

# Outside of Your Comfort Zone

Sermon Title: **Outside of Your Comfort Zone**

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Speaker: **Nathaniel Bronner**

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(Music Playing: 00:00:18 - 00:00:45)

And now for 5839, Outside of Your Comfort Zone.

Nathaniel: Dear heavenly Father, we just thank you this day. We thank you for every person present, we thank you for gracing this organization to exist for a hundred years and Father, we pray even a longer continued existence. Father, I pray today that you take control of my mind, my spirit, my voice, every thought that I shall think, every word that I shall speak, let it be of you and from you. I pray you open the hearts and minds of the people that they shall receive upon this day that which you shall them to hear in thy son Jesus' name we pray, amen.

And it is indeed a pleasure for me to be here today. I thank you, Dr. Catalan, so many of the friends I see, Dr. Annette Shelton, and so many of you who have been a part of the NBCL and yet Bronner Brothers has been joined with the National Beauty Culturists' League longer than I've been joined with my wife. This is our 25th wedding year and yet I remember when I was a little boy, my father and Dr. Katie Wickham and the Bronner Brothers and the NBCL beauty shows being combined, and we were together even at one point. And that history has been so glorious, so it is an honor indeed for me to stand here before you today.

Normally, I would be preaching in just a couple of hours in my own pulpit. And with Brothers of the Word, actually, of the five Bronner Brothers, four of us are ordained ministries and four of us are in ministry. But yet, were still business people, and I've got over a thousand sermons at brotheroftheword.com that you can go and download and listen to absolutely free on every subject you can think of. But the thing about it is, even though I've got these thousand sermons and they're over 2,000 sermons on brothersoftheword.com, even though I've got all of these sermons, and to be honest, I've got some good sermons. And normally, it is customary if you're going somewhere to speak, you just take a proven message. You know it's a wise thing to do, you already

know how people are going to respond, you don't have to wonder if this is going to go over well, you just take a proven message.

But God has never allowed me to do that. Everywhere I go, he will speak a word for that group. So just turn to the person next to you and tell them, "This is for you. You can't find this on the website, this is not some rewarmed over rehashed. It is a word that God simply spoke that is directly for you." And see, I also know that oftentimes when God speaks a word, it's not for everyone. It's not that it won't to apply to everyone, everyone just won't listen. So sometimes you've got a word and this thing is burning and it is for a particular people at a particular time, but sometimes you can have ten wise virgins and ten foolish virgins, all of them virgins but you got wise and you got foolish. And I'm praying today that everybody that's onto the sound of my voice, they are wise. Now, I know you're not virgins, but you're wise.

So I was preparing to come here, as a matter of fact even when Dr. Catalan contacted me and asked me to speak, God immediately spoke the word that I wish to speak, the word that is for you today. And this is what God simply spoke: Every great thing that you are capable of exist outside of your comfort zone. Every great thing that you are capable of exist outside of your comfort zone.

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Now, you see, when we are children, and when we are young, it is natural for us to take risk. It is natural for us to not just move out of the comfort zone. Often, when we are young, we move into the danger zone. But as we get older, as a few strands of gray enters our hair, as our bones begin to creep and there's not as much pep in our step as it used to be, as we get more mature and as we get older, we get more cautious, and as we get more cautious we have a tendency to not want to move outside of 68 to 72. This is the technical temperature for the comfort zone. We don't want to get too hot; we don't want to get too cold. Lord, have mercy if we don't want to get too cold.

So, as we move into a more mature range and stage of life, we have a tendency to not want to move outside of our comfort zone, but God has sent me here today to tell you that every great thing, that you are capable of exist outside of your comfort zone. And I understand how good it is and how comfortable, how warm, how

safe, how less stressful it is to live inside of the comfort zone, but you will never achieve anything great just sitting in that comfort zone.

A few months ago, I crossed one of the items off of my bucket list which was to go skydiving, and I said, I'm going to do this thing I've always wanted to do, I see other people do it, and see, we talk about a lot of stuff, but we won't do it. And I'm 63 years old, so, I am technically a senior citizen, but so what? You all say, "So what." So what? What does that got to do with a doggone thing just because society has labeled me a senior citizen? But in order for me to do some things, and in order for me to accomplish what God has placed inside of me, I've got to get outside of my comfort zone.

