

A NEW WAVE OF REVIVAL

**The
VISION
Intensified**

DEMOS SHAKARIAN

Foreword to this reprint edition of

The VISION Intensified



United in Spirit and in the Vision

Millions of lives have been impacted worldwide through groups of ordinary Christian laymen inspired by a God-given Vision that was originally imparted to **Demos Shakarian**, *pictured here*, a Christian businessman of Armenian origin.

It has been said that the global ministry that Demos founded — and described in the popular book, ‘**The Happiest People on Earth**’ — has probably done more to bring revival to the church at large than any other laymen’s movement in the past 50 years.

The original edition of **The Vision Intensified** was written in 1983 and was a plea to all who were familiar with the God-given Vision, as outlined initially in ‘The Happiest People on Earth’, to get ready for what Demos called “a new wave of revival” that would *explode* within the body of Christ.

In this booklet, he predicted that the original Vision he saw (and re-tells in this booklet) “*will intensify in an increasingly powerful wave of His glory!*” Demos also implores his readers to re-focus on that original call, especially as many believers sense, as Demos did, that we are in the end-times.

In *both* his books, Demos emphasized that the Vision was not for a big, centralized organization. As the writer says in ‘The Happiest People on Earth’, “*the Spirit of God conveyed to Demos the message, ‘I do not want a big centralized organization... of course, come together on occasion to*



inspire and encourage each other, to light a fire bright enough for many to see. But for your day-in, year-out work, I want you [to be] small, local, sensitive to Me. I do not want uniformity. I will never come to two men or two places in just the same way. Give Me outlets for My infinite variety'. ”

In keeping with that exhortation, may we today be encouraged to share in the heart-felt prayer by Demos on the last page of this booklet, reflecting positively on lessons learned from the past and for the achievement of God's purposes for FGBMFI in the future.

Following the introduction by Demos on the facing page, the booklet is divided into three sections:

Section 1, pages 6-13.....**Explosive Holy Spirit Power**

Section 2, pages 13-18...**A New Wave of Revival**

Section 3, pages 19-22...**The Vision Intensifies**

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Introduction

by Demos Shakarian

Founder of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International

My Dear Partner,

The BREAKTHROUGH revelations I'm about to share with you can change your life — and literally change the spiritual face of our world — if you allow the Holy Spirit to plant these truths deep into your spirit.

You see, God has shown me that He is going to have a people . . . a powerful people, willing to participate in this final hour of end-time spiritual history.

*If you desire to experience this New Dimension, this New Anointing from God, then you've got to be **READY**. That's why I've written this book.*

*God has shown me the future, and has revealed that A New Wave of Revival" is about to **EXPLODE** within the body of Christ. The powerful miracle **VISION** God gave me for the Fellowship, and the world, is not over . . . **IT HAS JUST BEGUN!***

*We haven't seen anything yet! God's **VISION WILL INTENSIFY** in an increasingly powerful wave of His Glory!*

These are not mere words I am writing. They are revelations from God! Heed them. Pray over them. And let God witness their truth in your spirit.

*This is a special day, and God is seeking a special people. As your spiritual leader, I prayerfully admonish you not to take the words on these pages lightly. They are not **MY** words, but come from the very throne room of God.*

*I've been fasting and praying, seeking God's face. And the revelations I am sharing with you now are **HIS WORDS**. Beloved, I pray you will open your heart and allow the Holy Spirit to perform spiritual surgery on your spirit today. God is seeking a **PREPARED** people to serve Him in **POWER**.*

I believe you want to be one of these servants.

In His End-time Service,



SECTION ONE

Explosive Holy Spirit Power!

To fully grasp the spiritual dynamics of what God is GOING TO DO in the future during this end-time hour, it is first absolutely vital that you spiritually understand what God has ALREADY DONE through our Fellowship in the explosive power of His Holy Spirit.

Of course, you probably know many of the details about the birth of the FGBMFI VISION. But, in my spirit, God has shown me that many have missed or have forgotten the true SPIRITUAL ROOTS of our first successes.

It was through His Holy Spirit that God released HIS POWER, in a miraculous way, to start the FGBMFI VISION in motion.

And it is ONLY through that SAME HOLY SPIRIT that God will take us POWERFULLY into the future.

Our careful planning will not change the world.

Our well-structured, worldwide organization will not save one soul.

All of our meetings, conventions, seminars, and money mean nothing . . . without the Power of the Holy Spirit!

We must once again become yielded, obedient, PREPARED vessels, willing to seek God in prayer and fasting, and willing to do what He wants us to do.

It is through my own prayer and fasting that God has led me to write this book for you today. He told me, "Demos, take the Fellowship back to their SPIRITUAL ROOTS. Lead these men in *A New Wave of Revival*."

