

MISSIONARY STORIES

REAL STORIES ABOUT SPREADING GODS WORD

Mighty Miracles Under the Big Tent!

THIS STORY IS ABOUT: GOD USES ANYONE

BIG IDEA

You don't need to be rich, famous, or fancy for God to use you. When one humble young man preached the name of Jesus, God showed up with amazing power!

THE STORY

In the early 1920s, a young man named Francisco Llorente began preaching about Jesus among Spanish-speaking families in California and the American Southwest. Francisco had been filled with the Holy Ghost and baptized in Jesus' name by a man named Juan Navarro.

Francisco was not rich or famous. He had not gone to fancy schools.

But he carried something far more powerful than all of that, a special anointing from God that no school could ever give!

Francisco and his friends would set up big tents wherever Spanish-speaking people lived, in farm camps, little towns, and wide open fields. Then they would invite everyone to come!



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THE STORY CONTINUES

The meetings under those tents were exciting and loud and long, sometimes going way past midnight! There was no fancy music or polished show. There was just happy singing, powerful preaching of Acts 2:38, and lots and lots of prayer. And the Holy Ghost moved in ways that amazed even the preachers!

People felt God's power so strongly it was like being gently touched by an invisible hand. Sick people were healed in the name of Jesus, fevers cooled down right away, hurting bodies got better, and things that had bothered families for years were sent away when people called on Jesus.

One time, a woman who had been stuck in bed for years was carried into a tent meeting on a stretcher.

The people prayed for her in the name of Jesus, and guess what? She stood right up and walked out of that tent on her own two feet, praising God!

The crowd was so amazed that many people who had only come to laugh ended up kneeling down and giving their hearts to Jesus that very night.

In 1925, Francisco and other leaders started a church family that would become the Apostolic Assembly. The good news spread quickly among families all across the United States and into Mexico!

Year after year, Francisco kept preaching with the same fire he had as a young man. Even after he became a bishop and the church grew to hundreds of congregations, he never forgot those simple tent meetings.

Francisco would often say something very wise: 'The power is not in the building or in how big we are. The power is in the name of Jesus and the Holy Ghost.'



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THE STORY

Today, that church family is one of the largest Spanish-speaking Apostolic churches in the whole world! Francisco Llorente's life proves that God's power is not stopped by your language, where you come from, or how much schooling you have. When the name of Jesus is lifted up, the Holy Ghost still does amazing things!



DID YOU KNOW?

- Francisco Llorente preached in Spanish to Spanish-speaking families in California and the Southwest in the 1920s!
- The tent meetings sometimes lasted way past midnight because people didn't want to stop praying.
- A woman who had been stuck in bed for years was carried in on a stretcher, then walked out of the tent on her own after prayer!
- Francisco helped start the Apostolic Assembly in 1925, which grew into one of the largest Latino Apostolic churches in the world.
- The early history of these tent meetings is written down in a real book called 'The First Sixty Years of the Apostolic Assembly.'

MEMORY VERSE

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues.” Mark 16:17

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What kinds of places did Francisco set up his big tents to preach?



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LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- 2** Francisco was not rich or famous or highly educated. So why was God able to use him so powerfully?

- 3** The woman on the stretcher walked out on her own feet. What does this miracle tell you about the power in Jesus' name?

- 4** Francisco said the power is in the name of Jesus, not in big fancy things. Why is that an important thing to remember?

- 5** God used a humble young man who simply said 'yes' to Him. What is one thing God might want to use YOU to do?

LET'S PRAY

Dear Jesus, thank You that You can use anyone who loves You, no matter how young or small. I don't need to be rich or famous, I just need to say yes to You. Fill me with Your Holy Ghost and help me lift up Your wonderful name. In Your name I pray, Amen.

TRY THIS!

Build a 'Tent Meeting' in your class or living room! Drape a sheet or blanket to make a little tent, then gather underneath it to sing a worship song and pray together, just like Francisco's meetings. Take turns saying out loud, 'There is power in the name of Jesus!' Then find Mark 16:17 in a Bible and read it together.

