



PROPHETIC & REVELATORY STUDIES

SEMESTER ONE

Streams
ACADEMY
DIPLOMA

SEMESTER ONE

Module 1: Prophetic Operation: God & Man-----pg 5

Module 2: New Creation Realities: Walking in the Spirit-----pg 101

Module 3: Understanding Prophetic Ministry-----pg 217



MODULE 01

Prophetic Operation: God & Man

**ACADEMY
DIPLOMA** 

Streams Academy—Prophetic and Revelatory Training

Module 1 Prophetic Operation: God & Man

Copyright © 2020 John E. Thomas

Printed in the United States of America. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise without prior written permission of the copyright owner, except by a reviewer who wishes to quote brief passages in connection with a review for inclusion in a magazine, newspaper, or broadcast.

Requests for information should be addressed to:

Streams Ministries, Intl.

PO Box 248

Lewisville, TX 75067-0248

888.441.8080

customersupport@streamsministries.com

Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

More information about John E. Thomas and Streams Ministries
can be found at: www.streamsministries.com.

Learn more about Streams Academy at
www.StreamsTraining.com

MODULE 01

Prophetic Operation: God & Man

As we walk with God, He doesn't strip away our humanity—He purifies and uses it. Discover the correlation between Christ's nature in you and your growth in your gifting. Learn how the prophetic gift functions, grow in intimacy with the One who made your gifting, and recognize how to step into your full spiritual potential!

Unit 1: Pitfalls

Unit 2: Pillars

Unit 3: Process

Unit 4: Potential

MODULE 01

UNIT 1

Pitfalls



Unit 1: Pitfalls

The Problem

Charisma minus character equals catastrophe

When God empowers us He does not remove our issues even though He makes provision for us to overcome them

Samson

- Desire for a woman's love

- Vengeance and retribution
 - Marriage and revenge (Judges 14–15)
 - Prostitute (Judges 16:1–3)
 - Delilah (Judges 16:4–31)

Aaron and the 70 elders

- Ate with God in heaven (Exodus 24:9–11; 32:1–35)

Today

- Ministers falling

- Mixing opinion with revelation
 - Politics and finance
 - Personal conflict causing accusation
 - Exaggeration
 - Fascination with paranormal activity

The Solution

Redefining Maturity

What is spiritual maturity?

- Spiritual gift
- Bible knowledge
- Leadership capacity
- Achievements (leading people to the Lord, giving large sums of money)
- Manifesting the nature of God

Living by the Spirit will always bear fruit

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. —Galatians 5:16–26



The spiritual life is a journey of taking on the nature of God

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.—Colossians 3:1–17

Spiritual maturity is seen by our capacity to love well

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”³⁷ And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.³⁸ This is the great and first commandment.³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”—Matthew 22:36–40

How do we know if we love well?

- How do we handle conflict? Are we able to communicate clearly without shutting down or blowing up?
- Do we judge other people’s spirituality because of personality differences?
- Can we easily submit to others, laying down our preferences when someone else is in authority?
- Are we in a variety of relationships with people that are like us and with people that are different than us?
- Have we dealt with prejudice along economic, religious, racial, and age differences?
- Do we have a history of cut-off relationships because of conflict?
- Can we forgive others and ourselves and move forward?
- Can we communicate our preferences and desires without feeling guilty, defensive, or overbearing? Are we able to hear other people’s preferences without feeling defensive, manipulating, or victimized?

Spiritual maturity affects every part of our lives

- Relationships
- Jobs
- Finances
- Goals
- Values
- Marriages
- Entertainment
- Our definition of success

Our level of spiritual maturity affects how we operate in spiritual gifts

- Who we minister to and why
- Our style of ministry
- The effectiveness of our ministry

MODULE 01

Prophetic Operation: God & Man



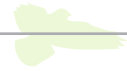
Example: Water through a hose

- What God releases is the water
- Who we are is the hose

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 01

HOMework



MODULE 01 HOMEWORK

Unit 1: Pitfalls

Find 3 examples in the Old Testament and 2 examples in the New Testament of someone that operated in spiritual gifts and also demonstrated bad character.

For each example ask these questions:

Did they start well?

Did they end well?

Do you see anything in the Biblical record that would reveal the root or the beginning of this issue in their life?

If they ended well, what helped them overcome their character issue? Do you see a specific situation in the Biblical record of something that helped them change?

Does the Biblical record tell you if they had good social relationships or not?

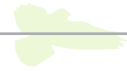
Is there a correlation between relationships and issues being resolved?

Do most people think of this person as a positive example or a negative example?

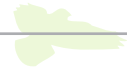
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 01

UNIT 2

Pillars



Unit 2: Pillars

The Church

Our gifting tells us our function, not our title

The three passages that include major “lists” of spiritual gifts all have one thing in common—they use the metaphor of a body

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.—Romans 12:3–8

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many.¹⁵ If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be?²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty,²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it,²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.—1 Corinthians 12:4–27

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.—Ephesians 4:11–16

God is about the work of building His kingdom, not building our ministries!

Humility will allow us to fulfill the necessary function, not expect special treatment

Is the title important?

“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. ⁴²And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”—Matthew 11:40–42

Some teach that if you don’t call someone by their title you can’t receive the grace that is on them

- That is like saying if you don’t call a doctor a doctor they can’t heal you
- But if you don’t respect their advice and do something with it then you probably won’t get the benefit they bring
- This is about understanding the role, not using certain words

Understand the prophetic trap

- People are impressed by gifts
- Prophetic people often have a history of rejection¹
- When our gift is praised we can equate that with acceptance
- Then we need to make sure everyone knows how gifted we are to feel loved

¹ Read *Understanding Prophetic People* by R. Loren Sandford

MODULE 01

Prophetic Operation: God & Man



God is building His church, will we work with Him?

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.—Matthew 16:18

The purpose of revelatory ministry is to expand God's kingdom and build His church!

The church's commission is to make disciples of all nations, are we doing that work?

The Person

God does not remove us from the equation—who we are affects what we hear and how we communicate it!

Our character formation is the most essential element of our spiritual formation

- Do we look like Jesus?

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to
Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.—Galatians 5:22–25

How does character affect revelation?

- What we hear is affected by:
 - Strongholds
 - Wounds from past
 - Inner vows
 - Judgements

- How we communicate it to others is affected by these factors
 - Emotional
 - Doctrinal
 - Relational
 - Financial

There is a human factor and a God factor

- God factor
 - Spiritual gifts are given not earned
 - Some at birth
 - Some from faith and pursuit
 - Some from position and responsibility

For the gifts and calling of God are irrevocable.—Romans 11:29

- Human factor
 - God gives the gift, but we are responsible to steward it

The three powers at war with our gifts (with us!)²

EMOTIONS	WILL	MIND
Money	Sex	Power
Gold	Girls/Guys	Glory
Economics	Religion	Politics
Stones to bread	Throw Yourself down	All these kingdoms/authority
Lust of the eyes	Lust of the flesh	Pride of life
Pleasant to the eyes	Good for food	Makes one wise

Compare Genesis 3:6; Luke 4:1-12; and 1 John 2:15-17

² Marcus Young helped me significantly in thinking this through. www.justprojects.org

When these things are not in the proper place it can cause these problems for prophetic people:

- Cycles of leaving churches or being asked to leave churches
- Lack of community and healthy relationships
- Little influence, or if the gift is strong enough cycles of influence growing then leaving when issues become evident
- Constant conflict with others, often misunderstood as “spiritual warfare” or “persecution”
- A history of short employment
- Feelings of isolation
- Thoughts of being the only one(s) with the true revelation
- Judgmental attitudes towards other genuine believers that hold different values/doctrines
- People following them but leaders not trusting them
- Patterns of sinful behavior
- Noticing negatives but not positives, or significantly less positives
- Relational conflict or abusive relationships with those close to them
- Constant recognition of other’s weaknesses
- Fear of not being recognized as gifted or being truly known
- Lack of experience of the love of God
- Seeing every negative circumstance as God’s judgment

Understand reaping and sowing

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.—Galatians 6:7

“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”—Luke 6:37–38

This principle affects every aspect of our lives

- The way you listen will be how others listen to you
 - The way you listen to people also tells you how you listen to God

If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.—1 John 4:20

- The mercy you give will affect the mercy you receive

For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment. —James 2:13

- How you serve your leader will be how others follow you

- How you handle what is currently under your authority will determine if you will be given more to steward
 - Finances
 - Spiritual gifts
 - Leadership
 - Spouse/children
 - Everything!

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'—Matthew 25:21

The Gift

In the same way that we are born babies and need to mature, our gift is given in an immature state and needs to mature

Areas that need to mature:

- Our reception of revelation
- Our ability to interpret that revelation
- Our capacity to apply that revelation to the situation it speaks to
- Our skill in communicating that revelation so that the hearer receives what God intended how God intended

Revelation

- Dream or vision
- Thought or feeling
- Understanding or knowing
- Seer realm or visitation
- Translation or transportation

Interpretation

- Do we understand what we received?
- Most revelation is metaphorical
 - Understanding is both a skill and a gift

Application

- Does it need to be said?
- Who needs to hear it?
- How much of it should be said?
- Is it instruction or proclamation?
- Are there prerequisites? Does something need to happen for it to come to pass?

Proclamation

- How do we say it so that it conveys God's heart and intention?
- How much are we allowed to say to them?
 - What level of relationship or favor do we have?
- Do we say it or act it out? Do we share a riddle or make it plain?

Each of these areas need maturity
How do we mature?

- Practice

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil. —Hebrews 5:14

- Failure is the best teacher—are we afraid of messing up?

