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### GOOD MORNING – Bobby Schuller (BS) and Hannah Schuller (HS)

BS: This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning.

HS: And welcome friends. We are so, so happy that you're here. The Bible says that those that seek the Lord lack no good thing. Wow. Let's continue to seek the Lord with everything we have. You are loved.

BS: We're so glad you're here today and we just believe you're here for a reason. We think that the Lord has something to say to you, He has something to do in your life, He has a blessing for you, and so part of that is coming with that open heart and with faith to receive from the Lord the good thing that He has in store for us today. So let's come expectant and excited today. So Lord, we pray in Jesus' name for an outpouring of your Holy Spirit. We pray for the forgiveness of our sins, that you'd cleanse us free of guilt and shame and hardship and heaviness. Help us today to have a spirit of rest and a break from the worries and troubles of the world. We pray that going into tomorrow, we'd go full of power and life, and we thank you, it's in Jesus' name, amen.

HS: Amen.

HAVEN: Turn to the person next to you and say God loves you and so do I.

### SCRIPTURE – Numbers 11,24-30 – Hannah Schuller

In preparation for the message, Numbers 11:24. So Moses went out and told the people what the Lord had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the tent. Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took some of the power of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but did not do so again. However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp. A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!" But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on all them!" Then Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp. Amen.

### DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller

Would you stand with us? We're going to say this creed together. Hold your hands out this as a way of receiving from the Lord, let's say this together: I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God. It's who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with my neighbor. Thanks, you can be seated.

### MESSAGE – Would That All the Lord's People Were Prophets – Bobby Schuller

Today I want to talk about the power of the Holy Spirit, what He can do in your life to inspire you to greatness and to service. But before I get to that, I want to do the most important thing I do in any sermon, and that is to invite those of you who have not made a decision to receive Jesus Christ in your heart. This thing we just said, this creed, that I'm not what I do or what I have or what others say about me, this is really the gospel. The gospel says that no matter how hard we try, we cannot save ourselves or rescue ourselves from our sin. Only thing that can do that is Christ crucified. But, in that crucifixion and the resurrection of Christ in us, we can build a holy life in response to His goodness. As I like say, you do your best and forget the rest. I didn't make that up. It's from P90X which is a workout video, which is crazy, but it still works really well. You do your best and you forget the rest.

