

Living Above the Line

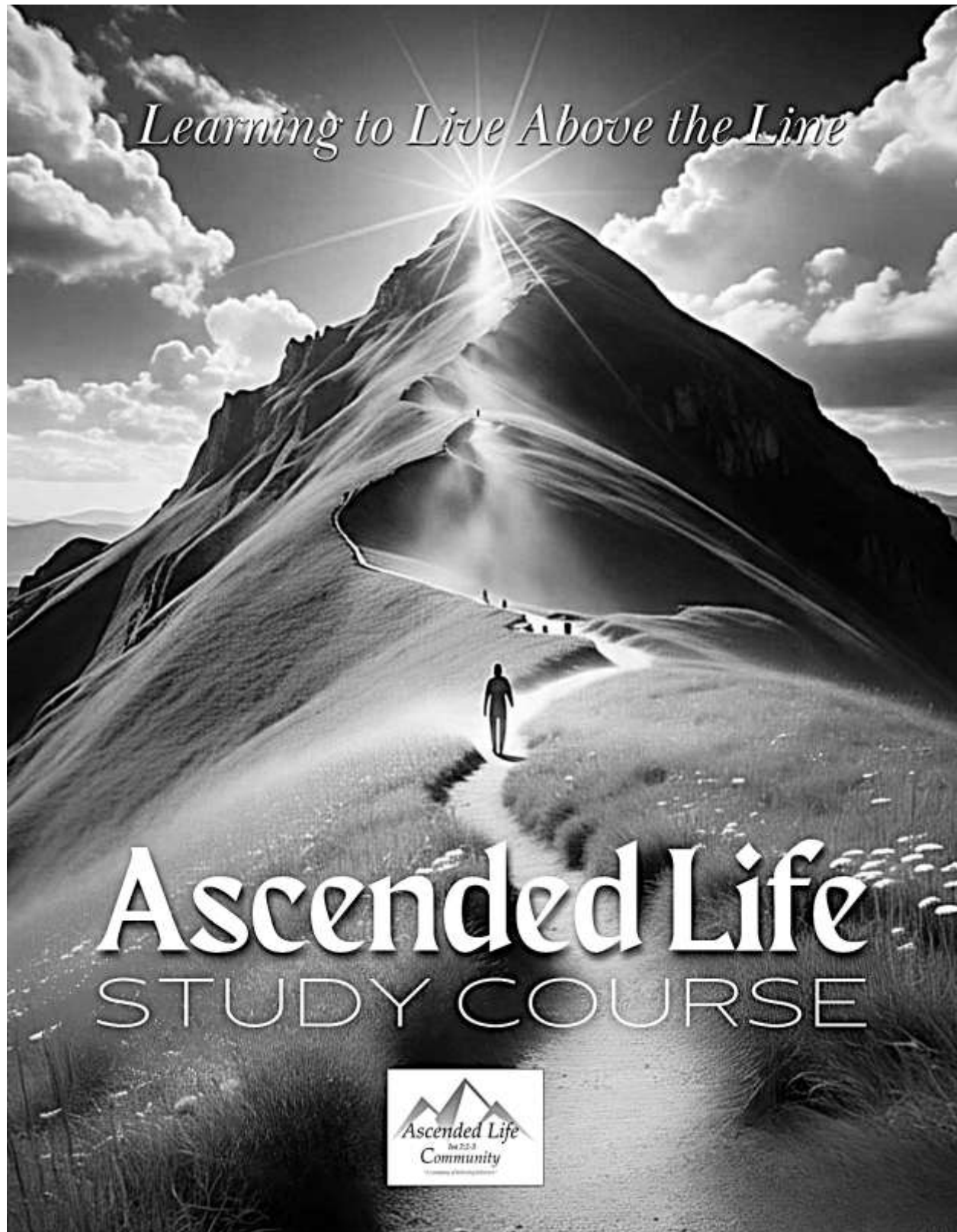
Ascended Life

STUDY COURSE



ASCENDED LIFE STUDY COURSE





Ascended Life Study Course

by Mark Hendrickson

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the intrepid explorers who are committed to let the Holy Bible guide them off the common beaten path and beyond the maps of tradition into Heavenly horizons where few choose to travel. Powerful new understandings of Scripture and gripping accounts of breakthroughs of modern-day pioneers have awakened consuming desire to sacrifice all, if necessary... just to be where He is and do what He's doing. So, with the early glimmers of promising new light, hearts are rallying with anticipation and eagerness to greet this brand-new day. May your Heavenly frontiers be filled with contagious joy and stunning trophies... and the Lifegiving smile of approval from the One who says, "Come on up here."

