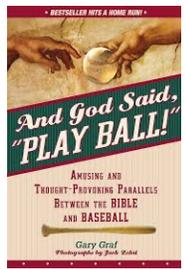


## Winning Souls is Like Playing Baseball Receiving the Four Levels of Anointing for Winning Souls By Karen Sue Nyquist



What! You must be joking! How in the world is winning souls like playing baseball? You will be surprised! Listen, our God is saying to us, “Team Jesus, Play Ball!” Let’s find out why . . .

### 1. Comparing Witnessing to Playing Baseball -

**a. Baseball analogies** - Jesus is our coach, the Bible is our rule book, God is the umpire. God wants us to sign up for “Team Jesus,” with like-minded Christians who want to win souls. There is a specific path that we are to run on, keeping our eye on on the prize, which is reaching more people for Jesus. We wear a uniform which is comparable to the whole armor of God. We put on our baseball cap (the helmet of salvation), our team jersey (the breastplate of righteousness), our belt (the belt of truth), our shoes (our feet are shod **with the preparation of the gospel of peace**), our baseball mitt (the shield of faith), and our batting and throwing arm (the sword of the spirit). With our armor on, the Bible says we should be “praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit” (Ephesians 6:10-18).

**b. Life pitches us opportunities to witness to others** - Some are easy pitches, they are easy to make contact with their hearts and to win their souls. Some are curve balls, we swing and don’t even come close. Other pitches are hard balls, they are more difficult to know how to witness to, but with the Holy Spirit’s anointing and leading, we can win that soul also. Before the game, our team prays for God’s anointing and divine appointments, that God will help us meet people who are hungry for Him. During the game, our teammates are cheering each other on.

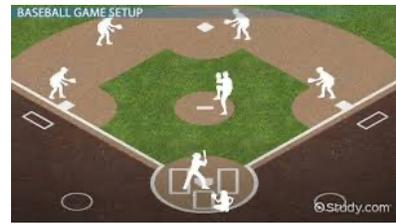
**c. We’re up to bat** - Sometimes, we don’t swing at a good pitch, so we missed an opportunity to witness to someone. The Umpire calls, “Ball One!” Next we swing and we miss the ball; we tried to witness but we did not really make any impact. “Strike One!” We don’t give up, we’re ready to try again. We swing again. Yes! We made a good hit, we are winning a soul to the Lord. Now we run like mad to the first base. Hallelujah! Occasionally, we hit a home run, not only saving the person we were witnessing and advancing ourselves, but we are giving our other teammates a chance to also advance to the next base. Each time we come up to bat, we are excited for another opportunity to impact another soul.

**d. The demonic team tries to cancel the game** - Whenever we go with our evangelism team, we’re ready to play another baseball game. The devil has his own team that wants to prevent us from winning souls. “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*” (Ephesians 6:12). First, they try to persuade us to not even sign up for “Team Jesus.” Then they try to prevent us from going to the games with our team, giving us all kinds of reasons why we can’t sign up or go out. “I don’t know how to witness.” “I’m afraid to witness.” “There’re plenty of others who can go.” “I’m too busy.”

**e. The demonic team tries to catch those souls** - If we do show up to play, the demons tell us not to swing at good pitches, because they don’t want us to witness nor win any souls. They use a lot of “smack talk,” messing with our minds and emotions, trying to distract us, to make us take wild swings, or to make us give up. If we hit the ball, we put the word of God into their heart. Each demon on the devil’s team is determined to catch the ball and steal the Word from them (Matthew 13:19)! Our fouls balls are hits that do not win a soul right away, but the love that we showed, and the word of God that we shared, can convince people to re-consider their life choices, turn away from evil, and eventually decide to follow Jesus.