## Would That All the Lord's People Were Prophets

And this is the great thing about the gospel is the Lord just slathers us in grace and love and mercy as we do our best to build ourselves up into Christ' likeness. I want to encourage you today to make a decision to receive Jesus Christ in your heart; to live your life at peace with God. And when that gets right, everything else gets a lot better. Would you do that today? Would you make a decision to invite Jesus Christ in your heart. And if you do that, I want you to text me the word HOPE to the number on the screen. I believe that your life will never be the same again, and if you do that, connect to a Bible believing church, get baptized and commit your life to Jesus. Well, today is.. not today, this Wednesday is my 20th wedding anniversary, which I'm excited about. I saw everybody instantly look over here. Hannah's not here, ironically, she's leading the junior high ministry this morning, but also ironically I lost my wedding ring a week and a half ago. The good news is Hannah was there, otherwise I'd probably be in big trouble. We were watching a movie. So I do a lot of heavy lifting and I'd started developing a cyst like right under the knuckle here under my skin where my wedding ring is, so I fiddle with my ring all the time. And we were watching a movie, and I was fiddling with this ring and I dropped it, and then we looked, after the movie was over, Hannah and I looked, and three guys for like 45-minutes, we looked forever, couldn't find the ring. So I lost it. But, the good thing is, even though I might have lost my ring, I have the great treasure which is an amazing wife and partner and friend. So I'm grateful for Hannah. But if you're wondering where is my wedding ring, some guy probably picked it up at the movie theater. But anyway, I feel like now, it's interesting, Hannah and I have been married 20 years, but we started dating two years before we were married, and we were married at 21. So now we have been together longer in our lives than we haven't been together, which also seems like an interesting thing. And I feel like at this stage of my life, I'm finally at a position where I can give marriage advice. I think when I hear a pastor that's married three, four years, you're like get through like number eleven and then we'll talk. But now that I've been married 20 years and I can say honestly that we have a very good, healthy and happy marriage. I think that marriage is not as complicated as we think it is. Here are the two things that I think make up 80 to 90% of a good marriage. The first thing is so obvious. It's that you just stay friends. If you're friends with each other and you do fun things together: you go to dinner, you go on a walk, you stay up at night and talk sometimes, not all the time, but you're friends, that's going to get you through a lot. The second thing is a Christian idea to view your marriage, not as something that serves you, but something that you serve. If both members of a marriage, a husband and wife look at this marriage as I'm here to serve her, I'm her to serve him, and they both do that, and they're friends, it's going to be a great marriage. But the hard thing is every couple, it seems like, when they hit a little bit of a lull, they think they're doing more than their spouse. Maybe one is off at work and the other's watching the kids, and the one who comes home from work, the one with the kids thinks he's got it so easy. I've been with these kids all day; I'm pulling my hair out. Or the one who's been at work thinks she's got it easy. She's been sitting around with the kids watching TV. I've been grinding through this thing. There's just something about when you're in a team, that it's easy to think this marriage is here for me, rather than the purpose of this marriage is for me to serve. And if I take on that hat of service in this marriage, and friendship, it's going to be a life-giving marriage. It's going to be a marriage I love. It's not going to be a marriage I want to get out of. Here's a thought, I'm convinced, that every single married person has had at least once in their life towards their spouse. It goes something like this: my life is harder than yours, so you should serve me more. I hate to admit, I've had that thought several times about Hannah. I guarantee she's thought it about me. I guarantee you thought it about your spouse if you've been married longer than two years. And your spouse has probably thought it about you. So the change we want to make in marriage, I know not all of us are married, but this is a good thing. The change we want to make in any relationship is growing in my gifts and talents as someone who can serve. Today we're going to talk about the Holy Spirit. The purpose of the Holy Spirit, I believe, is to help a Christian do more than they thought was possible, and, to help that person see and feel the world the way that God sees and feels the world. To use the power God gives to that person to make a difference, or in other words, to serve. And not just serve in some form of duty or I ought to serve or I'm bound by some moral law to serve, but the kind of service that makes an impact. The kind of service that makes a huge difference. The kind of service that can turn around the path of someone's life, and they'll look back at you and say that day when that person served me, my life was never the same. Now that's a great thing to do in life and that's what the Lord wants from you. When we think about a life of purpose, what we really mean is a life that makes an impact. And the only lives that make impacts are the ones that have a vast quantity and quality of service to someone else. That's where the impact is.