God has revealed to me that in this book I must re-tell our original FGBMFI VISION. He has shown me that most men know THE FACTS of the VISION, but that few understand THE SPIRIT of those original sacred times. No matter how many times you have "heard" or read about our humble beginnings...

DO NOT SKIP ONE WORD OF THIS REVELATION!

You have NEVER heard it like this before!

So now, in obedience to God, let me share God's Vision once again, but with a very specific spiritual eye, focusing on what God is going to do in the FUTURE!

Let the Holy Spirit witness to you the TOTAL power of this God-given Vision, and let God pour upon you a new anointing for His service.

The first time I really shared the FGBMFI concept was to my friend, the healing evangelist **Oral Roberts** in the fall of 1951.

“It’s a group — a group of men. Not exceptional men. Just average business people who know the Lord and love Him, but haven’t known how to show it.”

“And what will this group do?” Oral asked.

“They will tell other men about Jesus, Oral. No theories. They tell what they’ve ACTUALLY EXPERIENCED OF GOD to other men like themselves, men who might not believe what a preacher says, but who will listen to a plumber or a dentist or a salesman because they’re plumbers and dentists and salesmen themselves.”

Oral was excited. “Demos, I hear it, brother! What are you going to call yourselves?” I knew that answer right away. “The Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship International.”

Every word was necessary.

FULL GOSPEL: Miracle healings. Speaking in tongues. Powerful deliverances. Men who could TALK about God, but also men who knew how to DEMONSTRATE THE POWER of God in their lives and in the meetings. This would be an explosive ministry led by Spirit-filled men.

BUSINESS MEN: Laymen. Ordinary people, becoming extraordinary through the POWER of the Holy Spirit.

FELLOWSHIP: A group of people who love to get together and witness the love, the compassion, the reality of Jesus Christ.

INTERNATIONAL: The whole world. All flesh. A deep concern for every nation and every race.

Oral Roberts was so excited about the concept that he offered to help launch our first meeting. And so, it was settled.

The meeting was scheduled for Clifton’s Cafeteria at Broadway and Seventh, in Los Angeles, in the upper room.

I expected three or four hundred men.

Eighteen came. So, together with my wife Rose, Oral, and me, the small meeting of 21 people began, and progressed very slowly. I saw little excitement in the men’s faces as I described an organization with “. . . no church organs, no stained glass. Nothing that man can pigeonhole as ‘religious’. Just one man telling another about Jesus.”

Then Oral Roberts spoke for about 20 minutes. In his closing prayer, he said: “Lord Jesus, let this Fellowship grow in YOUR STRENGTH alone. Send it marching in YOUR POWER across the nation . . . across the world. We give YOU thanks right now, Lord Jesus, that we see a little group of people in a cafeteria, but that You see a thousand chapters!”

The little group suddenly came alive. We saw an adventure: how exciting it would be to watch the Spirit build this all-but-empty room into a worldwide army of a thousand different ‘companies’!

We began to march and sing the old hymn, *Onward Christian Soldiers*.

Legally, the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International began a few weeks later with the signing of the articles of incorporation and the naming of a five-man board of directors.

Spiritually, it received a boost when Oral Roberts shared his “Dream of a Thousand” with 20 other servants of the Lord.

What followed after that meeting was 12 months of the most incredible frustration I have ever experienced. The meetings continued, but with no steady growth pattern.

Resistance to FGBMFI came from unexpected sources. Churches were afraid I would drain men and money from their congregations. Yet, from the beginning, I emphasised two principles in every meeting I held:

1. STAY IN YOUR CHURCH. If your church knows the power of the Holy Spirit, go back, determined to serve Him harder than ever. If not, then go back to your church as a Spirit-filled missionary.

2. YOUR TITHE BELONGS TO YOUR HOME CHURCH. Anything given at meetings must be above and beyond your tithe.

The ‘money charge’ from the churches was particularly ironic, since in the entire first year we received no donations!

August came, then in September we continued to meet each Saturday morning at Clifton's Cafeteria — and the same little group of men came, more out of loyalty to me, I suspect, than for any other reason.

In October, the first anniversary of the FGBMFI came and went, and not one man had yet been impressed enough to start a second chapter in a different town.

“If God is in something, He blesses it, doesn't He?” my wife, **Rose**, lovingly asked me in December. “And you just can't say the Fellowship's been blessed.”

She was right. So, a few days later, I told the evangelist **Tommy Hicks**, a guest in my home: “Tomorrow morning is the last meeting of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship.”

That was on Friday, December 26th, 1952.

Now, here's a point I want to emphasize!

After 14 months of meetings, thousands of miles of travel, phone calls, letters, “free breakfast” adverts to entice men to attend, and 100 per cent of my energy, the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship seemed dead. Our most recent Saturday morning meeting at Clifton's Cafeteria on December 20 had . . .

