

When God Sends You To The Other Side Of The World

Sermon Title: When God Sends You To The Other Side Of The World

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Nathaniel Bronner: Sometimes when God is about to do something for you, it scares you, because it's at a level that you have never been before.

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And now for 5834, When God sends you to the other side of the world.

Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to brothersoftheword because brother, you need the word.

And today, I am going to be speaking from a text message. I got a text message on this past Friday. And when I read the message, I heard God speak. I want you to preach Sunday from this text message. And then he said, the text messages that I had received from this person, I am to use these text messages in today's message.

So, let me give you a little background on what this is. A few months ago, I was actually at a funeral. It was at a little church that I used to attend years ago. And one of my good friends at the church, their mother had died and I was invited to the funeral. I was there with the funeral, then afterwards, in the dinner luncheon after the funeral, I was sitting there. And I hear God speak. I want you to send Doris and Lilian on a trip. And Doris and Lilian, it was their mother who had passed away. And I told Doris, I said Doris, I said, "I just heard God speak and he sent me to send you and Lilian on a trip." She said, "Whoa, where are we going?" I said, "I don't know that yet. All I know is, God says to send you on a trip. So, when I got it figured out where you're going, I call you and let you know."

And it was actually a few months later, and a friend of mine told me about this phenomenal deal going to China. And it was a 10-day excursion going to China, including flights and hotels, had these four, and five-star hotels and the thing was really, really cheap. It's like, a thousand dollars a person. It's just unreal. And talked about on Clark Howard. And somehow when I read this,

and actually, all of the Bronner brothers, we get together every year and we go on a trip. And this year, it is my brother, James' turn to choose where we are going. And when I told him about the ideal in China, he said, "That's where we're going on the brother's trip." But we're not going until a few months from now.

Well, I thought about that, and it was placed into my spirit, this is where Doris and Lilian were supposed to go. And I told them, I said, "Look go and get your passports, because where you may you may need some passports." Because they didn't have passports, because they had never been out of the country before. And when I actually went to visit her, she was out of town, the church has a little retreat property in the place called, Milan, Georgia. And I went there just to visit with her. And when I did that, I want you to put off the slide of the PowerPoint. I'm going to actually put the slides that would kind of see the text messages themselves. And I texted her, and I told her, "It was great spending time with you. Check you email. I sent you info about the trip. It's further than you were thinking."

And you see her reply there. She said, "Are serious? You got to be kidding. China? Ten days? Oh, my God. I don't know what to say? Oh, my God. I'm telling you; I just got butterflies all in my stomach. Oh, wow. This is amazing. Are you kidding me? Ten days? Oh, my God."

So, that was her response, because you have to realize, they didn't have passports. They have never been out of the United States before. And Doris, her birthday is a day before mine. So, her birthday is a day before mine, but she's a couple of years older than I am. Her sister is even older than that. So, they're in there 60s, and they have never been out of the country before.

Sometimes, when God says he's going to send you somewhere or do something for you, is more than you figure on. It's really is, it's more than you figure on. But when God say something, it can really be something. I want you to put up the next slide.

00:05:00

Now, these are the series of texts. She asking, "Are you kidding me?" I said, "No, I'm not kidding. It is 10 days in China. That is about as far you can go on this earth. I told you, it was further than you were thinking." Sometimes, to move to another level

and thinking and spirit, you must also move to another level physically. This will be further than you have ever gone before.

One of my best friends told me about the trip and the fantastic deal. He heard about it on the Clark Howard Show, as I was talking with you yesterday the thought came to me that, this is where you and Lilian should go. And then she says on the next text.

Pull up the next slide. She says, “Oh, oh, God. Oh, this is something. Oh, my goodness. Oh, wow. I just don’t know what to say. I don’t know what. Oh, goodness. Oh, God. Let me get myself together. This is so amazing. I am so thrilled. Oh, my goodness.”

Now later that day, slide number three, this is what she wrote. “Hey, Nate.” They still call Nate, back in that day when I first to that church. Everybody called me Nate. And some people ask, I cannot get them to call me Nathaniel. They still called me, Nate. So, she says, “Hey, Nate. I was just talking to Lilian about China. and they were telling me that something was going on there. They’re having some kind of unrest there and they are advising anyone from the U.S. not to go there at this time. They might not be able to come back to the U.S.

