

It's interesting and refreshing to find that several Canadian Foursquare pastors have become authors. This is certainly being modeled from the top down, so-to-speak, as president Barry has written a number of essential books that contribute significantly to Christian life and leadership.

My most recent read has been a book titled, *Supernatural*, by Pastor Chris Jordan from Beausejour, MB. This book surprised me in a number of ways, not the least of which was Chris' boldness to assert that the supernatural through the power of Jesus Christ can occur in our day. This may not be revelatory, but to be honest, I wonder if we do not often settle for the status quo. *Supernatural* is challenging that position.

This book is an intriguing read. I couldn't put it down. It got a little dog-eared as I had it out by the barbecue on a couple of occasions. Chris' writing is captivating and yet comprehensive. He weaves biblical concepts with authentic personal stories that illustrate the truths to which he is focusing.

But *Supernatural* is not only captivating, it is also scholarly. The breadth and depth of the eighteen chapters is significant and backed up with well documented research and resources. Combined with a full complement of Scriptural citations, Chris provides ample references to support his views in this book.

I find it refreshing that *Supernatural* provides some clear contemporary delineation on subjects such as:

**Healing** – Faith is one of the important elements in receiving anything from the Lord in prayer. It is important to know what the Bible says about healing, because our faith for healing comes by hearing what God's Word says about healing. There are many examples of this in the life of Jesus. "And when he had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, According to your faith let it be to you." [70]

**Prophetic Ministry** – How do you give a prophetic word to someone? If you believe that God has spoken to you and shown you something for another person, the first thing you should do is always ask God for permission to speak. Sometimes we think when God shows us something, we should automatically share that with that person. If you share a prophetic revelation without permission from the Lord, it might have a negative effect on them. If you think God showing you something, always, pray, "Lord, are you showing me this so I can share it with them or do you just want me to pray for them?" Sometimes God will show things to people just to give them insight into how to pray for a person. [186]

**The Bible** – I love the Bible! It is my absolute favorite book in the world. When I first became a Christian, I read through the whole Bible from cover to cover in three months. Since then I have endeavored to read through the New Testament once a year, and the Old Testament once every two years. If [God] has written a book that reveals His heart, nature, wisdom, plans and purposes for my life, then I want to read that book. It is so important for us to get God's Word into our hearts so that we can be transformed into the image of Jesus. [266]

Chris is unapologetic about the importance of the Word of God: knowing it – hiding it in our hearts. He writes that "Bible study will change your life: You will be blessed [Ps 119:1]; God's Word will make you pure [Ps 119:9,11]; God's Word will show you miraculous things [Ps 119:18]; God's Word will revive you [Ps 119:25]" [276-278].

I would like to recommend this book (especially to Canadian Foursquare pastors and leaders) because it not only establishes Biblical foundation to some important doctrinal issues, but it also brings clarification and balance to these areas. Even more importantly, however, is the clear sense in which Chris is calling for a more radical and aggressive approach to advancing God's kingdom purposes: "My prayer is that through

this study in the Book of Acts, and the stories that I have shared with you from my personal journey into the supernatural, that you have been stirred up in your heart – to contend for signs and wonders today; to hunger for more of the miraculous in your life; to passionately pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus.” [302]