**f. We’re playing outfield** - When we are playing outfield, the devil’s team is up to bat. They are trying to whack people away from the Lord, leading them into sin, and to destructive life paths. We try to catch and rescue them and lead them to Christ. We also want to strike out the devil’s team as quickly as possible. This is a time of spiritual warfare, most of which is done before the game even starts. But even during the game, we have to be aware of the spiritual climate and might have to engage in spiritual warfare quietly. Our prayers will help our teammates too.

**g. Advancing to the next base** - Demons try to discourage us so we stop trying to advance to the next base! They know that advancing is an increase in our anointing, so **1**



they try to put us out before we get to the first, second, or third base. They especially want to prevent us from making it to home plate, which is the highest anointing of all. But if we listen carefully, we can hear our Coach Jesus telling us, “Run! Run!” He wants to give us that greater anointing. He wants the team to win more souls. Let’s not become timid and think that the next level is too high for us. Don’t let other teammates pass us by while we stand idly on our current base. We can do all things through Christ Who strengthens us” (Philippians 4:13).

## 2. Running Around the Bases and Back to Home Plate -

Each base is a benchmark showing growth in our walk with the Lord and higher levels of anointing for soul winning. In this section, we will be using some biblical tools to help us progress from base to base, from anointing to anointing, ever higher in the Lord. Here are a few tools we will use:

**a. Remembering:** “Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works” (Revelation 2:5).

**b. Visualizing:** “Where there is no vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18).

**c. Prayer:** “And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive” (Matthew 21:22).

**d. Declaration:** “You will also declare a thing, And it will be established for you” (Job 22:28).

## 3. Starting at Home Plate -

First, we start at home plate. We have been living in an unsaved state. Then someone comes and touches our heart with God’s love in the gospel. We are deeply moved. We listen, then we pray. We accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. His Holy Spirit floods our souls! We get baptized. What joy! It is joy like never before. We feel God’s presence . . . “In Your presence there is fullness of joy” (Psalm 16:11). It is like hitting the ball, our spirits are flying. With a thrill in our hearts, we take off running. The Lord shows us the path we are to run (Psalm 16:11). We are running toward first base.

**a. Let’s remember** - how it felt when we first met Jesus, when we first felt His presence.

**b. Let’s visualize** - Picture in our minds ourselves being filled every day with that joy and gratitude again.

**c. Let’s pray** - “Dear Lord Jesus, help us remember and please “restore to us the joy of our salvation” (Psalm 51:12), that we experienced when we first realized that with Your own blood, You washed our sins away. You redeemed us and forgave our sins. Help us to never take it for granted. Help us to never forget where You brought us from. Please, fill us again with that attitude of gratitude that used to fill us every day. Thank you. In Your name we pray, amen!”

**d. Let’s declare** - “I declare that I am receiving again my joy and gratitude for being saved. In Jesus’ name!”

## 4. Running Toward and Reaching First Base - The “First Love for Jesus Anointing” -

Coach Jesus is telling us to, “Run! Run to first base!” First base is where we established our **first love** for Jesus Christ. Remember when we were so excited, it was hard to fall asleep. We were praying, talking with our Lord often throughout the day. We were reading our Bibles until our eyes burned. We were falling in love with Him, with His Word, with going to church, and with other Christians. Our roots were growing down deeper and we were learning to trust Jesus, our firm foundation. The First Base Anointing is called, the “**First Love for Jesus Anointing.**” What happened to us? Jesus said, “and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name’s sake and have not become weary. Nevertheless I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works” (Revelation 2:3-5). Let’s see how we can get that love back again. (*Remember the song, “I keep falling in love with Him, over and over again.” We can read it and sing it to help us be refilled with our first love. It is printed on the last page.*)

**a. Let’s remember** - our first love. Allow ourselves to feel that first love again. Let it burn in our hearts. We were so excited to take time to bask in the Lord’s presence.

