

# WILDLY BLESSED

Jan. 6, 2021

Rev. Richard Rogers

**Rev. Richard Rogers:** Happy New Year! I hope you are ready for a fabulous new year! This is the first Wednesday of the new year, and I'm very excited. I think I've got a great lesson for you today. 2021: are we ready? Yes!

So we've got just one announcement for you. We've got a new class; Sue Fredericks is doing a 3-week grief class. You can sign up online at [unityphx.org](http://unityphx.org). You know, so many of us have been through so much the last year. And I believe that grief is the number one undiagnosed issue in our world today. And if you want to really clean up your last year -- clean up your grief in your life -- so that you're ready to be fully blessed in the new year, I invite you to sign up for this class. I want you to deal with your grief so that you get to be wildly blessed in this new year.

Alright; let's move into our time of meditation as we really open our soul to all the good that God is for us.

## MEDITATION:

Close your eyes. Take a deep breath. Just breathe in the Infinite. And we know that the presence of God is within us and all around us. And as we quiet our minds, we feel the infinite Spirit of God. And this year we just say, "Yes!" You know, when times are difficult -- or when we go through a hard time -- we begin to wonder if it's safe to say "Yes" to life. If it's safe to say "Yes" to God. If it's safe to say "Yes" to the moment.

And today, we reaffirm our "Yes!" That we say "Yes!" to this new year. We say "Yes!" to all the good that God is. We say "Yes!" to being blessed -- and wildly blessed. So I want you to feel yourself saying "Yes!" to this new year: to new opportunities, to healings, to miracles. To abundance. To love. To all the things that God is. I want you to hear your soul say "Yes! I'm ready!" Say "Yes!" That we say "Yes!" to the divine activity of God that is unfolded in each and every one of us. To the deeper spirit of Truth that is guiding us and leading us to our own healings, to our own miracles, to greater a greater level of love and joy and abundance. We say "Yes!"

Take another deep breath, and go even deeper. And say "Yes!" to the greatest version of you. Say "Yes!" to living your best life, but being the best version of you. Being the most godly version of you. To bring in the light and the love and the wisdom, and to allow that to express in you and through you completely this year. That we are created in the image and likeness of God. We are whole and complete and lacking in nothing.

Take another deep breath. And I want you to affirm with me -- deeply, quietly, within your soul -- "Yes! Yes, God! Yes!" I say "Yes!" to life. I say "Yes!" to this moment. I say "Yes!" to greater possibilities. I say "Yes!" to healings and miracles and magic and blessings too numerous to name. I say "Yes!" I say "Yes!"

And for all the times where I've turned away -- I've shut my heart, I lived in fear and doubt -- I forgive myself now. I forgive myself for all the times when I played small when life invited me to be greater. I forgive myself for all of those moments where I closed my heart. Where I lived in lack and limitation, because I was too afraid to take my next step. I forgive myself for the past, and I say "Yes!" And I say "Yes!" in greater and greater ways this moment.

And I not only say "Yes!" for myself, but I say "Yes!" for all people. I say "Yes!" for the whole planet. That I see all people saying "Yes!" to life. All people being wildly blessed. So in the name and through the

power of the Living Christ, we give thanks for this new year. For the power of our "Yes!" For the activity of God that is guiding us and leading us into our best life ever. Thank you, God! And so it is. Amen.

## MESSAGE:

**Rev. Richard Rogers:** Alright; this is the first Wednesday of the new year, and I am excited to be with you! I am excited that we have a new year! I am excited about 2021! I'm excited about the possibilities of a new year!

And my question for you tonight is: Are you the kind of person that likes to start at the beginning?

[Laughs] You know, some of us think we like to start at the beginning but, in reality, we kind of skip over the beginning. Some of us just want to get to the center of the book, or a couple of us want to kind of blow through the opening introductions. Maybe in a relationship, we kind of want to blow through the opening steps and get to the good stuff. We want to get to the middle; we want to get to where it's all juicy and fun. But the reality is: If we skip over the beginning, it doesn't always work out so well. Because everything in life has a beginning, a middle and an end. And some people want to skip over the beginning. Some people want to skip over the end; they want to go for the middle. And if they're afraid we're getting close to an end, then they just shut it down.