**SIX FEWER men attending than when I had started
the Fellowship, 14 months before!**

Nothing *man* could do made any difference! No amount of careful planning, enticements, or even personal effort could launch this Fellowship.

And today, no amount of organization, money, or personal efforts will preserve it! ONLY God, and the Power of His Holy Spirit, can make the Fellowship ALIVE and VITAL.

On that lonely Friday evening, just before midnight, I told Tommy and my wife, Rose, “I’m going into the living room TO GET DOWN ON MY KNEES UNTIL I HEAR FROM THE LORD about this.”

When I started to walk into the living room, it happened. The air around me became suddenly heavy. Overwhelmed, I fell on my knees, then my face, stretched full length on the floor. I knew GOD’S SPIRIT WAS UPON ME, pulsating through the room in endless WAVES of power.

Time seemed to stop.

My sense of ‘place’ disappeared.

Then, I heard His voice: “Demos, will you ever doubt MY POWER?”

Those seven miracle words instantly made me realize how I had acted these past fourteen months — I’d acted as if *my strength* was the Fellowship’s hope. What a fool I had been! *Nothing, nothing, nothing* man can do, or will ever do, will ever make a second of difference in eternity unless it is energized by the Power of God.

“Lord Jesus, forgive me!” I sobbed.

He continued: “I am the One, Demos, WHO ALONE CAN OPEN DOORS. I am the One who removes the beam from un-seeing eyes.”

In those early months, I kept on looking to other men for answers. Whenever I’d meet another businessman, or a political official, I used to think, “This man can help me launch the Fellowship.” God, in His loving way, was once again reminding me that HE ALONE IS OUR SOURCE.

“I understand, Lord Jesus. And I thank you.”

“And now,” He replied, “I will let you see, indeed.”

With that, the Lord allowed me to rise to my knees. He lifted me almost, as though the power which put me on the floor was now pushing me up. At that moment, Rose came into the room, did not say a word, but walked over to our Hammond organ and began to play.

The music swelled. The atmosphere grew bright. The ceiling of our room seemed to disappear. Instead, I found myself rising up into the sky — a daytime sky — although outside it was dark.

How long Rose played, how long I gazed at the sky, I simply don’t know. But all at once Rose stopped playing, and began to pray aloud in tongues, a lovely, flowing message: “My son, I knew you before you were born. I have guided you every step of the way. NOW I AM GOING TO SHOW YOU THE PURPOSE OF YOUR LIFE.”

As Rose spoke, I felt as if I were rising, leaving my body, moving up, away from the living room. Down below me, I could see the rooftops of the city of Downey, then the San Bernardino Mountains, the Pacific coast. I was high above the earth, able to see the entire country from west to east.

I saw people on the earth — millions and millions of them, standing shoulder to shoulder. And, I could see tiny details of thousands and thousands of faces. What I saw terrified me.

The faces were set, lifeless, miserable. Though the people stood so close together, shoulders touching, there was no real contact between them — *they were alone, their hands bound in chains*. Their heads were boxed, their eyes stared straight ahead, unblinking, unseeing. They appeared cold, almost as if *in ice* from a winter storm.

With a shudder of horror, I realized that they were dead.

Then, the Vision changed.

Whether the world was turning, or whether I was traveling around it, I did not know. But now, beneath me was the continent of South America. Then on to Africa. Europe. Asia. Once more the startling close-ups occurred, and everywhere it was the same.

Brown faces. Black faces. White faces. Every one rigid, wretched, each BOUND IN CHAINS, LOCKED IN HIS OWN PRIVATE DEATH.

“Lord,” I cried, “What’s the matter with them? Lord, help them!”

Afterward, Rose told me that I said nothing. But in the Vision it seemed to me that I wept and pleaded aloud.

Suddenly Rose began to speak. Humanly speaking, of course, she had no way of knowing that I was seeing anything at all. But what she said was: “My son, WHAT YOU SEE NEXT IS GOING TO HAPPEN VERY SOON.”

The earth was turning — or I was moving around it — a second time. Below me again were millions and millions of men. But this time, what a difference!

THE ICE HAD MELTED — THE CHAINS HAD BEEN BROKEN!

Eyes shone with joy. The once-bound hands, NOW FREE, were lifted towards heaven! These men who had been so isolated, each in his prison of self, were NO LONGER ALONE, but were now linked in a community of love and adoration.

Asia, Africa, America — everywhere death had turned to life. THE CHAINS OF BONDAGE HAD BEEN BROKEN!

And then, the Vision was over.

It was 3:30am in the morning.

When I described my Vision to Rose, she listened with tears glistening in her eyes: “Oh, Demos, don’t you see? He’s showing us that the Fellowship is to go on.”

THE VERY NEXT MORNING, my friend Miner Arganbright, who only a week ago had advised me to end FGBMFI, presented me with a check for the Fellowship for \$1,000! [Ed. note: that's equal to more than \$8,000 in 2012].