So, I drove up to Chattanooga, I got on a plane, I went up to 18,000 feet. They've got three levels you can jump from 10, 14 and 18 (00:07:42) take me as high as I can go. And when I got to 18,000 feet there was only the pilot, the jump instructor and myself left in that plane, he pushed me out, and I mean it was an experience but you've got to move outside of your comfort zone if you're ever going to get to certain heights in life. So, I'm just here to tell you and to bring you that, that God is saying, "Get out of your comfort zone." And one of the reasons we don't get out of our comfort zone is because of what's called the fear of failure.

My church is right near the Olympic Stadium, and the Braves, Atlanta Braves baseball team used to be there and they had this huge 755 and big gigantic letters on the stadium. 755 was Hank Aaron's number of home runs for his career. He broke Babe Ruth's record of 714. Hank Aaron, when he got to 713, had death threats, because they said, "We cannot have a black man breaking the record of Babe Ruth." But when Hank stood up to the bat, at number 713, he said, "I've got to get outside. Yeah, they threatened to kill me. But if I'm going to go to this height, I've got to swing with everything I got." He got to 714, and when he got to 714, he got even more death threats because he was one swing away from an all-time record of history. Some of you all are one swing away from the greatest destiny God has ever had for your life. But the thing about it is we're scared of failing. What people don't know, so many people know that Hank Aaron hit 755 home runs, that Babe Ruth hit 714 home runs. What they don't know is Hank Aaron struck out 1,383 times.

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He struck out almost twice as many times as he hit a home run. Babe Ruth struck out 1,330 times. So, you've got to get up to bat, you cannot be afraid of failure. Every great thing that's a hit for you is outside of your comfort zone. And Jesus said, "Unless you become as little children, you will never enter into the kingdom of heaven." People, you are not too mature. You don't have too many years on you.

Look, there are some things, my body is older than it's ever been, your body is older than it's ever been, but so what? I've got a 14-year-old who cannot keep up with me. I've got 20-year-old and 23-year-old. They're strong, they work out, and they have to really sweat to beat daddy. If you set your mind toward God has some things ahead for you and you can turn the world upside down.

Twelve men have walked on the moon, but only two men have walked on water. And then see, with God, you can do some things that very few people can do. Some of you all are destined to walk on water, you're not destined to sink, but you would never walk on water unless you follow Jesus out of the comfort zone. And there are some things that God has destined for you to do.

Some of you right now, you are saying, "Well, I'm comfortable." That's the worst thing in the world, for progress is to be comfortable. Sometimes, you got to be hungry to make real progress, and some of you are saying, "Well, look, I don't need anymore." You may not need it, but your legacy needs it. You may not need it, but your grandchildren and your great grandchildren may need this thing.

So, there are some things, there are somebody right now, and this is pricking your spirit because you really want to lay down and take your ease and I understand that. That was in parts where I told God, I said, "Lord, I've done all I really need to do, I've got all the money I really need. I can just sit back and relax." He said, "No, you cannot." I will not, as a matter of fact not only are you not going sit back and relax, you're going to do more than that. You're going to get busier and more organized. So, in order to do this, I'm going to stay in the will of God. I've got to move outside of my comfort zone and so do you because I do not believe you are meant and set to retire; you are meant and set to re-fire.

When Jesus went to the man with the withered hand, Jesus told them a few words. Jesus gave him a command. He said, "Stretch forth thine hand." Some of you, you've got to stretch. It has to push. Stretching is a thing that causes the stiffness to leave. You know, at a certain age, when you've been sitting for a long time and you tried to get up -- my grandmother she lived to be 97 and sometimes when she was in her upper 80s, when she would get up from sitting down a long time she would say, "Aw."