- Training

- Teaching and demonstration

MODULE 01

Prophetic Operation: God & Man

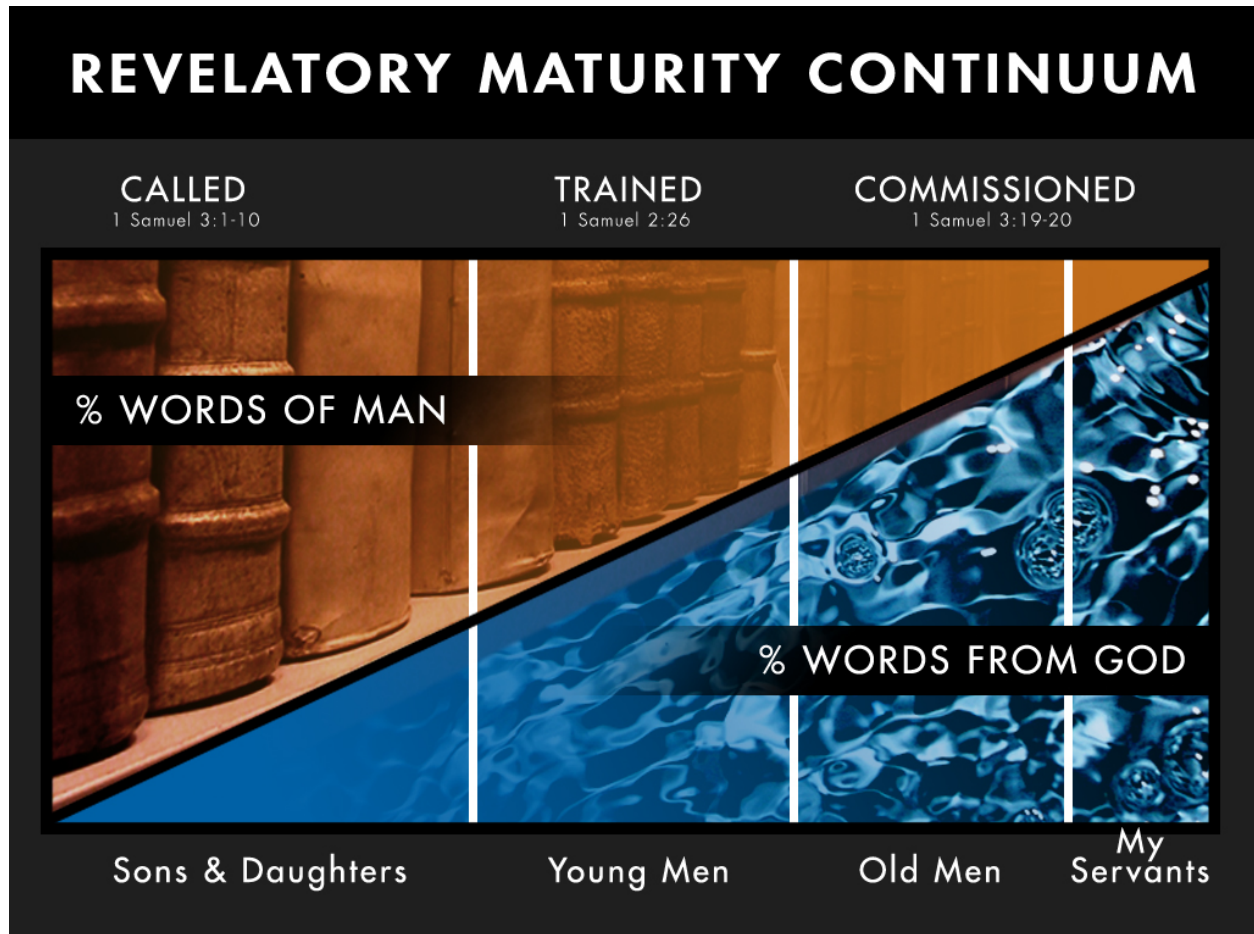


- Scripture
 - Read
 - Study
 - Meditate

- Impartation

- Feedback

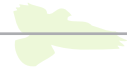
Revelatory Maturity Continuum



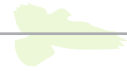
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 01

HOMework



MODULE 01 HOMEWORK

Unit 2: Pillars

But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.—Hebrews 5:14

At least three times each week before the follow-up weekend ask God to show you something that is going to happen in the next 24 hours. Write down:

Who is it going to happen to? An individual, city, nation, economy, weather, church, or business?

Have you thought this was going to happen before? Why?

How did the revelation come to you? Thought, understanding, feeling, vision, audible voice, Scripture, etc.?

Have you talked to anyone about this situation previously? Do you have natural knowledge about this?

Are you affected by this? Are you okay with this happening or not happening?

Are you able to change it or help it? Are you suppose to?

The next day write down:

Did it happen?

Was it like you expected or was it different?

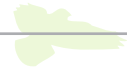
Was it more important or less important than you thought yesterday?

Thinking back on how you received this revelation, how accurate was your interpretation of what you received? Your application?

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 01

UNIT 3

Process



Unit 3: Process

How does God produce Christlikeness in us?

- Difficulties
- Spiritual Disciplines
- Relationships
- Inner Healing
- Encounters

Difficulties

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.—James 1:2–4

Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.—Romans 5:3–5

God takes the situations we go through and uses them to create a path of growth

- As the old adage goes, “We can get bitter or we can get better.”
 - Suffering is tribulation, persecution, or pressure
 - Endurance is the capacity to bear up under continued pressure
 - Character is literally proven worth
 - Hope is expectation, looking forward with confidence to something better

- Will we condemn God
 - Why did you let this happen to me?

- Will we condemn ourselves
 - What did I do to deserve this?

- Will we condemn others
 - If they hadn't..., had...,

- We choose if we see ourselves as a victim or as a victor

For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.—Romans 5:17

Understanding the dark night of the soul

In the midst of difficulties God chooses to give us the gift of a dark night

We think our spirituality, our closeness to God, our being loved by God, is defined by our experience

- What we think
- How we feel
- What we want

The ancients called these consolations—the soul’s response to spiritual activity

God wants us to live by faith, not by sight—He desires our spirit to rule, not our souls

Before the dark night we think our souliness is spirituality

God begins to remove our immaturity through desolations and dark nights

“How do we know we are in “the dark night”? Our good feelings of God’s presence evaporate. We feel the door of heaven has been shut as we pray. Darkness, helplessness, weariness, a sense of failure or defeat, barrenness, emptiness, dryness descend upon us. The Christian disciplines that have served us up to this time “no longer work.” We can’t see what God is doing and we see little visible fruit in our lives.

This is God’s way of rewiring and “purging our affections and passions” that we might delight in his love and enter into a richer, fuller communion with him. God wants to communicate to us his true sweetness and love. He longs that we might know his true peace and rest. He works to free us from unhealthy attachments and idolatries of the world. He longs for an intimate, passionate love relationship with us.

For this reason, John of the Cross wrote that God sends us “the dark night of loving fire” to free us. John listed the seven deadly spiritual imperfections of beginners that must be purified:

1. *Pride: they have a tendency to condemn others and become impatient with their faults. They are very selective in who can teach them.*
2. *Avarice: they are discontent with the spirituality God gives them. They never have enough learning, are always many books rather than growing in poverty of spirit and their interior life.*
3. *Luxury: they take more pleasure in the spiritual blessings of God than God himself.*
4. *Wrath: they are easily irritated, lacking sweetness, and have little patience to wait on God.*
5. *Spiritual gluttony: they resist the cross and choose pleasures like children do.*
6. *Spiritual envy: they feel unhappy when others do well spiritually. They are always comparing.*
7. *Sloth: they run from that which is hard. Their aim is spiritual sweetness and good feelings.*

While in chapter 4 I talked about the critical importance of paying attention to our feelings in order to know God, the “dark night” protects us from worshiping them. This is one of the more common idolatries of the spiritual life.

St. John of the Cross knew our tendency to become attached to feelings of and about God, mistaking them for God himself. These sensations, rich or empty, are not God but only messengers from God that speak to us of him. There is no other way, John of the Cross would say, for our souls to be strengthened and purified so that we don't worship our feelings than for God to remove them altogether. This is God's way of rewiring our taste buds that we might taste of him ever more fully.

St. John wrote: '[God] is purging the soul, annihilating it, emptying it or consuming in it (even as fire consumes the mouldiness and the rust of metal) all the affections and imperfect habits which it has contracted its whole life. . . . These are deeply rooted in the substance of the soul. . . . At the same time, it is God who is passively working here in the soul.'

In addition to purging our will and understanding of the deadly sins mentioned above, God also adds something into our souls. He mysteriously infuses or imparts his love into us. God powerfully invades us when we persevere patiently through this suffering. Our great temptation is to quit or go backwards, but if we remain still, listening for his voice, God will insert something of himself into our character that will mark the rest of our journey with him.—Peter Scazzero³

God moves us through three stages of spiritual maturity

- Survival mentality
- Blessing mentality
- Building mentality

³ Excerpt From: Peter Scazzero. “Emotionally Healthy Spirituality.” Apple Books.
<https://books.apple.com/us/book/emotionally-healthy-spirituality/id894679967>

Spiritual Disciplines

Our private life will determine the weight of public acclaim we can handle

“What would Jesus do?”⁴

If we do not develop habits of righteousness when times of pressure come we will not be able to respond the right way

- Silence teaches us to keep silent when accused

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.—1 Peter 2:21–23

- Fasting prepares us to say no to temptation

⁴ Read *The Spirit of the Disciplines* by Dallas Willard and *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster

- Meditation practices “taking every thought captive” (2 Corinthians 10:5–6)
- Prayer holds our attention on God’s presence
- Study disciplines our mind to know truth
- Giving forces our emotions to bow to what is right
- Solitude reveals our strongholds and how much we define ourselves by others
- Sabbath shows us we are not God and prepares us for His rest so we can learn to wait on God
- Worship opens our spiritual senses to spiritual activity
- Service practices humility and gentleness
- Submission allows us to not require our own way, not force our agendas on others or on circumstances, it teaches us how to obey authority
- Reading Scripture sensitizes our conscience and orders our thoughts
- Fellowship allows us opportunity to love others and prefer others

Secret obedience develops strength for public victories

- How we obey God when no one else knows will affect how we obey Him when others will find out
 - Public words
 - Miracles
 - Praise of people

- Our level of faith in our ability to follow God is built in secret, not in public

Relationships

*As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,
5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to
offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.—1 Peter 2:4–5*

We often think we are good, kind, and loving until we interact with others that rub us the wrong way

God will bring people that bug us around so that we are confronted with our weakness—we need to know where we need to change or we won't change

*When a man's ways please the LORD,
he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.—Proverbs 16:7*

Our ability to keep our soul in submission to the spirit is not developed in isolation

God has chosen the church and the people He sends us to as a primary way He molds us and shows us how spiritual we really are

Gifted that does not help others is not from God, it counts for nothing!

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.—1 Corinthians 14:1–7

Inner Healing

The soul is a lens that the light of revelation shines through—to the extent it is sick, hard, or distorted what we hear will be suspect

What is inner healing? Dying quicker!

Life, and our response to it, causes wounds—ways of thinking, feeling, or wanting that are not right

- Inner healing brings our soul to the cross so that it can die and be resurrected into its true potential in God
 - Unless something is dead it cannot be resurrected

- The cross is the only hope for freedom

There are two main ways to access the cross:

- Repentance
- Forgiveness

Core understandings that inner healing is built on:

- Sowing and reaping

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.—Galatians 6:7–8



- Judgments

Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.² We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things.—Romans 2:1–2

- Inner vows

For as he thinks within himself, so he is.—Proverbs 23:7 NASB

- The Hebrew is literally, “as he reckons within his soul, so he is.”
 - I will never, I will always...
 - Men/women always...
- These are curses against ourselves that form how we see the world and interpret our experiences

- Generational issues

The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. ⁶The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.”—Exodus 34:5–7

- Generational iniquity (twisting)
- Generational sin (action)
- Generational curses

- Unforgiveness
 - Forgiving others is a key to being forgiven (Matthew 6:14–15)
 - We must forgive ourselves

Encounters

Encounters with God are invitations to be changed and carry the potential for our change but don't guarantee we will change

Then the Spirit of the LORD will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man.—1 Samuel 10:6

We access the potential of change by handling all the other issues we just covered

Every encounter with Jesus carries His nature—in the encounter is the promise, provision, and potential for change

Encounters can be:

- Visions and dreams
- Visitations
- Translations
- Impartations
- Being filled with Holy Spirit

The more powerful the encounter the greater the potential for change

Encounters are catalysts—we do not stay the same afterwards

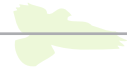
- If we don't change for the good, we will change for the worse

For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.—1 Peter 2:21

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 01

HOMework





MODULE 01 HOMEWORK

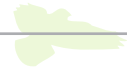
Unit 3: Process

Read *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster

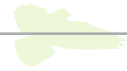
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 01

UNIT 4

Potential



Unit 4: Potential

Intimacy

A gift can end up being merely entertainment, but when used within kingdom principles by someone that lives out Christ's nature it can change the world

- My primary goal is not to change the world, it is to get closer to Jesus!

