The Tongues of Fire: Q&A

HOLY FIRE

JOHN ANSWERED THEM ALL, "I BAPTIZE YOU WITH WATER. BUT ONE WHO IS MORE POWERFUL THAN I WILL COME, THE THONGS OF WHOSE SANDALS I AM NOT WORTHY TO UNTIE. HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE."

LUKE 3:16 TNIV

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Tongues of Fire Q&A

In this church, we don't want to just preach at you, we want you to learn from what was
preached; and the way that I know that you've learned from the series, is you're able to
preach what I've preached. Therefore, we give you to opportunity to ask questions related
the topic at the end of each series; there were about five major questions and I loved each
of them.

- When you send in your questions, it lets me know whether you understood what I've preached, what improvements I may need to make, how individuals process information, or our biases on the messages we receive.
- Our experiences and our personalities determine how we want the hear the word of God; that's what creates itchy ears! Consequently, this is the reason certain types of messages make more sense to some rather than others.
- When some messages begin, there are those who shut down based on the message being preached, while others may be intrigued. Therefore, my job is to ensure that we have a holistic view of the Bible and we're not just heavy on one side.
- Some of us are heavy on encouragement; like we're so encouraged in the Lord, but we
 don't know what to do. While we may feel good, we don't' know what to do next, and
 some of us know what to do but we're not happy doing it; these are Spiritual
 malnourishments. We must be balanced, so I ask questions to ensure we are balanced.

Let's list the following disclaimers before we begin:

- I don't know who you are and that is important because I get to be myself; there's no way to determine who you are, and this allows me to be as candid as possible. Further, although there are times when the context may be lost based on the differences in ideology which is behind the reason for your question, I interpret based on how I understood your question.
- 2. This is not a personal attack, my job is to breakdown everything like in our Bible study which began in February 2023, we're just in our second chapter because we're breaking down scripture—and this is my approach.
- 3. If I am wrong in my interpretation of your questions, you will have an opportunity to speak with me directly. This will let me know if my theories are correct and whether I understood your questions and whether you get the answers that I am providing.

**Please remember that the questions will be written the way they were received and without grammatical corrections.

Question #1:

"I understand you showed us that the Holy Spirit makes your life an awe and wonder. How does that realistically look like. We are all not called to be the next Billy Graham so what if I'm just an ordinary 9-5 worker how does my life show awe?"

Let's break it down; "I understand". Based on the conclusion you drew; I do not believe you understood. "I understand you showed us that the Holy Spirit makes your life an awe and wonder. How does that realistically look like."

 As a pastor when a person walks up to you after you've finished preaching and says, "how does that look in reality," just know you've failed at preaching. Because everything in the Spirit must have physical implications. Again, the person asks, "how does that realistically look like?"

I found this question very interesting, because to them it was not realistic because I preached to the point where I made it look like all of us are supposed to have awe and the "awe" was supposed to be so obvious that it rose to the level of a Billy Graham type awe.

- And they said, "no, from my perspective, I am not the Billy Graham type, I'm just an ordinary person who has a 9-5 and I want you to tell me how the Spirit of awe, fits into a 9-5 context?"
- I would not like to go to battle with this person because this person sees things from their perspective and never from another person's perspective (and this is not an accusation), but to the point where if you argue, you'll notice that you'll come back to your perception of yourself. This person is very comfortable with who they are as a person and does God work within this context, which is not a bad thing, seeing things from our own perspective.
- Now let me take this to another level: "How does that realistically look like." Well, I don't think this person understood me. For five weeks I spoke about this and if you noticed, I said, "the presence of the Holy Spirit inspires awe, [which you understood correctly], but I said we must be desperate."
- Therefore, I emphasized for five weeks that this message is <u>not</u> to reinforce who you are, it
 was to bring you out of who you are. I was very aware that we were comfortable with who
 we were, but this five-week message was to encourage you to be desperate to be more
 than you are.
- I've also said for five weeks that in Christianity now, we are too comfortable with who we are, and for five weeks I told you that the reason Christianity seems so mundane is because people are not willing to allow the Holy Spirit to inspire awe.
- Now, let's go back to that argument: So, I told you that the Holy Spirit inspires awe, and you were supposed to realistically be hungry for it and it is when the Holy Spirit comes into you, that you don't determine how He ends up manifesting Himself out of you.
- So, you understand that the Holy Spirit needs to do the awe, but the reality of it is that when the Holy Spirit comes inside of you, He can do whatever He wants to do. Now, that means that we don't determine for the Holy Spirit how He will manifest Himself within a 9-5 context.

