

### Would you like to hear the Good News?

God still loves you. He never stopped loving you. He loved you so much that He sent His Son Jesus to bring you back. All you have to do is let Him bring you back. Will you pray with me?

*"Lord Jesus... I want to stop trusting in myself...and what I can do...and start trusting in you...and what you have already done...when you died for me on the cross. I know that! am a sinner...and I am sorry for my sins. I ask you to forgive me...I believe you rose again...and I invite you to come and live inside of me. I want you to be my Savior and Lord...which means being #1 in my life. I want to repent and turn away...from everything you and the Bible call sin...and I totally commit myself... to obeying you...every day, for the rest of my life. Lord Jesus baptize me in your precious Holy Spirit. Thank you Jesus."*

Now that you have made peace with God, He is ready for you to begin to grow in a personal relationship with Him.

### Receiving More of Jesus? "The Baptism in the Holy Spirit"

Who is the Holy Spirit? He is God. You might ask, "If the Holy Spirit is God, and Jesus is God, and the Heavenly Father is God, are there three Gods?" No. There is only one God as stated earlier. But God is unified as One and exists in the three Persons of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This threefold nature of God is exhibited even in creation. Humans have a body, a mind, and an eternal spirit. Our mind is not our body. Our spirit is not our mind. Are we then three people? No. We are just one person with three manifestations.

After we receive eternal life through confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior, we can also receive what the Bible calls the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. The purpose of this Baptism is to be anointed like Jesus and do the works that He did. Through this Baptism we receive the power of God, the supernatural fruit of the Holy Spirit, and the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, long-suffering, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). We receive these supernatural capabilities in our lives when we receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Some of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are listed in 1 Corinthians 12. Through the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, God distributes these great gifts to each one individually as He wills for each situation (1 Corinthians 12:8-11).

### Would you like to receive this great gift?

Yes No

Throughout the New Testament, the Bible shows the manifestations of the gifts after receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Initially the gift of utterance, a language not previously known to the person is received, or interpretation of tongues, or prophesy. The gifts of power are faith, healings, or miracles. The gifts of revelation are also available: word of knowledge, word of wisdom, or discernment of spirits, or any combinations of these gifts. The Holy Spirit will manifest His presence differently at different times depending on which gift or gifts are needed at that time.

### Do you believe these things?

Yes No

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is received by faith just as salvation is received. Pray the following prayer or one similar to it.

*Dear Heavenly Father. I believe You are the source of all love and power. I ask right now for the gift of the Holy Spirit. I have faith in You, and that You will give me this great gift. Because I have asked, I believe I have now received the Power of God, the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in my life. I have received all these wonderful gifts by faith. I also ask that You will show me how to use these gifts for Your glory by Christ Jesus. I pray now thanking you in the name of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. Luke 11:13*

### Do you believe you have received these great gifts?

Yes No

You have received these gifts. You should begin to use these gifts now that God has given you



# Hearing His Voice

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"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony." Revelations 12:11

## Working at Becoming My Very Best



**Jeremy Lin**

My name is Jeremy Shu-How Lin. I was born August 23, 1988, and I am an American professional basketball player for the Brooklyn Nets of the National Basketball Association (NBA). I unexpectedly led a winning turnaround for the New York Knicks in 2012, which generated a global following known as "Linsanity."

I grew up in a Christian family, but I didn't

live the Christian life. Christianity didn't make sense. I was the class clown, a bully, and a showoff. My brother and I would play pranks on our nanny. One day we went to a restaurant, and I picked up a handful of toothpicks. We took those toothpicks and stuck them in the cushion of our nanny's favorite chair while she was taking a shower and then took a nap. After two hours of waiting, I got bored and went into the living room to watch television. I flopped down in our nanny's chair and sat on those toothpicks. It drew blood. That's the kind of kid I was. In the fifth grade, I would go to class and make the teacher cry.