"A thousand dollars!" I said. "But Miner, last week you didn't think the organization was worth five cents."

"Last week was last week," Miner said. "Demos, I woke up early this morning and I heard a voice. *It was God!* I know it was God. He said, 'This work is to go around the world and you're to donate the first money.' "

I was in shock. All of my efforts had not produced a single donation in an entire year. But THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, I was staring at a \$1,000 cheque in disbelief.

Then, another fellow approached me.

"Mr. Shakarian," he said, "My name is Thomas Nickel. Something happened to me last night, which I think you'll be interested in."

In the middle of the night, after coming home from working on his printing press, at precisely *midnight*, when my own Vision from God had started, the Holy Spirit woke him and said: "Get in your car and drive to Los Angeles for the Saturday morning meeting of that group you've attended once."

Watsonville, a city in Santa Cruz County, California, was 400 miles north of Los Angeles; he drove all night to make the meeting. But here he was now, standing in front of me. Mr Nickel told me he was here ". . . to offer you my printing press and my services."

"Your press?"

"To produce a magazine," Nickel replied. "You see, what the Spirit kept telling me was: 'This Fellowship must go around the world. **But it's never going to get started without a voice.'** "

The meeting that morning was the most joyful we had had up to that time. Before it was over, Thomas R. Nickel was appointed Editor and Publisher of a new magazine to be called the Full Gospel Business Men's *VOICE*.

Just one day earlier, it had seemed clear that the Fellowship was finished. Now, we had a thousand-dollar treasury and a magazine!

I told Rose, "I can't wait to see what the Lord will do next!" You see the Fellowship did not grow through *my* ability. **Our spiritual roots and our power, come only from one source, and that is the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Without God's anointing and power, the Fellowship would have died.

By the summer of 1953, we had nine chapters, and were planning a National Convention in October — exactly two years from the first meeting in Clifton's Cafeteria.

Six hundred showed up for that first convention. By the mid-1980s, a national convention could attract 10,000!

In those early days, the Saturday meetings at Clifton's were literally bursting at the seams. The "upper room" could only seat 400, yet we were starting to have 600 or 700 men at each meeting. These increases were *not* because Demos Shakarian suddenly became a great preacher, or a great motivator of men.

The Fellowship grew because I was open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

When God put it on my heart to encourage men to start chapters in their own local cities, I obeyed.

The Spirit seemed to say, "I DO NOT WANT A BIG CENTRALISED ORGANIZATION. Come together on occasion as a collective group to INSPIRE and ENCOURAGE each other, to light a fire bright enough for many to see.

"But for your day-in, year-out work, I want you SMALL, LOCAL, and SENSITIVE TO ME! I do not want uniformity. I will never take two men or two places in just the same way. Give Me outlets for MY INFINITE VARIETY."

So, the Clifton's Cafeteria meetings became four groups, then five, then ten. Chapters sprang up all over Los Angeles. By 1982, there were 60 chapters in that city area alone and 3,000 chapters worldwide.

Some of these chapters are demonstrative, some reserved. Some emphasize teaching; others, healing, evangelism, and youth work. But none would have existed without that first year of struggle, or without the power of God.

A DIVINE PATTERN began to emerge.

1. God does not need large numbers to launch His Work! He only needs a faithful few in each place.

2. God does not look at the circumstances and see the empty seats in a meeting. God only looks at the men who come. He seeks OPEN vessels, willing to PRAISE Him and seek His will.

3. Every chapter and every meeting is different. Let the Holy Spirit control the meeting. BE OPEN TO THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Time and time again, the Lord seemed to be saying to us, "Don't worry about numbers. I'll find the people I want, wherever they are, and I'll bring them to you. DO YOUR PART FAITHFULLY, AND LEAVE THE REST TO ME."

From these humble beginnings, and through the POWER OF GOD ALONE, FGBMFI has become an anointed vessel.

I have seen, for example, a Spirit-transformation in the Lutheran congregations from coast to coast. I've watched Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, Roman

Catholics, and Episcopalians experience the Spirit blowing through whole churches, entire denominations.

But beloved, God wants you to know...

WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING YET!

Today, we are the largest lay ministry of our type in the world! The Vision God revealed to me in 1952 is being fulfilled, **BUT IT IS NOT OVER!** God showed me **LONELY PEOPLE IN CHAINS.**

Let's take our blindfolds off!

Even in our own Fellowship today, there are still men and women who feel *alone, and who are still bound by invisible spiritual chains.* All over our massive world, depression, suicide, and isolationism are staggering problems.

Our work is not over — it is just beginning!

Our Vision is not in the past — it is in the future!

Two and one-half billion people have not even heard the name of Jesus Christ once!

We are not done. Hear me on this. God has revealed this as clearly to me now as He did in that original Vision in 1952.