There are levels of intimacy with the Lord

- We may have the gift to have high-level encounters or high-level revelation but our response to His love will determine our intimacy with Him

Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.—Hebrews 12:14

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.—Matthew 5:8

The goal is not ministry opportunities, the goal is faithfulness

- When ministry opportunities are the goal we are getting our reward from man

Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.—Matthew 6:1

- Our growth, maturity, ministry, life is all about faithfulness
 - All we have is a stewardship from Him and we will give an account
 - Finances
 - Relationships
 - Favor
 - Gift
 - Authority
 - Everything!
 - If we do well for what we get here we will miss our reward in heaven

- We have been given talents, will we hide them or invest them in people?
 - Matthew 25:14–30

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴ For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.—Hebrews 11:13–16

- The choice is between getting glory from people or glory from God

*They loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.—
John 12:43*



- When we choose Him over people, when He is our reward, when our hearts are set on eternity, then we will have great fruit here on earth

For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.³⁵ Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life.³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated—³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

³⁹ And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised,⁴⁰ since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.—Hebrews 11:32–40

MODULE 01

HOMework



MODULE 01 HOMEWORK

Unit 4: Potential

What is the healthiest example of prophetic ministry that you know of either through personal experience or through someone you know's experience?

What aspect of Jesus' nature did this person exude the most? What fruit of the Spirit was most evident in their life?

What is the most astounding spiritual phenomena that you have personal knowledge of? (First-hand or second-hand experience—it happened to you or the person it happened to told you about it?)

Did the person it happened to/through bear good fruit or bad fruit before it happened? After it happened?

Did this experience make the person more like Jesus? Cause them to bear better fruit for the kingdom?

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES





MODULE 02

New Creation Realities: Walking in the Spirit

ACADEMY
DIPLOMA 

Streams Academy—Prophetic and Revelatory Training
Module 2 New Creation Realities: Walking in the Spirit

Copyright © 2020 John E. Thomas

Printed in the United States of America. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise without prior written permission of the copyright owner, except by a reviewer who wishes to quote brief passages in connection with a review for inclusion in a magazine, newspaper, or broadcast.

Requests for information should be addressed to:

Streams Ministries, Intl.

PO Box 248

Lewisville, TX 75067-0248

888.441.8080

customersupport@streamsministries.com

Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

More information about John E. Thomas and Streams Ministries
can be found at: www.streamsministries.com.

Learn more about Streams Academy at
www.StreamsTraining.com

MODULE 02

New Creation Realities: Walking in the Spirit

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come” (2 Cor. 5:17 NIV). When we understand what it really means to be new creations, our approach to the spiritual life will dramatically change! Spiritual maturity, at its core, is the spirit ruling over the soul. Join us as we explore this fascinating topic, and learn how it affects your revelatory gift and everyday life. This module also covers different ways you can increase your spirit’s capacity.

Unit 1: Born Again?

Unit 2: Spirit Rule vs. Soul Rule

Unit 3: Immature Prophetic and Soulish Prophecy

Unit 4: False Prophets, Psychics, and Demonic Powers

Unit 5: Understanding Color and the Power of Agreement

MODULE 02

UNIT 1

Born Again?



Unit 1 Born Again?

*These are the generations
of the heavens and the earth when they were created,
in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.*

⁵ When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶ and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground— ⁷ then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸ And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹ And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰ A river flowed out of Eden to water the garden, and there it divided and became four rivers.

¹¹ The name of the first is the Pishon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² And the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. ¹³ The name of the second river is the Gihon. It is the one that flowed around the whole land of Cush. ¹⁴ And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”—Genesis 2:4–17

Spiritual and Physical Life

- Did Adam and Eve die in the day that they ate of the tree?

With the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.—2 Peter 3:8

- Adam and Eve had both a spiritual life and a physical life
 - In a physical day (24 hours) their spiritual life died
 - In a spiritual day (1,000 years) their physical life died

- Everyone born to that bloodline had the same fate, their spiritual life was imprisoned in death

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.—Romans 5:12

- Their spirits were dormant, without the life of God
- Their souls began to grow and strengthen keeping their spirits bound

Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. ²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.—Romans 6:18–21

- Jesus' work of salvation was much more than wiping the slate clean so that we could start again!

Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'—John 3:5–7

- Jesus was bringing us into a new form of life!

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.—Romans 8:29–30

- Conformed—similar in form, nature, or style

- It was more than getting back to what Adam lost in the garden

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.—Titus 3:4–7

- Regeneration—to experience a complete change in one’s way of life to what it should be, with the implication of return to a former state or relation—‘to be born again, to experience new birth, rebirth.’¹
- Renewal—to cause something to become new and different, with the implication of becoming superior—‘to make new, renewal.’²
- Adam walked with God. Jesus walked with God in Him.

¹ Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 509). New York: United Bible Societies.

² Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 593). New York: United Bible Societies.

But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him.

—1 Corinthians 6:17

- Being born again is the entrance of God’s Spirit into our spirit so that we become a new creation—a new form of creation that had not existed until Jesus
 - God’s Spirit uniting with our spirit is how Jesus’ righteousness is imputed to us

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.—Ezekiel 36:26–27 (see also Jeremiah 23:6 & 33:16)

- This makes us participants in God’s nature

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴ by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.—2 Peter 1:3–4

- This complete change has many implications that Paul tries to communicate throughout his letters and without understanding this we can misunderstand what he is saying

- Paul often contrasts the flesh with the spirit, these are two aspects of humanity
 - Sometimes the term “the flesh” in scripture is used to talk of:
 - Our body

 - Our fallen nature

 - Our soul

- Man is three parts: spirit, soul, and body

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Thessalonians 5:23

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow [body], and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.—Hebrews 4:12

- Spirit:
 - Communion
 - Wisdom
 - Conscience
- Soul:
 - Mind
 - Will
 - Emotion
- Body:
 - Bones
 - Blood
 - Flesh (muscle and skin)

Review

- When Adam fell mankind's spirits became dormant and needed life to be free

- Our souls and our fleshly desires hardened into a shell encasing our spirits
 - The “fallen nature” is the tendency to allow our souls to rule over our spirits

- Jesus came and through the work of redemption made it possible for God's Spirit to unite with human spirits so they could live again
 - This union with God is called being born again or being a new creation

- When we are born again our spirits begin to grow, breaking the hardened soul, and let us live in the light and life of God

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.—1 Peter 2:9–10

At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light.—Ephesians 5:8

- Like every other birth in God's creation, spiritual birth brings forth an infant that needs to grow

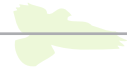
But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ² I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³ for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴ For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?—1 Corinthians 3:1–4

- Spiritual maturity is developed as the spirit submitted to God's Spirit rules over the soul

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 02

HOMework



MODULE 02 HOMEWORK

UNIT 1: Born Again

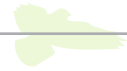
Re-read Ephesians and Colossians and take notes where Paul describes union with God and what it means to be a Christian in light of this understanding

The next time you read through the New Testament pay attention to the concepts of union with Christ, new creation, and born again asking God to reveal more about who you are to you

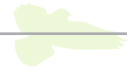
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 02

UNIT 2

Spirit Rule vs Soul Rule



- Every part of our life must be brought to the cross—both the good and the bad

What must we do, then, to be saved? To find God we must repent of the things we have done wrong, but if that is all you do, you may remain just an elder brother. To truly become a Christian we must also repent of the reasons we ever did anything right. Pharisees only repent of their sins, but Christians repent for the very roots of their righteousness, too. We must learn how to repent of the sin under all our other sins and under all our righteousness—the sin of seeking to be our own Savior and Lord. We must admit that we’ve put our ultimate hope in both our wrongdoing and right doing we have been seeking to get around God or get control of God in order to get hold of those things.

It is only when you see the desire to be your own Savior and Lord, lying beneath both your sins and your moral goodness, that you are on the verge of becoming a Christian indeed. When you realize that the antidote to being bad is not just being good, you are on the brink. If you follow through, it will change everything—how you relate to God, self, others, the world, your work, your sins, your virtue. It’s called the new birth because it’s so radical.³

- We bring things to the cross through repentance and forgiveness

³ Timothy Keller *The Prodigal God* pp 77–78

Hardness of Heart

- Issues that hinder the breaking of the soul and the release of the spirit

- Strongholds

- Any pattern of thinking, wanting, or feeling that is alien to Jesus Christ

For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, ⁶being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.—2 Corinthians 10:4–6

- Every nation, tribe, and tongue; every church, family, and business; every person has strongholds!

- Strongholds are demolished through:
 - Repentance

 - Renounce
 - Come out of agreement with the lie and separate oneself from the mindset

 - Return
 - Come into agreement with God and His truth

- Strongholds will often result in patterns of sin

- Demonic attachments
 - Related to deception
 - Deceived people don't think they are deceived, that is the nature of deception
 - Deliverance
- Curses
 - Words spoken by others or by yourself
 - Curses need authority to land

- Generational issues

The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.”—Exodus 34:6–7

- Freedom comes through identificational repentance

- None of these control us, but they can influence us if we let them

Walking by the Spirit

- How do we know if we are walking by the spirit or in the soul?
 - Choices!
 - Every choice we make is a choice to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil or the tree of life
 - We eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil when we decide for ourselves what we should or shouldn't do
 - We eat from the tree of life when we obey what God has said

And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.—Deuteronomy 8:3

EMOTIONS	WILL	MIND
Money	Sex	Power
Gold	Girls/Guys	Glory
Economics	Religion	Politics
Stones to bread	Throw Yourself down	All these kingdoms/authority
Lust of the eyes	Lust of the flesh	Pride of life
Pleasant to the eyes	Good for food	Makes one wise

- The Moment of Choice (John Paul Jackson)

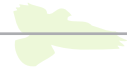
- Understanding the Reticular Activating System (RAS)
 - A filter that tells us what to pay attention to and what to ignore
 - We train this filter through use
 - Decisions to acknowledge and interact with stimulus or ignore the stimulus
 - Study and attention
 - What stimulus are we attending to and interacting with?
 - We have been taught to ignore God all our lives, we must unlearn this!

- Paths in the brain
 - What we pay attention to we will eventually take action on
 - What we take action on becomes our habits
 - Our habits define our character
 - Our character determines our destiny

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 02

HOMework



MODULE 02 HOMEWORK

UNIT 2: Spirit-Rule vs Soul-Rule

As your spirit matures and grows it reaches beyond your body.

Ask God to help you be more in tune with your spirit and help you to recognize the voice of your spirit-man every day.