My parents, Lin Gie-Ming and Shirley Lin, emigrated from Taiwan to the United States in the mid-1970s, settling first in Virginia before moving to Indiana, where they both attended universities. They have dual citizenship in the nations of Taiwan and the U.S. My paternal family is the Hoklo people from Beidou, Changhua, Taiwan, while my maternal grandmother immigrated to Taiwan in the late 1940s from Pinghu, Zhejiang, in mainland China.

My parents are both 5 feet 6 inches (1.68 m) tall. My maternal grandmother's family was tall, and her father was 6 feet tall (1.83 m). My older brother, Josh, and a younger brother, Joseph, were shorter. Gie-Ming taught his sons to play basketball at the local YMCA. Shirley helped form a National Junior Basketball program in Palo Alto where I played. She worked with coaches to ensure my playing did not affect academics. She was criticized by her friends for letting me play so much basketball, the game I enjoyed.

In the ninth grade, I joined a youth group, got baptized, and my life began to change. We had Christian fellowship. I grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and earned Northern California Player of the Year honors as a senior in high school. During my senior year in 2005–2006, I captained Palo Alto High School to a 32–1 record and upset the nationally ranked Mater Dei, 51–47, for the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division II state title. I was named first-team All-State and Northern California Division II Player of the Year, and ended my senior year averaging 15.1 points, 7.1 assists, 6.2 rebounds, and 5.0 steals. After receiving no athletic scholarship offers, I attended Harvard University, where I was a three-time All-Conference player in the Ivy League. My first year and a half at Harvard, I struggled. I did not have a community or fellowship. My only outside activity was basketball. Then I joined the Asian/American Christian Fellowship. My faith started to grow again.

A Harvard coach remembered me in my freshman season as "the [physically] weakest guy on the team," but in my sophomore season (2007–08), I averaged 12.6 points and was named to the All-Ivy League Second Team. By my junior year during the 2008–09 season, I was the only NCAA Division I men's basketball player who ranked in the top ten in his conference for scoring (17.8), rebounding (5.5), assists (4.3), steals (2.4), blocked shots (0.6), field goal percentage (0.502), free throw percentage (0.744), and three-point shot percentage (0.400). I was a consensus selection for the All-Ivy League First Team. I made 2 points, 8 assists, and 6 rebounds in an 82–70 win over the 17th-ranked Boston College Eagles, three days after the Eagles defeated number one North Carolina.

Undrafted out of college, I reached a partially guaranteed contract deal in 2010 with my hometown Golden State Warriors. I was on a high. I had lots of media, McDonald's, friends on Facebook. However, I was down on the depth chart. I would play when we were twenty points down. I put a lot of pressure on myself and worried about my performance and playing time. What would I do if I was cut? What would I tell my agent, friends, and parents? I was twenty-one years old and wondered why I signed with San Francisco. Basketball consumed

my happiness. It took my joy. I was overwhelmed with fear, worry, and anxiety. I needed help. I needed to trust God and give all my fear, worry, anxiety, and problems to Jesus Christ. I needed internal relief. I needed the "Fruits of the Spirit" returned to me – love, peace, joy, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The more I pressed into Christ, the greater my relationship grew in Jesus. I discovered my identity was in Christ and not basketball. I was finally set free.

I seldom played in my rookie season, and I was assigned to the NBA Development League (D-League) three times. I was waived by the Warriors and the Houston Rockets. There are ups and downs in life, but my trust was always in God.

**OUR VISION** is based on a vision that God gave to a businessman—a dairy farmer. In that vision, he saw hundreds of despondent men who felt they had no chance of making it in the world. Then they heard a message of hope and they came alive! Their heads held high; they were transformed into productive men with dignity and purpose.

### **GOD'S PURPOSE FOR OUR FELLOWSHIP**

- To reach men everywhere for Jesus Christ with the same social, cultural or business interests.
- To call men to God: to help men become born again, baptized in the Holy Spirit, operate in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- To mentor young men who have never had a positive male role model by being a spiritual father to them.
- To provide a basis of fellowship among all men everywhere, regardless of church affiliation.
- To bring about a greater measure of unity and harmony in the Body of Christ.
- To train and equip men to succeed in the business world.

### **Learning about Business**

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