## Would That All the Lord's People Were Prophets

That's where the meaning is. That's where the purpose is. Whether its art or leadership or business or organizing our ministry, at the end of the day, the quality and quantity of your service is going to make all the difference. And that brings us to the Holy Spirit. I want to look at the Holy Spirit first through the Old Testament. Let's begin with the book of Numbers. So the book of Numbers.. you know why it's called that? Book of Numbers? You ever wonder? It's called that because all of God's people gathered at Mt. Sinai and they took a census, so they have a number and that number was six hundred thousand. That's how many people left Egypt and are now at Mt. Sinai under the leadership of Moses. And at this time, the people begin to grumble because the food.. let's say the menu has not changed much recently. It's been this stuff called manna. Manna, which apparently was like a kind of macaroon, I think of, substance that tasted like coriander. Coriander is the Spanish way of saying coriander is cilantro. Tastes like cilantro or olive oil. So not bad, but then you mill it down and they would like try and make stuff out of it like bread or soup, but after a year of manna for breakfast, lunch and dinner, it gets a little hard, and they begin to grumble. I still remember when I went to Thailand on a missionary trip, and I was worried about Thai food. Now at this time, Thai food was not popular in the United States. I didn't know it's like probably in the top three all-time awesome foods that you can have. So I'm going out there, I'm a little worried. My first meal for breakfast, they serve me chicken, rice and egg. Now I eat this stuff and I go hey! We are in business. This is good! I'm going to be here for a while. This food isn't bad. And then for lunch, they served chicken, rice and egg. And I was like.. it's still not bad, this is good. And then dinner came around, and I got chicken, rice and egg and I got it for breakfast, lunch and dinner every day, almost, for a month. Now the only time there was a diversion was a few times I was offered deep fried grub worm and I ate it. Think deep friend cherry tomato, but not with that sweet bit at the end. You're welcome. And one time I got a bag of Cheetos, but a monkey took it and ran up a tree and screamed at me and I never forget that monkey, but I was so hungry. So this is what the people are going through. They begin to grumble. They begin to grumble. Six hundred thousand people begin to grumble – we want meat. We want meat. And Moses is like we're almost there. We're two weeks away from the Promised Land. Hold your horses! It's what it says in Hebrew. And cries out to God, and he says Lord, you have me babysitting these Israelites. I'm trying to move them from being slaves to free people, and they don't want to pay the price. They say when we were in Egypt, even though we were slaves, we got meat and cucumbers and olives and all this delicious food. We want to be slaves again! And he says Lord, help me. Help me govern these stiff-necked people. And the Lord says okay, here's what you're going to do. You're going to get seventy of the wisest people in your group. You're going to bring them together, and I'm going to take some of the spirit, power and wisdom that's on you and I'm going to give it to them so they can help you manage this mess. So they do this. Night comes, Holy Spirit moves and it says it takes some of that spirit on Moses and puts it on these 70, and this great thing is happening, but then there are two other guys who are not in this little group, back at the camp, and they start prophesying, as well. A young man runs to Moses and he says there's these two guys and they're prophesying in the spirit, like it's this bad thing, and Joshua, who's a number two guy, looks at Moses and goes you have to stop them. You can't allow these two random people to prophesy. And Moses famously said: "Would God that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them." You know what that means? That means I wish every single person was full of the Holy Spirit. I wish all six hundred thousand of them had this gift, this prophetic power, this wisdom that God has given me. I wish they all had the law of the Lord tattooed on their heart. I wish they all saw the world the way the Lord did. I wish they all desired the Promised Land and had contempt for Egypt. I wish they all would pay any price to get there and would see it and desire it and be willing to eat nothing, let alone manna to get there. That's what I wish. I wish for all people to be full of the Holy Spirit. And when he said this, I think it was the spirit itself that was speaking. It is Moses, after all. Here's a good question: what's a prophet? What is a prophet? Yes, most people they think it's a fortune teller - somebody that tells the future. But a Biblical understanding of a prophet is somebody who's full of the Holy Spirit, who operates in God's power, but mostly it's someone who speaks for God, to the people. And the purpose of the speaking and action is for the benefit of the people. It's for the benefit of the king, even if they're an evil king. It's the benefit of the country, even if it's an evil country. It's always God's heart to turn people around, to give mercy, to show the way out. Moses was leading people from slavery to freedom. Elijah was blessing the widow of Zarephath with food. Elisha cleansed the water and cleansed Naman. Raised the dead. We see that the purpose of the prophets is for the benefit of others to serve.

