

**My Fire...  
Your Revelation**  
by Pastor Tim Dilena

**TSCKIDS**  
**Raising Leaders. Building  
Community. Living on Purpose.**

**Noon Prayer NYC**  
Every Wednesday 12 PM

**Break Through Services**  
A Month of Prayer,  
Fasting, and Freedom  
Every Friday in May 7 PM



# My Fire...Your Revelation

by **Pastor Tim Dilena**, *Senior Pastor*

What is a real Christian? It is a word we hear often. It shows up in conversations, headlines, debates, and social media posts. Many people identify with it, and many others have opinions about it. Yet when we open the Bible, something surprising appears: the word "Christian" is used only three times in the entire New Testament.

That alone should make us pause.

If God chose to use that word sparingly, then perhaps we should allow Scripture—not culture, not politics, not public opinion—to define what it truly means. Instead of building our understanding from the noise of the world around us, we should build it from the Bible's economy of words.

When we examine those three passages, we discover three powerful truths about what a real Christian looks like.

## **A Real Christian Reminds People of Jesus**

The first reference appears in Acts 11:26:

*"...and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch."*

The early believers did not create this title for themselves. It was given to them by

outsiders—people who were not followers of Christ. In fact, the word "Christian" began as an insult. It was slang used by a city that was skeptical and even antagonistic toward the faith of these early disciples.

The term meant "little Christ."

**The world gave the name 'Christian' to those who looked like Christ.**

The people of Antioch were essentially saying, "You remind us of that man with the thorns—the one who was crucified."

What they meant as ridicule became one of the most meaningful descriptions a believer could ever receive.

A real Christian reminds people of Jesus.

Not simply of a church building.

Not merely of a denomination or tradition.

Not of a religious culture.

Jesus.

The character of Christ, the compassion of Christ, the truth of Christ, and the courage of Christ should be reflected in the lives of those who follow Him.

One of the most meaningful compliments I have ever received about my faith came from a woman far from church life. While sharing the gospel on the streets years ago, I spoke with a prostitute named Kimutchi. After listening for a while, she looked at me and said something I have never forgotten.

"You are like the man with the thorns."

She did not mention a church.

She did not mention religion.

She simply saw something that pointed her to Jesus.

That is the calling of every believer.

Our lives are meant to be reflections of Christ in such a way that people recognize something different when they encounter us.

I often think about the early days of Mrs. Fields Cookies. Debbie Fields started her company

## My Fire... Your Revelation

(continued)

in Palo Alto, California. In the beginning, she would walk the streets handing out small samples of her cookies to people passing by. When someone tasted the sample, the message was simple:

A real Christian doesn't  
just believe the truth—  
they persuade others  
toward it.

"If you like the sample, come inside and get the real thing."

That is exactly what our lives are meant to be.

We are the sample.

We are not the answer to the world's deepest needs—Jesus is. But our lives should give people a taste of His grace, His truth, and His love. When they encounter us, they should be drawn toward the real thing.

Our lives should remind people of God, not merely church.

### A Real Christian Persuades Others Toward Christ

The second appearance of the word Christian is found in Acts 26:28:

*"In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian."*

Paul stood before King Agrippa explaining his faith. He was not simply sharing facts. He was attempting to persuade. Paul believed that the message of Jesus Christ was truth that every human heart needed.

Christianity is not just something that works for a few people. It is the message of salvation for the world.

A real Christian understands this.

We are not simply receivers of truth; we are carriers of it. There must still be something in the heart of a believer that longs to see others come to Christ.

There comes a time when conviction must outweigh comfort. Standing for truth is not always safe or popular. Yet conscience compels us to stand.

### A Real Christian Endures the Fire

The third reference appears in 1 Peter 4:16:

*"If anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name."*

This verse reveals a reality many modern believers would prefer to avoid: real Christianity includes suffering.