And what I want you to see is, as a divinely inspired spiritual being: In every experience of life, there's a beginning, a middle and an end. And I want you to trust the beginning; I want you to trust the middle; and I want you to have good endings.

You know, in our ministry, we are committed to you having good endings. You know, we do the Burning Bowl. I talked about endings last week. We want you to have good endings, because good endings set up good beginnings. And we have to really trust that there's a spiritual process at work: that we awaken to the Christ at Christmas, and then we have an ending of the year. And then we go into this brand new year from this new, elevated spiritual understanding. That I don't want you to step into this new year from yesterday's consciousness: from last year's understanding. From the mistakes or the challenges or the problems of last year. I want you to be willing to step into this new year -- into this new beginning -- from a new version of you. From the highest and the best that's within you.

So today we're going to celebrate the beginning of 2021. And like all beginnings, I want to take us back [laughs] to the first chapter of John. In the first chapter of John, we read this: *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God. And the Word was God. And He was in the beginning with God."*

Now, when we read this in John, we automatically -- for most of us -- we go to the understanding that he's talking about Jesus. Right? That the Scripture's talking about Jesus: that "He," being Jesus, was with God in the beginning. And I want to really broaden the Scripture tonight. I want you to get a real feeling that, not only was Jesus in the beginning with God, but that you and I were, too. That we were created in the image and likeness of God -- that we were with God from the beginning -- and that this Scripture not only applies to Jesus, but it 100% also applies to each and every one of us. That each and every one of us was a part of God in the beginning.

And then it goes on to Verse 3 that says: *"All things were made through Him, and without Him, was anything not made was ...."* Wait; let me read that again. *"All things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made."* So the idea is -- even though that's awkwardly written -- the idea is that everything was created out of Him. Right?

And what I want you to see in your life right now [laughs] is: Verse 3 applies to all of us! That nothing in your life was made outside of you! That everything in your life comes through you! Like, everything is in your life by right of consciousness! That everything that is going on in your life right now -- the blessings

and the hard times -- were created to lift us higher. They were created for us -- through us -- so that we might express all the good that God is.

Then we go to the line, Verse 4: *"In Him was life, and that life was the light of men."* So within us is the light: it's the activity of God that is here to guide us and direct us in all things! And that light is within you!

And as we move into this new year, what I want you to really feel is: The light of God is in you, and it is guiding you! That the light of God is your light for whatever is going on in your life right now. *"And the light shines in the darkness..."* Verse 5: *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it."*

And then I want to skip down to Verse 14: *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. We have beheld the glory: the glory of the only son from the Father."*

So here's the deal, right? The Word is becoming flesh. That in the beginning was the Word. And the Word became flesh.

So as we begin this new year, I want to take us back to the Word. I want to take us back -- not only to the Word of God, the Word in the Bible -- but I want to take us back to the power of your word to change, to transform, to create your life. And as we begin this first Wednesday of the year, I want you to really pay attention to the words that are coming out of your mouth, especially in this new year. That we don't want to drag yesterday's words... We don't want to drag yesterday's ideas... We don't want to drag yesterday's consciousness into this new year. We want to actually speak the Word of God in a greater way -- in a higher way, in a finer way, in a more beautiful way, in a more abundant way, in a more loving way -- so that we're actually moving into this new year, not from our old mindset, but the mindset of the person that we want to live! The person we want to be! We want to be the new Word that we are speaking, and watch that Word become flesh as us!

Like, there's so much power in the Word! But we have to be so mindful. Jesus said, *"Let your words be 'Yes; yes' or 'No; no'; for anything else makes God crazy."* [Laughs] Really what he said was, *"Let your words be 'Yes; yes' or 'No; no'; for anything else will come of sin."* Like, it's a mistake! Like, if you say, "Yes" to this and then "No" the next minute, or you say "Yes" to your desires and then you move into a level of fear and you say "No." Or, you know, we just get so confused! And when our words are confusing, our life gets confusing.

So what is the word that you want to speak into existence this year? What is the word that you want to create in your life this year? Are you going to speak the word of love? Are you going to speak the word of power? Are you going to speak the word of abundance? Are you going to speak the word of miracles? Are you going to speak the word of healing?