**b. Let’s visualize** - Form a picture in our minds of us living in that first love again, every day, all day.



**c. Let's pray** - "Precious Jesus, You are the Desire of Nations (Haggai 2:7) and our Beloved Bridegroom. Please, help us return again to our first love. Help us do again our first works. Help us think of You all day through. Help us return to praying without ceasing. Help us walk with You throughout our daily responsibilities, working with You, being together, enjoying each other's company as newlyweds. Please, restore to us the **'First Love for Jesus Anointing.'** In Your name, we pray. Amen."

**d. Let's declare** - "We will remember from where we have fallen and we will do our first works again. Lord, we will cooperate with Your prompts and together, You and I, we will restore our first love. We will read and sing the attached song, 'I Keep Falling in Love with Him,' to help us be refilled with our first love. We will receive the **'First Love for Jesus Anointing.'** In Jesus' name!"

## 5. **Running Toward and Reaching Second Base - The "Witnessing in Love Anointing"**

Coach Jesus is telling us to, "Run! Run to second base!" Second base is where we receive the Second Base Anointing called, the **"Witnessing in Love Anointing"** or It's where the Holy Spirit so fills us that we decide, Jesus is too good to keep to ourselves, we have to share Him with others. We tell our loved ones, families, friends, maybe even coworkers about Jesus. We may not know much about the Bible, but we share our testimony of our new found love and new life with Him. Right after they first met Jesus, Andrew invited his brother Peter and Philip invited his friend Nathaniel to come meet Jesus (John 1:41-42; 43-46). They didn't quote any scripture, but Philip did say "Come and see." What little they did know plus their enthusiasm was enough to cause their loved ones to come check it out. While on second base, we should also start studying the Word of God, so we can share the gospel more clearly. This is putting on the shoes of "the preparation of the gospel of peace" (Ephesians 6:15). The Bible says, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15 KJV). Now we are ready to share the gospel peacefully, not argumentatively, but with genuine love. The Bible says, "speaking the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15). We may not be good at memorizing verses word for word, but we can learn the basic Bible truths that can lead someone to salvation. We can also use the following verses: John 3:16; Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8; 10:9; 10:13; and Acts 2:38. If we have trouble memorizing them, we can have them written out on a card that we can refer to.

**a. Let's remember** - When we first started sharing about Jesus, we were full of our first love for Him and genuine love for others. We also studied Bible verses that could lead someone to salvation or made sure that we always had some tracts or fliers on us that we could pass out.

**b. Let's visualize** - Picture in our minds ourselves again being so excited to go out to witness. We're enthusiastic and grateful for our new life in Jesus. We are full of love for each person we witness to. It is contagious, causing them to want to come and see for themselves. They curiously take our fliers. They ask questions and may even strike up a conversation. Some are even praying to receive Christ. Hallelujah!

**c. Let's pray** - "Dear Jesus, we are asking You to anoint us again with the **'Witnessing in Love Anointing,'** where we are full of our first love for You and a sincere love for others. Let Your enthusiasm for witnessing fill us. Let the anointing be so strong that our enthusiasm is contagious to those we are witnessing to. Help us learn the Bible truths to share with others and to remember to have tracts or fliers with us to give to others. Help us to always be ready to witness. In Your name we pray, amen!"

**d. Let's declare** - "We declare that before going out to witness, we will pray until we are filled with the **'Witnessing in Love Anointing,'** being filled with our first love for Jesus and for others, and with enthusiasm for witnessing to others. We declare that we will prepare ourselves by reading the fliers or tracts first, refreshing the verses in our minds, and always having some on hand to pass out. We will also know other Bible truths for witnessing. In Jesus' name!"