There will be seasons when doing what is right does not bring applause. Much of real Christianity happens quietly. Often the only audience you have is God.

Yet Peter tells us not to be ashamed when suffering comes for the sake of Christ. Instead, we glorify God.

*"Do not be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through." (1 Peter 4:12)*

Fire exposes what is real.

In nature there are certain plants that depend on fire to grow. Their seeds remain dormant until heat awakens them. Without fire they never open.

The Christian life often works the same way.

Some of the deepest faith, strongest trust, and clearest testimony emerge in the furnace.

### Fire Reveals the Presence of Jesus

Daniel chapter 3 tells the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They refused to bow to Babylon's idol and were thrown into a furnace heated seven times hotter than normal.

Yet when King Nebuchadnezzar looked into

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the fire he said, *"Did we not throw three men into the fire? I see four men walking in the fire, and the fourth looks like the Son of God."*

What a diet in Daniel chapter 1 could not reveal, what the interpretation of a dream in Daniel chapter 2 could not reveal the furnace in Daniel chapter 3 revealed.

Their fire became someone else's revelation.

Nebuchadnezzar walked away declaring the greatness of their God.

### My Fire... Your Revelation

Sometimes the trial you are walking through is not only about you.

Someone is watching how you endure.

Someone is watching how you worship.

Someone is watching whether your faith survives the flames.

Praise in the fire reveals whether Christianity is real.

Anyone can worship when life is comfortable. But when someone sees you praising God in hardship, trusting Him in pain, and lifting your hands even with tears in your eyes, it becomes a witness that cannot be denied.

Sometimes waving your hands in worship is simply moving the smoke away from your eyes.

That is real faith.

### God Brings Us Through

Isaiah 43:2 says:

*"When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched."*

God does not say if the fire comes.

He says when.

But He also promises we will go through it.

God's plan is never to leave His people in the fire but to bring them through it.

### A Final Invitation

Real Christianity is not defined by comfort or popularity. It is revealed in lives that remind the world of Jesus, persuade others toward truth, and remain faithful even in the fire.

Jesus said in John 3:3:

*"Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

Being a Christian is not about carrying a label. It is about experiencing new life through Christ.

**My fire may be your revelation.**

**What I go through just might be for you. ■**



# Raising Leaders. Building Community. Living on Purpose.

Whether you have kids or not, you are invited to play a part in building the next generation.

TSC Kids is the children's ministry of Times Square Church, serving families and children from 6 months through 5th grade including a class for kids with special needs.

Every Sunday, our kids worship, learn, pray, and play—but more than that, they are growing into leaders.

## No Child Left Behind

Our vision is simple: **No child left behind.**

We believe this generation is called, purposeful, and not too young to be used by God. Like Josiah who led at eight and Jesus who, at twelve, devoted Himself to His Father's house, our kids are growing in wisdom and boldness as they build God's Kingdom right now.

Children at TSC Kids:

- Help lead worship
- Lead in prayer
- Intercede for our city

They are leaders now.

## A Place to Belong

In an age of increasing isolation, TSC Kids is a place of real friendship and community. Here, kids build lifelong, Godly relationships and learn that church is not just an event—it's a family.

## Growing with Intention

Over the past year, TSC Kids has intentionally invested in both outreach and leadership development:

- Our children personally packed 500 Operation Christmas Child boxes, impacting families around the world.
- The ministry provided backpacks and school supplies to TSC Kids families in need.
- We created internship opportunities for young adults in our church, mentoring and equipping them as the next generation of leaders.

**TSC Kids Presents the BIBLE buddy READING PLAN!**

- 1 FIND YOUR BUDDY!**
- 2 LISTEN TO PASTOR TIM!**
- 3 READ AS A FAMILY!**

Adoption Day! Listening together Reading the Bible

**TSC KIDS**

We don't just talk about leadership—we practice it.

We see a generation rising—one that will love God deeply, lead courageously, and live on mission.