- So, there is no difference in how the Holy Spirit will manifest Himself within a Billy Graham and a person in a 9-5. So, the problem I had with this question [which is not bad], I really love this question because I feel like this is not only one person's question, but each of our also ask the same question.
- It's almost like, "Bullus, I want you to take the 5-weeks that you've just preached about the awe of Holy Spirit, take it and fit it into my 9-5 context." What I did for 5-weeks is come out of your 9-5 context and fit into what the Holy Spirit does.
- So, the reality of walking with the Holy Spirit is that He can do anything and the reason I think this mindset is dangerous, is because this question already told God, "I am not the Billy Graham type, I am just a 9-5 type person." God forbid the Holy Spirit comes to use you because the Holy Spirit will tell you to do something that is a "Billy Graham type"

What is a Billy Graham type?

What makes Billy Graham Billy Graham is just that he obeyed. He obeyed, his obedience become public, and people became attracted to the public demonstration of the Holy Spirit.

- So, I cannot take a 5-week message and fit it into your context because what would that look like, what does it mean to be ordinary? Every person used by the Spirit is ordinary.
- One of my favorite verses in the Bible that literally messes with my mind was said by either James or Peter—one of them. He said, "Elijah was just another human being who just prayed fervently, and he was able to stop the rain, so can you!" He was just another ordinary man.
- Sometimes we take the anointing on a person's life and think that they are extraordinary; I like to differentiate between the Holy Spirit and you! You are not the Holy Spirit and if you start reverencing me as though I were the Holy Spirit because I am anointed, the reverence you give me belongs to God like when we reverence evangelists, teachers, pastors, prophets, I need you to know the though the person and Holy Spirit are one, they are not the Holy Spirit.
- You must have humility; that is why my dad made sure that if I had the propensity that would attract attention as though myself and the Holy Spirit were the same people, he made sure I understood the difference before he gave me a microphone [to preach the gospel].
- Because we are all ordinary people in different context and the truth is that when the Holy Spirit comes inside of you, He can use you in any capacity. If you have made it up in your mind that you are not a Billy Graham and you are only an ordinary 9-5 person, whatever it is the Spirit of God will ask you to do, you will always have a cap on how much He can use you because you feel like it is out of the context of who you are.

- So, realistically, how does that look like? It realistically looks like what I've said previously
 [in the above content]. The presence of the Holy Spirit inspires awe, and you must be
 desperate enough for Him to use you in any capacity He wants to, and I do not believe that
 there are just to a 9-5 people.
- I believe that even in your 9-5 you can inspire awe and that your 9-5 was given to you as a platform to inspire awe. For example, you're mistaken if you think that I inspire awe through my ministry. Standing on the alter does not inspire awe, it's what I do when I leave the alter, that inspires awe.
- So, all of us must learn that the person on the alter is no greater than the person who is in the pew; we're all in the same boat, inspiring awe by the Holy Spirit.

Dear 9-5, the following are Jesus' words:

<u>John 14:12</u>

¹²Very truly I tell you, whoever [the ordinary, the 9-5, Elijah, John the Baptist, you—whoever] believes in Me will [inspire awe] will do the works I have been doing, and they will (this is not maybe statements) do, even greater things than these, [He said whoever, will do greater] because I am going to the Father.

- That's a big statement, by the way! I'm going to the Father means, the statement I am making is approved by God, to only go back to God is to be received by God so everything I am saying is approved by God.
- So, in other words, He's saying, "truly, truly, [this is a very serious statement], so serious, that there are some of you who believe that there's the ordinary and there the anointed. He's saying no, there isn't [a difference], He's saying, "whoever believes" in whatever context you're in, I am a pastor because this the context God created.
- But your context in your life is as equally important as mine as I stand here. If all God created you to do is to preach to five people, then you had better believe that you and Billy Graham will receive the same rewards in Heaven, I hope you understand that.
- Billy Graham can bring a 100-million people to Jesus while you bring three, if those three was all that was written concerning you when you were born according to the measure of your faith, you and Billy Graham will have the same rewards standing there in that line.
- I could preach all I want on this stage and when we get to heaven, your reward looks more glorious than mine, what is that about?

Who did the will of the Father when he was in heaven?