The Lord God Jehovah is READY TO EXPLODE A NEW WAVE OF REVIVAL IN THIS WORLD . . .

and He wants you PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE in His Plan.

SECTION TWO

A New Wave of Revival

FGBMFI is now around the world. When this booklet was first printed, there were local chapters in 93 countries.

More than 70 million Catholics now speak in tongues, and the roots of that spiritual manifestation can be traced back to our South Bend, Indiana, Chapter.

At a New Orleans Charismatic convention, (a convocation, representing virtually every major charismatic movement in the entire world), they presented me with a beautiful plaque. In the presentation, this statement was made: "The Full Gospel Business Men have been the thread going through the charismatic movements all over the world."

When I received that honor on behalf of *all* the members of FGBMFI, I asked this question of that convention: "Who wants to know the new wave?"

Everybody waved their hands, anxious to hear about the new wave. So I shared from my heart what God has been speaking to me.

“I see a new wave of holiness.”

The room became quiet. Holiness is not a popular subject even in ‘religious’ circles. I said: “I see a new wave of repentance.”

You could sense men squirming in their seats. “Repentance is a good theme for Gospel rallies,” I could imagine them thinking, “but *we* are spiritual leaders.” Well, God told me to share what He had placed on my heart, so I continued: “I see a time when God will set us apart, and release a new, MIGHTY OUTPOURING of His Holy Spirit. It is time to give the devil a few more black eyes. I tell you, Jesus is more real to me today than He's ever been before!”

Now *that* got a reaction! The crowd rose to their feet in praise to God, and the meeting eventually ended. Later, I realized that these men and women were honoring us for what GOD HAS DONE through our lives. And I praise God for that.

I thank God for every man, woman, and child who has been somehow touched by God's love, God's forgiveness, and God's saving grace through this Fellowship.

But in this time, and in this hour, that's not enough!

It is time to GET OUR EYES OFF OF THE PAST! It is time to stop talking about how much we have accomplished, and start prayerfully seeking God about WHAT HE WANTS TO DO NOW and WHAT HE WANTS FOR THE FUTURE!

When Jacob was out praying in the desert, he went to sleep, using stones for a pillow. The Lord gave Jacob a vision. “*And he dreamed, and behold a ladder was set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.*”

“*And, behold, THE LORD STOOD ABOVE IT, and said, ‘I am the Lord God of Abraham your father, and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will I give to you and your descendants.*”

“*Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east, to the north, and to the south: and in you and in your seed ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED.*” - Genesis 28:12-14.

Jacob received a powerful, life-changing vision from God. Through *no power of his own*, Jacob received *God's anointing* to fulfil the vision through his life. Nothing Jacob could do would further the vision, and nothing any other man could do would stop it.

When Jacob worked for Laban, probably the most unfair boss in the recorded Biblical history, God saw to it that Jacob prevailed and prospered!

Jacob told Rachel and Leah one day: “*Your father, Laban, has deceived me and CHANGED MY WAGES TEN TIMES; BUT GOD DID NOT ALLOW HIM TO HURT*”

ME. If Laban said thus: ‘The speckled [animals] shall be your wages,’ then all the flocks bore speckled [ones]. And if he said thus, ‘The streaked [animals] shall be your wages,’ then all the flocks bore streaked [ones]’. So God has taken away the livestock of your father, Laban, and given them to me.” - Genesis 31:7-9.

You see, no matter what man does, God's plan will be fulfilled!

In many ways, I feel my life has been very much like Jacob's. God has given me a Vision for hundreds of millions of faces, and told me that “. . . all the families of the earth” are going to be blessed by FGBMFI in these end-times.

And what God has already done seems very great indeed. Around 70 million Spirit-filled Catholics — all Spirit-filled and speaking in tongues — is a very large accomplishment. We are thankful to God that He has used FGBMFI as the *spiritual seed* for this miracle.

But we also need to face a very stark reality: **70 million Spirit-filled Catholics constitute only 1.5 per cent of the world's population.**

Like Jacob, God showed me THE WORLD — not just 1.5 percent of it! The Vision has just begun!

Now, notice a very significant spiritual truth in Jacob's vision . . .

He could accomplish nothing by himself!

God sent angels up and down the heavenly ladder to minister. God sent His angels to change Laban's cattle from speckled to streaked and grey-spotted!

Today, His Spirit is once again moving in a mighty way. That heavenly ladder Jacob saw is now replaced by the cross of Jesus Christ, but that wooden cross still stretches all the way to heaven.

God once again is sending His ministering angels up and down that cross to enable us to accomplish His end-time purpose.

A NEW WAVE OF REVIVAL is coming!

The Lord is saying to me, “Demos, get My people ready. I want to send great signs, great wonders, great miracles upon the earth. So get them ready.”