And we are building with vision—together.

So, get involved:

- Volunteer
- Pray
- Give

### **Growing in God's Word—Together**

This season, TSC Kids launched **Adopt a Buddy**, a bible reading initiative in partnership with Pastor Tim's Chapter by Chapter podcast.

On Adoption Day, each child chose a Bible Buddy to take home—naming them and committing to read together daily.

Since then, families have been:

- Listening to the podcast together
- Reading one chapter of the Bible each day
- Drawing and journaling what they're learning

What began as a simple idea has become a meaningful daily rhythm in many homes.

One parent shared:

"Jonah has loved reading his Bible and watching Pastor Tim every day. He looks forward to it!

His favorite was Chapter 39—when Pastor Tim said 'disobedient Jonah,' his reaction was priceless. Now when I ask him to do something he says, 'Okay Mommy, I don't want to be disobedient Jonah!'

We now do Bible study together with the podcast, and Jonah leads the discussion or prays us out. Thank you, TSC Kids!"

Stories like this remind us that children aren't just participating—they are leading in their homes.

Through Adopt a Buddy, kids are building daily habits in God's Word, and families are growing stronger together.

### **WHAT'S AHEAD:**

#### **Shine On Sports Camp—June 30–July 2 | 3rd–5th Grade**

This summer, TSC Kids is preparing for **Shine On Sports Camp**, and we are believing to reach—and exceed—80 campers.

Our theme is: Shine On—You Are Part of God's Story

For three powerful days, children will be reminded that God created them intentionally, loves them deeply, and has a purpose for their lives.

Last year, we reached 60 children. This year, we're stepping forward in faith for 80. And we can't do it alone.

#### **Partner With Us**

**\$80 sponsors one child.**

Your support helps cover camp materials and transportation—one of our greatest needs.

You can partner by:

- Sponsoring a child
- Purchasing a t-shirt or coloring book
- Giving toward transportation or camp costs

Every gift makes space for a child to encounter God's love and discover their purpose.

#### **Please Pray for:**

- 80 campers—that we would reach and exceed our goal
- No obstacles preventing a child from attending
- Wisdom in every decision
- Safe, affordable transportation
- Full financial provision
- Peace and trust for parents

*Thank you for helping the next generation shine.*

**Partner with us and  
sponsor a child today.**





**chapter  
by chapter**

A Daily Podcast with Tim Dilena

**Missed a day?**

**Jump**

**back in.**

tsc.nyc



**Help Your Kids  
Know God.**

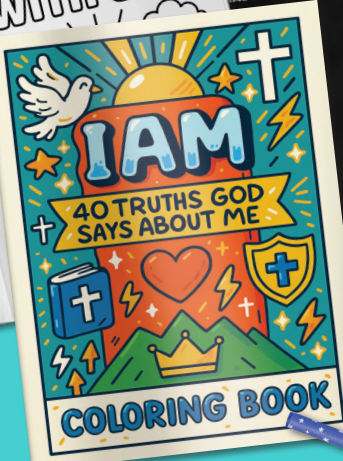
**100% of net proceeds benefit  TSC Kids**

**I AM SAFE  
WITH GOD**

**I'M NOT AVERAGE**

ON PURPOSE  
HAS A PLAN FOR ME

**MY  
FUTURE  
IS IN  
GOD'S  
HANDS**



**tscnyc.store**

EVERY WEDNESDAY  
12PM

# NOON PRAYER NYC

ONE HOUR.  
YOUR TIME.  
HIS PRESENCE.

In 1857, right here in New York City, a small noon-hour prayer meeting quietly began on Fulton Street. A layman named Jeremiah Lanphier simply opened a room at lunchtime and invited busy workers to slip away for a few minutes—or the full hour—to seek God together in the middle of their workday. What started with just six people grew into daily gatherings that filled rooms and spread to other churches and cities, as men and women paused at noon to call on the Lord.