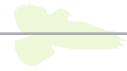
Ask God which spiritual discipline your spirit needs most and practice it three times a week before the mentoring session

Read *Experiencing the Depths of Jesus Christ Through Prayer* by Madame Guyon and integrate this form of prayer into your life

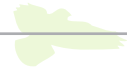
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES





MODULE 02

UNIT 3

Immature Prophetic & Soulsh Prophecy



Unit 3 Immature Prophetic and Soulsh Prophecy

Reading Souls

- Our souls have a natural ability to recognize other souls
 - What someone is feeling
 - What someone is thinking
 - What someone wants
 - This is not bad, it is natural
 - It is also not necessarily a spiritual gift

- Our bodies can perceive, but so can our souls and our spirits
 - We need to recognize if what we are picking up is us perceiving something or God communicating something

- Our bodies have a voice, but so do our souls and spirits
 - We can broadcast information without speaking

- How do you recognize when you are picking up someone's soul?

- You will often pick up someone's soul through your soul
 - You think it, feel it, or want it
 - Burden bearers can be especially sensitive in this arena

- To the extent you know yourself you will be able to recognize when it is someone else

- Judgements toward someone can project your expectations
 - You think they think something, want something, or feel something

- We need to clarify, “Do you think? Feel? Want?”

- Talk to God about what you are sensing

- How do you respond when you pick up someone's soul?
 - The same way you would if you noticed something with your eyes
 - “You look like you are limping, can I pray for you?”

 - Not, “God showed me you are limping.”
- Don't call natural perception (body or soul) prophetic! ⁴

⁴ *Purifying the Prophetic* by R. Loren Sandford

- Ask God what He says about it
 - He can use natural perception to cause us to turn our attention to what He is saying
 - You feel someone depressed and God may tell you why or what to do about it
 - Don't call it prophecy!
- Strongholds speak the loudest from someone's soul
 - If we call what a stronghold is speaking God's voice we use what authority we have to strengthen that stronghold
 - If we recognize a stronghold and speak what God is saying about it we use our authority to demolish that stronghold

The Power of the Soul

- What is a soulish use of our gift?
 - Our soul can energize a gift God has given us
 - Influence
 - Leadership
 - Move things
 - John G. Lake and his disciple



- Revelation

Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel, who are prophesying, and say to those who prophesy from their own hearts: ‘Hear the word of the LORD!’³ Thus says the Lord GOD, Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!—Ezekiel 13:2–3

Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD.¹⁷ They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’”—Jeremiah 23:16–17

- There are different levels of this based on the level of our self-deception
 - At one level if we really thought about it and were honest we would know it is not revelation

- At another level our thought pattern, desire, or emotion has grown strong enough that it is speaking to us.
 - It has become an idol and idols can produce revelation

Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and set the stumbling block of their iniquity before their faces. Should I indeed let myself be consulted by them? ⁴ Therefore speak to them and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Any one of the house of Israel who takes his idols into his heart and sets the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and yet comes to the prophet, I the LORD will answer him as he comes with the multitude of his idols, ⁵ that I may lay hold of the hearts of the house of Israel, who are all estranged from me through their idols.—Ezekiel 14:3–5

- At the first level false “revelation” may come as an impression, thought, or feeling
 - These are all movements of our soul
 - God can use these, but we must discern the source

- At the next level false “revelation” can come in any way
 - Voices
 - Visions
 - Dreams
 - Even these will have levels of intensity depending on the strength of the issue in our heart
 - Other people
 - At this level our soul is speaking and without discernment others can think it is revelation because of the clarity

Discerning the Soul

- How do we recognize soulful “revelation”?
 - Constant conversation with God
 - All revelation is an invitation to engage God for more
 - Discern revelation
 - Does it violate:
 - God’s nature?
 - Scriptural principles?

- Does it contradict other things God has said?
 - God will not say yes and no about the same thing!

Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.—Matthew 5:37

- Does it bear the fruit of the Spirit?
 - We come to know God's voice so well that anything else just doesn't "feel" right

Immature Prophecy

- Sometimes it is just immaturity
 - As we mature we make mistakes
 - Thinking our soul is God
 - Thinking someone else's soul is God
 - Getting partially correct revelation

While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹ And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.' " ¹² When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem. ¹³ Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."—Acts 21:10–13

- Agabus was partially incorrect
 - The Jews didn't bind Paul, they tried to kill him
 - The Gentiles rescued him and bound him
- People's response was soulish
- Misinterpreting revelation because of our opinions

And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.—Acts 21:4

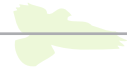
- How did Paul respond? “This is what God is really saying.”

- When we make mistakes:
 - Repent to God
 - Apologize to the people
 - Learn from it
 - Don't be "afraid of breaking something"
- Walking is controlled falling

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 02

HOMework



MODULE 02 HOMEWORK

UNIT 3: Immature Prophetic and Soulsh Prophecy

Read St. Therese of Avila's *Interior Castle* where she describes true and false visions and write down four of five keys to recognizing revelations that come from the soul versus the spirit.

One point to clarify, the way that Therese uses the phrase soul can sometimes mean soul or spirit. In a mature state these are in unity and do not compete with each other any longer. She does compare the lower qualities with the higher.

For a free version of the whole manuscript, *Interior Castle*, visit

https://levoire.com/wpcontent/uploads/2017/07/Teresa_dAvila_The_Interior_Castle_of_the_Mansions_1515-1582.pdf

Think through times when someone has either read your soul or spoke what their soul wanted for you and called it prophecy.

Did you recognize it at the time?

Why or why not?

Did they already have an opinion or pre-disposition about the matter?

Can you remember any soul dreams that you have had?

Was it easy to recognize them as such?

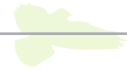
Have you given other people soulsh words?

If you are still in relationship with them go back and apologize.

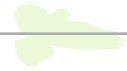
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES





MODULE 02

UNIT 4

False Prophets, Psychics & Demonic Powers





Unit 4 False Prophets, Psychics, and Demonic Powers

False Prophets

- False prophets are gifted people that act like a believer but actually lead believers away from God

If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, ² and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, ‘Let us go after other gods,’ which you have not known, ‘and let us serve them,’ ³ you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the LORD your God is testing you, to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴ You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him. ⁵ But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has taught rebellion against the LORD your God.—Deuteronomy 13:1–5

- They teach false doctrine

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God.—1 John 4:1–3

- They have real power but can be recognized by their lives

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’—Matthew 7:15–23

- The phrase ‘workers of lawlessness’ literally means one who acts as if there was no standard of righteousness
- Zadok priesthood (Ezekiel 44)
 - They taught the people what was holy and profane, maintaining a standard of righteousness
 - Other priests will get to minister in the house (church) but only the Zadok priests will minister to God

Psychics

- God gives gifts to people even if they never use them for Him
 - Only God can give a gift
 - Creator versus counterfeiter
 - Satan can only corrupt a gift God gave
 - The gift is the ability, not the source
 - Music
 - Leadership
 - Abilities to interact in the spiritual world

- People can choose to pursue the tree of the knowledge of good and evil to empower their gifts

- People often desire to do good with their gifts (like Eve)
 - Good outside of God is not good

- Some are just pursuing selfish gain
 - Money, sex, or power

- At some point these can be empowered by demonic spirits

Demonic Powers

- Even those operating in demonic powers sometimes think they are doing good

As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling.¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.”¹⁸ And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers.—Acts 16:16–19

- After the demon was gone she wasn't able to do what she used to do
- She wasn't actively trying to harm anyone or do evil
- Many psychics, witch doctors, shamans, etc. are similar
 - Bring healing
 - Protect from harm

- Bring love or success

- But some are evil
 - Jannes and Jambres

 - No matter their power, there is a limit

 - God can stop or limit their abilities at anytime

- Either way, good or evil, allowing them to do something for you can open you up to the spirits they are using for their powers

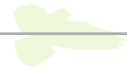
Cleansing the Prophetic Gift

- A key to a healthy prophetic gift is to cleanse it from defiled sources and influences
 - Repenting of any witchcraft, seances, divination, horoscopes, readings, hexes, or spells done by you, with you, or for you
 - Close the “third eye”
 - Repenting of any soulish use of a gift
 - Ask God to bring any spiritual gift you have to death on the cross and only allow what He blesses to come back to life

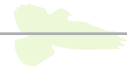
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 02

HOMework



MODULE 02 HOMEWORK

UNIT 4: False Prophets, Psychics, and Demonic Powers

In Exodus find what miracles/power the Egyptian magicians could copy and which ones they couldn't

Have you used spiritual powers outside of God, either before you knew Him or since?

If so, repent of them and ask God to cleanse your spiritual gifts.

Are you afraid of spiritual powers?

Is it intellectual fear? This doesn't make sense. This must have a "natural" explanation.

Is it emotional fear? A sense of uneasiness around spiritual powers. An emotional concern about being deceived.

Is it fear in the will? Not wanting to be out of control. Not sure if you can control it.

Ask Holy Spirit to show you the first time you felt that fear. If a memory comes to you, process it with God. Repent for any ungodly actions or beliefs. Forgive the people involved. Ask God what truth He wants to give you instead.

Ask God daily for spiritual gifts and the ability to use them to advance His kingdom through loving Him and others.

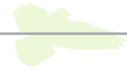
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES





MODULE 02

UNIT 5

Understanding Color & the Power of Agreement





Unit 5 Understanding Color and the Power of Agreement

God is Light

- God, Who is light, spoke light into existence
- All matter is made of light which is a vibration

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.—John 1:1–14

- Sound is also a vibration, just a different frequency

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.—Hebrews 1:1–3

- Isaac Newton discovered that light through a prism reveals a rainbow

- White light is a single source
- A prism has three sides
- Rainbows have seven colors



- God reveals Himself through nature

*For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.
20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.—Romans 1:19–20*

- God is One—He is light
- God is Three
- God has seven spirits

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.—Revelation 5:6

- The subtractive color spectrum relates to print media
 - The primary colors are cyan, magenta, and yellow (CMYK)
 - The K refers to black
 - When colors are added to white paper it subtracts the light that is there leaving the color we see
 - When all the colors are combined it creates black or a dark brown
 - This is because all the colors cancel out the white paper and leave no light

- The artists color spectrum
 - This is not really a different spectrum as it is another way of working with the subtractive spectrum
 - It is understood as a different spectrum because the theory of how to work with it is different
 - The primary colors are red, blue, and yellow
 - It is called the artists spectrum because it is used in art, such as paint

- We can use these color spectrums as a metaphor to understand humans
 - The additive color spectrum represents our spirit
 - Red = wisdom
 - Green = conscience
 - Blue = communion (or revelation)
 - The subtractive spectrum represents our soul
 - Cyan = will
 - Magenta = emotions
 - Yellow = mind
 - The artists spectrum represents our body
 - Red = blood
 - Blue = bone
 - Yellow = flesh



- Looking at the spirit and the soul together graphically can help us understand some scriptural principles better
- Paul tells us that the flesh wars against the spirit

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

—Romans 8:6–8

- When we follow the dictates of our soul we end up walking in darkness

The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light,²³ but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!—Matthew 6:22–23

- Our eye is how we see things, our perceptions
 - The soul, in its fallen state, is selfish
- When our spirits are directed by God's Spirit and rule over our soul we walk in light

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.⁶ If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. —1 John 1:5–7

- The six-pointed star above helps us understand this struggle
 - There is a correlation between the soul and the spirit and the image of God that we bear
 - Wisdom is the will of God
 - Conscience is the emotions of God (how He feels about it)
 - Communion is the mind of God
- When the spirit rules over the soul it releases virtue to our soul and to our body
 - Our whole body is full of light

- The spirit is the part of us created to connect with God

Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³ And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

¹⁵ The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶ “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ. —1 Corinthians 2:12–16

- We mature spiritually by being in the presence of God and allowing His presence to transform our soul
 - We begin to want what God wants
 - We begin to feel how God feels
 - We begin to think as God thinks

- When an aspect of our soul gets out of balance it affects our ability to walk in the spirit
 - A strong will can fight against walking in wisdom

 - Strong emotions can deaden our conscience

 - The mind fights against communion
 - This is why spiritual disciplines are so important!

The Power of Agreement

- To bring our soul into submission we don't fight it directly, we use the power of agreement
 - The power of agreement is a principle God placed into creation
 - Everything needs a witness
 - The law stated that two or three witnesses were required to establish the truth or validity of something
 - This is based on God's nature, being Three in agreement

- When our will gets out of control, we don't focus on wisdom, we focus on communion and conscience
 - When the two agree it will pull the third into balance
 - The same principle applies to emotions and mind

- The power of agreement also works in the negative
 - If we allow our mind and our emotions to agree it will deaden our ability to walk in wisdom

- The power of agreement also applies in community
 - When someone strong in wisdom agrees with someone strong in communion it carries great power to establish things in the spirit
 - Add someone strong in conscience and it multiplies the affect
 - This is true of any two or three parts of the spirit
 - The same holds true in the soul

Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”—1 Corinthians 15:33

- This is the reason Paul had the Corinthian church remove the person in sin, and why Jesus told us to do so (see 1 Corinthians 5 and Matthew 18:15–20)

- This principle is one of the reasons for the exhortation in Hebrews

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.—Hebrews 10:24–25

- When we come into agreement in the spirit it protects us from following our soul and falling into sin!
- This also helps us understand the power of roundtables and prophetic teams
- There are many applications for us to discover!

MODULE 02

HOMework



MODULE 02 HOMEWORK

UNIT 5: Understanding Color and the Power of Agreement

What area of your spirit is the strongest? Wisdom, conscience, or communion?

What area of your soul is the strongest? Will, emotion, or mind?

Think of your family and close friends, those that you spend time with. Which area of their spirit is strongest? Which area of their Soul is strongest?

How can you strategically enter into the power of agreement with them in the spirit?

Who do you need to avoid talking to when your soul is acting in rebellion to the spirit to avoid the power of agreement in the soul?

Find two people that are strong in the two aspects of the spirit you are not as strong in and take time to worship and pray together. Ask God to speak to you and notice the perspectives and how they complement.

How did you experience God's presence?

Was it different than when you are alone?

Is it different when you are with people whose soul is in rebellion?

Did the soul get in the way of you hearing corporately?

How can you avoid that in the future?

Ask those strong in areas of the spirit you need to grow in to lay hands on you to pray for you in that area. (Strengthening of wisdom, conscience, or communion.)

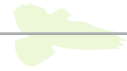
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES





PROPHETIC & REVELATORY TRAINING

MODULE 03

Understanding Prophetic Ministry

ACADEMY
DIPLOMA 

Streams Academy—Prophetic and Revelatory Training

Module 3 Understanding Prophetic Ministry

Copyright © 2020 John E. Thomas

Printed in the United States of America. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise without prior written permission of the copyright owner, except by a reviewer who wishes to quote brief passages in connection with a review for inclusion in a magazine, newspaper, or broadcast.

Requests for information should be addressed to:

Streams Ministries, Intl.

PO Box 248

Lewisville, TX 75067-0248

888.441.8080

customersupport@streamsministries.com

Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

More information about John E. Thomas and Streams Ministries can be found at: www.streamsministries.com.

Learn more about Streams Academy at www.streamstraining.com.

Module 3

Understanding Prophetic Ministry

Prophetic ministry is MUCH more than just the gift of prophecy! This module teaches the functions of prophetic ministry, when and how to use them, and the difference between the prophetic gift and prophetic office. Learn about the various revelatory gifts, the many ways God speaks, and how to respond to that revelation.

Unit 1: What is a Prophet?

Unit 2: Prophetic Functions

Unit 3: Protocols for Giving Prophetic Words

Unit 4: Protocols for Receiving Prophetic Words

MODULE 03

UNIT 1

What is a Prophet?



Unit 1: What is a Prophet?

Prophet: a proclaimer or expounder of divine matters or concerns that could not ordinarily be known except by special revelation¹

Old Testament versus New Testament Prophet

“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—¹⁶ just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’¹⁷ And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken.¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.” Deuteronomy 18:15–19

¹ Arndt, W., Danker, F. W., Bauer, W., & Gingrich, F. W. (2000). [A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament and other early Christian literature](#) (3rd ed., p. 890). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Moses was the model prophet

- He communicated the covenant God made with His people

- He clarified elements of the covenant that were not completely understood

While the people of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. ³³ And those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation. ³⁴ They put him in custody, because it had not been made clear what should be done to him. ³⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, “The man shall be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp.” ³⁶ And all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him to death with stones, as the LORD commanded Moses.—Numbers 15:32–36

- He used miraculous power to enforce the benefits and penalties of the covenant they were under
 - Manna, water, and quail

 - Snakes and the bronze serpent



- Victory in war

- Korah, Dathan, and Abiram

- Every prophet after Moses represented the covenant

- They clarified the covenant

Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time. ⁵She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the people of Israel came up to her for judgment.—Judges 4:4–5

- They reminded people of the covenant (Isaiah 24:4–13; Jeremiah 11; 22:8–9; 33:19–26; Ezekiel 16:8–14; 44:5–8; Hosea 6:7; 8:1–14; Haggai 2:4–5; Malachi 2:10–12)

- They enforced the benefits and penalties of the covenant they were under
 - Elijah stopped rain for three years
 - Elisha heals the waters of Jericho
 - Elisha multiplies oil for the son of the prophet's widow
 - Elisha gives the Shunamite woman and son and resurrects him
 - Elisha recovers the axe head for a son of the prophet



- They prophesied of a coming change to the covenant

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”—Jeremiah 31:31–34

“I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.”—Ezekiel 36:25–27

- John the Baptist was the last of the Old Testament prophets

“As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written,

*‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’*

¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”—Matthew 11:7–15

- Every other prophet had talked about a time coming, the day coming, a coming Messiah and kingdom
 - John the Baptist proclaimed it had come

*In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,
² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”—Matthew 3:1–2*



Jesus was the “prophet like me” that Moses had prophesied

- He fulfilled the types Moses represented:
 - He was ministered to by angels in the wilderness (after the temptation)
 - He went up on a mountain to meet with God often
 - He was transfigured with light shining from Him
 - He interceded for the people (High Priestly Prayer)
 - He defeated the slave-driver so that people could be free through His miracles and ultimately on the Cross when the Firstborn died
 - He walks with us through the wilderness of this life while we wait to cross over into the Promised Land
 - He provides living water (the Holy Spirit)
 - He provides spiritual food (revelation and His own body)

- He communicated the new covenant God was making with His people
 - The Sermon on the Mount
 - The High Priestly Prayer

- He clarified elements of the covenant that were not completely understood
 - John 14 & 15

- He used miraculous power to enforce the covenant they were under
 - Healing the sick, casting out demons, raising the dead, multiplying food, stopping storms

Prophets in the New Testament have the same function as those in the Old Testament

- New Testament prophets represent the covenant they are under, reminding man of their covenant with God and God of His covenant with man!
 - They clarify and enforce the covenant the people are under

 - They remind people of the covenant
 - That means they have to know and understand that covenant

- Luke uses prophetic encounters to move his narrative forward and mark key shifts in the life and understanding of the early church
 - Pentecost and Peter's sermon in Acts 2 through 4
 - The angel releasing the apostles and conveying a message in Acts 5
 - Stephen's speech and vision while being martyred in Acts 7
 - Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8
 - Saul's conversion in Acts 9
 - Peter and Cornelius in Acts 10
 - Agabus foretelling the famine in Acts 11
 - Peter's release from prison in Acts 12



- Barnabas and Saul being commissioned by prophecy in Acts 13

- Judas and Silas, prophets, sent to confirm the apostolic message in Acts 15

- Paul's vision from Macedonia in Acts 16

- Paul's night vision to stay in Corinth in Acts 18

- Twelve men speaking in tongues and prophesying when the Spirit falls on them in Acts 19

- Paul being compelled by the Spirit and getting multiple words about going to Jerusalem by a certain time in Acts 20 and 21

- Paul uses his visions and prophetic encounters to preach the Gospel to the Jews in Acts 22 and 26

- Paul gets prophetic encouragement about the ship wreck in Acts 27
 - This doesn't even include how Luke uses revelation and prophetic encounters in his Gospel account!

- Paul states that the Gospel he preached was given by revelation, not by man (Romans 16:25; Galatians 1:12; Ephesians 3:3)
 - The early church expected revelation because Jesus was the head of the church and He never stopped leading it
 - When people stop pursuing revelation man takes over the leadership of the church!

- Safe revelation
 - Clearly Biblical–safe
 - God will use revelation to point us to a truth we couldn't see but is in Scripture

 - This clarifies doctrine when proven in Scripture and witnessed to by the Body
 - Examples from NT: Gentiles allowed in the church, the end of the Law for righteousness



- Extra-Biblical—use care
 - Never violates Scripture or the nature of God
 - May use Scripture out of context (Matthias)
 - Good for direction and correction
 - Foretelling the future
 - Extra-Biblical revelation never inspires doctrine!
 - Examples from NT: Macedonian call, choose Matthias, the owner of this belt will be bound

- Anti-Biblical—never!
 - God will not contradict Himself, His yes is yes and His no is no!

- The Bible is God’s Word for all people at all time; revelation is God’s word to some people at some time

Gift, Ministry, and Office

For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged.—1 Corinthians 14:31

Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.—1 Corinthians 14:1

And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.—1 Corinthians 12:28–31

And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.—Ephesians 4:11–12 NASB

The Holy Spirit is the Giver of gifts!

- When someone is filled with the Holy Spirit He will activate various gifts as He will through that person²
 - We go into situations with an empty tool box and He fills it according to the need
 - Any of the spiritual gifts are available to someone filled with the Holy Spirit and willing to serve others

- Anyone that is a believer empowered by Holy Spirit can operate in any of the revelatory gifts
 - The gift of prophecy

 - The word of knowledge

² See *Intro to Prophecy* DVD teaching at www.streamsministries.com

- The word of wisdom

- Discerning of spirits

- Tongues (other languages)

- Interpretation of tongues

- The gift is given for the benefit of the person being ministered to
 - God will use anyone willing and open

 - This is why Paul admonishes us to eagerly desire the “greater gifts”
 - In context, these are the gifts most needed to benefit the most people

- As we serve we discover patterns
 - One may often find themselves in situations where healing is needed, or prophecy is needed, or faith is needed

 - When we find ourselves being used by God in a specific way consistently that may point us towards a ministry

- Operating in a gift authorizes us to bless other people but does not give us authority

Understanding Ministry

- The whole body is being equipped to serve or minister
 - In 1 Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4 the word for ministry is diakonia
 - This the word we get deacon from
 - Definition: to render assistance or help by performing certain duties, often of a humble or menial nature³

• ³ Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). [*Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains*](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 459). New York: United Bible Societies.

- As we serve and God uses us in various gifts we start to recognize patterns that point us towards a ministry
 - Someone that is consistently finding themselves in situations where God uses them to prophesy to others and there is a consistent track record of accuracy may have a prophetic ministry
 - There is more to it than that, which we will discuss next in The Road to Authority
 - A spiritual gift assessment is a great tool to help you recognize ways God is using you
 - Wagner-Modified Houts Questionnaire
 - We most often find there are gift mixes—two or three that are primary

What is an Office?

- Common term used by Charismatics and Pentecostals in referring to one of the five (or four) ministry functions mentioned in Ephesians 4:11
 - Oxford Dictionary definition: a position of authority or service, typically one of a public nature (i.e. the office of chief constable)

 - Someone in an “office” is someone in a recognized position of authority
 - Where a “ministry” is often local and sometimes trans-local an “office” would be more trans-local

 - Scripturally, these are people that are given to the Church (think of the servants given to Rebekah or Leah and Rachel when they married)

- In the world higher authority is permission and privilege; in the kingdom it is greater responsibility

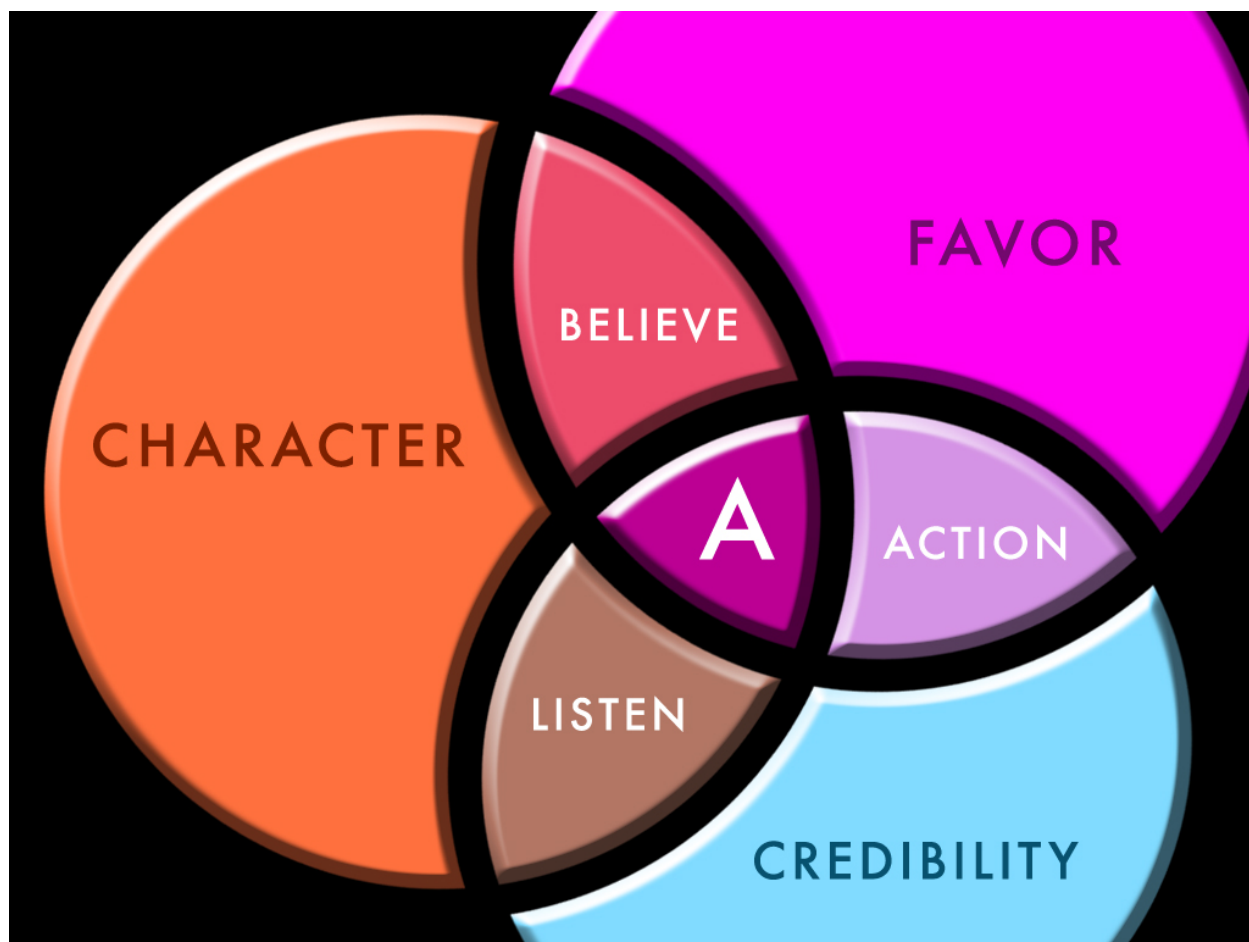
But Jesus called them to Him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”—Matthew 20:25–28

- This person would have a higher requirement to represent the covenant
 - They would be helping a group to walk out the covenant life through:
 - Clarifying the covenant
 - Applying it to the community/people
 - Enforcing the benefits and penalties of the covenant
- The key difference between gift, ministry, and office is the level of authority⁴

⁴ To understand each of the five grace gifts (offices) mentioned in Ephesians 4 better see *Prophetic Reformation: Maturing Prophetic Communities* by John E. Thomas at www.streamsministries.com



The Road to Authority



Credibility

- One grows in credibility because:
 - There is a gift in operation
 - It is accurate
 - It is consistent

- Credibility gets people to listen
 - Without character and favor they may listen only as entertainment
 - Listening is not the same as believing

Character

- One grows in character through:
 - Manifesting the nature of Christ
 - Walking in the fruit of the spirit
 - Living in integrity
 - Acting out of love

- Character gets people to believe that what you are hearing actually comes from God
 - Just because they believe it comes from God does not mean they apply it to their own lives
 - Character is a key to growing in favor

Favor

- Favor comes from God and from man

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and also with man.—1 Samuel 2:26

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2:52

- John Paul Jackson said, “Favor with God says that you have a gift, favor with man tells you the timing of the release of the gift.”
- What is favor?
 - Favor is goodwill, esteem, approval, friendliness, or benevolence



- Where credibility gets people to listen and character gets them to believe, favor causes them to take action
 - When people take action on what you have said you recognize you have authority

- How do you grow in favor?

*Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you;
bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
⁴ So you will find favor and good success
in the sight of God and man.—Proverbs 3:3–4*

- Understand the difference between true versus false favor from people
 - True favor comes when people recognize something from God in you and want to follow Him by following you

 - False favor comes when people recognize what they can get from you and give you opportunities for their own benefit

Authority

- Authority comes from multiple spheres that may or may not overlap
 - Relationship
 - Because of relationship people near to you allow you to influence them
 - Lack of credibility or lack of character decreases this influence
 - Position with people (boss, mayor, etc.)
 - Your position and ability to give or take away something people want gives you influence in their life



- To the extent they want what you can give (e.g. finance if a job) or take away (e.g. reputation or membership in a group) more than they don't want to listen to you they will listen

 - Their level of submission to the system the position is based on influences this significantly
-
- Assignment from heaven
 - There is rank in the kingdom
 - Rank is given in specific spheres

 - Breadth
 - A particular geographical area

- Density
 - A particular church or the group of churches they belong to

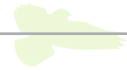
- The assignment determines both of these
 - There are temporary assignments and there are longer term assignments

- The assignment also determines the limit to and the level of authority

NOTES



MORE NOTES



HOMEWORK



MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

Unit 1: What is a Prophet?

Watch the Dreams & Mysteries episode *The Mystery of the Prophetic Heart* with Marc DuPont. It is in Season 4 and can be seen on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/uOaRUGJX7o4>.

Using a Strong's Concordance or an online resource like blueletterbible.org find all the Hebrew and Greek words for prophet, prophesy, prophecy, or seer and read their definitions.

What stands out to you about the different original words?

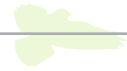
If any of the words seem to be highlighted by the Holy Spirit do a deeper study of that word using other resources such as a Theological Wordbook of the Old or New Testament. You can also type out the English iteration of the word and "Greek" or "Hebrew" in Google to do a search. Filter through the sources to find valid ones. What are the roots of that word? Does the Strong's show a root word? If so, look that up. What is God speaking to you through this? Read through a few passages where it is found in Scripture in their context. Why did God use that word that way?

Who is your favorite prophet in Scripture? Re-read the story of their life from Scripture and ask God what lessons He wants to teach you about your life and gifting through their story.

NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 03

UNIT 2

Prophetic Functions





Unit 2: Prophetic Functions

Relationship with God draws us into an ongoing conversation. That means everyone that has received Jesus talks to God and hears from Him. That is not prophetic, it is relationship. Prophetic people are given messages to represent God to people. They also hear from God personally in relationship. The prophetic functions we discuss in this section will be a mix of both but our focus is on how it relates to those with a prophetic call.

Inward

Inward prophetic functions have to do with the relationship between God and His messenger. Like any good leader God will spend time with those that He gives authority to ensure they carry His heart, message, and values. Inward revelation is when God is speaking to us about us.

- Relational
 - God will speak to develop relationship with the person
 - How much He loves them
 - What He sees in them
 - Communication to develop and deepen connection



- Healing
 - We all have areas of our life that need healing
 - He will remove shame
 - Change our perspective
 - “I really was there”
 - “I wasn’t punishing you”
 - Show us who others are in His eyes
 - Perspective and compassion
 - Remove addiction or set sin patterns through revealing something to us

- He will show us our identity

- When we see ourselves through His eyes everything changes!

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that He might present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.—Ephesians 5:25–27

- God uses His voice to wash us from spots and wrinkles
 - Spots: shame and blemishes on our character

 - Wrinkles: iniquity and wrong choices

- Sweet Hour of Prayer: ask God what He thinks of you



- Guidance
 - God will tell us the answer to the question we are seeking

 - He will guide us into His plan for our lives

*He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for His name's sake.—Psalm 23:3*

*“The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow
him, for they know his voice. ⁵ A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee
from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.”—John 10:3–5*

- Where to go

- What to do

- How to do it

- With maturity He trains us to decide for ourselves often
 - He will still speak into some decisions

- Destiny
 - Everyone one of us has a specific purpose God created us for
 - He knows what it is and will tell us if we follow Him
 - Sometimes it comes by finding we are walking in it because we were faithful
 - Abraham found the Promised Land by following the grass for his flocks
 - Sometimes God communicates more clearly what that destiny is
 - Saul was told more specifically what his destiny was

But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry My name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of My name.”—Acts 9:15–16



Outward

Outward prophetic functions have to do with others. Normally, it will be something we have authority over or that we identify with. As our favor with God and man increases this sphere will expand and sometimes God will give us things for a person or group that we have no connection with yet, but will create that connection through the revelation. When we don't have favor with a group or a person the revelation was intended to be for intercession.

- Encouragement and comfort
 - This is the main function of the gift of prophecy

The one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.—1 Corinthians 14:3

- It is essential for the Body to grow and become all it is supposed to be!
- There is a difference between natural encouragement and a word from heaven
 - Both are needed
 - Can be life-changing
- Available to anyone

- Prophetic Intercession
 - Intercession is a specific form of prayer
 - The word in the Hebrew and Greek has the sense of going between two parties or encountering someone
 - It is a mediation where you represent one person to another
 - It is not asking for yourself, it is asking for another
 - You can intercede for man to God or for God to man
 - It is prophetic when God is saying what to pray
 - Can be for groups or individuals
 - Story about tsunami



- Available to anyone, the main function of the ministry of the prophet
 - (See Genesis 20:7 and 1 Samuel 12:23)

- Calling and Impartation
 - Seeing what God is calling someone to and communicating that to them
 - Ananias to Saul (Acts 10:9–19)

 - Samuel to Saul and David (1 Samuel 9&10; 16:1–13)

 - This can include impartation (Acts 13:1–3)

 - Often it is by someone in authority over the other person

Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.—1 Timothy 4:14

- Sometimes it is seeing a gift God wants to give to someone or has given them and it needs to be activated
 - This is a prophetic function when the Lord shows it
 - Not all impartation is prophetic
- This is mainly for someone mature in prophetic ministry
- Direction
 - Letting someone know what God wants them to do in a situation
 - This can include counsel
 - The prophets and seers in the kings court held this position
 - It was common for people and kings to seek God's direction through a prophetic person



- We need to understand certain dynamics
 - What will it cost them?
 - Are they ready to hear it? If they aren't are you still suppose to share it?
 - What is the right way to share it?
 - Can you use your authority to open up a door that they recognize and choose?
 - Do you just ask a question or make a suggestion and let them respond?
 - What level of favor do you have in their life?
- This is only for someone mature in prophetic ministry

- Correction
 - Telling someone they are doing wrong, always for the purpose of calling to repentance and restoration
 - There are many dynamics that play into this
 - Are they ready to respond?
 - Do you have the right to talk about this?
 - Just because you were shown it doesn't mean you tell it
 - Do you tell them or a leader?
 - How you navigate this must represent the heart of the Father

- It can be amazingly helpful or devastating and hurtful

And the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, “There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor.² The rich man had very many flocks and herds,³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. And he brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children. It used to eat of his morsel and drink from his cup and lie in his arms, and it was like a daughter to him.⁴ Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was unwilling to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had come to him, but he took the poor man’s lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.”⁵ Then David’s anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die,⁶ and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.”

*⁷ Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul.⁸ And I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more.⁹ Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.¹⁰ Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’¹¹ Thus says the LORD, ‘Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house. And I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.¹² For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and before the sun.’”¹³ David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.¹⁴ Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the LORD, the child who is born to you shall die.”¹⁵ Then Nathan went to his house.—
 2 Samuel 12:1–15*

- There can be an element of pronouncing judgement included in this
 - A “prophetic curse”
 - Like Peter to Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1–11)
 - Like Paul to the false prophet Bar-Jesus (Acts 13:1–12)
 - This is only for the more mature in prophetic ministry
- Ministry
 - Advancing the kingdom of God
 - Inner healing
 - Word of knowledge
 - Word of wisdom



- Demolishing strongholds
 - Can be individual or corporate

- Deliverance
 - Seeing the demonic oppression and dealing with it

 - Word of knowledge and pronouncing freedom

 - Sometimes speaking truth into a lie with authority expulses demons attached to the lie
 - Can be individual or corporate

- Healing
 - The first time someone is called a prophet God said they would pray for healing (Genesis 20)
 - Not all healing is a prophetic function but someone in the ministry of the prophetic will operate in healing
 - Sometimes the revelation brings the healing
 - Sometimes the healing brings the revelation
 - A healing can be a sign of God doing something else
 - Can be healing of an individual, a place, or a people

Now the men of the city said to Elisha, “Behold, the situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord sees, but the water is bad, and the land is unfruitful.”²⁰ He said, “Bring me a new bowl, and put salt in it.” So they brought it to him.²¹ Then he went to the spring of water and threw salt in it and said, “Thus says the LORD, I have healed this water; from now on neither death nor miscarriage shall come from it.”²² So the water has been healed to this day, according to the word that Elisha spoke.—2 Kings 2:19–22



- Miracles
 - Bypassing natural laws
 - Making an ax head float in the water (2 Kings 6:1–7)
 - Making oil multiply (2 Kings 4:1–7)
 - Causing a river to split so you can walk across on dry ground
 - Causing things to be created
 - Moses bringing manna, quail, water, etc.

- Signs
 - A proof of divine approval or activity
 - Isaiah causing the sun to go backwards on the dial for Hezekiah (Isaiah 38:7–8)
 - Elijah calling fire down (2 Kings 1:5–16)
 - Comets and earthquakes
 - Some of these can be done with no prophetic gift or calling though some require higher levels of authority
- They will be more normal for someone in the ministry of the prophetic and function through their prophetic gifting



- Witness
 - God does nothing without a witness

*“For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing His secret to His servants the prophets.
8 The lion has roared;
who will not fear?
The Lord GOD has spoken;
who can but prophesy?”—Amos 3:7–8*

- There is a witness in heaven and prophetic people are often a witness on earth

This third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every matter be established.—2 Corinthians 13:1 Darby Bible

- When two or three people speak the truth of something it is established
 - God speaks it in heaven, we speak it on earth
 - This is the power of a decree, not us saying it, us declaring on earth what is already declared in heaven

- Sometimes our witnessing something has to do with us seeing it, not saying it
 - God will show us something about someone or a group so that there is a witness that He was justified in His response—blessing or judgement
 - See Ezekiel 8:1–18
 - God will call us to see someone’s or something’s potential
 - As we see what He sees it allows a path for its fulfillment
- Sometimes our presence as we walk out the nature of God is a witness to others and causes things to happen
 - Our righteousness is a witness that it is possible
 - Our obedience to His voice is a witness that He spoke
 - Isaiah said that he and his children were a sign to Israel (Isaiah 8:18)

Upward

Upward prophetic functions are God speaking to us about Himself and heavenly realities. It is God making Himself known or revealing a core truth that will mark our lives and ministry in some way.

- Relational—deepening intimacy
 - Someone once said that intimacy was in-to-me-you-see
 - God will speak to us to tell us who He is
 - Telling stories from your past is a form of verbal hospitality

- Transformational

- When we see God we change

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. —2 Corinthians 3:18 NASB

- God reveals Himself so that we can see who we really are

- God speaks His love for us so that we can love Him

We love because he first loved us. —1 John 4:19

- What we receive we can give away, but we have to receive it!
- In encounters with God we receive the substance of the truth communicated, not just the information of the truth



- Knowing His ways
 - God not only reveals His character and heart but how heaven works and why He does things
 - When these come through high-level encounters they normally mark a theme in someone's ministry
 - John Paul Jackson in the Throne Room saw God's awesomeness
 - Zechariah 3:1–5
 - When God reveals an attribute of Himself or truth about Himself and we align with that revelation we receive authority in that area
 - Matthew 16:13–19 Keys to the kingdom

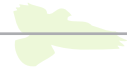
NOTES



NOTES



MORE NOTES



HOMEWORK





MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

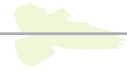
Unit 2: Prophetic Functions

Read the book *Elijah Among Us* by John Loren Sandford

NOTES



MORE NOTES





MODULE 03

UNIT 3

Protocols for Giving Prophetic Words



Unit 3: Protocols for Giving Prophetic Words

Presentation

- Naturally supernatural
 - Be yourself
 - Use normal language and volume
 - Let the communication bear the fruit of the Spirit
- Operate in faith and as a servant
 - Believe that God wants to speak to you and through you
 - Don't apologize or steal their faith

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.—1 Peter 4:10–11

- You don't have to announce it is a word from God
 - If you might be wrong you could take God's name in vain

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.—Exodus 20:7

- The Hebrew word for 'vain' means empty or unreliable and came to mean falsely or deceitfully

- That should cause us to use caution (but not be afraid)!



- Be honest about how it came to you
 - If a feeling, say I feel...
 - Was it an internal vision that felt like imagination?
 - Was it in the physical realm?
 - Don't make it seem like it is more than it is
 - Don't make it less than what it is
 - If a dream, I had a dream and I feel like it means...
 - If an audible voice, say I just heard God's voice say...

- These are integrity issues
 - Insecurity would cause us to make it seem less or more than it was
 - Afraid they won't know it is God or afraid they will think it is us
 - Trust God to witness to what He wants to



Content

- Alternative ways to communicate a message from God
 - It is okay to just ask a question
 - Have you ever thought about going to school?
 - You are helping people look in the right direction so God can speak to them and they make their own decisions
 - Tell a parable
 - Nathan to David
 - Ezekiel to Israel
 - Many others!

- Act it out
 - Ezekiel on his side
 - Isaiah walking around naked and barefoot (be sure it is God!)
 - Agabus using Paul's belt to bind his hands
- Make a declaration
- Sometimes you share the way the revelation came, sometimes you just share the interpretation
 - How certain are you of the interpretation?
 - What is their capacity to interpret revelation?
 - Are you teaching or just ministering?



- Do you share everything you know or only part?
 - What do they need to know?
 - They don't need to know their sin or past, they need to know God still has a plan!
 - Be willing to look less anointed so that they feel more loved!

*Hatred stirs up strife,
but love covers all offenses.—Proverbs 10:12*

*Whoever covers an offense seeks love,
but he who repeats a matter separates close friends.—Proverbs
17:9*

- When it is correction or direction think about how to soften it without changing it
 - We don't want to be more “nice” than God

- We also don't want to be harsh
 - Moses learned to represent God as He is, not as how he felt

- This will require us to deal with our insecurities and fear
 - If we are afraid of how they will respond we will try to control the situation

- Just be clear and compassionate and let God help them
 - You are responsible for the message and the heart it is shared with

 - They are responsible for how they respond

 - Ezekiel 3:16–21

Authority

The level of authority we have in the person or group's life that we are speaking to will help us determine the right way to release the prophetic word we have received. The prophetic function we are operating in also plays a part.