What I want you to see today is that, with so much going on in the world today, we have to be so mindful of the power of our words, and that our words actually have the power to create and form energy. That our words are the first level of cause. Our words are the first level of creation. So as you speak it, it is done unto you. As you speak it, it actually begins to create a vibration around your life. That you are giving voice to what's going on in your soul: in your consciousness, in your mind. And as we send that out to the Universe, it comes back to us over and over and over again.

From Job 22:28: *"Thou shalt decree a thing, and it will be established unto thee. And the light will shine upon your ways."* I want you to hear that! You shall decree a thing! So what are you going to decree? What are you going to stand for in this new year? What are you going to cause to happen in your new year, because you were speaking the Word? Are you speaking the word of truth? Are you speaking the word of abundance? Are you speaking the word of health? Are you speaking the word of wholeness? What are you speaking into existence this year? Because this is critical! There's so much going on in this

world; I want you to clearly see that your power to create starts with the power to choose every word that comes out of your mouth. Let your answer be "Yes; yes" or "No; no." Because anything else just creates confusion.

When we go to Isaiah 55:11, we read this: *"You shall..." "So shall my words be to go forth out of my mouth. They shall not return to me void, but they shall accomplish that which I please. And it shall prosper me in the things for which I sent it to do."* I love that, right? You speak your word; your word goes out of your soul and goes into the three-dimensional form. And if your word is spoken with faith and truth, it comes back to you for your own pleasure!

Let me give you an example of Jesus: Matthew 8:23. *"They all got into a boat. His disciples followed him. And suddenly a furious storm came upon the lake so that the waves swept over the boat. And Jesus was sleeping, and the disciples went to him and woke him up and said, 'Lord, save us! For we're going to drown.'"*

Now, these were all fishermen. Like, a lot of his disciples were fishermen. They knew the ocean; they knew the waves. They knew the tides; they knew what was going on. *[Laughs]* They also knew that, with a storm this furious -- this angry, this upsetting -- they were all going to drown. There was not a question in their mind! These weren't scared, timid, little men. These were fishermen! They knew the conditions! *[Laughs]* They knew they were going to drown.

*"So he replied to them, 'Oh, you of little faith! Why are you so afraid?' And then he got up and he rebuked the wind and the waves, and it went to complete calm. And the men were amazed. And they asked themselves, 'What kind of man is this, that even the winds and the waves obey him?'"*

In Mark -- one of the stories told in Mark -- it says this: *"And he arose, and rebuked the winds, and said to the sea: 'Peace; be still.' And the winds ceased. And the seas were a great calm."*

*[Laughs]* What I want you to see is: That's the power of your word! Like, right now, with all that's going on in the world today -- where the winds are blowing and the seas are rough and it looks like people are going to drown all around us, and it looks like our boat's going to take on water, and we're going to go under -- I want you to be speaking your word! I want you to be claiming "Peace; be still" in all the places in your life where you feel like the storms are raging. And I want you to be speaking the word of the life that you want to move into.

What is the experience that you want to be having? I want you to speak that into existence. Because if our words are not in alignment with our desires, we're creating a conflict. We're creating a problem. Our words and our desires have to match! If we're talking trash, and we're wondering why our life is not working, it is because our words and our desires are not matching.

And I know in times of conflict, it's difficult for your words and your desires to match! Because we're so afraid about what's going on in our life and in our world, that we get all twitter-pated! We get all freaked out! And we're worried about this, or we're worried about that.

And today, I want you to stand in your boat! And the boat, from a spiritual sense, means consciousness. I want you to stand in the center of your consciousness. I want you to stand in the center of your life. I want you to stand in the middle of your house or in the middle of your business -- and stand in the middle of any situation in your life -- and I want you to claim, *"Peace; be still. Peace; be still."*

But I want more than that! Like, the first step for many of us is just to claim peace. But it's not the only step! That once peace is established, where do you want to go from there? How much more good do you want? Because calm -- for most of us -- feels great, especially when we're living during times where it seems like there's so little calm. But once calm is established, where do you want to go from that? For many of us, once calm is established, we get a little bored. We want to juice it up! We want to create a

little more drama! And today, what I want you to do is: Speak the word of calm in any area of life, but I want you to go to the next level. I want you to then begin to speak your desires into creation.