So, what do you think? Let me know what you think. I’m still so excited about you even having the thought about sending us to China. That sounds so great and it’s so different. It’s almost scary even thinking about it. I just really appreciate you want to do this for Lilian and I. So, just let us know whatever you think.”

When God sends you somewhere. So, the minutes she told someone about they were going to China, you get all of these negatives that come up. Do you know stuff is happening in China? Do you know that locking up folks? They’re killing folks over there, you get over there, you might not be able --, all kinds of stuff? Do you know when you start telling some people about the vision and the dream and the destiny God has shown you? Then other folks would say, “You think you’re going to do what? You’re going where? You’re can be a what? Do you realize that dangers on what could happen to you?”

Look, when God gives you a destiny in a vision, it’s usually always bigger than where you are and what you are thinking. It is on the

level where you are. You don't need God to tell you about it. You can think it yourself. So, usually when God is going to send you somewhere and to do something for you, it's bigger than what you think and often it's scary.

Do you know every time an angel appeared to a human in the Bible, almost the first words that angel had to say is what? "Be not afraid." Be not afraid, because the minute the presence of God showed up in humans like, it scared them. So, sometimes when God is about to do something for you, it scares you, because it's at a level, and distance, in a height that you have never been before.

Pull up the next slide, slide four. This is still the same day, and I explained to them. I said, "First, you will be with the tour group on a bus. This is different from individuals traveling through China alone. Whenever you are going anywhere alone, there are always an increased risk of things, but with you are with the tour group, those risks are almost nonexistent, because the toll company handles essentially everything."

When you read about the exit bans in China, they are always involving specific stuff and usually, they are former Chinese citizens that China does not want returning to the U.S. not native Americans. We take a yearly brother's trip and this year; we are going on that identical China trip. So, that should tell you how we feel about it. We are going. And then, Doris responded on that last text, here in the yellow. "Lilian is afraid of us going over there by ourselves. She thinks, we need someone with us. Let me talk to her and see how she's feeling. Okay, get back with you later."

Now, at first, what started out was, "Oh, my goodness. I can't believe we're going this far." And, in the end, "Oh, nobody is staying. I don't know about this thing." And I can see why God wanted me just to deal with you today. This is real stuff. These are the texts. These are the actual texts, that they're literally verbatim. I've changed a little of the punctuation, but none of the words. This is actually what happened and these were the emotions and these were the thoughts, and these were the words that came out of them, somebody getting ready to go further than it ever gone before.

God maybe getting ready to send someone here, higher than you have ever gone before, but it's scary. And you got to be able to trust God, that wherever God goes, he's got you.

00:10:03

And if you don't know that, you got an issue. Turn to the next slide. This is still later on that day and this is what she wrote. "We will be ready to go just let us know when. Please forgive us. We have been acting like some 65-year-old children. Just got a little scared that's all, but we're ready. Thank you so much for even wanting to send us anywhere. Thank you, thank you, thank you and we love you. Thank you."

You know, this is totally out of my comfort zone. I have never booked the tour in my life. So, I am feeling a little uncomfortable right now. God will have to give me grace. And I answered her text and told her, "Don't worry about anything. We're going to handle everything." So, actually we handled all of the booking, everything. They just got all the papers. All they had to do, is get on the plane and go.

So, the next text in slide number six, it basically, says, "I am getting excited and looking forward to the trip. Thank you so much." Now, this is nine days after that last text. And after I got that text, a few days later, Doris called me and she said, "That lady named Faye who was Lilian's best friend ask could she go with them?" And Faye said, she would pay her own expense, but she just wanted to go with go them on a trip to China.

See, that's one thing about it. Now, they were scared at first, but by the time they get to talking and buying stuff, and sure, I want to go there myself. So, see, once the people can feel your confidence come back, they want to get on the boat with you. But nobody wants to follow somebody's fear. But once you get fear out of you, you will start drawing other folks. So, she called me and she said, "Faye wanted to go with them." But when I was on the phone, I heard God, instantly speak, "No. The trip is only for the two of them." So, I told Doris, I said, "Doris, I'm sorry but I just heard God speaking." He said, "No." That trip is only for the two of you. And Doris said, "Well, okay that's what God said." She said, "Okay that's fine."