- Do we have designated authority, positional authority, or relational authority?
 - Relational authority gives us the greatest freedom
 - Positional authority is limited to the responsibility of the position
 - Designated authority is limited by what we have been asked to do

- Ask permission
 - Even if there is authority it allows the person to give you more authority
 - Individual when sharing revelation, “Do you mind if I share something with you?”
 - Leader when speaking to a group, “Do I have permission to share something I heard from the Lord?”
 - Speak to someone in authority over that person instead of directly to them and ask them how they want to handle it
 - If you don’t have authority yet there yes will give you a level of authority



- Authority doesn't allow you to lord it over people, it gives you the responsibility to serve them

Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³ But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."—
Mark 10:42–45

- Correction

- Authority adds weight to your words

- When you have little authority you can speak harshly and people overlook it
- When you have great authority if you speak harshly you can crush someone's spirit

- Always provide a plan for reconciliation or restoration

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.—Galatians 6:1

- Sometimes speaking what God initiated that the sin is hindering will bring repentance
 - God has called you to speak life so be careful with your words
- Direction
 - Don't tell them what to do, invite them into it
 - What level of cost is the decision to them?



- Often it is best to just point to something and let them discern if God is speaking it to them

- If it is a task in the moment it is often okay to just tell them

- If it is an assignment for the future lay hands on them and call them to it

- If it is a life-change ask and help them discover
 - Share what you saw afterwards as confirmation

- Has God shared specifically how to release the revelation?

- How clear was the revelation?
 - Never give direction based on “low-weight” revelation⁵

⁵ See *Strength of Revelation* study card from www.streamsministries.com

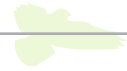
NOTES



NOTES



MORE NOTES



HOMEWORK



MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

Unit 3: Protocols for Giving Prophetic Words

This exercise is taken from Streams Ministries course *The Art of Hearing God* and was written by John Paul Jackson. Used by permission. © Copyright 1997 John Paul Jackson

Choose a family in the Church that is not well known to you, and target them for prayer and encouragement. Follow the rules of how to deliver an encouraging word discussed during the course (edify, comfort, exhort).

Family name_____

Names of family members_____

A. Ask God to give you His burden for them at this time in their lives. Try to make sure you are receiving His heartbeat for them. Pray for them daily.

B. Write down the words, pictures, Scriptures, etc., that you receive for them.

1. What is God saying to you through these symbols, metaphors, and parables?
2. Is there a pattern or order to them?

MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

C. Keep in mind that the more we try to understand the revelation we receive, the greater will be the benefit of the gift God has given us.

1. What type of word is it?

- a. Inspirational and encouraging? How do you know?
- b. Directional and stimulating? What does it require them to do?
- c. Correctional and challenging? What does it require them to do?
- d. Do you have this problem as well? _____Yes _____No

2. What are your expected and desired results for the family in giving them this word?

3. Write the word down and share it with the leaders of your church. If it is type "b" or "c" above, allow it to be judged and weighed by Church leadership. Take appropriate advice from those in authority.

- a. If it is "c," wait for a confirmation and release from your leadership.
- b. What advice or counsel did the leaders give you?

MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

D. If given permission to deliver the word, think about how you will deliver it.

What method will you use?

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| _____ Written word | _____ Symbolic act | _____ Drama |
| _____ Spoken word | _____ Visual object | _____ Song |
| _____ A combination of the above | _____ Card | |

1. Explain on paper the method you will use and why.

E. Delivering the word: Choose the time and place to deliver the word. Make sure there is a leader or designated person present to witness what is said or done.

1. Give yourself marks on a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being the highest mark) for your actual delivery of the word of encouragement. Use the following chart (next page).

MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

2. Then ask an involved church leader to do the same in the appropriate column below.

Scale from 1 to 10 (10 being the highest mark).

	Your Mark	Leader's Mark
Conveying God's love and acceptance	-----	-----
Introduction, putting people at ease	-----	-----
Content/accuracy of the word	-----	-----
Method of delivery, presentation	-----	-----
Your own level of grace and humility	-----	-----
Concluding prayer and advice	-----	-----

F. What occurred when you delivered the word?

1. Did anything change from the way you planned it? ____Yes ____No

2. Did the content change? ____Yes ____No

If it did, then how?

MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

3. Did the person receive the word in the way you intended? ____Yes ____No

4. Were clarifications required at the conclusion of the delivery so the person receiving the encouraging word could understand it? ____Yes ____No

If yes, what explanations or clarifications were needed and why?

G. Look at your leader's marks above, and consider how you could improve or what you would do differently in the whole assignment.

Describe how the assignment has affected the following:

1. Your perception of delivering words and how it should be used.
2. Your working relationship with leaders.
3. Encountering integrity and credibility in your ministry.
4. Your ability to feel and communicate God's heart to others.

Congratulations! If you've made it this far, you probably feel as if you've just finished your first competitive marathon! Ideally, you will have been stretched in mind and spirit. Now you need to practice and add experience in order for this whole process to become a lifestyle of grace and godliness.

MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

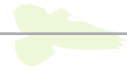
You will have learned the following from this exercise:

- i. To prepare your heart before the Lord and to listen carefully.
- ii. To pursue God's love for your intended target people (1 Corinthians 14:1a and 1 Corinthians 13:2).
- iii. To organize the pattern and order of the word you are receiving.
- iv. To understand and be able to explain the type of word you are receiving.
- v. To work with your leadership as you develop the prophetic word.
- vi. To recognize that leadership is not your adversary.
- vii. To receive advice/counsel in the shaping of the word.
- viii. To determine the methodology you will use in delivering the word.
- ix. To examine honestly your manner of delivery and any adjustments you might make.
- x. To administrate the word correctly.
- xi. To submit to the feedback of your leadership/mentor.
- xii. To understand and express how the ministry of intercession has affected you personally.
- xiii. To exercise self-control as you move from a purely spontaneous ministry style to a more considered, planned, and disciplined ministry approach.
- xiv. To recognize your vulnerability in the ministry gift the Lord has deposited in you.

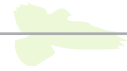
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES



MODULE 03

UNIT 4

Protocols for Receiving Prophetic Words



- Conviction is specific about an action with hope for repentance and restoration

Therefore say to them, Thus declares the LORD of hosts: Return to Me, says the LORD of hosts, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts.—Zechariah 1:3

- Condemnation is general about identity and leaves a feeling of hopelessness
- Controlling versus invitational
 - God does not control us (if He did this world would be different!)
 - God invites us

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with Me.—Revelation 3:20



- Learn to separate the human factor from the God factor when other people prophesy to you
 - They may not have acted in the fruit of the Spirit but did God say something to them that they communicated wrong?

- Relevancy
 - God will speak to us about things that concern us personally as well as from others
 - Intercessors will hear about things they are called to pray for

 - Leaders will hear about what they have responsibility for

 - Prophetic ministers will hear about the areas they are called to

 - No one is called to everything!

- God will answer questions we have asked
 - Not necessarily in the time we wanted Him to

- In the relevancy test we must ask if they are picking up something in our soul
 - Is this something that we have really wanted, felt, or thought?

 - Is it God confirming it or did they read our soul?

 - To the extent we are able to be honest with ourselves we will be able to discern when someone ‘prophesies’ our soul back to us

- Relationship
 - We have developed time and relationship with God through our interactions with Him, does it sound like Him?



- Prophetic words are one sentence in an ongoing conversation
 - How does it relate to the dreams, visions, and words we have been hearing
 - How does it fit into our study and the things God has called us to
 - Some say a word from someone will always be confirmation about something God has already talked to us about
 - Not all the time, it can be something brand new
 - If it is new other confirmation will come after before action is to be taken

- Ask God to bear witness to the revelation if it is Him
 - It can come as a sense of peace
 - He can speak directly
 - The gift of discerning of spirits
 - Be careful not to decide a word is from God because our soul responds
 - That may or may not be God
 - It may be a sign it was someone reading our soul



- Find people to be in relationship with who can help you discern revelation
 - People that are spiritual
 - Walking in the fruit of the Spirit
 - Know God and His ways
 - If the person does not have a close walk with God they may be a great friend but shouldn't be the person we ask to help us discern revelation
 - Love us and are able to be honest with us!

Discern the Interpretation

- How well do you know the person giving you the word?
 - How comfortable are you with their ability to interpret revelation?

- If you don't know them well or their interpretive ability it is good to ask how they got the revelation
 - If you are especially gifted in interpretation it is always good to ask how they got it

 - Spend time in prayer and ask God to speak to you directly about what He meant

Discern the Application

If you know it was God and understand what He said then you need to know how to respond

- Identity revelation
 - Begin to speak it over yourself
 - Repent of lies that contradict what He is saying
 - Make it a part of your prayer life
 - Tell others that will hold you accountable
 - Meaning they will believe the word and help remind you of God's truth

- Correction revelation
 - Repent of the sin
 - What needs to happen to change the behavior and set you up for victory?
 - Relationships that need to end
 - Possessions that need to be removed or destroyed
 - What righteous habits is God asking you to develop to replace the sin?
 - Forgive yourself, fight shame, and walk with God!

- Direction revelation
 - What are you supposed to do?

 - When are you supposed to do it?

 - What steps are you supposed to take?
 - We don't need to know how it is going to work out

- Destiny revelation
 - Do we believe it?

 - Do we align with it?

- Do we walk into it?
 - If we are going to be a missionary to another culture do we have a passport, know the language, the culture?

- Don't be too quick to decide what it is going to look like
 - What was really said versus what we understood or assumed?
 - You will be a great evangelist, leading thousands to the Lord

- Craft prophetic declarations with our prophecies and make them a part of our prayer life⁶

This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,¹⁹ holding faith and a good conscience. —1 Timothy 1:8–9

⁶ The online workshop *How to Craft Prophetic Declarations* available at www.streamsministries.com would be very helpful

Obey What God Says

Once you know what God has said, what He meant by what He said, and how you are supposed to respond there is no excuse.

- Confirmation
 - Confirmation is good to clarify revelation
 - I don't know what You are asking of me
 - I am not sure when I should do this
 - Be careful that a lack of faith doesn't cause us to miss God's invitation
 - There are times God will "give us a fleece"
- Remember Gideon



- There are times when we have what we need and we are in rebellion
 - Exodus 3:1–4:17
- Revelation carries faith
 - The word from God has within it the power and provision for its fulfillment

*“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
”¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”—Isaiah 55:10–11*

- When God speaks allow it to impart faith in our hearts

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.—Romans 10:17

NOTES



MORE NOTES



HOMework





MODULE 03 HOMEWORK

Unit 4: Protocols for Receiving Prophetic Words

Find a prophetic word that you have received and work through the process you learned to discern the revelation, interpretation, and application.

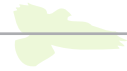
1. Call someone else in this class or someone you would consider a mature prophetic voice that you have relationship with and talk through your conclusions asking them to help you discern the word.
2. Is this a word you should talk through with a leader or pastor in your life?
3. If there is an action you should take, take the first step before the mentoring session
 - Is this an encouraging word?
 - Identity revelation?
 - Correction revelation?
 - Direction revelation?
 - Destiny revelation?

Write down any questions you have about this process or about a prophetic word you have received to discuss at the mentoring session.

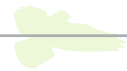
NOTES



MORE NOTES



MORE NOTES





Streams
ACADEMY
DIPLOMA

POST OFFICE BOX 248 . LEWISVILLE, TEXAS 75067 . STREAMSTRAINING.COM