Each of us have a calling and it manifests itself differently. To the person who said they are just a 9-5, I could have an evangelist, an apostolic ministry and could be traveling the entire globe where there is no country that I have not traveled to, and our rewards would be the same.

- In the case of Billy Graham, he just happened to be at a place where a pastor who was sitting in his car decided to put up a tent and when he was preaching, Billy Graham was in the audience half-way listening. Midway through the service, something caught Billy's attention and he went up and received salvation and that's the last we heard of the pastor who put up the tent.
- Everyone Billy Graham brought to Christ plus Billy Graham, is accounted to that one man. There's no 9-5 person and there's no people like Billy Graham, there's people who obey and fulfill the will of God, that's the realistic view.
- I hope we understood the explanation to that question, which was not an attack on anyone, that was my attempt at breaking it down.
- My job is to help us to understand that no one is relegated to being just a just a 9-5 person, you are on assignment when you go to that job.

Your Life Inspires Awe

Whenever you go to see your friends, when you go to work, or wherever you're hanging out, your life must inspire awe, that's what it looks like.

Question #2:

"You taught us that we must be like wind but how do we do that when God's voice is so still you can hear it? How do you grow sensitivity? How do you live a life of being moved from one side to the other side?

How is God who wants us to be wind also a God of order how does that work?"

**This question moves from accusation to gentleness to God being accused!

 I didn't tell you to be like the wind, I told you that being like wind is a consequence of having the Holy Spirit. I did not say, "go and find out how to be like wind." I said, you have no choice if you are filled with the Holy Spirit, that you end up resembling the wind, as in John 3:8.

John 3:8

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So, it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

- If you're born of the Spirit, no one can predict your moves because you are a product of God. So, you are not predictable according to human standards, you are being tossed around like wind because your life is a manifestation of the mind of God.
- So, I did not say be wind or be like the wind, I said, when the Holy Spirit is inside of you, your life does become like wind. *"But how do we do that when God's voice is so still you can't hear it?"*
- First, what I just said still applies to this [question], and though this may not be what you
 mean, but if you are a person filled with the Spirit, it's not all about what did or did not
 hear. The Bible says, is "that it's Him Who works in you to do of His good pleasure." Even
 your desires come from the voice of God when you're in alignment with God.
- Look, there's no one who can prove to me that they are not hearing the voice of God, no one.

You know why?

You have 66 books in your room, and you can't hear God? Meaning, do you not understand what you are reading or, is it that you are not reading?

- Let's say that you don't understand what you've read, do you go to church, do you hear the message from the pulpit?
- The truth is, God is always speaking to you; He knows that it's hard to understand how He speaks, and He speaks to you initially through other sources. When I stand here [at the pulpit] and I'm speaking to you, I am speaking to you based on what I believe the Lord has said; those are the words that should reflect you as though you're looking in a mirror.
- When you open your Bible and when you're praying and a prayer point drops in your heart, that is the Lord speaking. When you sometimes feel an intuition, a sense about something, pray about it—start there.
- So, the idea about "how can I do it when I don't hear God," one of the things I've shared with you is that the problem is that our flesh speaks louder than the Spirit.

How do we shut down the flesh?

Fasting and praying. Fasting and praying quiets the flesh long enough for you to obey the inklings of the Holy Spirit.

- For some people believe [according to TD Jakes], that they are hypersensitive to the voice of God, and then there's the rest of us!
- Every Christian has a directional inkling in their heart, almost each of us do. It becomes a problem when your own desires contradict that inkling.

Everyone has an inkling that they should be praying more

Prove me wrong on this one. Some of us have inklings that we should be fasting more, but then how selfish is it for you to desire more of God's voice if you haven't obeyed the last thing He said?

