

A person is seen from behind, sitting in a wooden boat on a calm body of water. The person is wearing a green hoodie and dark pants. The boat is made of light-colored wood and has some ropes and gear inside. In the background, there are tall, jagged mountains with steep cliffs, some of which are covered in snow or light-colored rock. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and majestic.

"Dwelling in the promises of God outside of
your comfort zone"

GETTING OUT OF THE BOAT

TAKING RISK

DR. CHERYL A. HILL

Getting Out of the Boat: Taking Risk
Lord, Bid Me to Come

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-Dr. Cheryl A. Hill



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Dedication

This book is dedicated to all marketplace and ministry leaders. To those who desire to be an asset in whatever sphere of influence they find their true purpose. My prayer is that you find insight, foresight, and understanding of your purpose in the practical and spiritual applications of life.

To those who have the courage to live your life “out loud” no matter the challenge, I salute you. To those who have the steadfast determination to re-position their lives to walk in their assignments, I salute you.

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Acknowledgement

To my mentors, my family and friends I am thankful for the wisdom, examples and time shared to get this message out to millions of people.

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Introduction

While the perspective of the book is about taking risk, the approach is to incorporate your *passion, practical life experiences* and to create critical partnerships among many individuals dedicated to community development.

These include: community residents, volunteers/paid staff of community organizations, employees of area or region-wide corporations, social service agencies, health care providers, economic development org, etc.

It takes a “holistic approach” to sustain a successful outreach.

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***Theme: “The Thing that I SEE is disturbing the
Thing That I “Know”***

What do you do when your boat seems to be sailing in a direction contrary to what you know within? I believe I am speaking to the many people today who are experiencing a battle within themselves in response to the “new thing” that God is doing in your life. Many of you may be contemplating doing something different or something new in your ministry, job or home, only to find that the frustration within is not anything that can be settled by man’s plan but this settling must be done by God’s handiwork.

Let’s prepare to do some present-day boating. We all

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have heard the account of Peter and Jesus doing the “water walking” demonstration. This account was written especially for those who God will call out into the deep things of Kingdom Life. It does not matter whether you are a Pastor, Prophet, Teacher, CEO or stay-at-home mom. If you have been walking with the Lord for a period of time, witnessed miracles and have consistently heard the voice of the Lord, this sailing adventure is for you.

Many of us are no different than Peter. Peter loved the Lord, worshipped Him, walked and worked with Him. He was in constant relationship with Jesus. Even at the most stressful times Peter and the disciples looked unto Jesus and witnessed miracles.

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It was never the case that Peter and the disciples did not trust the Lord but it by walking from faith to faith that they “learned” of their Lord. Jesus strategically put the disciples in an environment of mentoring and “on-the-job training.” Jesus was preparing them for John 14:12 “the works I do you shall do greater” (paraphrased). Jesus allowed situations, people and things to shape the character and to increase the faith of Peter and the other disciples. We are no different today. Jesus will allow people, places and things to increase our faith and get us to the place of destiny pronounced over us before the foundation of the world.

To help you understand a present-day Peter story, I

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will try to sum up my life in a few words as an example of how God is the same yesterday, today and forever. I believe that God has placed me in a position to be a **water walker** all my life and believe me, I have had my share of on-the-job training. The funny thing about me is that “every” major change in my life required me to stretch my mind or have a paradigm shift concerning people, places and things that God would lead me into. My life has been a journey of going from faith to faith and glory to glory. I distinctly remember God taking me to very high places of authority in the marketplace. I never had the experience or knowledge of how to become

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positioned in seats of authority through college training or through connections of others. I literally depended on hearing God's voice to know how to navigate, direct and to implement plans and policies. I could always sense when it was time to move to another faith level, another experience or another depth of revelation and knowledge because the *grace* to remain where I was would literally lift from me and I would begin to become agitated in the place which was once a promised place. I knew, once the grace lifted, if I stayed in that place or position it would cause discomfort to me and others. At each juncture as I sought the Lord saying "there has got to

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be more to my life than what I am doing”, the response from the Lord was to send me on a sailing trip, a trip that led me to *walk on water*.