## Would That All the Lord's People Were Prophets

And in fact, the two prophets in the Bible that rabbis say were not great, were not great, are Noah and Jonah. You know why? Here's something they both had in common: Noah and Jonah did not care about the people they were prophesying to. When God said to Noah I'm going to flood the whole earth, Noah said all right, sounds good. When God told Jonah I want you to go to Nineveh and I want you to tell them to repent, and then they repented, Jonah grieved. He wanted the Ninevites killed. He wanted the Assyrians slaved. And God said no, I love the Assyrians, too. So see this is what in a Jewish tradition makes them not great. What they did was great, they had power, they were part of important events, but they were not great because they were not there to serve, they were only there to serve themselves. And in fact, Jesus tells us plainly this is a wolf in sheep's clothing. He says it is someone who claims to be a prophet, this is what they are, is a wolf in sheep's clothing because they are only there to serve themselves. They are not there to serve the people they love, or I've sent them to. And so the purpose of being full of the Holy Spirit, the purpose of any prophetic gift is to serve. To make an impact for others, and to make a difference. On Pentecost, we see that the Holy Spirit comes down, and there's this amazing experience in Acts chapter 2 where this large swath of people speak in tongues, like in those movies, one of those crazy things that what happens is actually these flaming tongues of heaven come on people and the disciples all start speaking the languages of all the tourists that are in town and proclaiming the gospel to them. Maybe today we'd be like if a fiery tongue came out and I just started preaching the gospel in Spanish, or in German, or in mandarin or Arabic, perfectly with no accent, this is the miracle, you see. And it is the reversal of the tower of Babel. In the tower of Babel, everybody speaks one language, God gives them different languages so they'll be broken up and their evil will be undone. In this it's the opposite. He gives them all one language to bring them together in power. Wow. And do you remember how many people were baptized on that day? Well first, in the Torah, there is this moment where they create a golden calf and all this horrible stuff happens, and three thousand men are put to death. You remember how many people are baptized on Pentecost? Three thousand. See the law brings death, and the Holy Spirit brings life. Okay, so the purpose of the Holy Spirit is to give us a conscience, a compass, a power, a desire, a sensitivity to pain, a sensitivity to lonely people who are hurting. When everybody else is in such a hurry and moves on by, there's something in you, the Holy Spirit, that goes (SHOOSH) this person needs me, and when you feel that, give in to it. Give into it, even if you're afraid, especially if you're afraid. Move towards that person and believe that God will just give you the power you need to meet the needs of that hurting heart. This is the purpose is to serve, is the purpose of the spirit, and the more you serve in the spirit, the greater your power will be. The greater impact you'll have. And you'll actually achieve greatness by being someone who serves, and that is a really cool point of what I'm talking about today. And one of the most lost things in the church today is that becoming a great servant means becoming a great person; means being a world changer. Here's a scenario in the New Testament. Jesus' disciples have not got their head around the fact that He is creating a spiritual kingdom and not an actual country. And many of the people are like Jesus is someday going to be a governor or like a king on a throne of a government. So the mother of James and John, when all the other disciples are away, you know mother is trying to work for their sons, help them get a little promotion, make a little advancement in their career. She comes up to Jesus and she's like 'Jesus, James and John, they're amazing. Here's what I want you to do: just do me this one thing. When you come into your kingdom, when you sit on your throne, when you become the king of Israel, I want you to put one on your left hand and one on your right.' You know what that means? I want them to be your number one and number two guys. Your go-to guys. Your main lieutenants; basically, want them to be in the highest positions of power. And then the other ten disciples find out about this and they become, the Bible says, indignant. You know what that means? Like offended and angry over this. Why? Because it was arrogant? No, because they wanted that position. And then they all start bickering about who's going to be the greatest. Who's going to have the most authority. Who's going to have the most land maybe. Who's going to have the best office title. And Jesus says to them, 'hey guys, hey, if you want to be the greatest, you need to serve.' He says you're looking to the Gentiles. Here's what they do. They practice authority, like with muscle, with spears and swords. They practice authority, and they think that makes them great. But here's what will make you really great, is learning to serve. He says to the mother of Zebedee, he says they will not drink of the cup. Can they drink the cup that I'm drinking? In other words, can they pay the price? Can they pay the price? He's asking can they serve the way I serve? If so, maybe they can be at my right and left hand. But they can't serve the way I'm called to serve. So here's a scenario. It's like this.