As powerful as the move of God has been upon my life, I want you to know I've seen more miracles lately than I've seen in my entire life!

God will not wait another minute.

What He is going to do, He must do now.

On a trip to Asia, I saw millions upon millions of people **STILL IN BONDAGE** to the devil. They were part of the two and a half billion who have not yet heard the gospel. The thought of more than two billion souls going to hell made me cry. I prayed: “Lord, when are you going to move? When are you going to do something?”

As I prayed, He told me: “Son, I'm waiting for you.”

“For me, Lord?” I asked, “I don't understand that. How are you waiting for me?”

I thought I was already doing what God wanted me to do, so His statement really shook my spirit. It just seemed there was nothing left I could do.

“Son, I gave you Myself. I gave you My authority. I have given you My ability. I have given you everything I can give you. I can't give you any more. *GO. DO.*”

Well, that's all I needed to hear! So I began to pray.

For two years I've been crying, day and night, asking God to release a move of His Spirit like He did in the days of Clifton's Cafeteria. That building was so packed that the Fire Department came by and told the cafeteria owners to cancel the meetings — there were too many people cramming into that upper room to praise God!

Today, people need to know the reality of Jesus. Men and women are still alone — bound in spiritual chains. They are hungry for food they have never tasted. They are thirsty for living waters they have never experienced.

Beloved, they are searching for **AN EXPERIENCE FROM GOD.**

And He has an endless supply of food, water, clothing, compassion, and LOVE.

He only needs vessels, who are PREPARED and willing to OBEY, to set these spiritual CAPTIVES free! He is not looking for our clever ability, our worldwide organization, or our method of approach to taking the world.

He only needs our willingness to HEAR and OBEY His will. The Holy Spirit will supply ALL the rest.

Those are the **SPIRITUAL ROOTS** that launched this Fellowship, and that's the **SPIRITUAL TRUTH** that will take us into the future.

When Moses was given the VISION to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt, he stood before a burning bush, on holy ground. God told Moses, “*Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.*” - Exodus 3:10.

Moses reacted to this challenge in much the same manner as I did in my living room, when I was flat on my face in God's presence. Moses said, “*Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?*” - Exodus 3:11.

God tried to reassure and instruct Moses on the proper way to approach the people of Israel with this new commission, but Moses insisted upon a sign.

That's when God presented Him with the miraculous rod.

But that wasn't enough.

Moses still wanted more.

He explained to God that he had poor diction, so could God help him out?

“*And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses . . .*” - Exodus 4:14.

Yet, despite His anger, God still gave Aaron to Moses to serve as a spokesman.

Finally, Moses figured he had enough ammunition, and went forth to obey God!

Do you see what it took for *God* to get Moses to obey? I must confess to you that I too have used some of those same arguments when God started challenging me in these past few years to actually INCREASE AND INTENSIFY my service as a spiritual leader in HIS NEW WAVE OF REVIVAL.

“But Lord, I’m getting too old.”

“Moses was 80, and Aaron was 83 when I used them.”

“But Lord, no one will believe the VISION is just starting to unfold. Charismatic leaders around the world see FGBMFI as established. Organized. Completed.”

“Demos, my son, we’re just getting started!” Finally, like Moses, I said, “I understand! — I yield . . . I obey.”

Today is today. Today is THE DAY. Yesterday is over!

Everything that has gone before is done, and everything that is to come depends SOLELY on our obedience to God.

The foundation is ready.

I am ready.

We already have hundreds of thousands of laymen around the world prepared, ready to go.

Now, it is time to move. Come follow me into the Promised Land!

It is time for us to go into the hospitals, lay hands on the sick, let God perform a miracle, and get those hospital beds empty!

That’s part of the unfolding Vision. That’s part of the new wave of God’s Glory, the new wave of revival that will permeate this earth.

The fact that I’m alive and walking around is a good miracle, but it’s not enough! I’ve got to go forward and pray for others, and let them receive God’s power. The mandate from God is that we BREAK THE CHAINS OF BONDAGE in the world. Our mandate is to DESTROY THE ISOLATION OF LONELINESS, and LINK THE WORLD TO GOD!

So many with good hands and good legs are sitting down, waiting for God to bless them. It is time to stand up, let the power of God flow through you, and revive a dying world with the message, and the PROOF-PRODUCING POWER of Jesus Christ!

Jesus Christ is real. He’s alive. He’s anointing our lives today, right now. I’ve seen more miracles in the last few weeks than I’ve seen in a long time. AND HOW WILL THIS NEW WAVE OF REVIVAL UNFOLD?

**THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD! THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD!
THROUGH THE POWER OF GOD!**

Nothing else can make it happen.

For 14 months, in those early days, I vainly tried to make the FGBMFI work through my own efforts. Only AFTER I literally fell on my face before God IN PRAYER did the Fellowship receive life!