## 6. **Running Toward and Reaching Third Base - The "Evangelism with Signs and Wonders Anointing"** - Coach Jesus is telling us to, "Run! Run to third base!" The Third Base Anointing is called the **"Evangelism with Signs and Wonders Anointing."** Both our relationship with the Lord and our faith should be growing. In the Bible, Jesus had been teaching and training His disciples, then He sent them out to **1) share the salvation message of the gospel** and **2) "He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out,** **3**



and **3) to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease**” (Matthew 10:1). In Matthew 10, Jesus sent out the 12 apostles and in Luke 10, He sent out seventy disciples. They all came back thrilled because they had healed the sick and cast out demons, in Jesus’ name! They were sharing the gospel with others with signs and wonders. Jesus tells us that this is possible for us also! In fact, Jesus has given us even more than they had when they first started witnessing. In Mark 16, Jesus told all believers, “And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; **4) they will speak with new tongues**; ... they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover... And they went out and preached everywhere, **5) the Lord working with them** and **6) confirming the word through the accompanying signs**” (Mark 16:17-20). Wow! That is right, the 12 and the 70 did not yet have the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4). But we can! We can have the 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit too! (1 Corinthians 12). Yes, we really can, if we ask and seek God for them. Hallelujah! Even with all this new power and these gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Bible reminds us that love for Jesus and love for others are still the most important tools for soul winning (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). This is the **“Evangelism with Signs and Wonders Anointing!”**

**a. Let’s remember** - all these promises that Jesus offers to us! He said, “But you shall **receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; **and you shall be witnesses to Me** ... to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). We have more available to us than the 12 apostles and the 70 disciples did when they first started witnessing. After the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4), when 120 believers received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, they realized that sometimes they needed to pray for boldness. They prayed, “... grant to Your servants that with all **boldness** they may speak Your word” (Acts 4:29). Before we go out, praying for boldness, speaking in tongues, and declaring appropriate Bible verses will increase our faith and our boldness (Jude 1:20). Jesus will be working with us and confirming the Word with the accompanying signs (Mark 16:20).

**b. Let’s visualize** - Let’s picture in our minds ourselves being filled with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the 9 gifts: **1) prophecy, 2) word of wisdom, 3) word of knowledge, 4) faith for miracles, 5) working of miracles, 6) gifts of healing, 7) discernment of spirits, 8) speaking in tongues, and 9) interpretation of tongues.** Let’s picture Jesus when He used the Holy Spirit’s gifts, these signs and wonders, while He ministered to others. They proved to that the gospel was true and powerful. They showed that Jesus really knew them, loved them, and wanted to help them. Now, let’s picture us using these same gifts, as the Holy Spirit leads us, when we witness to others. See ourselves asking people, “Do you need prayer? Can I pray for you?” Then we pray in faith, believing that Jesus will “confirm the word through the accompanying signs” (Mark 16:20). He does the signs, we just do the praying and release love and the power of the Holy Spirit into them (Luke 8:46). Imagine the joy when people are healed! See the faith being planted into their hearts. See their friends and loved ones being touched. Let’s see ourselves with the **“Evangelism with Signs and Wonders Anointing.”** Jesus so wants this for us!

**c. Let’s pray** - “Dear Jesus, now we can see the importance of the **‘Evangelism with Signs and Wonders Anointing.’** It has the power to save more souls and to heal and deliver precious people. Please, give us this anointing too. Help us be so determined to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, that we continue asking and seeking You until we receive it (Luke 11:13). Help us also to be refilled every day and throughout the day with Your Holy Spirit. We want to walk in Your Spirit (Galatians 5:16) We also ask for the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we want to move in the Holy Spirit just as You intended us to do. We ask You now for the 9 gifts. We also ask for boldness, as we witness. We will use these for Your glory. In Your name we pray, amen!”

**d. Let’s declare** -“We declare that we will receive the **‘Evangelism with Signs and Wonders Anointing.’** We’ll receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and be filled daily (Ephesians 5:18). We’ll receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and we’ll pray for and receive boldness to share with others. We will use these to win souls and give all the glory to Jesus! In Jesus’ name!”

**7. Running Toward and Reaching Home Plate - The “Glory Evangelism Anointing,” Flowing in God’s Presence and Power** - Coach Jesus is telling us to, “Run! Run home!”