Now, some of us know that, when we speak an affirmation ... Unity talks a lot about affirmations. An affirmation is a powerful statement of truth. It is a spiritually true statement that we speak into existence. But some of us know that sometimes when we make a declaration -- when we speak our affirmations -- it doesn't always look like it works. Right? Like, many of us said declarations or affirmations, and inside we just know it's not true. We might have said, "*I am rich.*" Right? And that was our declaration: "*I am rich!*" Right? And we say it with all of our energy and all of our best Charlton Heston voice, and we get out there and we just move our arms: "*I am rich!*" [Laughs] And on the inside we're going, "*Liar, liar, pants on fire!*" On the inside [laughs], we're going, "*No, I'm not!*" Or we're affirming, "*I am thin! I am thin!*" And on the inside we're going, "*No, you're not! You're ... No!*" [Laughs] "*What do you mean you're thin? You're not thin!*"

And what I want you to see is that inner conflict creates so many problems! [Laughs] And it's no wonder why -- when we speak the word, but when we stand in disbelief -- that we don't get what we want! [Laughs]

And so sometimes, when it comes to spiritual principles, we don't have a very deep understanding of how to use them. So we might go through the motions of using a spiritual principle, but we don't really get the full bang. We don't get the full blessing. We don't get the full level of good.

This Christmas, I was given ear buds. And I love my ear buds! You know, I'm in a conference call, and I've got my new ear buds in, and... You know... And I'm listening to music. And, you know, these ear buds: these are the super duper ear buds. These are ones with noise cancellation. Like, these things are supposed to work so well. But apparently, I didn't know how to turn them on! So I'm listening to my music; I'm listening to the computer. I'm doing all this stuff. But I never really turn the sound -- the noise cancellation feature -- on, so it's working ... but it's not working well. And then somebody shows me how to turn on the noise cancellation feature, and I'm in heaven! Right? It is quiet! I don't even listen to music anymore. I'm walking around with my ear buds in just because I like the silence! [Laughs] Just because I like how quiet it is! And what I realize is: I was given a gift, and I thought I was using it ... and then somebody who actually knew how to use it actually took it to a whole 'nother level!

I have another friend. Last year he took a driving class; it was from a professional driver. And he took people out in their car -- normal cars -- and, you know, he taught them how to drive at a whole 'nother level. Defensive driving. How to drive in water. How to get out of jams. How to drive on the freeway. And he spent the whole day learning how to drive. Now, most of us -- after the age of 16 or 17 -- we think we know how to drive! And this guy went and spent eight hours, and he took his whole driving skill to another level.

And what I want you to see is, from spiritual gifts -- spiritual principles -- we think we're using them. And sometimes we're not using them at all.

There's a story that I just love [laughs] about a guy playing in a ProAm with a professional golfer. And a ProAm -- you know, an amateur. Usually they're a very good amateurs, but it's an amateur. Plays with a professional golfer. And the idea is to, you know, hang out with a pro golfer. Get tips, whatever. So they were at this hole, 150 yards out from the green, and the amateur said to the pro, "*What club do you think I should use?*" And the pro says, "*It doesn't matter.*" [Laughs] And the amateur got really offended! He's like, "*Well, what do you mean, it doesn't matter? I'm 150 yards out. You know, you've been watching my game all day. What club do you think I should use?*" He goes, "*It doesn't matter!*" And the guy was so indignant. And he says, "*What do you mean, it doesn't matter? Of course it matters! I want to pick the right club!*" And the pro said, "*No; it doesn't matter!*" And the pro said, "*Pick up a club!*" And so he picked a club, and he pulled it out of the bag -- the professional did -- and he hit the perfect shot: 150

yards and plopped it on the green. And then the pro said, "*Pick the next club!*" And he pulled out his putter. And the pro took the putter out. Perfect shot: 150 yards, right on the green. And he went through his whole bag, club after club after club. And the pro turned to him and said, "*If you know what you're doing, which club you pick doesn't matter.*"

And in a very real way, I feel that's the way it is about spiritual principles! When you truly understand the spiritual principles, the results that you get in your life are incredible.

So last year I taught this class, "Wildly Blessed." And I had about 200 people in this class. We did it online, because of Covid. But one of the principles that I taught in this class that had such a profound impact on people's lives is: I gave them the affirmation, "*God is blessing me now.*" Which, you know, we've all heard 100 times! We've probably all said it a million times: "*God is blessing me know.*"

But I said, this time, when you affirm that affirmation -- "*God is blessing me now*" -- I want you to literally think of a blessing in your life. Like, I want you to actually link the words that you're speaking with the thought of a blessing in your life. And what I said to them -- and what happened in people's lives -- is: When your mind and your words and your consciousness line up, there is an incredible amount of power. But when you're just spewing words, it doesn't change anything in your life.