- Do you really think He wants to speak to you more without the idea of you praying and fasting more? If all that you're hearing is pray and fast more and you think that that's just the vehicle to hearing God, you've already lost His voice because He already spoke and what He said is for you to pray and fast more.
- It's the same for me, I've been a Christian since I was 15 years-old and (a long time), and until today, there are times that we don't start talking deeply at all and then there was a time when I was asleep, and the Lord sucked me out of the room. However, before that happened, there were two days before I was able to be in His presence.
- After I was sucked out, we had 15 seconds of conversation—for two whole days I didn't not hear from Him and when I did, I only got 15 seconds, and sometimes what He says, I already knew. Like, "I love you." That's why we're here!
- Here is an example of what we're really searching for: "Bullus, when you go out of the house, make a left and you'll see a man with a hat. As soon as he clicks his heels twice, shake his hand and money will transfer." [Good luck with that]!
- When the still small voice of God came to Elijah, what was He trying to say? He was trying to tell Elijah to dedicate himself more to Him. He didn't say, "I am going to tear down Jezebel, or I am going to know down your enemies, He said, "look, just serve me more, continue what you're doing."
- So, based on what it is that you're trying to hear, you can convince yourself that you're not hearing anything at all, although I could spend one hour with you and tell you how God has been talking to you.
- Hearing the voice of God can be very different and there must be peace first to hear God. If there is not peace, you will not hear God. When I wake up distressed, I do not cry out. If your peace is not still, you won't get an inkling of direction.
- That's how we've been able to make decision, when things are getting out of hand, do not get worked up. "I do not hear your voice," even silence, is the voice of God and I have learned a lot from God's silence.
- The problem is not that God is not speaking, the problem is that we don't have the ears to hear Him. Jesus was constantly preaching, and the Bible says that the problem was that those who has eyes could not see and those who had ears could not hear.
- Seeing and hearing are traits that you must develop, God is not going to do that for you, you must develop it. "**How do you live a life of being moved**?' [Now you're talking about wind], from one side to one side?" The person clarifies the idea.

• "How is the God who wants us to be wind also a God of order how does that work?" So, the problem is, if God is a God of order, how can He just be moving me around without order!

Listen...

I will combine these thoughts: God is order and only God's order makes sense to Him. For example, if you've ever been in a Pentecostal church and they say, "time is up, and then they'll say, the Spirit of God is telling me... and then they'll continue for another four hours!

- You may call this disorder, but believe it or not, this is the order of the Spirit of God, which is called God's order. God's order makes sense to God. "Now how do you live a life of being moved from one side to the other?"
- You live a life that is able move wherever God says when you are not attached to anything; like in the Bible when the rich guy wanted to follow Jesus and Jesus told Him to go and sell everything first and He refused to do it, and Jesus said, "it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven."
- That was not an advocacy for poverty, it was an advocacy for not being attached to anything. So, that if He calls you to go from one side to another side, you're willing to do it.

So, how do you go from side-to-side when you're attached to nothing?

How is He a God of order, let's look at the following verse:

Isaiah 55:9

⁵⁵" As the heavens are higher than the earth, So, are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

- This question is equivalent to the first question, remember when I told you that one of the greatest problems of us Christians, especially in this generation is that we must be in control of what God is doing. It must make sense before we can do it, it must fit within my context before we can do it.
- God is saying, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." In this verse, "heavens" is the sky, the clouds, that's our first heavens.
- As the heavens are higher than the earth we're standing on, His ways are higher than your ways, in fact, His thoughts [like the heavens and the earth], are higher than your thoughts. Your thoughts can't reach His level.
- In other words [going back to the question], "How is the God who wants us to be wind also a God of order and how does that work?" How it works is by you letting Him do what He

wants to do. If you are in obedience as in Romans 8: 28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His will."

• Just as His thoughts are higher than yours and you may never get it, it all works together for good because He is a God of order, and it will fit in to that which He has asked you to do.

Question 3:

What is the line between your confused and being like wind?

- Confusion is you at the helm of power and wind is like is God at the helm of power. Confusion looks like, "today, God is calling you to do engineering and tomorrow He's calling you to be a medical doctor, teacher and so on and so forth," that's confusion, and a lot of us are confused in the name of the Lord.
- I have seen it and have counseled on it too much. Every inclination that you get is the Spirit of God and it's not just about career choices, it's about how people make decisions—it's so fleeting.
- The thing about the Holy Spirit is, wherever He takes you [don't forget], that He confirms your presence there even if it doesn't feel like it's working. One of the things that happens is that He goes with you, (like when Moses said), "don't take us to a place if you're not going to be there."
- Because the first evidence that you have that God took you somewhere is that His presence is still with you, and He'll always confirm that He is with you. And the way He'll confirm it is that you'll hear the same voice that you believe led you there.