What exactly do I mean when I talk about walking on the water? The revelation that I got from the Lord is that walking on water is what gets you to the point where you have to move beyond human reasoning! When you walk on “this water” you can’t feel, touch, smell or see all that God will have for you. You will not have a job lined up, you will not have the right amount of money in the bank and you will not know what your next connection will be. The only thing you can rely on is what you “hear” the Lord speak as your next direction. This deep water walking

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journey will take you to a place where you finally understand what it means when the scriptures say “you are truly not your own.” Your body, spirit and soul will have to respond to “His” directions. Elijah can attest to this faith movement.

Jesus and the disciples had just had the biggest food give-a-way ever! They fed five thousand or more.

The disciples “witnessed” a phenomenal miracle.

After all was done Jesus tells them to get in **“the boat”** and go to the other side. Again, don’t forget they had just witnessed a phenomenal miracle and had been with the One who God used to provide the miracle and now they were being put in a boat to sail to the other side. To tell the truth, they were heading

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into new territory with new challenges and immediately after seeing the miracle of thousands being fed they became complacent with the miraculous works. Isn't that just like us? Many times after being delivered from our challenges we get complacent, and we might say "thank you God" but we resume the position of our everyday navigation through life.

Well, the disciples were about to get another experience and walk into an "on the job training" session with Jesus. They had the divine opportunity to walk in the miraculous constantly. You would think there would be some lessons learned, right? The same goes for us. We don't consider the lessons

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learned through our wilderness experiences or even our victories as lessons to walk in the miraculous constantly. We, as a general rule, are just very glad to come out of the wilderness and very glad to get a victory without receiving the true wisdom and authority that comes with each wilderness experience and victory. Before the disciples would go to the new place of their walk, Jesus would “allow” them to be in the midst of a storm. If we could keep in mind that the storms are a TEST to allow us to show forth what we have learned and how to become “master sailors”.

When you are asked by the Lord to “get out of the boat” and walk, there will be NO familiar objects,

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people, methods or reasons that will assist you in this walk. You must trust the “voice” that has called you to the new place or your new assignment. There will be voices of people that you genuinely trust that may give you advice according to what they “see”, but because you are walking on *this water* designed especially for you, of the Master must be the one you obey.

Years ago, I gave my resignation letter to the Governor of my state to take a new position dealing with international humanitarian work. I had worked in the government for over 15 years and for the Governor’s Office for five years. God had favored me throughout these years to give me a very prestigious

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platform. Many people thought I was making a terrible decision to leave a job of prominence and what they believed was stability. **The THING that I KNEW began to disturb the THING that I saw.** I knew that I could stay on as long as I wanted in a government position with benefits and great platforms. I SAW what God was speaking to me in my spirit almost weekly. *The things that I knew began to conflict with the things that I was seeing in the spirit realm.*

God had begun to call me out of the government arena in 2007. What He wanted me to do I could not define until approximately January 2009. I wrestled within to seek if this was the voice of the adversary

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for months. One month before I resigned, I wrote my resignation letter and saved it on my computer. I was still waiting for God to bear witness with me that it was time to submit my resignation. For a space of time I was like Peter and the disciples in the boat because the “storms” of several voices came against that which I knew. This boat trip would change *everything* in my life. Taking this new job would change my circle of influence, where I would travel and my authority. For each place of change I did experience increase. I increased in my circle of influence, travel and my authority. The most notable point of this *water walking experience* is that I had no diagram to look at, nothing to measure and no great

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assurance from my familiar friends and wise counsel.

My best assurance was the ONE who knows me-
Jesus.

As Jesus heard the cry of Peter and the disciples He told them to “fear not”. Amazingly, Jesus *broke the protocol* of “man’s reasoning” and walked on the water towards their cry. Peter said, “If it be you, bid me to come. Because Peter and the disciples NEVER saw Jesus do such a miracle as walk on water during a storm, they could not wrap their mind around what they were seeing and could not comprehend that it was truly Jesus walking towards them. Can you imagine “defying” the force of the winds and water? BUT, when Peter heard the voice of

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the Lord he “stepped out” of the boat, **risking** everything and walked towards the One that had bid him to come. Although Peter stumbled and began to sink, allowing what he saw to confuse and consume him, Peter was delivered by the very One who called him.

When you walk in your new season, you will walk on water and not stumble! You will listen and obey the voice of the One that bids you to come into your new business, ministry, marriage, wealth or whatever it may be that God desires you to come to. The Key is that you will NOT use human reasoning in this move.