Go to the next slide, slide number seven. Now, this is on March the twelve, the last text before the trip. Now, I paid for the trip. I've purchased literally every excursion that they can go on. So, they said, when they got there, the guy says, when they got there, "You all got everything. Everything is paid for." And I gave them an additional amount of money. So, they would just have for

spending money. So, that amount is \$587.42. And the reason this was so. God said, "You will spend a total of \$4,200.00 for them to go on that trip." So, I took everything I had spent, subtracted it from the \$4,200.00, divided in two and that gave them, \$587.42. And you can read on that text what just what they're saying about how thankful they are, and they're looking forward to getting on that plane on the 24th of March. So, on March 24th, they got on the plane and they spent all of those days in China.

Now, I did not hear back from Doris until April the twelve. So, they got on the plane, went to China, came back. And they had been back almost a week before I heard from them. But when I heard from on April twelve, this is the text that I got. The first text upon them returning. "Hi, brother. Please forgive me for not reaching out to you sooner. When we got to Atlanta, my daughter took us straight to Patricia's house. That's the pastor of the church now. And when we got there, she told us that a member of the church had gone to be with the Lord and it was a good friend of Lilian. I don't know if you remember Faye, but March 30, she had a massive heart attack and died. And when we got back, she was dead and buried. So, this kind put damp on our own things. When she heard about the trip, she told Lilian that wanted to go with us on the trip and Lilian had to tell her that the Lord had told you that the trip was just for us. Her husband got really sick and she couldn't go anyway. Thank god he made you to know that the trip was just for us and she was all right with that because her husband got sick and she couldn't go anyway. Because he was sick, things were just working out."

Go to the next slide. "Because if she had gone with us, maybe she would have died with us in China and would have been so awful. Thank God, he had you to say what you needed to say so, we wouldn't have anybody else going with us, because it wasn't God's will. It was His will for us to do it the way that you say it. So, thank for obeying the voice of the Lord. That would have been a most devastating trip, if she had been with us. We are trying to get over the shock of this death. As far as we knew, she was fine and now she is gone.'

00:15:00

"Everyone was worried about Lilian, because they were very close. They didn't want anyone to tell us while we were away, but we couldn't call out and no one could call us. Neither one of our phones worked, God had that in control. Everything God was in

and He worked it all out. And Lilian was glad that she was where she was when it happened. I don't know how she would have done, but God knew what was best. We'll talk to you soon."

You see how God orchestrate stuff? When she called me and said her friend wanted to go and her plan friend would pay her way and God says, "No." Now, some people say, "Why God don't book my friend and go with me? Little did they know, that the friend was going to die. Because you see, the trip was really rocky, because when I talk with Doris on the phone, she said, "Nate, I got to get us some shake. Because when I was on that trip, we did all the walking and I just tired and will get into the gym when I get back, because we did so much walking. That thing, gets wooh." She talked about how much she loved the trip, but they did a whole lot and she said, "I just wasn't in shape for all that walking." And she talked about how she knew she had to get in shape, because they did so much walking.

But if Faye had gone with them, Faye would have died on that trip and they would have thought it was the walking that killed Faye. So, they would have blamed the trip, that's why Faye drop it. And do you know how difficult it is to get a dead body out of China? So, it would have been super difficult, super expensive, super devastating. But there they were over; their phones didn't work. Because you know folks will call you a bad news. You do know that, don't you?

Folks will call you a bad news. So, they would have call them in the middle of night because China is, 12 hours off. So, it is 12 noon here, it's 12 midnight in China. So, they would probably call him at 2:00 in the morning. "I know you all having fun over on the trip, but I just had to let you know, Faye drop dead." They would have called and they would have messed up the whole trip. But their phones didn't work. So, nobody could call them, nobody, could email them, because they were totally out of touch. And when they got back, Faye was dead and buried.

You see how God works people? So, God works in a way that many of us will not understand. And when we are obedient, God often will send us to a place not just for our benefit, but he sends us to the place to keep us out of some things that would happen if we were here. And what I told them, when they were scared to go, I said, "Look Doris." I said, "If God is sending you somewhere, I would rather be where God has told me to be. I don't care, if He

would be sending in the middle of a war zone. I would rather be where He has told me to be, than somewhere I think is safe. Because if God is sending somewhere, He always has a purpose, He always has a plan even though I may not know it and I may not understand it.”

