



## Breakthrough Part 4

### KEY SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

**Acts 8:4-8** “But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went. Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. So, there was great joy in that city.” *NLT*

### WORD

#### I. There Was Joy in the City

- A. Our cities need a move of God.
- B. Pandemic, polarization, injustice etc.
- C. **Jeremiah 29:7** “But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” *ESV*
- D. In Genesis 18 Abraham intercedes on behalf of Sodom. “Lord, will you spare the city if there are just 10 righteous?” God says yes.
- E. God wants to do something great in cities.
- F. He wants to work through us to do it.

#### II. Breakthrough and Winning Cities

##### **A. Breakthrough people produce breakthrough churches**

1. **Matthew 16:18-19** “And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” *ESV*
  - a. Jesus died so that His church would prevail and be victorious.

2. **Ephesians 5:25-27** “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.” *ESV*
  - a. The church is the greatest hope for the world.
  - b. All around the world the church continues to win in spite of adversity.

**B. Breakthrough churches create open heavens**

1. Open Heaven – There is an increased awareness of God’s presence and greater access to the resources of heaven. No barrier between us and God.
2. **Isaiah 64:1** “Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence” *ESV*
3. **Matthew 3:16** “And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him.” *ESV*

**C. Open heavens create joy in the city**

1. Breakthrough churches are made up of breakthrough people.
2. Philip was the central figure of the text and a breakthrough person with the following characteristics:
  - a. Well respected
  - b. A man of Integrity
  - c. Growing in stature and favor
  - d. Filled with the Holy Spirit
  - e. Filled with the Wisdom of God
  - f. Possessed a God-like Character