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I always think that if you were to say hey Jesus, how do I become the greatest person who's ever lived. You always think that He would say that's arrogant. You need to dial it down a notch. You shouldn't want to be the greatest person who ever lived. You should want something in the middle, like something like that. But I think this says that Jesus is saying that's a great question! Notice how He doesn't condemn anybody for wanting to be great. He doesn't say wanting to be great is a bad thing. He's saying you got it all wrong! You're looking to the Romans for greatness. Here's how you become the greatest person who ever lived – you learn to serve all. I think it's actually almost impossible to serve all. But if you could find a way to effectively serve every person in the world, you would become the greatest person who ever lived. That's an interesting thought, isn't it. And that's supposed to teach us something. That it's okay to desire to be a great person, but to do it Jesus' way. To understand that the way of the cross is the way to greatness. The way of service is a greatness. And this is what Jesus teaches us. He who wants to be greatest must become least. He who wants to be greatest must serve – serve. Here's one way to look at it. Our rewards in life are in proportion to the quantity and quality of our service. This is a law and it cannot be violated. Our rewards in life are in proportion to the quality and quantity of our service. Here's how Earl Nightingale put it: It would be impossible to succeed without serving others as it would be to live in our modern world without being served. Can't get rich on a desert island. If you're on a desert island and you had a pile of money, it would be worthless. Who you going to pay? What are you going to do with it? To become great, we need each other. And the more we serve one another and the better we get at it, the better everything gets, most of all ourselves. If you want more from life, get good at serving. Here's what I used to say: I serve but my life stinks! Anybody feel that way? Here's the truth: my service stank. My service stank! I will come to whatever service I was doing sometimes and it would be half baked. It would be my leftovers. Or maybe I would put guilt on Hannah or our kids or friends because I'm doing this and they owe me. Or maybe it would just plainly be about me or about not getting thanked enough. Or maybe I would view my service as chores. Perhaps you could say that in the same way a bad server brings all your food, right, they take your order, but they do it with this attitude – here's your order. Excuse me garcon, what?! Right? It would almost be better if they didn't serve you at all. At the heart of service is not just the action, but the attitude and the spirit of compassion, love and care. Right? The action is the symbol, but there's something deeper behind it that in whatever it is, your marriage, your friendship, your leading, everything you do, you realize that this is one of the most important parts of serving. So there's service, but there's a lot of bad service that sometimes is worse than no service at all, and very often that's what we're doing. Norman Vincent Peale said it this way. Here's what service is: you find a need, and you fill it. You find a need and fill it. And I would even say this – you find the need and you get really good at filling it. You fill the need better than anybody else. You can do that in life, you're going to thrive and succeed. You'll be the greatest person who ever lived, get this tattooed on your brain. If you find a need and you are the best person at filling it, you are going to be thriving in life because you're doing it Jesus' way. This is what He taught us. And by the way, don't limit service to chores. Sometimes it is chores, for sure. Sometimes you got to change a poopy diaper. Sometimes you got to help your grandma or your best friend. You got to carry things, help someone move. But don't forget that all of our creativity, art and our work, it's all service. And it's all a skill. Waiters are trained. Customer service people are trained. A nurse is trained. We say to people that were in the military, did you serve? Right? That's because they're trained and they serve. You can't just walk into the army and start working. You got to be trained. You have to go to an academy or something. And we don't limit it to chores. Your art is a service. Your marriage, your friendship and your writing is a service. If it's not a service, it will not make you great. If it's all for you, it will not get your life anywhere. But if you go and say I'm going to tell a story that is going to impact people, if you look at a painting and you say I'm going to show somebody something they've never seen before. If you show up as a friend with compassion and heart, and most of all, if you lead as service, you will make an impact. Greatest leaders are the ones that serve. The greatest pastors are the ones who lay down their life for their sheep. So that's what the Holy Spirit does. The Holy Spirit comes, it inspires us, gives us eyes to see, ears to hear, and it always comes around. It is a law. What you have in life is the result of your quality and quantity of service. I remember when we started our church in Orange, we had nothing. We had a group of kids who wanted to start a church, and we wanted this building, and the place of the building said you got to pay us \$18,000 or something a week to have church here, and we were just like.. nobody had even seen \$18,000. I mean the idea was Ludacris. But it was the place we really wanted.

