

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

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SERMON TITLE	THERE HAS TO BE MORE
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SERIES	
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DATE	9/20/2026
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KEY SCRIPTURE	various
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SYNOPSIS	God's promises and gifts are true, but why don't we see them more often than we do?
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HIGHLIGHTS	A snapshot of Pastor Phil's first book
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BIG IDEA

The gap between what God promised and what we experience isn't because the promise failed. It's because we keep climbing off the altar before anything burns.

"Anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these." (John 14:12)

Notes:

TAKE THE PROMISES SERIOUSLY

Peter and John walk into the temple with nothing but a name — and a lame man goes leaping through the courts. That's not an isolated moment; it's Acts 5, Acts 14, 1 Corinthians 12.

Most of us are still quietly hoping for just one miracle.

"The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up." (James 5:15)

Notes:

STOP REACHING FOR THE EASY ANSWER

Since the gifts are real, we're stuck with the harder question: why the gap? We reach for answers that let us off the hook. **If Jesus meant what He said, the issue was never the promise. It's us.**

"Having a form of godliness but denying its power." (2 Timothy 3:5)

Notes:

WHEN THE ANSWER DOESN'T COME

I came back to trust in a God whose ways are genuinely higher than mine.

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways... as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways." (Isaiah 55:8-9)

Notes:



LET THE POWER COST YOU

Sometimes we want the power to produce the surrender instead of the other way around. **It's never worked that direction.**

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." (Galatians 2:20)

Notes:

STOP LOOKING FOR A FORMULA

The "more" isn't a discovery waiting to be made — it's a posture waiting to be taken. The way in looks like Jacob in Genesis 23: wrestling, in the dark, refusing to let go. **Not a technique. A refusal to quit.**

"Become the kind of person God can actually trust with what He's already promised."

Notes:

MAKE IT PERSONAL

If we want what happened after the tomb, we don't get to skip what happened on the cross. Not "did God lie" — He didn't. The question is: **are you willing to stay?**

"You don't have to have it all figured out. You just have to be done climbing down."

Notes:
