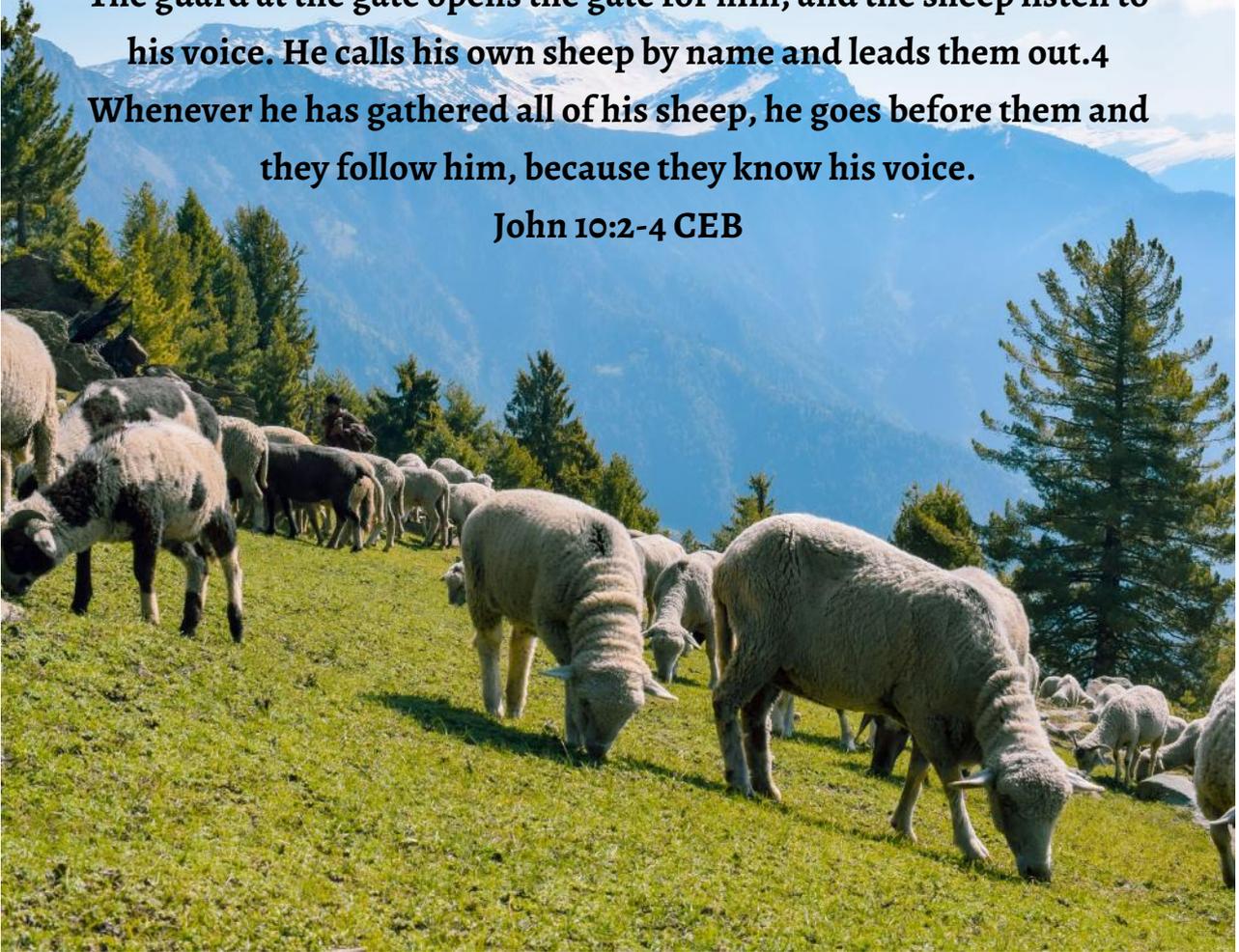


Workbook Part 1

My sheep know my voice!

2 The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.3 The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.4 Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice.

John 10:2-4 CEB



Listening to
GOD

Pastor Lily Ferrell

The Windsor Village Church Family
February 2022

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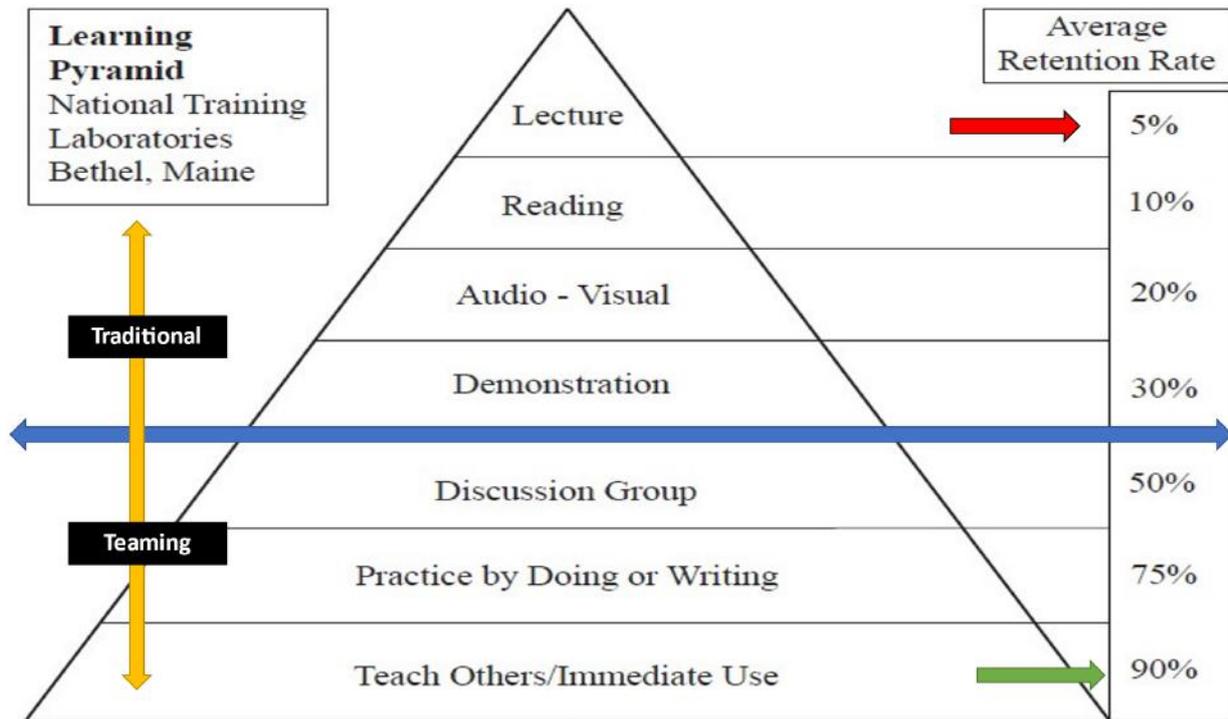
INTRODUCTION & ORIENTATION

Name	Listening to God
Instructor	Pastor Lily Ferrell
When	Tuesday Night from 7-9 PM and Wednesday @ Noon
Dates:	February 1 – March 30
Synopsis	God is speaking to us to communicating with us daily. Many of us have not been taught how to listen to God or recognize His voice more clearly. This Bible Study will help you develop strategies to listen to God and discern the various methods He uses to communicate with us.

7 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT!

1. **LISTEN** - Attentively! – Be fully and actively engaged!
2. **SHARE** - With 1-Minute “insightful” Comments – if you exceed your minute the class votes if you can continue – majority rules. Allows more people to share. US Senate has time limits so do we....
3. **ASK** - Do not hesitate to ask questions (write it down and wait for the appropriate time)
4. **THINK** - Formulate your thoughts before speaking to Be Clear & Be Concise
5. **PAY ATTENTION** - No Repetition!
6. **IDENTIFY “ZINGERS”** – Key thoughts or phrases that captured your attention and write them down.
7. **HOMEWORK** - Complete ALL reading assignments and class exercises prior to each class
8. **SCORE** - Ask the Holy Spirit what grade you deserve at the end of the class and why.

LEARNING PYRAMID



LISTENING TO GOD TOOLBOX



Tallit Prayer Shawl

Holy Spirit

Bible - Logos

Breath Prayers

Silence/Meditation

Soaking Prayer

WEEK #1 – INTRODUCTION & ORIENTATION

ANCHOR SCRIPTURE(S) JOHN 10:26-28; 15:15 - EXP

John 10:26-28 - 26 But you don't believe, because you are not my sheep. **27 My sheep listen to my voice;** I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never die [perish], and no one can steal [snatch] them out of my hand.

John 15:15 - 15 I no longer call you servants [slaves; bond-servants], because a servant [slave; bond-servant] does not know what his master [lord] is doing. But I call you friends, because **I have made known to you everything I heard from my Father.**

The Purpose of this bible study is to establish that God communicates with humans regularly. Dialogue with humans is part of His nature and He does it freely. The ways that God has spoken to humans in the Bible will be reviewed to establish a foundation in the methodology that he uses.

- We shall become acutely aware of the Joyous benefits of communicating with God.
- We shall learn the discipline of positioning ourselves daily to speak to our heavenly father.
- We shall learn to patiently wait with hopeful anticipation and expectation for God to communicate with us.
- We shall learn how to spiritually discern when God is speaking to us versus other voices.
- We shall grow in spiritual maturity and develop a closer intimate relationship with God.

SPIRITUAL SWEAT EQUITY

To learn these things, we must be willing to devote our labor, time, focus, and attention daily to develop these new skills. It will take practice to discern when God is speaking to us because he speaks differently to everyone based on how he created them. **We must find our own unique individual path to hearing God's voice.** Therefore, most of the work for this class will be done by you outside of class by doing the class exercises.

CLASS ENVIRONMENT

The class will be a comfortable, non-threatening environment for you to ask questions and develop confidence in hearing God's voice. Personally, Hearing and Writing the thoughts of God is delightful, comforting, and inspirational! This will not happen overnight. It requires patience, discipline, and commitment to get to that point. But it is well worth it!

THE REWARD!

It's time to move to the next dimension in God. Fasten your seatbelt and get ready for the ride. Be very intentional about praying breath prayers throughout the day because The enemy does not want you to draw nearer to God. Be strong and persevere and learn to run to your heavenly father for cover and comfort.

Your Mission – Write! Write! Write!

There are lots of white space left on these pages for notes. However, I encourage you to get **notebook** or a **journal** for some of your exercises and assignments. Write freely about your thoughts, emotions, revelations, and experiences. **Write letters to God** about things that you want to tell him. Hopefully, by the end of the class God will respond to your letter(s) and write one to back you!

HOLY SPIRIT GUIDANCE & EVALUATION

Finally, this class is about you and your relationship with God. After each assignment, you will **ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in grading your work and your final grade at the end of the class.** You will wrestle with flesh that will tell you that you deserve all "A's." You will question if it is The Holy Spirit that is speaking to you. However, you will grow and spiritual sermon and maturity to tell if it is God or not. This is all part of the growing process as you learn to trust the God in you and that God is for you and God is with you through this journey!

This class is **not designed** to give you all the answers but to give you **"Great Questions" to ask the Holy Spirit** who is our **"Master Teacher"**. It will **Develop Your Patience** as you learn to ask and then wait long periods for the answer. Remember you will get as much from the class as you want or as little as you put in. Shalom!

Course Materials

Course materials will be available in printed or ebook format for smart devices and will include **2 workbooks** and **2 handouts** which are:

- February Workbook Part 1
- March Workbook Part 2
- 24 ways to Engage God's Word, February handout
- Soaking in His Presence, March handout

All class materials are freely available on the Windsor village website.

1. You may request a printed copy upon registration for the class and pick it up from the church.
2. You may choose to use the workbook online in the e-book format and do all your assignments in a journal or notebook.
3. You may download the workbooks and handouts and print them yourself.

These course materials will be used to guide you closer to God. They will ask you probing questions like the ones below:

- What is your perception of God when you pray?
- Is He inclining His ear toward you?
- Do you feel as though you must persuade Him, or trick Him, into listening?

These workbooks are designed to create an image of God who:

- Is interested and delighted in you
- Wants to speak to you daily
- Wants you to look forward to communicating with him



POSITION TO HEAR – TALLIT PRAYER SHAWL

Introduction

The most important accessory in the Judaic tradition is the use of tallit or Jewish prayer shawl which is based on Holy Scripture. It is one of the most iconic Jewish symbols and an authentic Jewish garment that represents faith and religion. The word Tallit is mainly derived from two words *Tal* and *lth*, where **Tal** means a **tent** and **lth** means **little**. Therefore, Tallit is a small tent, which is specially worn to create a personal space for expressing our devotion towards YHWH. It is a white rectangular piece of fabric usually made of wool, silk, cotton or polyester.



Tzit-Tzit or Tassel

This special prayer shawl has knotted fringes called **tzitzit** on four corners that are made using blue thread only. This blue thread acts as a reminder of the duties and obligations of a Jew. One thread of each tassel was to be deep blue to remind them of their duty to keep the law. This word in the Greek language means literally fringes. The woman was reaching for the fringes of Yeshua's Garment because the fringes of the garment of a Jewish man has special significance! The word translated "Hem" is actual referring to **fringes or tassels**! The rule of wearing threads on the corners of one's clothing is a commandment found in the Bible itself:

The Lord said to Moses: Speak to the children of Israel and tell them to make fringes on the corners of their garments for all time; have them attach a thread of blue to the fringe at each corner.

And it shall be a fringe for you to see and remember all God's good deeds and do them and stray not after your heart and after your eyes to sin.

Remember and do all My commandments and become holy to Your God.

I am the Lord Your God who took you out of the land of Egypt to be Your God. I am the Lord Your God.

(Numbers 15:37-41)

The Tassels of Numbers 15 were a constant reminder to be consecrated or **set apart to serve YAHWEH Elohim alone**. Four-cornered garments were common in biblical times but are not common anymore. Thus, to fulfill this command, there is now available a four-cornered shawl called a tallit or prayer shawl, which is worn at daily and special times of prayer and bears a Tzit-Tzit or Tassel at each of its four corners according to biblical specifications. (Please note, according to tradition, the Tzit-Tzit are woven with the gematria numbers of the Holy Name of **YAHWEH Echad**).

It is a Mitzvah (Commandment) to wear Tzitzit (fringes) on the corners of four cornered garments. When holding or viewing or touching the “tzit tzit” or the “Fringes” **we are literally embracing symbolically the entire Word of G-D, all the commands of G-D, and the Name of G-D. Therefore, we are embracing G-D, Himself symbolically and grab on by faith these “Fringes”!** That was the reason that woman with ‘the 12 years of blood issue’ had faith in just by touching the “tassels” of Yeshua’s Garment!

The Tallit is our Prayer Closet

Prayer is communication with G-D! It is best manifest when we are focused and separated from distractions. When we have a “tallit” Covering our head and wrapped around us, it becomes a **“secret chamber”**, a **“prayer closet”**, shutting out the noises, busyness, and distractions of this world

- The Tallit separates and elevates the spirit to connect into an intimate relationship with G-D!
- The tallit becomes **“A secret place of prayer”** because the Prayer Shawl becomes our dwelling place of the Lord!
- When we pray under the “talith”, the prayer-shawl, we are literally **covering ourselves with the presence of G-D!**



That’s probably what Yeshua, means in Matthew 6:6 when HE is talking about praying and He said:

But when you pray, go into your room,
close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen.

Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. **Matthew 6:6**

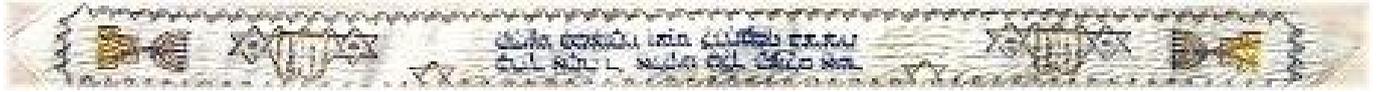
When to Wear a Prayer Shawl

A Tallit can be made from any material and can be any color. The white threads are the holier threads: Beautifully embroidered **prayer shawl** ministry garments have come to symbolize the **shelter, peace, and comfort of a loving God.**

The Jewish tallits are not meant only for Jewish men or women. During prayers, the custom is to wear a large rectangular garment with tzitzit (tallis gadol) and pray while wrapped in it.

A prayer shawl is NOT worn in the restroom.

The Hebrew writing on the “Atarah”



The Hebrew writing on the “Atarah” or “Crown” is the Blessing:

**"Baruch Atah Adonoi Elohenu, Melech Ha Olam
Asher Kidshanu B'mitsvotav Ve-tsevanu Leyitatef b'tzitzit"**

English translation:

"Blessed are You. L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to wrap ourselves in the” tzitzit” (Fringes)."

The Blessing is placed over the head, on the outside, just like the tent walls of the Holy Tabernacle so that they would always hang the same way. As the “Atarah” is placed over the head, it formed its own tent. “Wings” of the garment are formed when the arms were held out to create a hedge of protection around you.

How to Don a Tallit

1. **Open the prayer shawl and** hold it in both hands so the neckband is facing you.
2. **Recite the blessing:**

**"Baruch Atah Adonoi Elohenu, Melech Ha Olam
Asher Kidshanu B'mitsvotav Ve-tsevanu Leyitatef b'tzitzit"**

English translation:

**"Blessed are you, the Lord our God, ruler of the universe,
who has made us holy with His commandments and
commanded us to wrap ourselves in fringes."**



3. **Kiss the end of the neckband** where the last word and the first word of the blessing are written. (PL NOTE: I kissed a headband 3x1 for the father one for the son and one for the Holy Spirit)
4. **Hold the prayer shawl over your head** for a moment of private meditation.
5. **Wrap the prayer shawl around your shoulders** or cover your head with the tallit.

If you take the prayer shawl off for a short time, you don't need to repeat the blessing when putting it on again.

Summary

Beginning to wear a tallit is a process to many powerful journeys of intimacy in prayer with our Lord under the Tallit. This garment is a gate to a deeper relationship and the most awesome feelings of reverence, fear, love and devotion. The Tallit brings a sense of the sacred into our daily life as we create a connection to our past, meaning for our present, and a legacy for our future. Shalom!

PETITION TO HEAR - BREATH PRAYERS

1 Samuel 3:9-10 - So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, **"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."** So, Samuel went and lay down in his place. **10** The **Lord** came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, **"Speak, for your servant is listening."**

Breath Prayer, **"Speak, Lord! Your servant is listening."**

Our petition to God is: Speak Lord, Your son is listening or Speak Lord, your daughter is listening!

- 1) Get into the habit of saying, "Speak, Lord," during the day and your life will become a romance with God.
- 2) Every time circumstances press in on you, whisper: "Speak, Lord."
- 3) When you face a decision, large or small, whisper: "Speak, Lord."
- 4) When you lack wisdom, whisper: "Speak, Lord."
- 5) Whenever you open your mouth in prayer, whisper: "Speak, Lord."

What is a breath prayer?

The Apostle Paul exhorts us to "pray without ceasing" (**1 Thessalonians 5:17**). Breath prayers allow us the opportunity to pray unceasingly throughout the day. In Hebrew the word **"ruach"** has three meanings: **"Wind," "Breath,"** and **"Spirit."** Breath prayers are natural as your breath itself. Developing a breath prayer is very easy and takes only 5-10 minutes to compose.

A series of 20 horizontal dashed lines spanning the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice.

Ideally, your breath prayer should be **6-12 syllables**. After you have created a breath prayer, make a goal to remain in God's abiding presence as you begin saying your prayer over and over for a couple of minutes. Let the words soak in your spirit; resonate in your mind, sink into your heart, and become one with you!

1. **Inhale:** Slowly say the first part of the prayer as you inhale.
2. **Exhale:** Slowly say the last part of the prayer as you exhale.
3. **Meditate:** Ponder or meditate on the meaning and beauty of the words you are saying. There is no hurry or rush.

Say your breath prayers throughout the day.

- Breath prayers replace negative "thoughts" or "commentaries" that often swirl around in our minds.
- God does not want us to embody negative thoughts and feelings
- Whenever you observe that you are negatively reacting to a person, event, or thing, say your breath prayer. Example: Abba, give me your peace of passes all understanding.

Use your **Breath Prayers** to Pray as you: travel to and from work, while shopping, exercising, doing the dishes, going to bed, waiting in line, whenever you find yourself impatient or about to use hurtful language. The Breath Prayer is usually said silently within or **whisper it; sing it; chant it;** you decide how. Here are some examples:

- Abba, let, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done.
- Abba, thank you for keeping me in perfect peace.
- Father, I submit my Will to your Perfect Will for my life.
- Father, thank you for restoring my soul.
- Father, you are my sun and shield.
- Holy One, create in me a clean heart.
- Holy Spirit comfort my soul and spirit and draw me closer.
- Holy Spirit, help me to meditate on God's Word.
- Holy Spirit, transform my mind to the Mind of Christ!
- Holy Wisdom, Guide me in Your Truth.
- Jesus my help comes from you.
- Jesus, abide in me and my love.
- Jesus, you are my light and my love.
- Adonai, I love you with all my heart, mind, and soul.
- Adonai, order my steps and guide my path.
- Adonai, you are my light and my salvation.
- Thank you, Adonai, for blessing me in the city and field.
- Thank you, Adonai, for generational blessings in my family.
- You Lord, are my shepherd, I shall not Want!
- You Lord, will supply all my needs according to HIS riches.
- You Lord, are my fortress and strong tower.

PREPARE TO HEAR

Conversing with God on a regular basis, will create a quality relationship and walk with Him. We have to shake off many of our old habits and routines and replace them with spiritual disciplines that prepares us to hear his voice.

- **God is Speaking!** He wants to **communicate His desires, plans and purposes** for your life with us.
- **God is Relational!** God wants to be in an intimate relationship with us.
- **God is Dynamic!** He wants His Living Word to become alive and active in us!

It Is Common for God to Communicate Illustrated in Genesis –the “Seed Book”

GOD SPEAKS TO US	IN GENESIS
God spoke the heavens, earth, animals, and mankind into existence	1:3,6,9,11,14,15,20,24
God spoke to Adam and Eve	2:16; 3:8,10,13,17
God spoke to the serpent	3:14
God spoke to Cain	4:6,7,9-12,15
God spoke to Enoch	5:24
God spoke to Noah	6:13; 7:1; 8:15; 9:1,17
God spoke to Abraham	21:1,4,7;13:14;15:19;17:13,9,15,18,19,22;18:1,13,17,20; 20:3-7; 21:12,17; 22:1,2,15
God spoke to Hagar	16:7-13
God spoke to Rebekah	25:23
God spoke to Isaac	26:2,24
God spoke to Jacob	28:13; 31:3,11; 35:1,10,11,15
God spoke to Laban	31:24,29
God spoke to Pharaoh	41:28
God spoke to Israel	46:2
God spoke to Joseph	37:5

Illustrated through the entire Bible

GOD SPEAKS TO US	SCRIPTURES
God spoke to Moses	Exodus 3:14 etc.
God spoke to Joshua	Joshua 5:14,15 etc.
God spoke to Samuel	1 Samuel 3:10
God spoke to David	1 Samuel 23:2
God spoke to Solomon	1 Kings 3:5
God spoke to Job	Job 38:1
God spoke to Balaam the unrighteous Prophet	Numbers 22:12,35
God spoke to Elijah	1 Kings 19:12,13
God spoke to Peter	Acts 10:3,13
God spoke to Joseph	Matthew 1:20
God spoke to Pilate's wife	Matthew 27:19
God spoke to the Apostle Paul	Acts 9:3,4; 27:23,24
God spoke to John	Revelation 1:10

SACRED PATHWAYS TO GOD

YHVH is the God of diversity and one size does not fit all! We cannot apply the same spiritual remedy to every Christian. A doctor should not apply the same prescription for every patient. We all have our own **unique personalities and spiritual temperaments** which forms and impacts our relationship with God. There are numerous questions you will be asked on this journey. These questions will help you understand who you are and how you best relate to God. The information below is a summary of book by Gary Thomas "Sacred Pathways - Discover your Soul's Path to God". This book gave me invaluable insight about how I relate to God.

God knows exactly how He created us and how to most effectively work through us. When we discover our own natural spiritual propensities, it gives us insight into why and how we react to God and others. Understanding our top 3 "Spiritual Gifts" and our "Spiritual Temperament" will provide insight into how we relate to God and others.

SPIRITUAL TEMPERAMENTS

Biblical Person	Description
Abraham	religious, building altars.
Moses and Elijah	activists
David	enthusiastic worship
Solomon	sacrifices
Ezekiel and John	loud and colorful images
Mordecai	caring for others
Mary of Bethany	contemplative sitting at Jesus' feet.

9 SPIRITUAL TEMPERAMENTS (SACRED PATHWAYS)

SPIRITUAL TEMPERAMENT	DESCRIPTION
1. Naturalist	Loving God outdoors.
2. Sensates	Worship God with the senses.
3. Traditionalists	Rituals, symbols, sacraments, and sacrifice. Tithing, structure, church attendance.
4. Ascetics	Loving God in solitude and simplicity. Live a fundamentally internal existence.
5. Activists	Loving God through confrontation. Standing against evil and calling to repentance.
6. Caregivers	Loving God by loving others.
7. Enthusiasts	Loving God with mystery and celebration.
8. Contemplatives	Loving God through adoration. Mary of Bethany.
9. Intellectuals	Loving God with the mind.

DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD

When God showed Moses His glory, it was not a spontaneous act. God was being purposeful with His servant. It was part of His step-by-step plan to reveal Himself to Moses. Just like Moses, the closer we get to God, the more we learn about him, God reveals different aspects of His nature to us after we have built a special relationship with him. As we prepare to draw closer to God, there are some questions that we may want to ask:

1. What is the nature of my current relationship with God?
2. What am I seeking God's face for at this stage in my life?
3. What is the Holy Spirit doing in my life right now?
4. What is The Holy Spirit provoking/Prompting/urging me to do as I spend more time with God?
5. What am I longing for right now and in the future?
6. Am I really only seeking God's **face** (intimacy, friendship, relationship, fellowship,) or God's **hands**(protection, provision, prosperity, etc.)?

These are questions we must think through and meditate on. What is God's calling you to do next? He has a **divine plan for each one of us** and has been purposeful with us from the beginning. That's why you are taking this class...you want a deeper, richer experience in experience in knowing Him and hearing from Him....



IT'S Beneficial To Hear God

1. It brings **INTIMACY**.

John 15:15- "I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."

2. It brings **PEACE** into our hearts. His voice comforts and encourages us during trials and adversity. He gives wisdom to walk through transition.

Isaiah 26:3- You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

3. His voice brings **UNITY** and **PURPOSE** to our corporate existence. We discover His divine purpose and destiny.

John 17:23- I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

4. It brings **REVELATION OF HIS PLAN** for us. His voice reveals **strategies and direction and wisdom** to conduct our lives.

Galatians 1:12- I received my message from no human source, and no one taught me. Instead, I received it by direct revelation from Jesus Christ.

5. It brings **PROTECTION** to our lives.

Psalms 91:15- "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him."

6. It brings **PROVISION**. He positions us to prosper.

Joshua 1:7- 7 "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go."

7. It brings **TRANSFORMATION**. Communications brings **reformation from the inside out**.

Romans 12:2- Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

God Is Constantly Speaking

God doesn't "speak" the same way to all of us. God loves DIVERSITY! He treats each of us as unique children. This list below is not formula driven techniques. It is a list of how God has communicated to different people, past and present. Notice all the various methods that God uses to speak to us. As I reviewed this list, I realized that I am blessed that God has used all 10 of these ways to speak to me.

WHAT DOES HE USE?	HOW DOES HE DO IT?	SCRIPTURE
1. Scripture	Holy Spirit will highlight <i>Key Scriptures</i> for your spiritual development	2 Timothy 3:16-17
2. The Holy Spirit speaking to our heart	Quite still voice - inner knowing	Hebrews 8:10-11
3. Prayer	Often through a combination of fasting and prayer, our minds become clearer, and our hearts are more sensitive to God. Again, we may not hear God's literal voice, but <i>His Spirit confirms a certain direction or answer for us</i>	Romans 8:26-27
4. Godly Counsel	Mentors, Teachers Counselors, Parents; Pastors, etc.	Proverbs 11:14
5. The Prophetic	Dreams, Visions, Word of knowledge, Word of wisdom, Personal prophecy	I Thess. 5:19-21.
6. Confirmations	Conversations with friends, family, TV; Sermon; etc.	Matthew 18:16
7. The Peace of God	Inner Peace & tranquility	Colossians 3:15
8. Crisis, Situations, or Timing	Unusual event; timely occurrence; immediately or delayed. Crises draw us closer to God; open us to his direction; help us appreciate God; strengthens our courage and faith.	Genesis 50 20; Romans 8:28
9. Music & Worship	God loves Worship; He indwells our Praises and thanksgiving! He speaks to us individually when our spirit and His Spirit becomes ONE in true worship	1 James 4:8
10. Nature & Senses	Alone in nature; something special appeals to your reason; visual revelations; gut feelings or other sensory sensations.	Exodus 3:1-3; 13:22; Numbers 22:22-25; 1Kings 7:14

WEEK #1 LISTENING TO GOD EXERCISES

Exercise #1: How Does God speak to me?

- Look at the chart on the previous page.
- Check all the ways that God has spoken to you in the past.

EXERCISE #2: 9 SPIRITUAL TEMPERAMENTS (SACRED PATHWAYS) QUIZ

- Take the quiz on the next pages.
- List your top 3 Spiritual Temperaments

SPIRITUAL TEMPERAMENTS (SACRED PATHWAYS) QUIZ

How do you relate to God? Take this quiz and find out which of the nine spiritual temperaments best describes you. Score the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being not true at all and 5 being very true. Record your results in the space provided below each section.

Are you a naturalist?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when I'm surrounded by what He has made – the mountains, the forests, or the ocean.
	2. I feel cut off if I have to spend too much time indoors, just listening to speakers or singing songs. Nothing makes me feel closer to God than being outside.
	3. I would rather worship God by spending an hour beside a small brook than by participating in a group service.
	4. If I could escape to a garden to pray on a cold day, walk through a meadow on a warm day and take a trip by myself to the mountains on another day, I would be very happy.
	5. A book called NATURE'S SANCTUARIES: A PICTURE BOOK would be appealing to me.
	6. Seeing God's beauty in nature is more moving to me than understanding new concepts, participating in a formal religious service, or participating in social causes.

Total of all your answers ____

Are you a sensate?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when I'm in a church that allows my senses to come alive – when I can see, smell, hear and almost taste His majesty.
	2. I enjoy attending a "high church" service with a formal communion.
	3. I'd have a difficult time worshiping in a church building that is plain and lacks a sense of awe or majesty. Beauty is very important to me, and I have a difficult time worshiping through second-rate Christian art or music.
	4. The words SENSUOUS, COLORFUL and AROMATIC are very appealing to me.
	5. I'm naturally drawn to museums and concerts more than I'm inclined to take a walk in the woods, work in a soup kitchen or read a book by myself.
	6. I would really enjoy drawing exercises or classical music playing in the background to improve my prayer life.

Total of all your answers ____

Are you a TRADITIONALIST?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when I'm participating in a familiar form of worship that has memories dating back to my childhood. Rituals and traditions move me more than anything else.
	2. I begin to feel closest to God when I lay something on the altar, sacrificing it for Him.
	3. The words TRADITION and HISTORY are very appealing to me.
	4. Participating in a formal liturgy or "prayer book" service, developing symbols that I can place in my car, home, or office, and developing a Christian calendar for our family to follow are activities I would enjoy.
	5. A book titled SYMBOLISM AND LITURGY IN PERSONAL WORSHIP would be appealing to me.
	6. I would really enjoy developing a personal rule (or ritual) of prayer.

Total of all your answers _____

Are you an ACTIVIST?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when I am cooperating with Him in standing up for His justice: writing letters to government officials and newspaper editors, picketing at a place of injustice, urging people to vote, or becoming informed about current issues.
	2. I get very frustrated if I see apathetic Christians who don't become active. I want to drop everything else I'm doing and help the church overcome its apathy.
	3. The terms COURAGEOUS CONFRONTATION and SOCIAL ACTIVISM are very appealing to me.
	4. Activities such as confronting a social evil, attending a meeting of the local school board to challenge the new curriculum and volunteering on a political campaign are important to me.
	5. The book written by Franky Shaeffer, A TIME FOR ANGER (or a book like it), would be an important book for me to read.
	6. I would rather stand in the rain for an hour to confront an evil than sit in a room by myself for an hour and pray, take a walk through the woods, or spend an hour reading a book.

Total of all your answers _____

Are you an ASCETIC?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when I am alone and there is nothing to distract me from focusing on His presence.
	2. I would describe my faith as more "internal" than "external."
	3. The words silence, solitude and discipline are very appealing to me.
	4. Taking an overnight retreat by myself at a monastery where I could spend large amounts of time alone in a small room, praying, studying God's Word, and fasting for one or more days are all activities I would enjoy.
	5. I would enjoy reading the book A Place Apart: Monastic Prayer and Practice for Everyone.
	6. I would really enjoy spending time on a night watch, taking a short vow of silence or simplifying my life.

Total of all your answers _____

Are you a CAREGIVER?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when I see Him in the needy, the poor, the sick and the imprisoned. I feel God's presence most strongly when I am sitting quietly by the bed of someone who is lonely or ill or when I am taking a meal to someone in need. You can count on me to offer a ride or to volunteer for helping activities.
	2. I grow weary of Christians who spend their time singing songs while a sick neighbor goes without a hot meal or a family in need doesn't get help fixing their car.
	3. The words SERVICE and COMPASSION are very appealing to me.
	4. I sense God's power when I am counseling a friend who has lost a job, preparing meals for or fixing the car of a family in need, or spending a week at an orphanage in Mexico.
	5. A book titled 99 WAYS TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR would be very appealing to me.
	6. I would rather nurse someone to health or help someone repair someone's house than teach an adult Sunday school class, go on a prayer and fasting retreat, or take a lonely walk in the woods.

Total of all your answers _____

Are you an ENTHUSIAST?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when my heart is sent soaring and I feel like I want to burst, worship God all day long and shout out His name. Celebrating God and His love is my favorite form of worship.
	2. God is an exciting God, and we should be excited about worshipping Him. I don't understand how some Christians can say they love God, and then act like they're going to a funeral whenever they walk into church.
	3. The words CELEBRATION and JOY are very appealing to me.
	4. I would enjoy attending a workshop on learning to worship through dance or a worship session with contemporary music. I expect that God is going to move in some unexpected ways.
	5. I would enjoy reading the book THE MYSTERY AND EXCITEMENT OF WALKING WITH GOD.
	6. I spend more money on music and worship downloads than on books.

Total of all your answers _____

Are you a CONTEMPLATIVE?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closest to God when my emotions are awakened, when God quietly touches my heart, tells me that He loves me and makes me feel like I'm His closest friend. I would rather be alone with God contemplating His love than participating in a formal liturgy or being distracted by a walk outside.
	2. The most difficult times in my faith are when I can't feel God's presence within me.
	3. The words LOVER, INTIMACY and HEART are very appealing to me.
	4. I really enjoy having 30 minutes of uninterrupted time each day to sit in quiet prayer and "hold hands" with God, writing love letters to Him and enjoying His presence.
	5. I would enjoy reading THE TRANSFORMING FRIENDSHIP.
	6. When I think of God, I think of love, friendship, and adoration more than anything.

Total of all your answers _____

Are you an INTELLECTUAL?

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
	1. I feel closer to God when I learn something new about Him that I didn't understand before. My mind needs to be stimulated. It's very important to me that I know exactly what I believe.
	2. I get frustrated when the church focuses too much on feelings and spiritual experience. Of far more importance is the need to understand the Christian faith and to have proper doctrine.
	3. The words CONCEPTS and TRUTH are very appealing to me.
	4. I feel close to God when I participate in several hours of uninterrupted study time – reading God's Word or good Christian books and then perhaps having an opportunity to teach or participate in a discussion with a small group.
	5. A book on church dogmatics would be appealing to me.
	6. I spend more money on books than music.

Total of all your answers _____

The highest number of points possible in each section is 30. The higher your score, the stronger the dominance of this spiritual temperament is in your life. But remember, most of us have more than one temperament. Any score of 15 or higher indicates a tendency toward this temperament.

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WEEK #2- KINGDOM COMMUNION PROTOCOL

ANCHOR SCRIPTURE - MATTHEW 13:9-16 (NIV)

9 Whoever has ears, let them hear.” 10 The disciples came to him and asked, “Why do you speak to the people in parables?”

11 He replied, “Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

12 Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 13 This is why I speak to them in parables: **“Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.**

14 *In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:*

“You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. 15 For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them. 16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.

INTRODUCTION

God is constantly speaking to people. But too often, we miss hearing God’s messages.

- Some of us seek His guidance only occasionally in a crisis.
- Others ask for guidance when facing a major decision.
- If we don’t hear from God, we become confused and frustrated.
- We begin to wonder if God really does speak to people.
- If God does speak to others; then why doesn’t he speak to me?

I believe that God wants everyone to hear His messages clearly, and it’s possible for everyone to hear Him speak. That’s why you are taking this class. God wants to be in fellowship with us and wants us to build a personal and intimate relationship with Him.

To do that, we will learn how to read and understand his written word “logos”. The written word (logos) has given us many clues about how to listen to God. Unlocking those clues is the key to developing the kind of intimate relationship with God that will enable us to hear God speaking regularly.

Hearing God speak is **not** some type of magical formula. It requires training, spiritual discipline and spiritual discernment. The Bible clearly states that God wants His spirit to rest on **everyone**. He wants us **all** to prophesy by hearing Him speak to us through His Holy Spirit!

Methods of Communication

Ever since sin dulled man's ability to hear God's voice, He has chosen other means of communication.

THE BIBLICAL HISTORY

- Logos is the written word of God. It is what we call the Bible.
- The Bible contains the Mind, Will and the Purposes of God in written form.
- Scripture is the complete written revelation of God.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

- God's Voice, Teacher, and Agent of Truth
- God's Agent, with and within us, to lead us into all Truth.
- A key to hearing God's direction is through the amplifying and clarifying voice of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit speaks directly to our heart.

THE PROPHET- GOD'S SPOKESMAN

- That special voice that brings illumination about what is already written—no additions or subtractions.
- Those called, trained, and anointed to recognize God's voice and express His thoughts **for the edifying of the body and building of the Church.**

PROPHECY-THE VOICE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 2:17- says, "I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy."

- It reveals the mind of Christ to humanity. **It never contradicts His Word.**
- **"Covet to prophesy."** God wants His will to be vocalized.
- To give and confirm **specific instruction** to individuals **concerning His will** for their lives.
- Never a substitute for an individual's responsibility and privilege to hear God's Voice. **God wants intimacy on an individual and personal level.**

ANGELS-THE MESSENGERS OF GOD

Hebrews 1:13-14 -13 To which of the angels did God ever say, “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet”[a]? 14 Are not all **angels ministering spirits** sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

Psalms 103:20 - 20 Praise the Lord, you his **angels**, you mighty ones who do his bidding who obey his word.

Acts 8:26 - 26 Now an **angel of the Lord** said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”

Acts 12:7 - 7 Suddenly an **angel of the Lord** appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.

GOD CREATED US TO HEAR HIS VOICE

God desires to communicate, we desire to hear Him!

Scripture clearly illustrates that there is a conversational aspect of communicating with God. God speaking to man was not uncommon in the Bible and He still desires dialogue with us today.

Genesis 3:10-11 - 10 He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.” 11 And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

Exodus 3:10-12 - 10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.” 11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” 12 And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

Why is God continually speaking to us?

WE NEED TO KNOW CHRIST

Philippians 3:7-11- But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus (Yeshua) my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in[a] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. 10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

God wants people to know Him. If He preferred anonymity, He would not have orchestrated the writing of a multi-author book about Himself. But Bible reading is just a first step. Knowing about God is different than knowing God. Anyone can learn a few facts about Him, but only a dedicated believer takes the time and energy to be His friend.

- **EXPLORATION - First, we learn about the Lord from His Word.** By reading the Bible, believers begin to accumulate facts about God’s character, principles, and ways of operating. Unfortunately, churches are full of men and women who stop at this step. They know a lot of religion but cannot share faith.
- **MEDITATION - Second step is to meditate on Scripture.** That means thinking about God’s words and allowing the Holy Spirit to interpret them.
- **APPLICATION - Finally, we must apply what we learn.** Suppose you read Psalm 46:1 which says, “God is a very present help in times of trouble.” Then, when trouble shows up, you rely on Him for help. When He answers—and He will answer, although not always as expected—you learn something: God helps you by responding to your trust and dependence with a custom-made solution to your problem.

Dr. Stanley frequently encourages believers to read the Bible. But by that, he does not mean for anyone to skim its pages and walk away with only facts. **Scripture is a living document that will tell you how to practice faith in daily life.** But you must do what it says. Only then can you see **God as He truly is—not some ancient deity full of rules, but a vibrant Friend who wants to connect with you.**

THE WORD SANCTIFIES

John 17:6-10- 6; 13-19- “I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have **obeyed YOUR WORD**. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For **I gave them the WORDS you gave me and they accepted them**. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them.

13 “I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that **they may have the full measure of my joy within them**. 14 I have given them **YOUR WORD** and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. 15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you **protect them from the evil one**. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 **Sanctify them by the TRUTH; YOUR WORD IS TRUTH**. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Believers do a lot of wonderful things in the name of God. Sometimes, their service in ministry or the Kingdom becomes more important than their relationship with the King!

Hosea 6:6 NLT- I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know me more than I want burnt offerings.

This verse makes the Lord’s priorities clear: **“He wants our attention more than any gifts or works.”**

Unfortunately, many Christians never press beyond an occasional good work or Bible reading. They ignore the Holy Spirit’s nudges to spend time in prayer and Scripture meditation. It’s either too much work or doesn’t fit their lifestyle. Some tend to worship out of a sense of duty. Does this sound like your life? If so, you should know that becoming intimately acquainted with God does require time and commitment. But it is immensely rewarding. Human beings are created to know God. He instilled in us a thirst that will not be satisfied until we reach out to Him for companionship and love.

Philippians 3:8 (NAS)- “8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of **knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could **gain Christ**.”

We were created to have an intimate, loving relationship with the Lord...and to bring Him glory.

Paying respect with our gifts and good works is a natural extension of that design. **But our primary responsibility is to spend time with Him.**

WE ARE LOST WITHOUT CHRIST

2 Romans 1:24-32;28-32- 4 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

28 Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. 29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. 32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them. By its very nature, a vacuum can never be full. In the same way, when a man or woman denies God's rightful position as Lord over their life, that person's heart will remain hopelessly empty.

It's impossible to know true satisfaction if we refuse His divine call—to be filled with the Holy Spirit and have constant communion with the Father. Instead, a person will fall into **idolatry** and will find another philosophy or object to devote their **time, attention, and affection**.

Without the Lord, people will keep seeking new ways to satisfy the emptiness that only God can fill. Then, taking the short step from idolatry to immorality becomes all too easy. Indulging the sinful nature can take many forms. For example, some people are drawn to sexual perversion (Romans 1), while others who worship wealth may be lured by unethical business practices. Scripture clearly warns that **idolatry** and **immorality** will incur divine wrath.

God detest idolatry!

Romans 1:28- He “[gives] them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper.”

There is no worse penalty than to have the Creator turn away and leave one of His children to be devoured by that which he or she worships. The heart becomes like an iron prison, locking God out forever.

There is only One who is worthy of our worship. If you have denied the Lord, you are already on the slippery slope to immorality—worshipping something that does not deserve honor. Dr. Stanley has a loving warning for you: ***Turn back to God before it is too late.***

WE NEED SPIRITUAL REVELATION: THEMATIC SCRIPTURE

CORINTHIANS 2:9-16- 9 However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived” the things God has prepared for those who love him— 10 these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. **11 For who knows a person’s thoughts except their own spirit within them?** In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

12 What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. 14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit. 15 The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments, 16 for, “Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?”

Numbers 11:24-30- 24 So Moses went out and told the people what the Lord had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the tent. 25 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took some of the power of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied—but did not do so again. 26 However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp. 27 A young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are **prophesying** in the camp.” 28 Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses’ aide since youth, spoke up and said, **“Moses, my lord, stop them!”** 29 But Moses replied, “Are you jealous for my sake? ***I wish that all the Lord’s people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!***” 30 Then Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Joel 2: 27-30- Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the Lord your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed. **The Day of the Lord....**
28 And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your **sons and daughters will prophesy**, your old men will **dream dreams**, your young men will **see visions**. 29 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. 30 **I will show wonders in the heavens**

Acts 2:14-18- 14 Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. 15 These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! 16 No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 “In the last days, God says, **I will pour out my Spirit on all people.** Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will **see visions**, your old men will **dream dreams**. 18 Even on **my servants, both men and women**, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. 19 **I will show wonders in the heavens above.**

1 Samuel 19:19-21- 19 Word came to Saul: “David is in Naioth at Ramah”; 20 so he sent men to capture him. But when they saw a group of **prophets prophesying**, with Samuel standing there as their leader, **the Spirit of God came on Saul’s men, and they also prophesied**. 21 **Saul was told about it, and he sent more men, and they prophesied too. Saul sent men a third time, and they also prophesied.** 22 Finally, he himself left for Ramah and went to the great cistern at Seku. And he asked, “Where are Samuel and David?” “Over in Naioth at Ramah,” they said. 23 So Saul went to Naioth at Ramah. **But the Spirit of God came even on him, and he walked along prophesying** until he came to Naioth. 24 He stripped off his garments, and he too **prophesied in Samuel’s presence**. He lay naked all that day and all that night. This is why people say, **“Is Saul also among the prophets?”**

WHAT IS PROPHECY?

A divine revelation or message from God or inspired by God.

The substance and nature of prophecy exceeds the limits of what the natural mind could conceive. (God's thoughts are not man's thoughts. Isaiah 55:8). Prophecy is the revealed Word of God, contained within the Holy Bible. To **prophecy is to proclaim a message from God.**

The substance and **nature of prophecy exceeds what our natural human mind could conceive.**

- God's thoughts are not man's thoughts. Isa. 55:8).
- Jesus told *Peter* flesh and blood did not reveal this to you!

Prophecy or prediction is one of the functions of the prophet. It has been defined as a "miracle of knowledge," a declaration, description, or representation of something future! Prophetic Words are beyond the power of human wisdom and intelligence to foresee, discern, or speculation (Bible Dictionary)

- Prophecy is the noun - A **divine revelation or message from God or inspired by God.** The Bible says that prophets "spoke from God as they were moved by **Holy Spirit.**" (2 Peter 1:20, 21)
- Prophecy is the verb - To prophesy is simply to speak prophecy.

Although foretelling is often associated with prophecy, **revealing the future is not a necessary element of prophecy.** Only God knows the future, any authoritative word about the future come to the Prophet as a revelatory message from God.

HOW DID PROPHETS RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM GOD?

God used several methods to transmit his thoughts to his prophets:

- **Writing**- God used this method by directly supplying to Moses the Ten Commandments in written form. (Exodus 31:18).
- **Oral communication** through angels:
 - God used an angel to instruct Moses about the message he was to deliver to Pharaoh of Egypt. (Exodus 3:2-4, 10)
 - When precise wording was crucial, God directed angels to dictate his message. He told Moses: "Write down these words, because in accordance with these words, I am making a covenant with you and with Israel." (Exodus 34:27).

- **Visions/Dreams-** Sometimes given while the prophet was awake and fully conscious. (Isaiah 1:1; Habakkuk 1:1) Some were so vivid that the recipient participated in them. (Luke 9:28-36; Revelation 1:10-17)
 - Other times, visions were conveyed while the recipient was in a trance. (Acts 10:10, 11; 22:17-21)
 - God also transmitted his message by dreams while the prophet slept. (Daniel 7:1; Acts 16:9, 10).
- **Mental Guidance**
 - God guided the thoughts of his prophets to convey His message. Therefore, the Bible says: “All Scripture is inspired of God.” The phrase “inspired of God” means “God-breathed.” (2 Timothy 3:16; The Emphasized Bible)
 - God used His **Holy Spirit** to “breathe” His ideas into the minds of His servants. The message was God’s, but the prophet selected the wording. (2 Samuel 23:1, 2)

DIFFERENT LEVELS OF PROPHECY

Levels of Prophecy



As believers, we are ALL CALLED to live a prophetic life. Because all believers have the Holy Spirit within us to guide us. Therefore, when we hear a true prophecy from a prophet, it should only confirm what we already know because of God’s direction in our own spirit.

Any believer may prophesy by the Spirit of Prophecy and the Gift of Prophecy, as the Holy Spirit desires. However, this does not make them a prophet

The ministry of the Prophetic is given to the church thru the Ministry of the Prophet or the Office of the Prophet. These prophets preach or teach with an anointing and gifting of the Five-Fold Ministry. These prophets are the second highest calling in the order as it is listed in 1 Cor. 12:28).

1 Corinthians 12:28- 28 And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, **second prophets**, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

- The Spirit of Prophecy works thru us to prophesy messages given by the of The Holy Spirit.
- The Gift of Prophecy comes through the mouth of man but it comes from the mind of God- spiritual thoughts in spiritual words. I Cor. 2:9-16.
- Ministry of the Prophet and the Office of the Prophet gives messages that guides the receiver to truth and edifies the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-13- And he gave some, apostles; and some, **prophets**; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

During the Old Testament period God sent many prophets to speak for Him to His people. The Testament covenant prophets looked forward to a better day when all the people of God would have the fullness of the Holy Spirit writing God's Word on their hearts, thus rendering their Office of The Prophet would be obsolete. We see the Spirit of Prophecy working throughout the Old Testament. Moses rebuked Joshua for not rejoicing over the manifestation of the prophetic gifts in the elders of Israel.

Numbers. 11:28-30- 28 Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!" 29 But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his Spirit on them!" 30 Then Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

Moses understood that there was a day coming when the church would no longer need individuals to mediate to them new revelation from the Creator. The Old Testament prophets knew that the goal of God's covenant was direct communication between God and His people. It cannot be realized so long as a prophetic figure must stand between the Lord and his people."

Numbers 12:6- "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream."

Later prophets like Joel foresaw a day when all believers, from the lowliest servants to the most exalted rulers, would receive the Word of God and speak it to one another with understanding. Following the ministry of Jesus (Yeshua) came a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on every believer in fulfillment of Joel's prophecy (Joel 2:28-29 & Acts 2).

(Joel 2:28-29)- "And afterward, **I will pour out my Spirit on ALL PEOPLE**. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. 29 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

Acts 2:16-18- No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on **ALL PEOPLE**. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

ALL of God's people can understand the Lord's plan and purpose to communicate directly to ALL HIS CHILDREN!

GIFT OF PROPHECY

The Gift of Prophecy is given by the Holy Spirit as He determines. Those who have the Gift of Prophecy are those who make known the mind, will and intention of God. Only some believers function in the Gift of Prophecy. Paul encourages us in 1 Corinthians 14 that eagerly desire it.

1 Corinthians 14:1 Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but **especially that you may prophesy**. 2 For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit, he speaks mysteries. 3 But one who **prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation**.

The true Gift of Prophecy always reveal God's will and God's heartbeat. There are different expressions and levels of operation within the Gift of Prophecy, which may include speaking out or writing God's "Now Word", the burden of His heart; or declaring those things that God sees taking place in the future.

1 Corinthians 12:4 -11- Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 and there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6 There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given **the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good**. 8 For to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, and to another the **word of knowledge** according to the same Spirit; 9 to another **faith** by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of **healing** by the one Spirit, 10 and to another the effecting of **miracles**, and to another **prophecy**, and to another the **distinguishing of spirits**, to another **various kinds of tongues**, and to another the **interpretation of tongues**. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

The Gift of Prophecy is one of the nine spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit. The words "earnestly desire" mean to "lust after." God wants us to pursue His gifts! He desires to give us His gifts more than we could ever want them. The Gift of Prophecy is for the purpose of edification, exhortation, and consolation.

Edification means	"To build up"
Exhortation means	"To call near"
Consolation means	"To cheer up"

PROPHETIC MINISTRY

Residential, prophetic voice and ministry consistently abiding within a person as Prophetic calling. To minister in prophecy is a gift from the Holy Spirit. When a person ministers in the Gift of Prophecy, the gift is the ability to prophesy. The words themselves are the gift to the receiver(s). When a person is a prophet, they themselves are the gift to the church. Ephesians says, "Christ gave gifts to men." The gifts that Christ gave to men are other gifted saints to build up and edify the church.

PROPHETIC OFFICE

The highest level of the prophetic gift is the office of the prophet. A prophet is one who receives supernatural revelation and speaks by divine inspiration. Naturally, they operate frequently in the spiritual Gift of Prophecy as well as the revelation gifts: the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and discerning of spirits.

Paul stood in the Office of a Prophet (and teacher) before he was called to the ministry of an apostle (Acts 13:1). We know that Paul received revelations from the Lord according to Gal. 1:11-12, and he also had several visions (see Acts 9:1-9; 18:9-10; 22:17-21; 23:11; 2 Cor. 12:1-4)

The prophets will have the strongest utterances because they speak by the Spirit of Prophecy, the Gift of Prophecy, and out of the strength of the Prophet's Office. They have the grace to speak messages that go beyond words of Edification, Exhortation, And Comfort.

Prophets prophesy with more authority than other believers who have not been called to the Office of the Prophet. Their prophecies can carry revelation, direction, correction, confirmation, impartation, and activation. They minister to a wider scope of needs than believers who speak by the Spirit of Prophecy or the simple gift of prophecy.

Office of the Prophets judge prophetic words. (1Corinthians 14:29) Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment. There are the 3 dimensions of the Prophet:

1. The Gift of Christ	Describes the value that the Prophets (and the other five-fold offices) have in the church. They are to be treated as a gift from Jesus himself.
2. The Call as a Prophet	Describes the identity of the one who is called to be a prophet. Being a Prophet is something that you are rather than something you do.
3. The Office of Prophet	Describes the governing responsibility of the Prophet. The Prophet is part of the government of God and therefore has the responsibility to help lead the people. This is the dimension where the prophet receives his or her mantle.

Prophets are Christ's gift to the church and a foundational ministry in the church. They are not just gifted people but they are the gift. The gift they are to the church creates a call in their life to fulfill the responsibility of the Office of The Prophet with tri-vision:

Insight	The ability to understand the root issues in situations, people's motivations, and God's inspiration.
Foresight	The ability to predict the future.
Oversight	The ability to understand prophetic context, ecosystems, service roles and prospective.

Ephesians 4:7- But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. ... 11 And He gave some as **apostles**, and some as **prophets**, and some as **evangelists**, and some as **pastors** and **teachers**.

GOD WHISPERS!

The closer we get to God, the more we can enjoy ongoing conversations with Him! God will use those conversations to transform us into the person He wants us to become. I encourage you to begin to speak to God daily.

- Greet Him each morning before prayer.
- Share your thoughts and questions with Him during the day.
- Say good night to Him before you go to bed.

The more you train your Spirit and your ears to His constant presence, the more receptive you will become in hearing from God. Then one day; God will begin to speak back to you! Some people call them “God Whispers” or Holy Spirit Prompting or “Knowing in your Knower”.

- Like a sudden urge to call a friend you haven’t spoken to in years.
- A desire to support a ministry at church even though you have absolutely no time to add something else to your plate.
- The idea to write a book, start a business or step up as a leader in some way.
- A feeling that you need to tithe more.
- An awareness that an important relationship needs your attention.
- Even an overwhelming sense of peace.
- Those are all little whispers from God.

Truth is, The Father is never silent. He's always been, right there with us all, at every moment.

- Talking to us the entire time.
- Seek. You will find. Ask. He will give. Open your heart and pour out your soul and behold He will make all things new.
- He talks through everything. The more we grow in spiritual maturity, the closer we grow to Him, the more we will seek Him about everything.
- We become accustomed to patiently waiting for that still small voice while we “Be still and know”!

“Hearing God Speak” may mean different things to different people. To some, it may suggest:

- “I need answers for my life, or this particular crisis.”
- “I’ve asked God for _____, but He never answers me.”

As a child of God, we don't have to walk blind. We can have confidence that we will hear His voice. The Apostle Paul writes:

Romans 8:14- “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons (and daughters) of God.”

This scripture implies that:

- If we are God's children
- If we are born-again
- We will be led by His Spirit.

We have further assurance of this promise in:

Psalm 37:23-24- “The steps of a good (righteous, born-again) person are ordered by the Lord, And He delights in their way. Though they fall, they shall not be utterly cast down; For the Lord upholds them with His hand.”

God will order our steps, even when we blow it! If we are faithful, obedient, while trying to do His will, His GRACE will lift us up and give us another chance.

HOW TO APPROACH THE KING OF KINGS!

If you were invited to meet the King of a Country; you would first be trained by the King’s court on **Royal Protocol**. Before being granted an audience with the King or Queen you must know what is appropriate and inappropriate in the **Presence** of the **Royal Family**.

They would tell you how to approach the Royal Family:

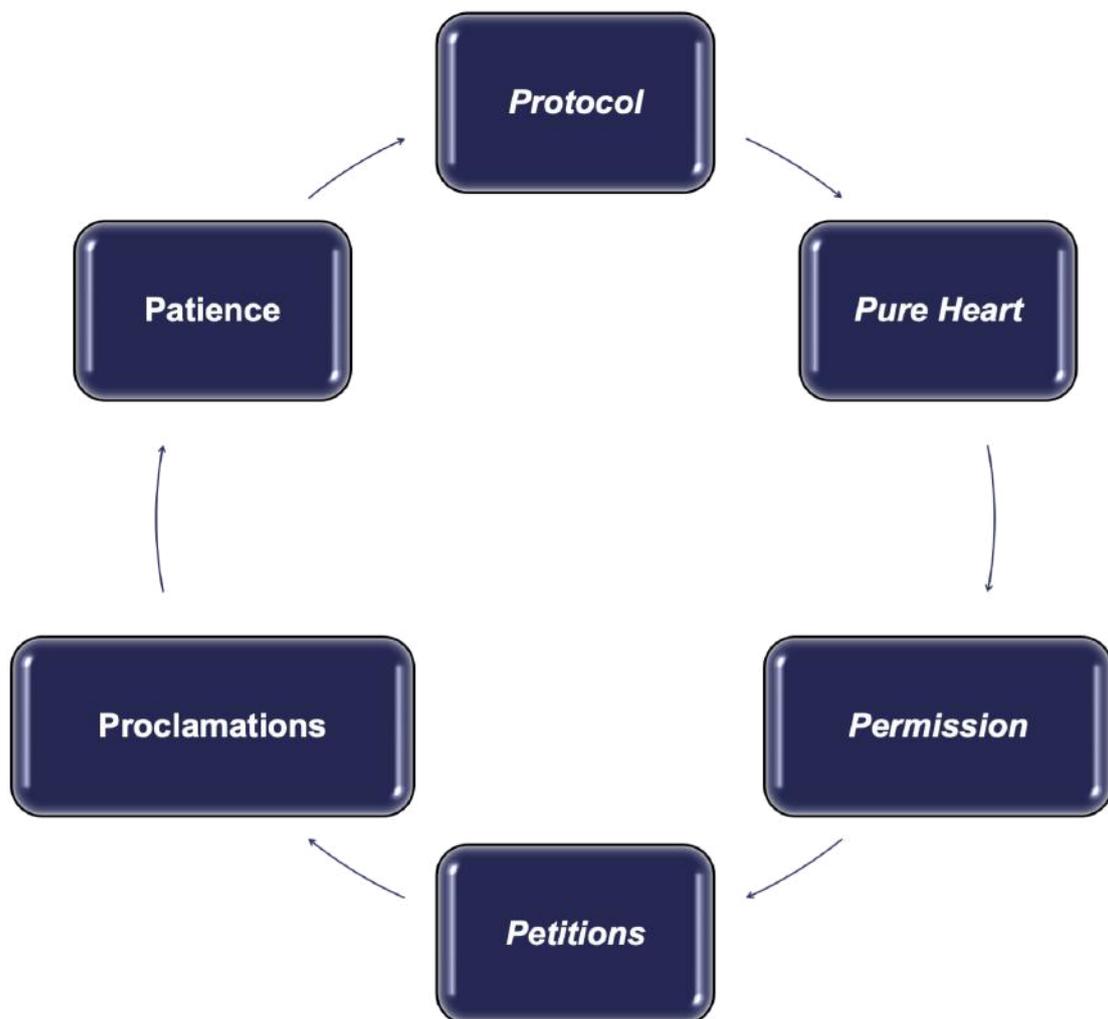
- What you can say
- How you should conduct yourself
- The right and wrong body language etc.

If this is true for **Earthly Royalty**; how much more so it is for **Heavenly Royalty**? You would not just walk up to a Royal Family and say: “Hey King; I need you to do this; this and that! Yet, that is how many of us pray today!

- “Hey God! Go to the Hospitals and heal the sick!
- Go to the jails and set the captives free!
- Then stop by my house and bless my family!
- Then save the world while you are at it!?”

KINGDOM PROTOCOL = CONSECRATION + PERSONAL HOLINESS + REVERENCE (RESPECT)

One of the major problems we have in Christianity today is that we are so busy trying to make God (YWHV) and Jesus (Yeshua) like us! Yet the Bible clearly states that we should strive; seek, desire to more like HIM!



As we develop an intimate relationship with God, first we must learn not to petition God to do anything initially. We must first to examine ourselves.

- How do we develop “Personal Holiness”?
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help us to clean up our hearts, minds, and spirit before seeking the **Face** of a **Holy God**!
- How do we present ourselves in right standing before God; ... The Jews have a directive of respects that says:

Know Before Who You Stand!"

- 1) That means that we stand before an awesome God!
- 2) We stand in Awe of God
- 3) We stand in reverence before God!
- 4) We humbly submit ourselves in His Presence

Exodus 19:14- Then the Lord told Moses, "Go down and prepare the people for my arrival. Consecrate them today and tomorrow, and have them wash their clothing.

Exodus 19:10- So Moses went down to the people. He consecrated them for worship, and they washed their clothes.

Leviticus 20:23-26- 23 Do not live according to the customs of the people I am driving out before you. It is because they do these shameful things that I detest them. 24 But I have promised you, 'You will possess their land because I will give it to you as your possession—a land flowing with milk and honey.' I am the Lord your God, who has set you apart from all other people, you must therefore **make a distinction between ceremonially clean and unclean animals, and between clean and unclean birds.** You must not defile yourselves by eating any unclean animal or bird or creature that scurries along the ground. I have identified them as being unclean for you. 26 **You must be holy because I, the Lord, am holy. I have set you apart from all other people to be my very own.** God says, "You are to be holy to me because I, the Lord, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own."

CONSECRATE:

- 1) Means to hold **sacred, sanctify, make holy.**
- 2) To make or declare to be sacred, by certain ceremonies or rites.
- 3) To appropriate to sacred uses; to set apart, dedicate, or devote, to the service and worship of God; as, to consecrate a church.

As Children of God and His Disciples we can consecrate:

PEOPLE:

Exodus 28:40-42 NLT- 40 "For Aaron's sons, make **tunics, sashes, and special head coverings that are glorious and beautiful.** 41 Clothe your brother, Aaron, and his sons with these (Priestly) garments, and then anoint and ordain them. **Consecrate them** so they can serve as **my priests.** 42 Also make linen undergarments for them, to be worn next to their bodies, reaching from their hips to their thighs.

The priests were chosen to be set apart (consecrated) for service to God. The priestly attire was a reminder to the priests and the people of their identify and service commitment. All the garments worn by the Old Testament priests were symbolic of being set apart for God’s work of atoning for sin. Compliance with the “dress code” was required. This is noted in verse 43: “Aaron and his sons must wear [the garments] whenever they enter the tent of meeting or approach the altar to minister in the Holy Place, so that they will not incur guilt and die.”

Yes, such elaborate garments may seem odd today, but God used these distinctive garments to set His spiritual leaders apart from the other Israelites. Each piece of the priestly garments held significance related to the work the priests performed. The Israelites lived with a continual reminder of the importance of the priestly work. They also had a foreshadowing of Jesus, the “Great High Priest” (Hebrews 4:14), who would carry out God’s plan of atonement in true holiness and perfection.

1 Peter 2:9-10- 9 But you are a **Chosen Generation**, a **ROYAL PRIESTHOOD**, a **HOLY NATION**, His own Special People, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

We members of **God’s Royal Priesthood** we have a special calling on our lives. We represent or (re-present) God to a dark world. Therefore, we are called to a different standard of behavior. We are called to:

Separation	To be with right standing and an intimate relationship with God
Sanctification	Serving God with a <i>Spirit of Excellence</i> in Honesty and Integrity with High moral standards of ethical/behavioral
Beautification	Wear appropriate clothing as a Child of God

OBJECTS: All the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated to the Lord.

Exodus 29:37- Purify the altar and **consecrate** it every day for seven days. After that, the altar will be **absolutely holy**, and whatever touches it will become holy.

- 1) To set apart and bless the elements and utensils we use at home for Holy Communion.
- 2) To set up a **Personal Altar at Home** for prayer and meditation.
- 3) To identify a certain space or location (prayer room, prayer closet, prayer chair, etc.) in your home to spend time alone with God.

CONSECRATE = SEPARATE OR ISOLATE

- 1) Establish privacy with God- Get alone – God wants our undivided attention.
- 2) Go on Morning Walks with God. Have a morning cup of coffee or tea with God.
- 3) Control your attention – Focus your attention. Make time to think just about God and to submit our will to God’s will. Remember that God is a jealous God, who wants our mind and heart totally surrendered to Him.
- 4) God desires and honors our faithful obedience. When He knows that you have become His trustworthy friend, then He will share His heart with you.

PRINCIPLES IN LISTENING TO GOD.

- 1) Set aside a season of time. (5 minutes to an hour depending on your purpose.)
- 2) The flesh and enemy will quickly tell us that we are much too busy to set aside daily time to spend with God!
- 3) The enemy uses distraction and busyness to keep us from being alone with God.
- 4) We must be intentional about **GOD AND ME TIME** so that we can have our own personal joy, peace, direction, or prosperity, for God is the source of all of these. God is constantly calling us from our busy schedules to just:

QUIETNESS - PREPARE TO LISTEN TO GOD.

Psalm 62:5- “My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from him.”

Seek seclusion (parks, beaches, mountains, etc.) the noise of civilization vanishes the voice of God.

Psalm 46:10- “Be still and know that I am God.”

- Stillness creates concentration.
- To be sensitive to God’s whisper.
- Periods of silence and stillness is God’s will for us.
- Silence is one of the highest forms of worship.
- Silence is a valuable spiritual discipline that we have lost in our culture.
- God is asking us to recondition ourselves to learn to **be still and silent** before the Lord.

This is a very difficult to do because many of us get antsy when it is quiet in our home!

Remember that noisiness, busyness, stress, and anxiety come from the Kingdom of Darkness, NOT the Kingdom of Light!

LISTENING TO GOD REQUIRES EXPECTANT, QUIET, PATIENT, ACTIVE & CONFIDENT ATTENTION

- 1) There is a difference between hearing and listening.
- 2) The whisper of The Holy Spirit will lead us away from the distractions of daily life and encourage us to be quiet and let God do the talking.
- 3) Too many of us, when we pray, simply read off a list of requests, get up, and walk off. Then we wonder why God does not answer our prayers????
- 4) The purpose of this Bible Study is to teach us the practice of **listening to God** rather than just talking to God, during our prayer time.

PATIENCE - WAIT PATIENTLY

- 1) God has promised to speak to our hearts, so we can expect God to speak to us.
- 2) God is not compelled to tell us everything we want to know the moment we desire the information.
- 3) In the process of waiting, God is changing and preparing us to hear His message, which we may not have received had He spoken instantaneously.

Prayer is a “DIALOGUE” not just a “MONOLOGUE “in which we only report our requests to Him. How can God speak to us if we don’t take time to listen?

PURE HEART – SEEKING HIS FACE - NOT HIS HAND!

- 1) When we shake our fist at God, we rarely get anything in return but more trouble. Therefore, be careful about Power Tripping; Blackmail, Temper Tantrums And Controlling Manipulative Spirit Prayers!
- 2) Our primary objective is to begin Seeking to promote **God’s Agenda** not our own **Personal Agenda!**
- 3) Humility with total submission to HIS perfect Will for our life!

The most difficult part of hearing God is the fact that it takes:

- **Time to learn to discern God's voice**
- **A genuine desire to seek God's presence & His agenda**
- **A humble heart, filled with submission and patience**

Jeremiah 29:12-13 says, "Then **you will call upon Me** and go and **pray to Me**, and **I will listen to you**. And **you will seek Me** and **find Me**, when **you search for Me with ALL YOUR HEART.**"

PERMISSION

- 1) We can't make demands on Almighty God.
- 2) We can't shake our fist at the sky and say: "All right God, let me hear you!" Please remember to: "Know before WHO, you stand!" We do not give God orders!
- 3) But we can Ask, Seek, And Knock, and the Bible promises that God will open the door.
- 4) God will reveal Himself to those who humbly seek Him.

PETITIONS

Our goal is for our thoughts and intentions line up with God's will. Therefore, we humbly submit ourselves fully to the Lord trusting that His plans for our life is far better than our personal plans. We find ourselves in perfect alignment with God's will and desires. His thoughts become our thoughts, His plans become our plans, and our petitions are His petitions, spoken thru us. This is called **Echad** or becoming **ONE** with God.

(Proverbs 3:5-6)- "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths"

MEDITATION:

To hear God, we must actively wait and mediate upon His Word.

- 1) Meditate upon Scripture, search it out digest it, and apply it to our hearts.
- 2) Take enough time mediating on God until your soul becomes quiet.

Colossians 3:16- Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

PROCLAMATION – REVELATIONS/RHEMA

A GENTLE WHISPER SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

My child, hear my gentle voice calling you to come into my presence. Stop for a moment and listen to the gentle whisper in the air. The noise around you is so much and it is so loud.

- You get distracted and listen to everything else.
- You run to the one that shouts the loudest.
- You give attention to the one that cries with the most desperation.

But my child, the one you need to listen to most, is my gentle voice. I want to pour my love into you and give you wisdom for what you are facing. I want to show you my way, but for you to hear me and see me, you must stop in your tracks and turn your face to me.

Stop running, stop trying and striving and just look at me. I don't need you to say anything but I just need you to look at me. I need you to come and follow the gentle whisper in the air so that I can fill your ears with sweet words and fill your heart with tender love.

You are precious to me. Come my beloved. Run away with me and let me show you the secret place that I have created just for you and me. Come now my child, come, says the Lord.

Personal Rhema

- Oh, how the mighty have fallen (2/2008)
- You must expose a thing to change a thing! (9/2010)
- Only Cast your pearls to who I tell you too! (12/20/21)

WEEK #2 LISTENING TO GOD EXERCISES

Exercise #1: If Am Like a Tree, then What kind of tree am I!



I am like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever I do prosper! (Psalm 1:3)

The Bible contains more references to trees and wood (over 525) than to any other type of living organism except humans. The Tree of Life begins in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:9) & ends in (Revelation 22:2, 14). The trees in the bible are metaphor for people. During your prayer and meditation time with Abba Father, please ask the following:

1. What **kind of tree** am I?
2. What **kind(s) of birds hang** out in my tree?
3. What **kind of roots** does my tree have?
4. What **kind of fruit** does my tree bear?
5. What kind of **soil environment** makes me Bloom? (Where am I planted?)
6. What kind of **nutrients** I need in my **“Miracle Grow”**?
7. What keeps me secure in **“Stormy Weather”**?

TREES JOYCE KILMER. 1886–1918



I THINK that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the sweet earth's flowing breast;
A tree that looks at God all day.
And lifts her leafy arms to pray:
A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only **God can make a tree**.

Exercise #2: God Show Me-Me! GSMM

- Identify a location where you can spend time in silent prayer, a place without distraction.
- Put on Your Tallit prayer shawl.
- Spend some time in quiet reflection about your relationship with God and with others.
- Then simply ask the Lord to tell you how He sees you, by saying; **God, show me, me!**
- Be patient as you wait on Him to answer because it may take some time days, weeks, months for God to slowly reveal the answer. The answer may come in stages and phases, or it may come all at once. It's all according to His pleasure.

A series of 20 horizontal dashed lines spanning the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice.

WEEK #3 – GOD SPEAKS THRU HIS WORD!

ANCHOR SCRIPTURE(S) HOSEA 4:6 & 2 TIMOTHY 2:14-16 EXP

Hosea 4:6 (Warning)

My people ·will be [or are being] destroyed because they have no [lack] knowledge. You have ·refused to learn [rejected knowledge; or failed to acknowledge me], so I will ·refuse to let you be [reject you as] priests to me. You have forgotten the teachings [law; C Hebrew: Torah] of your God, so I will forget your children.

2 Timothy 2:14-16 (A Worker Pleasing to God)

14 ·Continue teaching [Remind them of] these things, ·warning people [L solemnly testifying/declaring] in God’s presence not to ·argue [quarrel] about words. It ·does not help anyone [is good for nothing], and it ruins those who listen. 15 ·Make every effort [Do your best; Be diligent] to ·give [present] yourself to God as the kind of person he will approve. Be a worker who ·is not ashamed [or will not be shamed] and who ·uses the true teaching in the right way [correctly handles the true message/word of truth; or holds carefully to the true message/word of truth]. 16 Stay away from ·foolish, useless talk [godless/irreverent chatter; 1 Tim. 1:3-4; 4:7; 6:20], because that will lead people ·further away from God [into even more ungodliness].

OUR SPIRITUAL INHERITANCE & IDENTITY IN YESHUA

As Disciples of Christ, we dare not continue to rely on our natural minds, but we must renew our minds to become **“Spiritually Kingdom minded.”** If we do not renew our minds, our lack of knowledge of the Holy One will eventually lead to our destruction! The Spirit of God warns us in an exceptionally blunt truth in.

Hosea 4:6: “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.”

Scripture is not speaking about mere human knowledge, but rather **divine enlightenment, Wisdom from above.** We face destruction if we fail to **seek Divine Wisdom**— if we continue to live according to our own human reasoning.

We must allow the Word of God to become “flesh of our flesh” by replacing the carnal pathways of worldly reasoning and beliefs with the Person of the Lord Jesus (Yeshua) Christ as revealed to us in Scripture:

Romans 12:2- And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Today we are going to lift our vision up and above our circumstances and situations to fix our eyes on Him.

- We are going to eat the scrolls of His Word about our identity in Christ as His Disciples and Our Spiritual Inheritance that He has given us!
- These Words will become a part of our Spiritual DNA = Divine Nature Applied!
- We wash ourselves in the water of the Word.

Ephesians 5:26-27- That He might sanctify and cleanse it (the church) with the washing of water by the word, That He might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Our Spiritual Inheritance

Ephesians 1:11-21 (CEB) 11 We have also **received an INHERITANCE in Christ**. We were destined by the plan of God, who accomplishes everything according to **His design**. 12 We are called to be an **honor to God's glory** because we were the first to **hope in Christ**. 13 You too heard the **word of truth in Christ**, which is the **good news of your salvation**. You were **sealed with the promised Holy Spirit** because you **believed in Christ**. 14 **The Holy Spirit is the down payment on our INHERITANCE**, which is applied toward our redemption as God's own people, resulting in the **honor of God's glory**.

Paul's prayer for the Ephesians

15 Since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus (Yeshua) and your love for all God's people, this is the reason that 16 I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers. 17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus (Yeshua) Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a **"Spirit of Wisdom And Revelation"** that makes God known to you. 18 I pray that the **eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call**, what is **the richness of God's glorious INHERITANCE among believers** 19 and what is **the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers**.

This power is conferred by the energy of **God's powerful strength**. 20 God's power was at work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and sat him at God's right side in the heavens, 21 far **above every ruler and authority and power and angelic power, any power that** might be named not only now but in the future.

UNCLAIMED SPIRITUAL GIFTS!

We have “UNCLAIMED GIFTS” here in the Kingdom of God! These 2 Unclaimed Gifts are:

- 1) **Our SPIRITUAL IDENTITY in Christ** - who we are in God because of our position in Christ!
 - a. When we become believers; we become children of God with all the rights and benefits of sonship!
 - b. We are not orphans because we are grafted into the Family of God!
 - c. Our sonship is eternal! Nothing and no one can separate us from the Love of God or the Family of God

- 2) **Our SPIRITUAL INHERITANCE in Christ - We are a joint-heirs with Christ**
 - a. We are entitled to His blessings right now.
 - b. When someone gives you a gift; they expect you to use it immediately.
 - c. Christ has given us the power of HIS Holy Spirit
 - d. Abba has given us the Power of His Word; spoken in personal promises to you!
 - e. Abba wants us to meditate on HIS WORD to get HIS Word firmly established in our hearts.

Ephesians 1:13-14 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, **you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise**, who is the **guarantee of our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:18-20- the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are **the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints**, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the **working of His mighty power** which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and **seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places..**

- a. As believers, Abba wants us to believe that the promises in the Bible. As His children, HIS WORD belong to us!
- b. We fight with both our flesh and the enemy while trying not to waver at the promises God has for us.
- c. If we remain firm and steadfast in our Kingdom Identity then we can receive our Kingdom Inheritance and create a King Legacy!

Yeshua left a Kingdom inheritance for us. Our Kingdom inheritance involves us getting back what Satan stole from us when Adam handed everything over to him in the Garden of Eden. **Included in that inheritance is the right to walk in blessing and prosperity!**

Therefore, we must correctly read, interpret, and understand our Bible because it is God's instructions for us to live by. This class will focus on giving you easy to use strategies to understand God's Written Word. (Logos)

5 C'S - UNPACKING SCRIPTURE

We cannot read the bible literally with a western mindset and understand it correctly.

2 Timothy 2:15 CEB- 15 Make an effort to present yourself to God as a tried-and-true worker, who doesn't need to be ashamed but is one who interprets the message of truth correctly.

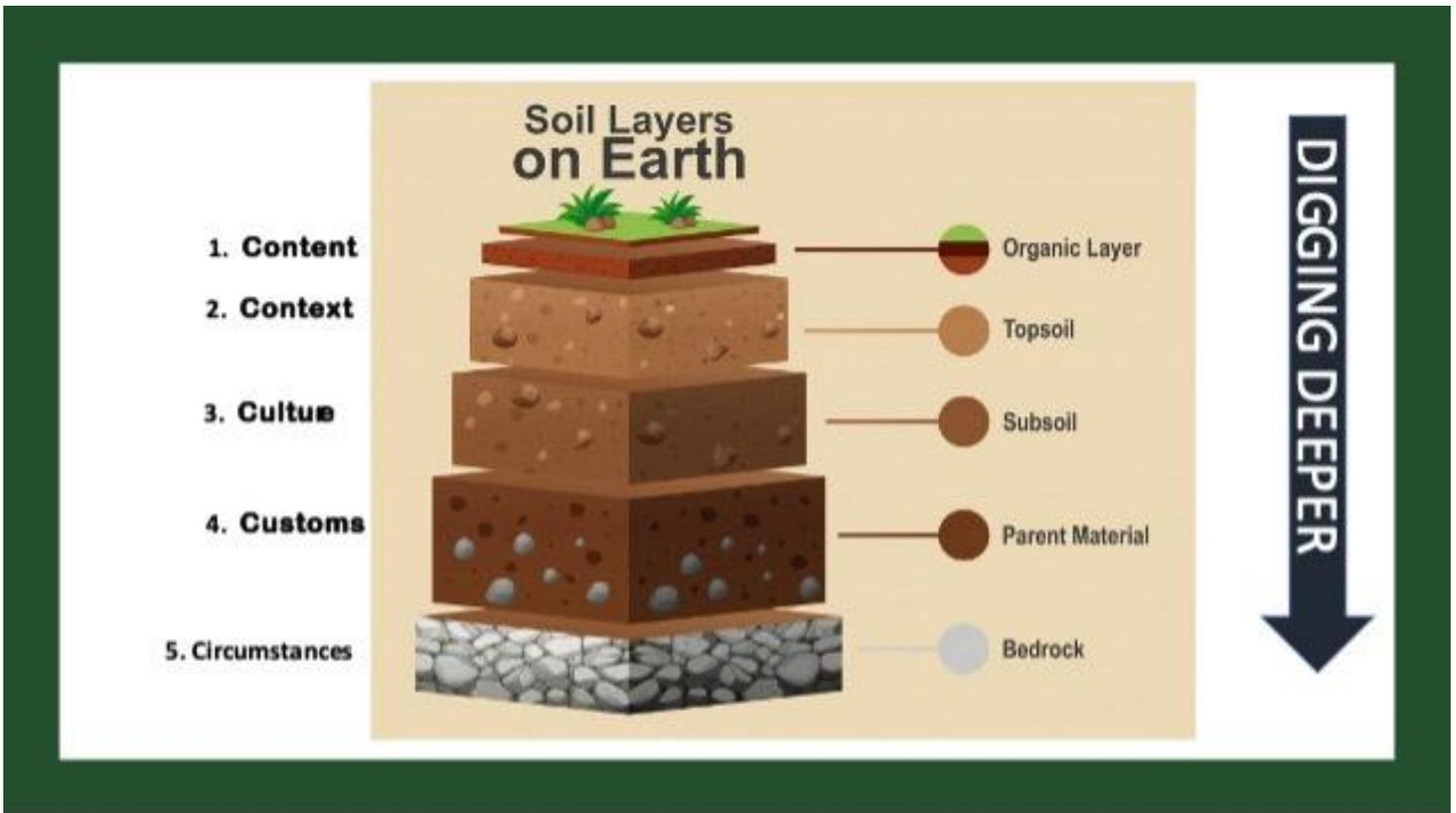
- Please be inquisitive, critical thinkers that **question the text** and the Holy Spirit to understand it correctly.
- Please refrain from using biblical commentaries (other people knowledge) rather than the **Holy Spirit** and your own **Holy Spirit Led Research** to help you understand scripture.
- Please use a **Biblical Mindset** and research tools to help interpret scripture correctly.
- Please be mindful of the **Methodist Doctrine of Grace** and explore how **God's Grace** is at work in our lives as we study the bible.

Scripture is not to be just read but also Unpacked, Interpreted, And Applied to our daily lives! Learning to study and interpret the Bible correctly is foundational to understanding God's Word. There are numerous Bible Research study tools and other materials on the Internet to assist us.

Our goal is to be biblically and theological sound as supported by proper interpretation of scripture as we prepare God's Messages for God's People. God's Word is powerful and can transform lives when it is studied and interpreted correctly so that it can be applied to our lives according to His Will.

Let's explore the "Big Picture and the "Little Details" as we study the text. Keep in mind the "**5 Cs of Scripture Interpretation**" to unpack scripture.

5 C's	Questions to ask
1. Content	What does the scripture say and not say?
2. Context	What happens during the text; before it and after it?
3. Culture	What <i>were the beliefs, knowledge, rituals, morals, customs, and other habits</i> that impacts the scripture?
4. Customs	What is the Hebraic <i>traditional ways of behaving or doing something</i> that is specific to a particular place, time or society that impacts the scripture?
5. Circumstances	What were the unique circumstances or situations surrounding the text? Timing... when did this occur?



CULTURE VERSUS CUSTOM

<p>Culture is a complex whole including beliefs, knowledge, rituals, morals, customs, and other habits and capabilities of people</p>	<p>Custom is a traditional way of behaving or doing something that is specific to a particular place, time or society</p>
<p>An abstract, represented through concrete elements</p>	<p>A way of behaving or doing things</p>
<p>Can be represented through custom</p>	<p>Part of a culture</p>



Source: "Dig Deeper" Tools for understanding God's Word by Nigel Beynon & Andrew Sach
 Baker's Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology (biblestudytools.com)
 JewishEncyclopedia.com

A QUICK GUIDE TO BIBLICAL GENRES

HISTORICAL NARRATIVES

- Historical narrative is Scripture that gives factual retellings of real events.
- These books of the Bible are not based in myth; they are based in fact.
- As we read, it's important for us to pause and reflect on the fact that these events happened!
- Historical narrative comprises 43% of the Bible. God loves to tell stories of His faithfulness.
- Old Testament narrative is found in:
 - Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings, 1-2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther
 - Parts of Job and the Prophets
- New Testament narrative is found in:
 - Matthew, Mark, Luke, John (see 'The Gospels' below for more) and Acts

THE LAW

- Moral Law- laws about how to live, for all people in all times
- Ceremonial Law- laws about tabernacle and temple worship for the Israelites
- Civil or Judicial Law- laws that governed, preserved, and protected Israelite society
- It's important for us to note that the law was given after God redeemed the Israelites out of Egypt. Grace came before the law.
- The law was designed to be used by governing authorities, not individuals.
- Biblical law is found in Leviticus, parts of Exodus, Numbers and Deuteronomy

POETRY

- Biblical poetry is Scripture written in verse.
- This type of Scripture is full of symbolic language, metaphors, word pictures and expressions of feeling.
- Psalms make up most of the biblical poetry, but poetry can also be found in:
 - Song of Solomon, Lamentations, and several OT narratives
- There are several authors of Psalms, with David being the most well-known author.
- Types of Psalms (Psalms has been categorized in many different ways. These come from the ESV Study Bible.):
 - Laments (laying a troubled situation before the Lord and asking for help)
 - Hymns of Thanksgiving
 - Hymns of Praise
 - Hymns Celebrating God's Law
 - Wisdom Psalms
 - Songs of Confidence
 - Royal Psalms (dealing with the Davidic monarchy and the coming Messiah)
 - Historical Psalms
 - Prophetic Hymn

WISDOM LITERATURE

- Wisdom literature is Scripture that reveals the collected wisdom of generations of godly people.
- Wisdom literature invites us to consider the complexity of wise living and gives us general rules for life.
- These sayings, proverbs and writings communicate principles that are usually true, but not universally true. Here we find principles, not promises.
- Wisdom Literature is found in:
 - Proverbs
 - Job
 - Ecclesiastes

PROPHECY

- 1) Biblical prophecy is Scripture that recounts visions or specific messages from God about the future.
- 2) Prophecies were directed at God's own people, but also to other kings and countries during the time of the prophets.
 - Some prophecies were meant only for their original audience, some were meant for an audience much later in the future, and some for both.
 - Not all prophets have their own books of the Bible! There are also prophecies interwoven throughout historical narrative in both Testaments.
 - Old Testament examples are Moses, Balaam, Elijah, and Elisha.
 - New Testament examples are John the Baptist and John the apostle.
- 3) Books dedicated totally to prophecy are separated into major and minor categories; not due to the level of their importance but due to their length.
- 4) Major Prophets include Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel.
- 5) Minor Prophets include Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE

- Apocalyptic literature is Scripture that describes what the end times will be like.
- This genre uses symbolic language and numbers, word pictures and images that often seem strange to us.
- In the Old Testament, apocalyptic literature is sometimes mixed in with narrative, which can make interpretation difficult.
- Old Testament apocalyptic literature can be found in parts of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Zechariah, and Daniel
- New Testament apocalyptic literature can be found in Matthew 24-25, Mark 13, 2 Thessalonians 2 and Revelation

THE GOSPELS

- The gospels are Scripture that includes eyewitness testimonies about the life of Yeshua.
- Gospels are a special type of historical narrative that focus completely on Yeshua.
- The 4 gospels in the Bible are Matthew, Luke, Mark, and John.
- Each gospel has a different author and includes a different retelling of Jesus (Yeshua)' life. Some of the events overlap, but many do not.
- Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called the "Synoptic Gospels" because they include many of the same events.

THE EPISTLES

- The Epistles are Scriptures written in the form of a letter and take up half of the New Testament. It's important to consider who the authors and recipients were and what reason the author had for writing a letter.
- The 21 epistles were written by six authors Paul, Peter, James, John, Jude, and the anonymous writer of Hebrews.
- Some letters were written to individual recipients, while others were meant to be read aloud as sermons to entire churches.
- The epistles, by author:
 - Paul: Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, 1-2 Thessalonians, 1-2 Timothy, Titus & Philemon
 - Peter: 1-2 Peter
 - James: James
 - John: 1-3 John
 - Jude: Jude
 - Anonymous: Hebrews

We can't know a book's genre with 100% accuracy. Some genres are disputed and some books have several styles and genres within them. They are flexible and they flow into one another. Because of this, we must not let the genre of a book be the only tool we use to find meaning in the text.

WORD POWER

- **“Our words have POWER!”**
 - When we speak God’s Words over our lives, they are even more powerful!
 - Gave them God’s Words to speak over their homes and families
 - Will continue to feed them God’s Words until it becomes a part of their spiritual DNA
- There is a **POWER** in **Self-Fulfilling Prophecy!** If you say you are:
 - Stupid; then you will be stupid! Lazy; then you will be lazy! Fat; you will continue to be fat!
 - When identifying our Spiritual Inheritance in WEEK #1 we were sowing seeds of **POWER** into our Spiritual DNA to enable us to become **POWERFUL** in the Kingdom of God!
 - When we declare “Who Am I? I am a Child of God!” “I am Blessed and highly favored of the Lord!” This truth affirmation it has **POWER** to it.
 - When we speak our affirmation; God sends the angelic powers in the universe to make those words a reality!
We must learn to use our **WORD POWER** to protect us from the enemy!
 - The more we know who we are in Christ, the more dangerous we become to the enemy and the Kingdom of darkness!

ENEMY LIES

The enemy is the father of lies and cannot tell the truth!

- The enemy lies and tells us that we are worthless!
- The enemy lies and tells us that God does not care about us.
- The enemy lies and tells us that God will not answer our prayers!
- The enemy lies and tells us being poor is Godly.

There is nothing in the bible to support these lies! The Bible is real clear about God’s intention...

1 John 3 - Beloved I want you to prosper and be in GOOD HEALTH; even as your SOUL PROSPERS.

In Genesis Chapter 1

- Abba created this world for us to inhabit.
- Abba created Humans in His image
- In Eden, everything that we needed **was already provided.**
- This is a picture of perfect health, peace and prosperity.
- This is **Abba’s original intent for humans.**
- Because of the **fall; everything was corrupted.**
- Even though the world is in its fallen state Abba still wants us to **thrive not just survive!**
- Some of us have allowed the enemy to **cheat us out of our Kingdom Identity and inheritance?**

ENEMY STEALS

We must stop being negative:

- Stinking Thinking!
- Speaking Death instead of Life!
- Condemning and Judging others!
- Looking for bad rather than good!

ENEMY DESTROYS

Listen my beloved! Do not let Power of Darkness control us. The enemy wants to destroy us! He wants to destroy our:

OUR SPIRITUAL IDENTITY IN YESHUA - 7 TRUTHS FROM EPHESIANS 1

1. **We are blessed in every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. Eph 1:3.**

In other words, every provision for our physical health and welfare; our spiritual needs, including victory over sin and fear and failure have already been met in Yeshua!