God took over and, in 24 hours, accomplished more than I could do in 14 months!

Our spiritual strength, and our spiritual revival, begins and ends with PRAYER. God is calling us back to our early spiritual roots, our early beginnings, and the core of those early spiritual roots is PRAYER.

We are not looking to the past for our accomplishments, but only to re-affirm our SPIRITUAL ROOTS.

FAST AND PRAY in your local chapters. FAST AND PRAY for God's will in your personal life. Let the Holy Spirit quicken to your heart the next move in your area. Seek God in the middle of the night.

As your spiritual leader, that's what God has led me to do. I'm seeking God, on my face, in the middle of the night. He will have an end-time people, and that people will be ready.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.”
- Revelation 3:20.

Seek God for your own life. He will come in. Call upon God to release A NEW WAVE OF REVIVAL in your own life, in your own chapter, in your own convention, in every meeting.

GIVE TIME TO GOD! GIVE TIME TO GOD! GIVE TIME TO GOD!

Wait upon His voice in your life — and when you hear it, then ACT. GO. DO.

The Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International must NEVER become just “another club”, “another meeting”, “another organization”.

Demos Shakarian will NEVER be satisfied to walk in the accomplishments of the past, to be honored for what has been accomplished. There's too much work left to be done. Demos Shakarian has his eyes on the FUTURE! And I want you to join me.

Seek God, obey His will, and you, too, will experience a fresh move of the Holy Spirit. When Abraham was told by God to kill his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice, he was willing to obey.

“And Abraham stretched out his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.” — Genesis 22:10.

Abraham knew God's voice, heard Him, and was willing to obey, no matter what the cost.

As a result, God honored Abraham's obedience by giving him a vision in the heavens: *“Because you have done this thing . . . I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the STARS OF HEAVEN, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”* — Genesis 22:17-18.

When I studied that passage recently, the Holy Spirit quickened to my heart how God has used me much as He did Abraham: he birthed a Vision in my heart, and for 14 months I obeyed His call, even though it appeared there was no fruit from all of my efforts. Month after month, the FGBMFI Vision seemed dead, but I knew God's voice, so I continued to obey.

Finally, God intervened. He miraculously gave the Vision the POWER of His Holy Spirit, and in 24 hours God accomplished more than I had in 14 months! God honors obedience, and He honors His Visions.

God showed Abraham the stars, and told him ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH would be blessed by his seed — and that vision came to pass.

When God showed me those hundreds of millions of faces, all around the world, rejoicing in love and adoration to the Most High, I knew then, and I know now, that it will come to pass.

But the VISION has just begun. It's not finished.

It is barely starting to unfold. A new wave of revival is sweeping the earth . . . AND IT'S HAPPENING NOW!

SECTION THREE

The Vision Intensifies

A fresh move of the Holy Spirit is upon us! But there is a greater anointing of power and of the Holy Spirit still to come.

Step-by-step, in the coming months, I will share with you the mighty move God intends for His prepared people.

There's so much more I want to tell you, but God has not yet released me to reveal it. You must first allow the Holy Spirit to minister to you about our SPIRITUAL ROOTS.

You must PREPARE yourself for the intensified vision through increased daily prayer, fasting, and by making time for God — seeking His voice.

Men, we need the power of the Holy Spirit in the chapters.

Invite the Holy Spirit to come. He'll come!

Conventions must be more open to a flow from God.

GOD ALONE CAN CHANGE OUR WORLD — all we can do is prepare ourselves to serve as God's vessels.

Join me. Join me. Join me.

Join me in reaching out to God. Together we will experience a new wave of revival. Remember, God is the One that anoints. If we are under His anointing, and under the power of His Holy Spirit, then nothing can stop us.

No world is too large that we cannot LINK PEOPLE TOGETHER THROUGH THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST!

No chains are so thick that we cannot BREAK THE BONDAGE OF THE CAPTIVES! That's the Vision God gave me, and that Vision is still to be fulfilled.

The Vision is not complete.

THE VISION INTENSIFIES!

When an angel of the Lord appeared to Mary, and told her that she would be the mother of Jesus, that she would conceive a child without ever knowing a man, Mary inquired how this could all happen. *“And the angel answered and said unto her, THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU, and THE POWER OF THE HIGHEST WILL OVERSHADOW YOU . . .” - Luke 1:35.*

The same is true of our Vision today.

God has shown me a **WORLD SET FREE** — a world where men and women are **NOT ALONE**, but are **UNITED IN THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST**, arms raised to heaven, praising and adoring Him.

And you might say, “But Demos, how can this be? The FGBMFI was a good idea, and God has blessed it. But **THE WORLD?**”

Yes, the world!

All the families of the world! Not 1.5 percent, but everyone.