Let me give you a little anecdote

"At first, I wanted to go into the Marine Corp, not college, the Marine Corp. And God did something like my father did when he encouraged me to apply to at least to one school and I had forgotten that I applied to Cal-State Pomona, and they admitted me and provided me with some things without a scholarship. I didn't like school and I didn't play sports because I was only 4'11" and approximately 90 pounds, I was very small. So, the truth is, I got to college and suddenly, nothing was working; no scholarship, no money to pay for college, however, I felt that God confirmed that He wanted me to attend college. I lived in the dorms and suddenly, the cut off my meals and took away everything and I was stranded. I sat down and spoke to God and said, 'I believe that You told me to be here, and I went into prayer. My Dad called me about an hour after I prayed and said, "A sister came to the house and said the Lord told her to give you a \$3,000 check and in just one hour, I received enough money to pay my fees for that quarter.

How do I know I was supposed to be there?

It's not the absence of a struggle but it is how God moves through the struggle. You must find the fingerprints of God in what you're doing, and this is what happened to all the patriots such as Abraham.

How did Abraham know that God was speaking to him?

As we know, Abraham never saw God like in a vision or an appearance like Moses, though he may have heard a voice or had been taken into a trance. However, he knew that he was headed in the right direction because God gave him checkpoints.

- There was one season where God didn't speak to him for 14 straight years, but Abraham held onto what God had said to him 14 years prior, and at the end of the 14 years, God showed up with two others and foretold what would happen in the next year; God gave him checkpoints.
- When Jacob was running around stealing Esau's blessings, God gave him a checkpoint when He gave Jacob the vision of the ladder while he was asleep and that's how he made a covenant with God.
- Moses also received checkpoints when things got hard; every person referenced in the Bible where it showed God took a long time, God gave them checkpoints to prove that while in the middle of the storm, He was with them.

What if you don't see a checkpoint?

I hope you're not interpreting God's checkpoint on whether He's talking, because some of us believe that our checkpoint is an answered prayer. If you know anything about God, He is not in a hurry to do anything, but He does everything on time!

- My dad was a lawyer at the time of His calling, and we went from having two nannies in the house and a driver, to losing everything do to my younger brother being hospitalized for eight years after drinking a deadly toxin and surviving. For about fourteen years I did not see my parents because they traveled the world visiting hospitals to keep my brother alive.
- Then we asked God who told my father to go into ministry what was going on. However, we knew that God was with us because sometimes He came to my father randomly in dreams and other times, He spoke to my dad saying, "I am with you," and my dad would ride on that for years—even at time when my brother flatlined and it looked as if he was dying. When doctors walked up to my dad and said, "he's gone," my dad would look at them and say, "but I heard God say that he will live."
- There was a time when bile was eating my brother from the inside out and another doctor came to my dad and said, he's gone, and my dad said, "God said he'll live." There was another time when a physician gave my brother an overdose of medication that was supposed to be administered overnight and he gave him the dosage in two; again, my

brother flatlined. Next thing you know, his heart is beating again, God refused to let him to die!

- God gives checkpoints, you must be patient enough to see them. So, the difference between confusion and wind is that God shows up. Whatever He's asking you to do, there is a narrative to it, by which He is walking you through the process, while confusion means you're on your own.
- At what typically causes us to be confused when we have ideas in our head, and we make up our minds that we must do it; like when people tell you to just follow your heart.

Remember what Solomon said?

"Only fools follow their heart, because in it is desperately wicked above all things."

- It's not that your heart won't get you the result that you want, that's the principles of the earth, your heart will get you what you want; if you believe something long enough, it will happen. The question lies in whether those are the results that you were meant to receive, or if God had a different plan for you.
- I'm not saying that you cannot have desires in your heart, rather are your desires born out of the Spirit of God or are they a confluence of your own desires. Confusion is when you're leading yourself and being like the wind is when God is leading you.
- It's different when you're standing all on your own. In fact, you know you're living in confusion when God becomes the source of it because He is not the author of confusion, but He can jack up your life enough to where it becomes confusing—He does that when He loves you enough.
- The minute you say, "I will do it my way, "confusion comes. Like David, the man after God's heart decided that instead of depending on God, he was going to count how many armies he had to see what he could do with his own strength.

What did God decide to do?

He sent a Spirit that killed over 30,000 people within an hour. When Jonah decided that he wasn't going to do things God's way, God put him to sleep for 3-days.

 The minute God feels that He's losing His child, He'll create confusion, because you must seek Him again during it. He's not the author of confusion and just in case you think I'm speaking heresy, go and read where it He told you to pray to Him where it says, "lead us not into temptation, but deliver you from evil."

Why would He lead you into temptation?

Because you have something to learn. He doesn't tempt you be He will lead you into it—it's in the Lord's prayer.