When we play baseball, we put all our focus on being able to run into home. Reaching home plate is another level of anointing. The Running Home Anointing is called the **“Glory Evangelism Anointing.”** Glory is often defined as the “heavy, manifest presence of God.” **4**



It is His glory surrounding us and flowing out from us. This anointing is an even higher level. The Bible says, “For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God” (Romans 8:19). Why? Because, in these end times with most of America and the world not saved, this kind of anointing is desperately needed. Even many who are saved are still suffering with diseases or being tormented by demons. The world needs Jesus and it needs us to be anointed for glory evangelism. It needs the Word of God, salvation, healing, deliverance, words of knowledge, of wisdom, and prophecy, and even more. Billions of people need this and our time is running out.

**a. Let’s remember** - Sometimes, the crowds were too large or the house was too crowded for Jesus to touch every one with His hands, but the Spirit’s power, the glory anointing, was present to heal, and they were all healed (Luke 5:17). Jesus just spoke the word and 2,000 demons left the demoniac and entered the pigs (Mark 5:1-20). Jesus just spoke to the guards and they fell to the ground (John 18:6). Paul anointed pieces of cloth, which when touched by others produced healing miracles and deliverances (Acts 19:11-12). As Peter walked past those who were sick and lying on the ground, His shadow touched them and they were healed and delivered (Acts 5:15-16). All these had the **“Glory Evangelism Anointing.”** People were saying, “These who have turned the world upside down have come here too” (Acts 17:6)! Once on a missionary journey to Monrovia, Liberia, in the matter of only a few seconds, I saw 1,000 people receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and were speaking in tongues. The glory anointing was there! Let’s have it “come here too!”

**b. Let’s visualize** - Now let’s picture ourselves and our whole evangelism team having this anointing. We are sharing God’s Word, flowing in the Spirit of God and His gifts, and people all around are being touched, repenting, and receiving Jesus. Some are being healed and demons are leaving! This can happen! This is Jesus’ will. Jesus said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father” (John 14:12). These are the works of Jesus. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us (Philippians 4:13)!

**c. Let’s pray** - “Precious Jesus, we want to become all that You want us to be. We want to save many souls. Give us the faith to receive this. Please, use us! Give us the **‘Glory Evangelism Anointing.’** We want to flow in Your Spirit, reaching many with Your presence, Your salvation, and Your power for healing and deliverance. We want to turn San Francisco, the Bay Area, America, and the nations to You, Jesus. We want to ‘turn the world upside down’ for Your glory. We humbly ask for this anointing. In Your name we pray, amen!”

**d. Let’s declare** - “We declare that we will so humble ourselves and so submit to our Lord Jesus that He will pour out His **‘Glory Evangelism Anointing’** on us. We will boldly speak the truth in love. We will bring salvation, healing, and deliverance to many precious souls. We will give Jesus all the glory. In Jesus’ name!”

**8. Running Around All the Bases and Coming into Home** - “God, we are ready to ‘play ball,’ to win souls for You. We have played this game before, now let’s play it at an ever higher level of anointing. We’ll give You all the glory. In Jesus’ name!”

### **NationTakers Ministries**

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**Here's a song to help us fall in love with Jesus again.**

## **I Keep Falling in Love with Him**

**By Fred Johnson and  
The Heritage Singers**

**1.** When I first fell in love with Jesus,  
and I gave Him all my heart...  
I thought I couldn't love Him more  
than I did right at the start.  
But now I look over the mountains,  
and the places where We've been...  
and He makes me know I love Him so much  
more than I did then...

### **Chorus**

I keep falling in love with Him  
over and over, and over, and over, again  
just keep falling in love with Him,  
over and over, and over and over again.

He gets sweeter and sweeter  
as the days go by,  
Oh, what a love between my Lord and I...  
just keep falling in love with Him  
over and over, and over and over again.

**2.** There's a hand that I hold on to  
Through each valley and each trial  
There's a shoulder that I lean upon  
As I face another mile  
There's a love that I can depend on  
It's fresh and new each day  
And with love my heart is overflowing  
that is why I say...