So, that was the text that I got they immediately got back. Now, this past Friday, Doris sent me the final text and this is the text when I read it, God said, “Speak from this text”. And I want to just read this on the screen there. and it was exactly two months after they left for China. It was on May 24 this past Friday. “Hello, my brother. How are you? I changed my phone and I lost my contacts. I just found your number and I wanted to thank you again for that wonderful most amazing trip. My life truly has not been the same. I don’t even feel the same. There has been a change in me. I feel like, I can live again. I just wanted life to be over. The pain was so much. I’ve told God, I didn’t want to live like that. I was in such a state of depression and felt I couldn’t get out. I thank God and I thank you for allowing God to use you, to bless us. It made such a difference in me. I still miss my loved ones, but God did something in me on the inside. I am not in all that pain like I was. It’s been so different. I can’t hardly explain what’s going on inside of me. I just want to let you know that you helped to make a difference in my life. Thank you so much. I really appreciate you. Thank you and most of all, I thank God for using you to be a blessing in my life. Thank you. Thank you so much. You sister in Christ.”

So, this was the final text. And God just want some of you to know, she was in pain, she was in depression, and she had basically said she didn’t want to keep living like that. And then, God come and says, “I’m going to send you somewhere my child.” And, in the place, that He’s going to send you, scares you to death. It scares other the people around you, but when He sends you to the place, it shields you from some of things that would have happened to you if you had been here. Now, you’re already depressed. So, you’re already depressed and then, somebody close to you dies, it puts you in deeper depression. So, God sends you somewhere to shield you from all of that.

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And you see His orchestrations, His machinations, you see God moving in life. There’s somebody in here this message is

particularly for, because is going to transition to some things and to some places and you're not going to understand it. And for some of you, it may even scare you. But you need to first of all, know that it is God. And if you know it is God, have no fear. God had told me to do some things sometime I say, "Lord, I don't know about that, just didn't make logical sense. I don't know by that." But he spoken it, and bloomed into my spirit, and there was something, I said, "Lord, do you realize if I do this what could happen? This thing could be destructive." God says, "I can destroy you at any time, don't you understand that?" So, I've had to learn the power of obedience and the blessing of obedience and I've also had to learn the curse of disobedience.

See, the two sides of this thing. When you're talking about the blessing or there's some curses and the curses are almost universally outnumber the blessing. When you read the Bible, the curses are numerated three times more than the blessings are. So, if we don't do what God tells us to do, if we don't follow what God tells us to do, there's this pile of curses and we're no longer under the curse, but the curses are still here, you just look around. And curses are still and we still sometimes are subject to the effects and to the consequences of disobedience. God wants to take some you to a whole new level. And He said, "Nate, I wanted to get you something and it's this picture. And it was a picture from China. It wasn't in this frame. It was just this green thing, but you remember I told you that God said," "You know, the big money is on the way when you see yourself surrounded by green." And she had no idea, but this picture was surrounded by greens and so, I had it framed and actually put it up in our conference room in my company and we take a trip with the company every year. One of those years, I'm going to take the company to China.

And do you know I had the same problem with my company? We used to take a bus. So, we would drive somewhere local and one day, God just impressed someone, "Take him further." And our first big long trip was to Washington D.C. and we got on the plane and if I had about two or three people, who had never been on an airplane before. And they said, Mr. Bronner, we're just scare to go, we are not going. You know what I did? I bought them a ticket and I said, "You don't have to go. I'm not forcing you to go, but this ticket is non-refundable, is non-transferrable, the choice is yours. You got the ticket. You can be on that plane or you can take this ticket tear it and put it in the trash. I'm not pressuring you; the choice is yours." Every one of them was on the plane.

They came back to me a couple of months later and said, “Mr. Bronner, we thank you because we were terrified to fly on a plane.” They said, “You know; we’ve been on the plane twice since then.” See, once you break something and some of you are just scared. You’re scared to do somethings and you don’t you don’t even recognize the truth. A plane is much safer than a car. Flying somewhere on the plane is 24 times safer than driving. But folks are just scared, they got this fear almost from the devil himself. They just got them scared of some stuff. And you got to recognize the truth and you got recognize when God is with you.

And you know those two things, it won’t necessarily remove fear, but it will remove fear from the wrong stuff. God says, “Fear Him.” Jesus said, “Don’t fear the man who just killed the body. You fear that which can kill body and soul.” So, He didn’t say not to be scared of some stuff. He said, only be scared of the right thing. So, when we learn some of these things, God is able to then move and take us to an entirely different level. And I do believe, this message is meant for somebody in here today, who God has destined, and ordained to go to a whole new level. But you go have to break through the fear, and once you break through that fear, paradise is waiting for you.

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