• So, confusion is you guiding yourself and I can guarantee you, the only time God shows up when you've made up your mind to go in a direction, is when He comes to remind you where you should be.

Let me explain:

Some of us have the idea that because God is a God of grace, He will change His mind and give you want you desperately prayed for, even though He's said no. So, what we'll do is head in that direction, head strong, when He's said, "don't go into this thing."

- And by our actions we say, "I will Lord, my friends have come out well." Everybody is
 making it in that thing and when you get there, they've changed the laws and now you're
 stuck. And then you'll pray, saying that when such and such did it, You did it [helped them],
 why not the same for me?
- The Spirit of God will come back and say, "but I told you not to go left", and your flesh will say,

"I rebuke you Satan in the name of Jesus." Father, open this door. And then the Spirit of God will say, "remember, five years ago, I said go right." That's when you'll see the presence of God—to correct you when you're confused.

• When the disciples were in the boat asking Jesus to save them, He said, "faithless people, how long will I be with you?" Jesus was annoyed because they already knew what to do.

Question 4:

"You talked about having [hope] like a farmer? Realistically how does that look like because farmers wait forever for one crop and I'm getting older."

- The hope of a farmer is not because you sowed seed and you're now waiting for harvest, the hope that you have of a farmer in the context of what I preached is that walking with God Himself, requires the concept of hope.
- This is not that you're expecting something from God, this is just to be a Christian, requires hope.

How many of us have seen Jesus physically?

If you haven't seen Him physically, you have hope, and your faith leads there. Because you believe that you have enough evidence through your transformation that you have been saved, which gives evidence to His existence.

- So, there is no reason to be a Christian if you have no hope; because what makes Christianity worth it is that you have the hope that what He says will come to pass.
- So, if I asked you as a Christian, what are you waiting for, some of us would say, "I'm waiting for heaven." Not me, I'm waiting for everything He said will happen, to happen.
- Though I was so tired this morning, as soon as I put my legs out of my bed stood up, I immediately remembered the hope that keeps me going; then I said to myself, "this is worth it."

What am I hopeful for?

The first thing Jesus tells us is that He's going to prepare a place for us and when He's done, He's coming back for us.

- My first hope is that I get to be with God; it is not worth it for me if He is not there.
- My second hope is that I get to rule with Him, the Bible says that we are co-heirs with Christ! Some of us have this idea that Heaven is just about singing; we get to rule with Him!
- The Bible also tells us that we are going to judge angels! He says, "you guys are down there quarrelling with each other, and you don't even know that you are judges, and you'll judge angels on that day at the Tribunal!
- We have work to do in heaven, we're not going to just sleep in a mansion, was co-heirs with Christ, we're going to be doing whatever He's going to be doing.
- That's my hope, that's what makes heaven worth it for me; the fact that I'll live with Him forever. Like the hope of a farmer, this idea is that if I am living my life to the service of God, it is based on the hope that is to come.
- The Bible says, "hope never made me ashamed," It never makes us ashamed. Whether you're getting older younger, hope never dwindles because the goal is to be with God in paradise.
- Though some may say that this doesn't answer the question of believing yet getting older. As a Christian, I've internalized the realization is that God is with me, and He knows about me. This is a hard concept to grasp.
- Although this question may not be related to marriage, I have been happily married for seven years, yet, I understand that it is better for you to remain single than to enter the context of marriage that we have today.

- It is better for you to stay single than to enter a marriage that doesn't understand what a marriage is all about—and that's all we're seeing today. People just want to be with another person; the bulk of my counseling throughout the entire week is marriage.
- I can clearly tell you that the younger people who have entered marriage because they are in "love," had no clue that the second you enter that covenant after you're living together— which by the way, statics show that 70% of marriages where people lived together first, end in divorce.
- Once married and responsibility becomes real, it goes beyond sex now. Responsibility becomes real because the minute you say, "I do," Spiritual things activate. As a man, as soon as you say, "I do," it's almost as if God hands her to you and says, "treat her like I've treated her all along," and vice versa.
- Trust me, if God has kept you single so far, it is to save you. I am praying that you get married but don't be in such a hurry that you end up regretting it.
- My mom's marriage counseling is about a week, mine is about twelve weeks, while my dad's counseling is for twelve months. Marriage is a serious thing, so don't be in a rush and your age should not determine how happy you'll be in the future, God will.

**We have one more question that I'll have to address later due to the interest of time.