Sometimes there's an "aw." But you've got to stretch forth. You've got to move beyond. And see, too often -- I've got a widget on my phone and it is a countdown clock. Because God has spoken, "You've got a greater destiny ahead of you than behind you." And through some prophetic authors, they said, "You're going to live to 116 years old." That's my goal, is 116 and I've got a countdown clock to 116. I've got 53 years, four months and 12 days left. I got a lot to do in those 53 years, four months and 12 days. So, I am not looking at what is behind me; I'm looking at what is ahead of me. And when you look at what is ahead of you, you can turn the world upside down.

And even Dr. Catalan, she wrote me a letter and she said, "Look, we'll pay for your plane ticket, we'll pay for your hotel and we'll have you an honorarium check." Normally, I don't take honorarium checks. I've been preaching for 25 years. I don't get a salary. I don't get paid for preaching. It's something that I do for the love of God. I'm a businessman. My business pays all of my salary, but as I was up praying this morning, God has spoken. He said, "Look, you take that check from the NBCL." And I'm not lying about it because my wife is sitting right down the from row.

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So, she knows I'd speak all over the place. I don't take money for speaking. People, I'm telling you here. God has some new money for you that you've never gotten before. Do you understand? So, Dr. Catalan, I'm going to take that check with a smile. Normally, I would refuse. I said, "No, I don't take any money for speaking." But sometimes, God will say, "I am opening up new avenues in your world and you've got to change your mind, you've got to move out of your comfort zone." It's not even comfortable for me to take an honorarium check because I've never done it.

For you to go to places where God has destined for you to go, you have to do some things you've never done. It's going to make you uncomfortable; you're going to have stretch forth your hand, and I pray that this word is getting through to some of you who simply have said to yourself, "I shall take my ease." And you've got legacy to leave, you've got destiny to fulfill and you still have work to do that is yet undone. And when you get about doing this thing, it adds new life.

One of the reasons why people get Alzheimer's is because they're not doing anything. When you keep your mind and spirit active, it keeps your body and it keeps your mind sharp. Sitting down, doing nothing but looking at television all day will kill you. So, get up off that couch even if you have to say "aw" a hundred times. Do what God has destined you to do and it will take you to an entirely different destination. It will take you to places where you've never been.

God recently had me develop -- I've been developing products since I left college. For the first time, God actually spoke a formulation. It's a product called "Miracle Lotion." He spoke the formulation. It's been out on the market now for about three months, a newly revamped divine formulation. And he said, "Look, I want you to give away 24 dozen a day, six days a week." I said, "Look, do you know how much this stuff costs? Do you know how much that's going to cost? That's over a \$100,000 a month worth of product." He said, "Give it away."

I'm going to tell you right now how to get the free case. You go to [miraclelotion.com/salon](http://miraclelotion.com/salon). I'm not going to repeat it, so if you missed it, it's gone. And you get a free case. All you have to have is a salon and it'll go to your salon address. Sometimes, God will make you do some things that you have to say, "Lord, are you crazy? You want me to do what, are you crazy?" But whenever God has a destiny for you in the vast majority of times, it will make you jump back and say, "What? You want me to do what? At my age, you want me to do what? You want me to go where? You want me to start what?" Yes, he does. That's why he sent me here today.

The NBCL is 100 years old today. I don't know how old you are, but I want you to just it out right now. Sixty-three. Shout it out!

Don't be ashamed of how old you are, because, do you know what the alternative is? If you're not, there's only one way not to be getting older. So, don't be ashamed of what God has graced you with. That's one of the first realizations, is to understand, God has graced me to be here for however many years, but I've got destiny ahead of me. I've got to move, I've got to go forth, I've got to stretch, I've got to produce. I still have life in me and as long as I have life, and breath, and strength within me, I may not be as strong as I once was, but I'm wiser than I ever was.

So, you take what is in your hand, don't worry about what is gone. You take. You can't eat with the teeth you used to have, you got to eat with the teeth you got. So, you take the teeth you got and you move, and you chew, and you claw, and you go where God has destined you to go and you will find when you wake up tomorrow, you will be further than you are today and you'll be closer to the divine destiny that God has for all of you. God bless you.

(Crosstalk: 00:19:50 - 00:20:07)

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