lasting personal, spiritual, and economic transformation.

The Esmirna School is actively collaborating with the students, mothers, and local volunteers to ensure the mission's impact extends far beyond the trip. The hope is that the seeds planted will blossom into ongoing opportunities for training and encouragement for every child with disabilities in their community.

Ultimately, this mission was far more than just a trip; it was a powerful experience of fellowship, learning, partnership, and service. It reaffirmed the truth that every individual, regardless of ability, reflects the image of a loving Creator.

# **More Than a Building**

### In-Person or Online, Together We are the Church

Whether you're sitting in the sanctuary on 51st and Broadway or joining us from halfway across the world, you're part of one church family—and it's growing in ways we never could've imagined.



Each week, just before the message, you've likely heard Pastor Tim call out the countries attending live. What many don't realize is that he's talking about people joining us in real time—as the service is happening—through our livestream.

Behind every broadcast is a faithful team of online volunteers praying, chatting, answering questions, and tracking where people are joining from. They are not just tech support; they are ministers of encouragement, connection, and intercession.

But the story doesn't stop there.

By week's end, hundreds of thousands more will have joined searching for truth, hope, and Jesus. Over the past year, people from every country in the world and all 50 U.S. states have worshiped with us. And that's just on our English livestream. With 11 additional language channels, this movement is reaching far beyond borders—together we witnessed over 36 million views last year alone.

This is our generation's Romans Road—a digital highway for the gospel to travel to cities, villages, prisons, dorm rooms, hospital beds, and remote places we may never physically go. We believe God is using the combination of in-person and online to reach the 1 billion souls we're praying for.

But even more powerful than the numbers is the community being built.

Our online family isn't watching from the sidelines—they're participating fully. They're getting water baptized, attending New Believers classes, joining Men's and Women's Gatherings, leading Beyond Sunday groups, and serving faithfully as greeters, hosts, and prayer warriors. They're growing in faith, serving in love, and walking with Jesus—right alongside those who attend in person.

"We live in France and our sons were all baptized online right along with everyone being baptized in person that day."

"What a joy to be part of this ministry online. It's the highlight of my week—the prayer meetings, the worship, and the Word of God that cuts like a knife. I love you all and stand in intercession with you for many souls."

"When your camera scans the crowd, everyone looks so joyful and full of peace. One woman tonight near the front was glowing with the love of Christ. I could literally see Him in her joy. You are a good shepherd, Pastor Tim. The fruit of this ministry is written on the radiant faces of your people."

Through the beauty of technology, God has made us a global church. And should a day come when we can't gather in person, the message of salvation—and the truth that God carries us through every storm—will still be loud, clear, and available.

To every person in the sanctuary and every person on a screen: you are the church.

Let's keep building this together.





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### TIMES SQUARE CHURCH

Times Square Church was founded in 1987 by Pastor David Wilkerson, author of "The Cross and the Switchblade." It is an interdenominational church located in the heart of New York City.

CONTACT

212.541.6300 info@tsc.nyc

CHURCH LOCATION 237 West 51st Street Between Broadway & 8th Avenue

OUR SERVICES Sunday I 10AM & 1PM In Person and Online

Tuesday I 7PM In Person and Online

Wednesday I 7 pm Worldwide Prayer Meeting at TSC Summit Campus In Person and Online

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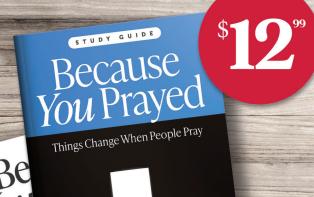
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