## Would That All the Lord's People Were Prophets

And so we started to take tithes and we had a little thing and we were trying to drum up money to get our church going. We didn't really have much, and then we just all got this idea let's just give it all away. Let's give away 90%; this was from the Holy Spirit, give away 90% the first year of our church, we're going to make this commitment of any money that comes through the plate, we're going to give it to the poor. And that's what we did. We gave it to the poor, the homeless, we paid people's rent, we bought people's groceries. I didn't take a salary. There's was nobody on salary. And the minute we made that decision, it seemed like, it was probably like a week later, that building, it was an American Legion Hall, had worked out a thing with a guy Jim Case, who was in our group, a painter, he like refurbished their building for free, and they said okay now you can meet here for \$100. They had also had some bad press because a couple of guys had gotten drunk from the club, and they're like it'd probably be good to have a church here. And all of a sudden the doors opened wide open for us. We had a hundred-dollar a week lease that was paid for by another family in church. It was free. And we always had enough. Isn't that amazing? It always comes around. In business, they call it good will. Whenever businesses are being bought or sold, you look at the income, but the other thing you really look at is this thing called good will. How many customers do you have? Do they like your product? What about your employees? Do they like the leadership? Is this company going places? Good will is the attitude that people have towards the organization, and it's probably the number one indicator of how well that thing is going to do. It's probably true in your life, too. If you have no money and lots of good will, you have a great future. If you got lots of money and no good will, I promise that money is on its way out. Good will. I read a story recently when the Choctaw nation was being moved from the deep south on a trail of tears to I think its Oklahoma, actually, like over a third of the natives died in the moving from A to B. And yet when they were trying to rebuild their nation, they had heard that in Ireland there was this potato famine. This is in the 1840's. And they decided to pull together as much money as they could, this small, struggling tribe that was trying to rebuild, they pulled together like a hundred and seventy dollars, which back then was an incredible amount of money. And they sent it to Ireland to help with the potato famine. And all these years, the Irish have never forgot. I met a guy named Liam who told me yes, they still study this in their history books when the Choctaw nation sent us a hundred and seventy some dollars to help us in the potato famine. And just a few years ago, when we were going through COVID, you might remember that a lot of the native American peoples were being stricken harder by COVID than everybody else, for whatever reason. And when the Irish found out about that, the people of Ireland created a fundraiser and raised seven million dollars and sent it back to the Choctaw nation to help them through their tough time. Isn't that a great story? You see that is good will. We call that good will. That is that when you plant a seed, when you invest in someone and you don't expect anything in return, you just want to be great at serving and helping, this invisible spiritual tank, it's hard to define, it's hard to see, it's hard to measure, but it's there. It's either growing or shrinking. And when you get good at serving and loving others, it grows. We used to call this good will thing, we used to call it friends. Remember that back in the day? Remember friends, when we used to have friends. People like to brag about Jesus' miracles, but they forget His greatest miracle to have 12 close friends in your early 30's. It's very hard. That is a joke. But not a funny one, I guess. No, friends are important. Friends are better than money. It's better to have a friend with a boat than to have a boat. That's the truth. Okay. So we call this good will. I'll just finish with this. What you have is in direct proportion to the quality and quantity of your service. Now there's two ways to respond to that. You can be offended, or you can get better. You can say I serve, it's not true, blah, blah, blah, or you can say you know what, I can get better. I can be the best at finding needs and filling it better than anyone. I can do this. If you want more from life, you got to become more. If you want more in life, you got to become more, and this is one of the best ways you can become more is increasing and improving the quality and quantity of your service to others. It'll have a cascading resounding effect even after you're gone. So Lord, we ask for that. We ask that your Holy Spirit would give us the power to see needs in the world around us, and the power to meet those needs. Lord, we pray that you'd move in our hearts and minds, and help us know how we can make a difference. We don't want to just try harder; we want to be a new creation and we ask for it in Jesus' name, amen.