THE HOLY GHOST SHALL COME UPON US, AND THE POWER OF THE HIGHEST WILL OVERSHADOW ALL BARRIERS, BREAK ALL CHAINS, AND MEET EVERY NEED.

I know what a sinner with no hope looks like. Alone, ice cold, staring blankly into space. God showed me the inner souls of these tragic men, and it is a lonely, dark place to be — even in life they are dead.

I've been to funerals where people had no hope. The widows are desperate and filled with anguish because their loved one is gone, and they have no hope. They are alone.

But Jesus went into that tomb of death so that the world might have life. He brought LIGHT for a dark world. Jesus is the bright morning star that can illuminate our dark world.

In my original Vision, God did not show me a large worldwide chapter headquarters. Don't misunderstand me: I am grateful for that building — we needed it, and God provided it.

But let's be honest with each other. The beautiful building was not the Vision God gave to me. Building the building did not fulfil the Vision — it simply provided us with another tool to minister that Vision.

In my original Vision, God did not show me chapters. And again, don't misunderstand. Chapters have provided us with another way to reach out into the community with the saving message of Jesus Christ. Chapters have proven to be anointed vessels for ministering to the local community.

But beloved, the Vision is people.

The Vision is God's Holy Spirit changing lives.

The Vision is God BREAKING THE CHAINS OF THE DEVIL and setting the captive free!

Men and women who were ICE COLD became ALIVE and miraculously LINKED in PRAISE and ADORATION to God through the POWER of Jesus Christ!

That's the Vision. And THE VISION INTENSIFIES.

Let's get our eyes back on Jesus. He is the Source of our power. He is the Source of our strength, and through Him, never doubt for one second that we will bring light to a dark, dank, lonely world.

Together, let us now unite in the Spirit.

As you will see below, I've written this prayer, under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, as our point of spiritual contact in this new wave of revival — for the Glory of God.

I believe the Holy Spirit has witnessed to you the spiritual truth of this book, and the full reality for the FGBMFI Vision. Right now, in closing, I ask you to start your preparation for the FUTURE by saying this prayer, out loud, to our Almighty God, today:

“Heavenly Father,

“We thank You for all that You have done — through our lives, and through the ministry of the Fellowship. But whatever has been accomplished to date . . . we now know it is only a glimmer, a glimpse of the future, of what is STILL to be done through the power of Your Holy Spirit.

“Lord, we stand ready and willing to serve.

“We are willing to pray, to fast, and to seek Your will in our lives, no matter what the cost. You are Lord. You are Master, and it is YOU ALONE we shall serve.

“Heavenly Father, forgive us if sometimes our eyes have focused on men, on chapters, or on buildings.

“We ask that you will help us FOCUS ONLY ON YOU and Your mandates for our lives. We realize YOU ALONE are our hope — and without the power of the Holy Spirit, nothing we can do will ever save one solitary soul.

“Lord, we ask that You use us as vessels to help fulfil your vision.

“Allow us to minister to those who are alone. Enable us to break the BONDAGE OF SIN in the lives of our neighbors, and in the lives of millions of people around the world. Help us to melt the ICE COLD death of Satan from lost souls, and transform them into children of LIGHT through Your saving grace.

“Lord, we give You ALL the Honor and the Glory for the revelations You have shown us, and thank You, in the name of Jesus Christ, for what You are about to do to change the face of this world.

— Amen.”



About the author . . .

Demos Shakarian is pictured here with his wife, **Rose**. Their remarkable story and the start of the Full Gospel Business Men is told by John and Elizabeth Sherrill in the best-selling book, **'The Happiest People on Earth'**, first published in 1975, but reprinted many times since then.



Demos, born in 1913, was named after his Armenian grandfather, a Christian who fled from his Central Asian birthplace in 1905 to settle in Los Angeles, California. The family left their homeland — located at the crossroads of Western Asia and Eastern Europe — in response to a God-given prophecy in 1855 that spoke of an unspeakable tragedy that would come upon Armenia when hundreds of thousands of their people would be massacred. The prophecy was fulfilled — everyone left behind in the Shakarian's' village was killed — and as many as 1.5 million people died in the regional genocide.

Leader with a servant heart

Years later, in America, the young Demos, the son of **Isaac Shakarian**, by then a prosperous dairy farmer, eventually entered the family business and their milk herd grew to become the largest in the world at that time. Demos married **Rose Gabrielian** in 1933.

Demos was a humble man with a servant heart. He loved to assist some of the well-known evangelists of his day, such as **Oral Roberts**. When asked what he felt was his main spiritual gift, Demos replied it was what the Bible calls 'the gift of helps' - 'I'm a helper. That is what God called me to do.'

As a result, he saw great numbers of ordinary men released into Christian ministry and countless lives worldwide were touched by God. He wrote 'The Vision Intensified' towards the end of his life. By the time he died in 1993, the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International, which he founded, had expanded to 132 nations.