Tonight, I want you to come to an affirmation that makes a difference in your life. And what I would suggest to you tonight is: "*God is blessing me now.*" But that, every time you say it -- "*God is blessing me now*" -- you see blessing after blessing after blessing. That you name it: "*I've got a warm place to live. I've got running water. I've got heat or I've got air conditioning.*" Or, "*I've got this blessing or this blessing or this blessing. I'm able to stand. I'm able to walk. I'm able to heal. I'm able ...*" I want you to think of one blessing after another.

And, literally, I had one of the best years of my life last year. And I really believe ... I talked to you about that last week. But I had one of the best years of my life. And I was almost a little embarrassed to share that! With so many people going through so many difficult times, I had last year one of the best years of my life. And I believe that the year ahead of me is going to be even greater! And one of the things that I did last year -- that I talked about last week -- was to release all the disappointments of the past years. All the disappointments that I've known in my life. And I began to change the way I looked at things.

The other thing that I did last year was that: Every time I said, "*God is blessing me now,*" I made myself think of a blessing. See, we are told that God is infinite. We are told that the infinite goodness of God is all around us. But when we say it, I want you to actually link it in your thought process to an actual blessing. So when I say, "*God is blessing me now,*" I can name them. I can give you 20 blessings. I can give you 100 blessings. That I want you to be saying over and over again this year: "*God is blessing me now.*" And every time, I want you to think about a blessing.

So if you're going to say five times a day, "*God is blessing me now,*" then I want you to think of five blessings. If you're going to say it 10 times a day, I want you to think of 10 blessings. If you're going to say it 25 times a day, I want you to think of 25 blessings. If you're going to say it 100 times a day, I want you to think of 100 blessings. And if you can name many blessings day in and day out, what happens in your consciousness is that you actually begin to see the infinite goodness of God all around you.

So let's say it together ... but I want you to think of a blessing in your life right now. "*God is blessing me now. God is blessing me now! God is blessing me now!*" And over and over again, I want you to link your words -- your desires -- and a concrete example where that statement is true. If you say, "*I am rich*" or "*I am thin*" or whatever it is but you don't link your mind, your thoughts, to an actual blessing -- it's not powerful. Because your mind will actually go the opposite direction. Your mind will actually go sideways on you. And it will look for examples of why that statement is not true.

I want you to link your mind and your words and your desires in this new year in such a way that you are creating the greatest life you can imagine.

So let's take that into prayer:

I invite you to open your mind, your heart, your soul to the activity of God. That you have been given the power of your word. That you are the Word becoming flesh. God is blessing me now. Think of a blessing. God is blessing me now. Think of a blessing. God is blessing me now. Think of a blessing, until all you see -- all you feel, all you know -- is the blessings of God. Take dominion over your thoughts. Take dominion over your words. Align your thoughts and your words together, and watch your life transform. Today we give thanks for our thoughts, and that we are the masters of our thoughts. Today we give thanks for our words: that we are the master of our words. Today we give thanks for the new year and the power to create the next highest, greatest version of ourselves. And so it is. Amen.

### **COLLECTION**

Alright. This is the time of giving of our gifts and tithes. I invite you to hold them in your hand as we bless them together. Our love offering blessing is: *"Divine love, through me, blesses and multiplies all that I have, all that I give, and all that I receive."* Let's say that together: *"Divine love, through me, blesses and multiplies all that I have, all that I give, and all that I receive."* And so it is. Amen.

So thank you! Thank you all for your support of this ministry, especially during this time. Whether you're giving electronically, whether you're dropping a check in the mail, know that your support is critical during this time, and we appreciate everything that you're doing. Thank you, God!

### **CLOSING**

Alright; let's affirm together our Prayer for Protection:

*"The light of God surrounds me;*

*The love of God enfolds me;*

*The power of God protects us;*

*And the presence of God watches over us.*

*Wherever we are, God is."*

God bless you all! Have a great new year, and I look forward to being with you next week!

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