2. **We are holy and without blame Eph 1:4**

Abba sees us as being holy. He has made provision for us to live without blame and ABOVE SIN. Don't let the enemy deceive you otherwise. Don't allow the enemy to pull you down to his level!

3. **We are accepted in the beloved Eph 1:6**

We are totally accepted, loved, and cherished by God. You are important to God and He thinks of us daily. We are a citizen of the Heavenly Kingdom and have the right to represent it on earth. We are the envy of hell and the delight of heaven!

4. **We have an inheritance in Christ Eph 1:11**

Some people die and leave their wealth behind. When we die, we enter eternal spiritual blessings for ourselves and a Kingdom Legacy for our family. We don't limit our ambitions and strengths to earthly things. We Keep our eyes on eternal values and leave a Kingdom Legacy for our family.

5. **In Christ we heard the truth of the word and were sealed with the Holy Spirit Eph 1:13**

God's WORD and the Holy Spirit were given to us for our personal correction, edification, and guidance. They keep us in fellowship with Abba and meet a specific need in our life. The Holy Spirit is evidence of our inheritance in Christ. It is sealed in believers and the enemy cannot take it away!

6. **Prayer increases the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation Christ has given us. Eph 1:16-17**

Prayer opens the eyes of our understanding and causes us to see and receive more of our inheritance.

7. **In Christ, we are seated above all principalities and powers and might and domain, we are above every name that is named in this age and that which is to come Eph 1:21-23**

No power of darkness has any hold over us. Remember this truth the next time Satan comes fishing for your soul. Declare your Kingdom Identity in Christ!

HOW TO GET MY KINGDOM SPIRITUAL IDENTITY & INHERITANCE?

1. **SILENT MODE**– Clear your mind and get alone with God. Be still and know!
2. **PRAY AND ASK**- Abba to give you an inheritance word.
3. **READ YOUR BIBLE**– It is full of Abba's promises to you!
4. **WATCH & LISTEN**- as Holy Spirit Speaks, illuminates, or highlights a scripture or passage. Sometimes the Scripture jumps off the page! Something you have read many times before suddenly have a whole new 'meaning' ...He will show you a passage that will make you cry, laugh, whisper, or all three. The Holy Spirit is speaking to your soul or spirit man!
5. **ASK**- Ask Abba if this is your inheritance word, and you will hear His response.

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY INHERITANCE SCRIPTURE?

- **Own it!** - It's yours and everything in that passage is just for you and speaks to your personal situation.
- **Stand on it!** - Even when you don't have the courage to stand on anything else!
- **Study It!** - So that you can find out everything that Abba wants to give you.
- **Live it!** - Every experience, encounter or promise is your destiny. Abba's mighty power is in that passage for you. He is promising to do it in your life situations or circumstances.

OUR SPIRITUAL INHERITANCE ADOPTION INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD THROUGH FAITH

Attribute	Scripture References
We are adopted by Jesus (Yeshua) Christ as God's heir	<u>Heb 1:2; Mt 21:37-39 pp Mk 12:6-8 pp Lk 20:13-15; Mt 28:18; Lk 19:12; Jn 3:35; Heb 1:4-6; Ps 2:7-8</u>
We are co-heirs with Christ	<u>Ro 8:17; Eph 3:6</u>
We are heirs under the New Covenant	<u>Heb 6:17; Heb 9:15</u>
We are heirs by Grace	<u>Gal 3:18; Ac 20:32; Col 1:12</u>
We are heirs through Faith	<u>Gal 3:29; Ro 4:13-17; Heb 11:7-10</u>
<i>Nature of The Spiritual Inheritance</i>	
Our inheritance is the WORD of God	<u>Ps 119:111</u>
Our Inheritance is a Good	<u>Ps 16:6</u>
We inherit Salvation	<u>Heb 1:14</u>
We inherit Eternal Life	<u>Mt 19:29; Lk 10:25; Tit 3:7; 1Pe 3:7</u>
We have the full rights of Sonship	<u>Gal 4:4-7</u>
We have the rights of the Firstborn	<u>Heb 12:22-23 ;Ex 4:22; 2Ki 2:9</u>
We inherit the Earth	<u>Mt 5:5; Ps 37:11</u>
We inherit the Kingdom of God	<u>Mt 25:34; Lk 22:28-30; Rev 3:21</u>
We inherit all things Abba desires for us	<u>Lk 15:31; 1Co 3:21-22; Rev 21:7</u>
We inherit the LORD himself	<u>Ps 73:26; Nu 18:20; Dt 10:9; Ps 142:5; Jer 10:16; Jer 51:19</u>
<i>Permanence of Our Spiritual Inheritance</i>	
It has been <i>prepared</i> from the creation	<u>Mt 25:34</u>
It is <i>guaranteed</i> for eternity	<u>1Pe 1:3-5; Ps 37:18; Da 12:13</u>
It is <i>sealed</i> with Abba's promise	<u>Eph 1:13-14; Rev 7:3; Rev 9:4</u>
<i>Conditions of Spiritual Inheritance</i>	
It is <i>conditional</i> upon continuing obedience and faith	<u>1Pe 3:9-12; Ps 34:12-16; Ps 25:12-13; Ps 37:11,29,34; Ps 61:5; Pr 28:10; Mt 5:5; Col 3:24; Heb 6:12; Jas 2:5</u>
It is <i>denied</i> to the ungodly & <i>reserved</i> for believers	<u>Eph 5:5; Ps 37:9,22; 1Co 6:9-10; 1Co 10:1-5; Gal 5:19-21; Heb 3:12-19; Rev 21:27</u>

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WEEK #4 - DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

ANCHOR SCRIPTURE(S) 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25 NLT & 1 JOHN 4 - EXPANDED BIBLE

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25 - THE WISDOM OF GOD

18 The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. 19 As the Scriptures say, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent."^[e] 20 So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. 21 Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. 22 It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. 23 So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense. 24 But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles,^[f] Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's

1 JOHN 4 (WARNING AGAINST FALSE TEACHERS)

4 ·My dear friends [L Beloved], many false prophets [Deut. 13:1-5; 18:14-22; Mark 13:22] have gone out into the world. So do not ·believe [trust] every spirit, but test the spirits to see if they are from God [C the false teachers evidently claimed that their teaching was from the Spirit; 1 Cor. 12:1-3; 14:29; 1 Thess. 5:19-21]. 2 This is how you can ·know [recognize] God's Spirit: Every spirit [C a teacher/prophet claiming inspiration from the Spirit] who ·confesses [acknowledges] that Jesus (Yeshua) Christ came ·to earth as a human [L in the flesh] is from God. 3 And every spirit who ·refuses to say this about Jesus (Yeshua) [L does not confess/acknowledge Jesus (Yeshua)] is not from God [2 John 7]. It is the spirit of the ·enemy of Christ [L antichrist; 2:18, 22], which you have heard is coming, and now he is already in the world.

Wisdom, or spiritual discernment, is something that comes from knowing Jesus Christ.

The purpose of this session is to investigate the various ways God speaks to believers today, with special emphasis on how God speaks to us individually. Believers will be able to identify how God created them to receive His Messages (visually, audibly, sensing). We shall gain an appreciation of how we and others receive Messages from God.

Godly Wisdom Is God-Given!

The world's way of gaining wisdom is different from God's way. **Worldly People** gain knowledge and apply reason to knowledge to solve problems, construct buildings and create philosophies. But God does not make the knowledge of Himself available unless we ask for it and earnestly desire it.

1 Corinthians 1:29 says the “wisdom of the wise” is frustrated by God who delivers wisdom to the “foolish” and the “weak” by way of a relationship with Jesus (Yeshua) Christ. That way, “no human being can boast in His presence”.

Yes, it is desirable and practical to possess knowledge, have an education, and use reason and logic to solve problems. However, spiritual discernment cannot be attained that way. It is gain by the revelation of Jesus (Yeshua) and supernatural spiritual discernment to the believer. We learn to be spiritually discerning by knowing the Trinitarian God as we personally come to know His works.

KNOWING HIS VOICE

Now that we know we can hear God's voice, we need to be alerted to the fact that there are other voices whispering into our ears as well. Our soul has been trained by all the noise in the world and all the activity to be very alert and at the fore front of our being. We use our mind, our will, and emotions a lot during a normal day. The problem is, we end up relying on our soul almost without noticing.

DISCERNING THE VOICE OF GOD

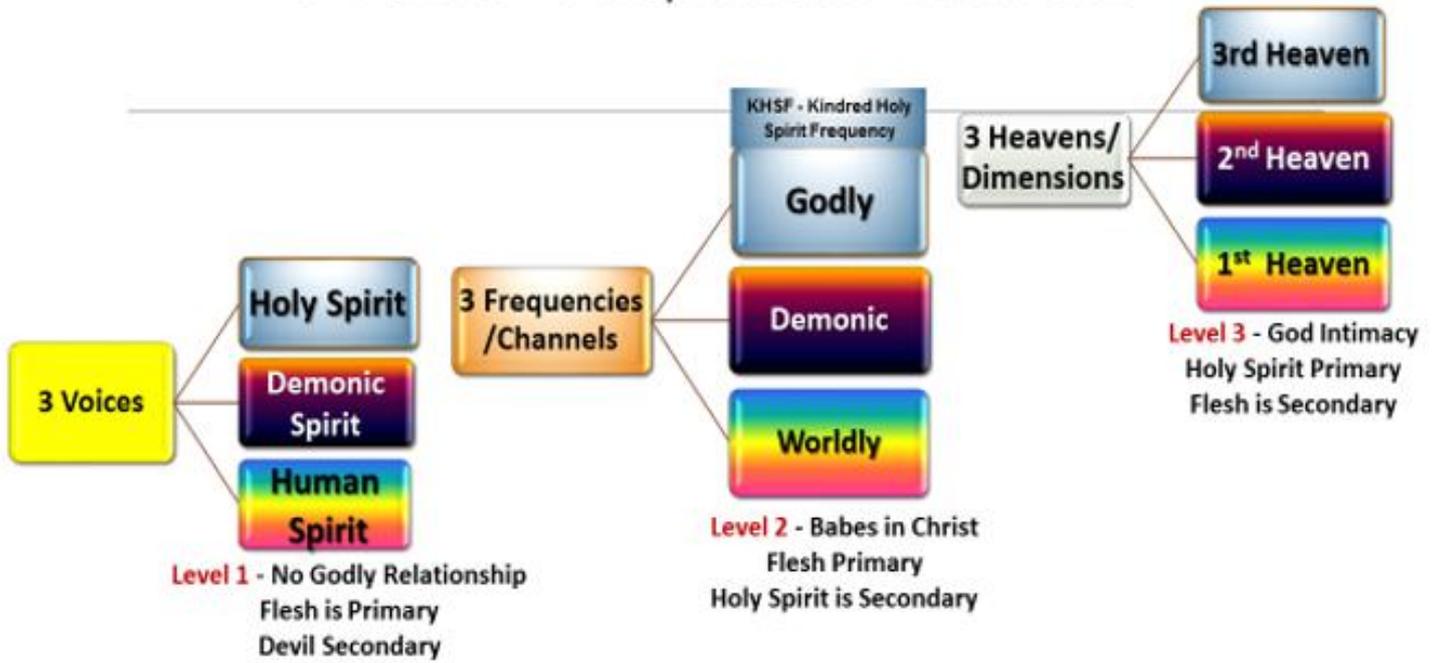
SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT – 3 VOICES	
Voice Type	Description
Human Spirit	Thought, Reasons, Human Knowledge & Wisdom, Desires, Emotions,
Demonic Spirit	Demanding, Negative, Discouragement, “Stinking Thinking!”, Deceptive, Denial
Holy Spirit	Truthful, Godly Wisdom. Revelations, Rhema, Guidance, Protection, Comfort, Encouragement

SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW?

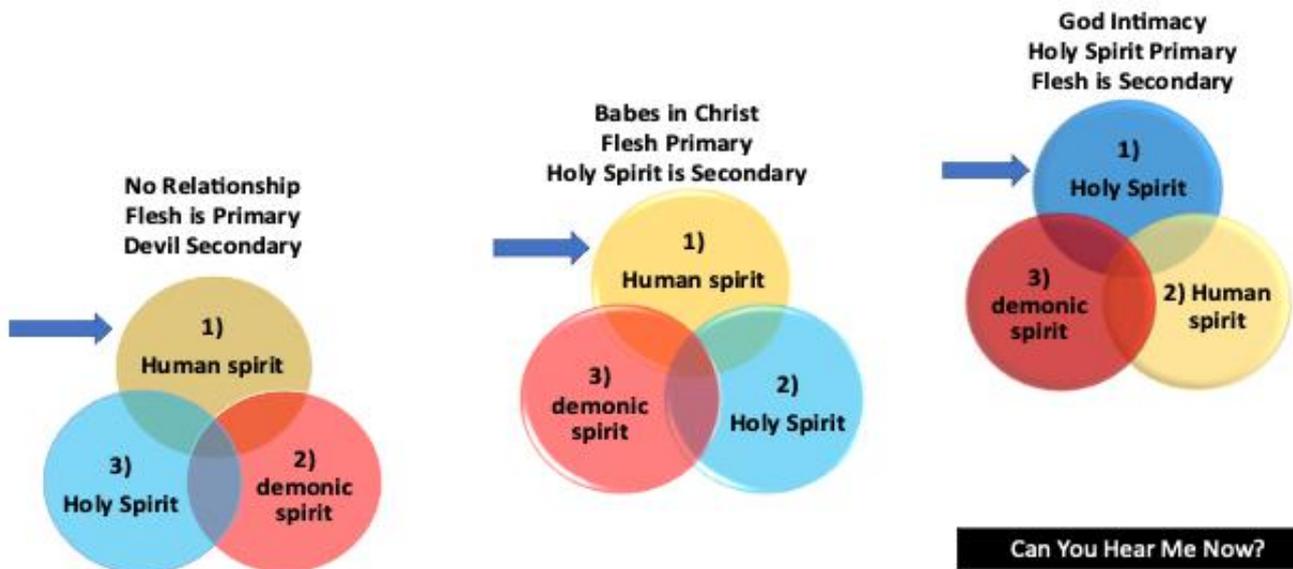
- A Sound from heaven is sent out to the universe
- This sound is a message from heaven is sent on the **“Kindred Holy Spirit Frequency” (KHSF)**
- If our human spirits are properly tuned to the (KHSF) then we hear what the Lord is saying
- **Therefore, we must learn how to Tune into KHSF! — Kindred Holy Spirit Frequency!**
- Our Human Spirit and the Holy Spirit needs to become “Kindred Spirits”.
- Then, we can hear what God is saying and be able to discern HIS TRUTH!
- If we allow our *soulish, selfish, fleshly* desires to create disruption to the frequency, we can become a false prophet.



3 Voices – Frequencies - Heavens



Spiritual Discernment 3 Voices



TUNING INTO GOD

- Each has a **primary way**—a similar fashion that we hear the voice of the Lord repeatedly.
- Like a **Police Scanner, we don't all hear His voice on the same "frequency"**.
- **Do not limit God.** In time, God may use other ways to speak to us, be sensitive.

HUMAN SPIRIT

We operate from our soul realm as a default.

1. We value what we think, how it makes us feel, we value what we want and work to get there.
2. We tend to hear our soul's comments, opinions, analysis in the mind and impressions based on our emotions.

But the problem is, we are custom and comfortable with our soul speaking. Therefore, it takes a quietening of the soul to have direct and untamed, unaffected connection to God through our spirit. As we seek to have a free phone connection to heaven, we learn to break free from noise, disturbance, restlessness, and selfish soul. That's why God says in His Word: Be STILL and know that I AM GOD.

DEMONIC SPIRITS

Demonic Frequency lies and manipulates information. It does not have revelation knowledge. We need to WATCH WHAT WE SAY. Especially what we say about other Believers because that becomes demonic pronouncements. I Cor 2;6

God created many people with spiritual prophetic gifts to receive His revelation. If people choose not to follow God and tune their heart into God's heart, **which is the Holy Spirit Frequency (HSF)** then they become susceptible to being influenced and controlled by: **Demonic Spirit Frequency (DSF)**. This means that Our Receiver is tuned-in to demonic channels:

1. Our Receiver (Human Spirit) hears and responds to negative influences.
2. We can easily be tuned to the wrong channel which seeks to steal, kill, and destroy us and become angry, hateful, rebellious, and uncorrectable.
3. Our lives are being influenced and control by the 2nd Heaven revelation. And we receive instructions from the enemy.
4. The antidote is that we strive to become focused on tuning into that narrow beam of the Holy Spirit that originates from Christ alone.

DEMONIC D'S CHECKLIST!

One third of heaven's angels fell to earth. They are waging war against humans and the battleground is in the mind. That's why we pray daily for the mind of Christ to protect us against the wages of spiritual warfare.

These Demons can collect information about people by observation and not by revelation. Demons communicate to each other and to humans listening with twisted spiritual receivers. Demons tune in listening to get information and pass it off as revelation. Or use this information to suck the life out of humans by challenging their self-worth, self-esteem and will to live. Therefore, these people may entertain suicidal thoughts.

It is critical that we become aware of satanic strategies to destroy us. "Devil" is the word "evil" within the letter "D" added to it. Let's be watchful, careful and diligent to identify **"Demonic D's strategies that the enemy uses against us to keep us in bondage!"**

Deception- Demons get enough real information to appear as truth while weaving it into a beautiful masterful lie. Then they feed it to your mind in first-person language as if they are your own personalized thoughts! It takes divine supernatural spiritual discernment to learn how to catch demons in the act of deceiving us. When demons see us begin discover their deception, they instantly react with new deceptions and more intense attacks.

- a) Torturing us with negative thoughts, statements, and mental flashbacks.
- b) With the help of the Holy Spirit, we learn to become patient with ourselves and not expect to conquer demonic attacks alone or quickly.
- c) We remember The POWER of the blood to cover our family and friends and that there are no limits to the POWER of the Holy Spirit to break their deceptions!

Demanding- Demons want as much influence over you as possible.

Watch Out For Those Controlling, Power Thirsty Greedy, Demanding Invoices That Say:

- d) You don't have to take that!
- e) You should not have that man!
- f) Who care if he is married?
- g) If you want it, you should have it regardless of the circumstances.
- h) Just take it and then it's yours.
- i) Declare the word of God and cast those demons out.

Disguise- Demons disguise their voice. They like to speak to us in the first person. The way that demons use grammar to camouflage themselves is pure genius.

- j) If another human tried to plant thoughts in your mind by speaking in the first person, it would never work. You'd be aware that someone was speaking in your ear and you'd never mistake them for yourself.
- k) Humans **can't** speak directly into your brain like demons can.
- l) Humans **can't** hear your thought voice or perfectly imitate it. But demons are masters of disguise.

Denial- demons encourage us to deny the truth all the time! It is one of their favorite strategies to keep us down and living a life of lies They've been successfully doing this to you your whole life. Until we become very good at spiritual discernment, we become victims of the strategy and they continue to do it.

- 1) **To deny the truth doesn't make the truth go away. Sooner or later the hard realities of the truth will bite.**
- 2) **Denial is also self-reinforcing - once you make the first denial, you tend to commit to it: you will deny, deny the denial, deny that, and so on.**
- 3) **Living in denial is the main hindrance for anyone wanting to break free, but you never will because you don't see a problem.**
- 4) **Until we face the truth and stop living in denial, we will never be free inside. If we are not free inside, we will not be free on the outside**

Discouragement

- 1) Demons will plant Negative thoughts in your mind and then trick you into taking credit for them.
 - a) **"I am such a loser."**
 - b) **I am not worthy to be loved!**
 - c) **I hate her/him!**
- 2) **The demon said it but if we own it**, then it becomes our own personal message.
- 3) **MANIPULATING MEMORIES to remember only the negatives. To create a downward spiral of depression.**
- 4) Demons keep upsetting memories at the front of our mind. The more negative memories you have, the more extensive their arsenal is. Because it's our own memory that they're replaying, we do not suspect their involvement.

Distractions- demons want to keep us separated from God

They can't spiritually separate you from Him, but they can try to stop us from growing closer to Him by bombarding you with distractions and deceptions that will cause us to remain in despair.

When we develop an intimate relationship with God then we realize how God sees us rather than all the demons see us. We see ourselves as beloved and precious in his sight. We see ourselves as children of God a royal priesthood a holy nation!

We humans are extremely easy to deceive. It is vital that we become wise and knowledgeable about Satanic Strategies to destroy us. Spending quality time with God will help us to discern between Godly Holy Spirit Frequency and demonic frequency.

Remember that our people perish for lack of knowledge.

The Holy Spirit is the Fountain of knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

HOLY SPIRIT

The truth is that God loves humans dearly and created us for the purpose of thriving in a positive, personal relationship with Him. If we really grasp the richness depth and power of God's love we would be much powerful enemies to the demons. Therefore, demons work hard to get us to think otherwise. God is reaching out to us daily to communicate with us, He is calling us to:

- Enter into an attitude of peaceful silence to quiet our soul in order to let our human spirit rest in Him.
- Enter into a comfortable intimate fellowship and communicating daily with Him.
- Follow the thanksgiving, praise, worship path to enter into an attitude of awe of complete stillness of soul.
- Seek God's face and wait patiently for Him to speak or to minister to us.

John 10:4b, 5, "...and the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

Isaiah 30:21 says, "Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left."

- God does speak to us and we can hear His voice!
- Yet, we must be careful -- As Christians to be able to objectively confirm that we are following the Holy Spirit and not another voice.
- **Our own flesh can scream pretty loud (especially when we are under pressure, or we want something very badly).**
- The Devil is the father of lies -- he is the great deceiver.

INTIMACY AND FAVOR BY GRAHAM COOKE

Favor comes from having the presence of God traveling with us.

When God is cemented at the fore of our hearts, we see our relationship with Him deepen in ways we never thought possible.

There is a place in the Holy Spirit set aside for every one of us where we can make the enemy tired, depressed, weary, confused, and exasperated. It's a place where our relationship with God has a profound effect on the enemy and the people around us. What we think about God can shatter the hold of darkness on our friends and family. Our intimacy with God is our most intimidating weapon against the enemy.

We have all seen people trying to operate in authority when they just don't have it—it's painful to see. As well-trained charismatic Christians, we think getting louder is how we should try to take authority. But our authority comes out of who we are in Christ, and our capacity to intimidate the enemy comes out of our intimacy with God.

The Lord's favor is available to every single one of us. His favor helps us to understand God, to go to a deeper level in Him, and to increase our vision and image of who God is for us. His favor takes us to the next phase of accomplishing the impossible.

This favor is a revelation of who God is and God amazing works. When we move into a deeper place with God, the stress that flows out of our life and ministry creates and establishes a deeper relationship with Him. The antidote to stress and crisis is increasing our fellowship with God.

There are things in our life that leaves us vulnerable. We will wade through this stuff by fighting thru feelings of inadequacy, and battle insecurity. Our goal is to translate weaknesses into joyful vulnerability by becoming more intimate than ever before.

What distinguishes a True Believer, is someone who is "Walking in The Spirit" as opposed to their soul—mind, will and emotions. True Believers walk in the favor of our intimacy with God.

Favor comes from having the presence of God traveling with us. Favor comes when we are assured that God lives in us. **We are people of His presence;** and as we abide in His presence, we learn how to rest, dwell, and remain in God's arms.

KNOWING WHEN GOD SPEAKS

We live in a world where so many things call for our attention. Information is at our fingertips. Our heads are full of thoughts that come from the media, external life circumstances or from our own mind racing to all kinds of things.

We think of all the options we have, we formulate our opinions on matters, we run through our daily task list and sometimes we barely have time to think, while running from one thing to the other. We live in a world of noise, overstimulation, restlessness, and ambitions.

In the midst of this mental chaos, God will speak, and we can hear His voice, but we need spiritual discernment to determine if we're really hearing from God or other voices. It is particularly difficult as young Christians to discern the voice of God. Our own flesh can scream pretty loud (especially when we are under pressure, or we want something very badly). And the Devil is the father of lies -- he is the great deceiver.

How can we know whether we're hearing the voice of God? The Bible gives us seven basic keys or filters for spiritual discernment. We are to carefully examine the thoughts and intentions of our hearts -- and the words of godly people who may have influence on us by their words and actions.

GOD SPEAKS THRU 3 PRIMARY METHODS

- Through **mental images** or **pictures**
- Through **physical sensations** and **heartfelt impressions**
- Through hearing **words**, or words in thought form

Acts 9:4, Paul **heard a voice** on the day of his conversion.

Acts 10, Cornelius and Peter received instruction from the Lord through **visions**.

Genesis 37, Joseph had a dream. Genesis 20:3, Abimelech had a **dream**.

SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT IS A GROWTH PROCESS

- Key—Continually exercise listening strategies presented these workbooks.
- Spend more and more time with the Father to hear Him. “My sheep hear my voice”.
- Learn to turn on, tune in and control the volume.
- Training your human spirit to tune in to The Holy Spirit brings “theory” into personal reality.
- Recognize that God is the only one who can increase wisdom, pray for it (James 1:5; Philippians 1:9).
- Seek the wisdom to distinguish good from evil that comes by spiritual discernment given by the Holy Spirit.
- Do not despise small beginnings and do not give up give out or give in!

By knowing and obeying the Word of God, we will be “trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.” We will know God’s character and will.

DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

SCRIPTURE	ACTION
Matthew 13:9-16	Avoid “Spiritual Stupor”! Jesus (Yeshua) said we are spiritually blind, deaf, and dumb! We do not know, perceive, or understand His teachings or Kingdom Mysteries.
Proverbs 1-6	Cry out for it - We are to “cry out” and ask God for the ability to divide truth from half-truths, truth from error and right from wrong. We are to ask God to help us understand and to “separate” the good from the bad!
1Thessalonians 5:21-22	Develop it - <i>“But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.”</i>
Psalms 46:10	Learn to meditate - My inner man must first learn to “ <i>Be still and know that He is God</i> ”. Meditation is <i>reviewing, repeating, reflecting, thinking, analyzing, feeling, and enjoying</i> God’s Word.
Hebrews 3:7-10	Resist Rebellion - Do not harden your hearts in rebellion; do not go astray or resist His guidance. We must submit our will to God’s Will for our lives.
2 Corinthians 3:16	Seek Intimacy - We have a veil on our hearts—when we turn to the Lord the veil is removed. <i>Intimacy is the key to knowing God. Talk to God throughout the day.</i>
1 Corinthians 1:30 James 1:5	Pursue Jesus (Yeshua) - Seek and set our hearts on Jesus (Yeshua), because He is “Wisdom from God! Pray and ask God for Wisdom!
1 John 4:1	Test it - <i>“Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world”</i>

6 DISTINGUISHING MARKS OF DIVINE DISCOURSE BY ROGER BARRIER

Over the years," writes Pastor Roger Barrier, "I have developed a checklist to help me distinguish when God is speaking to me. It is not complete or foolproof. No one point, of course, is sufficient to prove or disprove the voice of God. But these principles have helped me discern more accurately the voice of God."

1. GOD TENDS TO SPEAK GENTLY.

Remember how God spoke to Elijah? God was not in the whirlwind, earthquake, or the fire.

- a. **"And after the fire came a gentle whisper," and God spoke in the whisper.**
- b. Whenever the voice within me drives and demands like a pushy, used-car salesman, God is not speaking.
- c. **God is never pushy; he seldom urges sudden action without giving us time to reason through the issues.**

2. GOD'S VOICE PRODUCES FREEDOM.

In **Matthew 11:28-30**, Jesus (Yeshua) says, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." Satan loves to put people into bondage; **God loves to set us free.**

3. GOD TENDS TO SPEAK WHILE WE ARE CONSCIOUSLY SEEKING HIM.

I remember shaving one morning when I heard this voice tell me that the way to expand our church was to buy neighboring houses, bulldoze them, and use the land for parking. I followed that "voice," but what a disaster! Later, **while listening for God's Spirit**, I sensed his leading in another building matter. This time I followed the promptings, and God opened several doors for us to purchase and pay off many acres of land.

4. GOD SPEAKS WITH TRUTH.

I often say in moments of despair, "I'm no good" or "Nobody loves me" or "I can't do anything right." These are half-truths that come from either self or Satan, but not God. **God will never (and cannot) contradict his Word.**

5. GOD CONVICTS OF SPECIFIC SINS.

John 16:8 teaches that **the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.** When God convicts us of sin, the sin is usually specific: "Yesterday at 4:00 p.m. you did such and such." Self or Satan, on the other hand, brings a haunting guilt not tied to specific sins. I've often felt accused or had a nagging feeling of guilt. These feelings are not from God's Spirit. Often, they are from the Accuser of the brethren (**Rev. 12:10**).

6. GOD DOES NOT CONFUSE.

When the trumpet of God sounds, it does not play confusing melodies. **Satan, not God, is the author of confusion.**

GEORGE MULLER - KNOWING GOD'S WILL

- **Hold out for God's peace**, for **God's leading** will be accompanied by His peace (Col. 3:15).
- **If you sense that something isn't quite right, or just don't feel at peace about it, it means "no" or "wait."**
- Muller said that any time he rushed beyond God's leading he invariably made mistakes

EXAMPLES PERSONAL /RHEMA!

- **"My Grace is sufficient** to cover all your deficiencies!
- "You dishonor me with when walk in "Dread"
- "You must expose a Thing to change a thing!"
- "Oh, how the mighty have fallen!"
- **"Having"** and NOT **"Sharing"** is a form of **"Stealing"**! (Pastor Artie)

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7 ... BETTER, BRIGHTER, BOUNTIFULLY BLESSED YOU IN 2022

May Adonai Bountifully Bless America and our planet in 2022.

May Adonai Bountifully Bless the work of your hands!

May the fire of HIS SHEKINAH GLORY shine upon you!

***May His HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWER you to do GREAT WORKS for the
Kingdom of God!***

***May HIS HOLY SPIRIT FILL YOU till you OVERFLOW with his
Goodness, Grace, and Love!***

***May your Faithful, Fearless, Focused Prayers bear much fruit for the
kingdom of God!***

May the Lord BOUNTIFULLY BLESS your Family, Finances & Future!

SHALOM!

SHALOM!

SHALOM!

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