Human reasoning involves *your* five senses. God

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wants you to walk using your “first sense” and that is knowing within the voice of the One that has called you from your mother’s womb. Hearing the voice of the Lord and obeying His directions will take you to your next journey to the “new things”. You will reach the “other side” intact and full of faith. You will be able to speak to the winds that come into your life to sharpen you. You will be able to resist the things that you see and fear, to walk in the things that you “know” in true faith and belief. This *season of sailing* will be on gentle waters. The old has passed away and you will behold a new place, a new thing and even new people. Taking a risk is really walking in

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faith without “human reasoning”. Taking a risk is really saying “the thing that I see is disturbing the thing that I know”.

One Sunday, while in the throngs of God’s presence, a Pastor was preaching and I clearly heard and understood the revelation of what God was speaking concerning Peter. The Pastor was preaching and said, the thing that Peter saw was disturbing the thing that Peter knew. In this one sentence God made it clear that we should listen to His voice and another voice we should not follow. What we SEE in the natural does not always equate to what is happening with God. Truly the supernatural movement of God disturbs the natural things that we see. If there is

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anxiety and no peace to what you are hearing then God is not in the midst. Where there is gentleness and peace there you will find God. No matter if you are in a challenge or experiencing a victory you can still experience the peace of God.

If you are reading this and you know that God is calling you to another place, people or assignment take time to hear God. Go somewhere that is peaceful to receive your next water walking steps of victory!

Prayer: Father, how great thou art! I decree and declare that my brother and sister will experience by choice your great insight and your great love to propel them into the newness of their lives. We stand against any form of low living and move toward living above and not beneath. We move into the boldness and assuredness of your promises, and we will walk into the fullness of our destiny. We will KNOW who we are in our authority and power through Christ Jesus. We are

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happy and satisfied and glad to walk on any water and in faith with our King-Christ Jesus. We are cleared for take-off , in Jesus Name.

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About The Author



Author, Speaker, Pastor, Consultant, and President/CEO of Integrity International Trade & Business Network (IITBN), Founder and CEO of HER EMPACT INTERNATIONAL, former Vice-President of The Quintessential Group for North America (QGNA).

Dr. Cheryl A. Hill has over fifteen years' experience in local and state government. Best known as a trendsetter, change agent, and dynamic woman of God, Dr. Hill's expertise lies in capacity building, professional development, and economic, agricultural, and global management and development. She has spearheaded and facilitated a number of faith-based initiatives, entrepreneurial ventures, community partnerships, marketplace training programs, and economic mission trips to Africa and abroad; serves as a mentor to government, corporate, and faith-based leaders, pastors, and business professionals; and holds a Bachelor's of Science in Biblical Management & Leadership and a Ph.D. in Divinity from Family Bible Ministries Worldwide Seminary and University.

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Dr. Cheryl Hill is The President, of Integrity International Consulting Group, LLC. She is emerging as an “Influential Woman to Watch” in the 21st Century. She is a leader in the marketplace with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Biblical Leadership and Management and an Honorary

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Doctoral Degree of Divinity. Cheryl's government appointments have been with the *Maryland's Governor's Office of Community Initiatives* as the Director of Faith Based & Community Outreach. She facilitated/ coordinated meetings with State agencies, faith-based organizations and liaised to the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Her work has reached as high as the White House and the depths of grass roots organizations in various African countries. She has been called upon by the wealthy and corporate leaders to help discern their spiritual walk, and lives out her mission daily, which is to "recognize, promote, inspire and commission the divine connection in others." She is strategically called upon for her wisdom to build infrastructure and to mobilize communities.

As the Founder of "Women of Significance" communiqué and magazine which reaches nine (21) countries and eighteen (19) U.S. states she teaches biblical wisdom strategies for "real" practical everyday challenges.

She firmly believes that finding, and living out, one's spiritual calling is the greatest joy to accomplish. *She also believes that the "business world" is one of the most exciting arenas where this development can happen.* Cheryl's greatest delight is being an ordained

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and International Pastor who equips, trains and ministers to marketplace leaders.

about The Author



Dr. Cheryl A. Hill is a faith leader, social entrepreneur, consultant, teacher and thought leader and international strategist. As a diversity strategist,