Those meetings were simple. There was a brief Scripture reading, a hymn, and then many short prayers, as ordinary believers brought their needs, their city, and their nation before God. People came and went as their schedules allowed, but the doors were open, and the Lord met them in that one set-apart hour each day.

In that same spirit, we are inviting you to join us in prayer on Wednesdays at 12 PM for one hour. Join us in person or, if you are at work, school, or home, you can pause wherever you are and join your heart with ours at noon.

Let's set aside this weekly midday hour to seek God for our city—believing that the same God who moved in 1857 still hears and answers the humble prayers of His people today.

YOU NEED A BREAKTHROUGH

# SO BREAK THROUGH.

IN CHRIST, FREEDOM IS YOURS.



**MAY 1**

**HIS LOVE, YOUR BREAKTHROUGH  
GARY WILKERSON**



**MAY 8**

**SPIRIT LED, BONDAGE BROKEN  
ANNE GRAHAM LOTZ**



**MAY 15**

**BREAK THE CYCLE, REWRITE YOUR STORY  
DARRYL BLACK**



**MAY 22**

**BREAK THE GRIP OF ADDICTION  
PAUL BURKE & EVAN WILKERSON**



**MAY 29**

**TOTAL BREAKTHROUGH:  
MIND, BODY & SOUL  
TIM DILENA**

## Break Through Services

**A Month of Prayer,  
Fasting, and Freedom**

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." — Epistle to the Galatians 5:1

Through the cross, Jesus Christ has already paid the full price for our freedom. Yet many believers still struggle with fear, shame, condemnation, and past bondage. Although Christ has made us free, it can be difficult to live in the fullness of that freedom without intentional surrender, prayer, and reliance on the Holy Spirit.

This May, our church will host **Break Through Services**, a month dedicated to seeking God for deeper freedom. Each Friday night we will gather both in person and online for prayer and Fasting services. These evenings are designed to create space for God to bring healing, restoration, and renewed faith.

We are encouraging the entire church to come each Friday, believing God for real breakthrough. Whether you are seeking freedom from past wounds, destructive cycles, addiction, fear, anxiety, or spiritual heaviness, these nights will be an opportunity to bring those burdens before the Lord. When we humble ourselves through prayer and fasting, we position our hearts for God to work in powerful ways.

Each service will include worship, testimonies and a message from guest speakers Pastor Gary Wilkerson, Anne Graham Lotz, Pastor Darryl Black, Pastor Paul Burke, Evan Wilkerson, and our very own Pastor Tim Dilena. We will conclude each service with personal prayer.

These services are more than just another gathering—they are an invitation to seek God wholeheartedly and experience the freedom He promises.

Come fasting. Come praying. Come expecting to break through. God desires His people to live in the freedom He has died to give them.

**EVERY FRIDAY  
IN MAY  
6:30PM ET**

**BREAK THROUGH SERVICES**

ONLINE & IN PERSON  
237 W 51ST ST  
BETWEEN BROADWAY & 8TH AVE

TIMES SQUARE CHURCH [tsc.nyc](http://tsc.nyc)



Happy  
Mother's  
Day

## 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](mailto:info@tsc.nyc)

### CHURCH LOCATION

237 West 51st Street | NY, NY 10019

### OUR SERVICES

Sunday | 10AM & 1PM

In person and online

Tuesday | 7PM

In person and online

Wednesday | 12PM

Noon Prayer NYC

Wednesday | 7PM

Worldwide Prayer Meeting

TSC Summit Campus

In person and online

## GIVE TODAY



### TEXT

"givetscnyc"  
to 77977

### ONLINE

at [tsc.nyc/give](https://tsc.nyc/give)

### MAIL

check or money order

Times Square Church

Attn: Finance

1657 Broadway, 4th Fl.

NY, NY 10019

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to this Newsletter



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[tsc.nyc](https://tsc.nyc)