Ascended Life Study Course

L1 – New Creation Identity

By

Ascended Life Community (ALC)

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Ascended Life Study Course

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By

Ascended Life Community (ALC)

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Ascended Life Study Course

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(Coming soon)

By

Ascended Life Community (ALC)

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ASCENDED LIFE STUDY COURSE



Ascended Life Study Course

Introduction

Something really wonderful is happening in our day and our time. We're in the middle of a historical transition of ages. Each person will have to process this in their own heart and mind, but if this is true, then the implications are far more reaching than we could ever predict or comprehend. The essence of this shift involves huge revelations about living in the realities of the Heavenly realms.

For definition, let me say that the journey into what we call 'Ascended Life' is about learning to live consciously and actively in two realms at once—earth and Heaven. There have been travelers on this upward journey since the beginning of Biblical history. Sadly, there have not been many public examples of this reality. nor has there been a lot written about it. This is changing, which is evidenced by the growing company of believing believers who are transitioning into the Heavenly places.

Before I dive too deeply into the ascended life premise and theme, let me explain my perspective, which will add weight and integrity to the message.

Personal history

My wife Debbie and I have been believers since we were very young. We have been involved in most of the moves of God since the early 1960s. Each of those moves has enhanced our lives with the respective emphasis that God was making. God never wastes an opportunity. Each move is crucial for that specific time and is also an important building block for the future emphasis that God will release in the earth.

In the early 1980s, my wife Debbie and I, along with our growing young family, lived next door to our dear friend and mentor Bob Jones. He spent a lot of time in the Heavenlies. Frequently we would sit at each other's kitchen table and he would say, "How about after dinner let's all go to Heaven?"

This definitely caught my attention. I wanted to go to Heaven and tried to do so, but I did not have satisfying experiences. Debbie had meaningful and rewarding experiences which caused me to think that perhaps this frontier was just for those of the 'special' or gifted club. I was disappointed but not dismayed.

Fifteen years passed, filled with changes, including moves that put over one thousand miles of distance between Bob Jones and my family. We stayed in touch when we could. More than a dozen years later, we had a couple wonderful reunions with Bob and our very close friends the Earls... and guess what? Each time Bob would ask the same question, "After dinner, how about let's all go to Heaven?" Between the two

families, we had about ten teenagers. We all sat around the large kitchen table or on the floor in the living room and Bob led us into a Heavenly experience.

That wonderful time resulted in great experiences and memories with Bob. To this day, some of our grown and married children still tear up when they tell of those experiences. So, you have to know that their experiences were not fabricated or hyped; they were real.

It was nearly another fifteen years before I began having Heavenly experiences that have gripped me and inspired me like nothing in all the other moves of God. I'm convinced that God isn't doing just another move of God, this time. All the other moves of God have been leading up to a transition of ages. All indicators point to the winding down of one age and the beginning of a new age. This has me more gripped and engaged with my Father than at any other time in my life. I feel more alive, my heart is more tender, I'm more confident in my Father's love and I'm more sure of what He's doing in history. And guess what, I'm having more supernatural and Heavenly experiences in the last five to ten years than in all of my life, in total. I am elated!

And what makes this pathway of Heavenly experiences even more special is that we are joined by a whole company of believing believers. In addition, several children and grandchildren of our family are as gripped with this fantastical adventure as I am. What could be better than that!

Take heart

Quite a few years ago, I learned that I'm a pioneer at heart. I love adventure, impossibilities, crises and discovery. Inherent in 'pioneering' is the process of experimentation and discovery – and that takes time – which is what it took until I began to have more fulfilling spiritual experiences. I am certain that it will not take you as long as it has taken me. God has opened a very effective 'door' into the Heavens in our present day. This new 'door' will make your progress swifter and surer.

I'm confident you have had your own stirrings and longings that reached for something not seen or known in this world. God planted those seeds of desire in you in order to fuel your quest. The well-known author C.S. Lewis, explained that other-worldly tendency as a beacon indicator that you were made for another realm.

“If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.” — C.S. Lewis

So, what is happening now?

All the past moves of God have added components into the body of Christ which prepare the Body for something very epic and transformational. One age is ending and a brand-new age is emerging. With every new Biblical age that God institutes, a new order is implemented accompanied by radically different religious practices. Question: Why would this current age-change be any different from those that have occurred in the past? If it is no different and there are going to be radical changes ahead, do you want to know what those changes are? I hope that you do.

I assume that you are taking this course because something has been awakened in you regarding this major shift of our spiritual climate. You have sensed it and are likely in the process of pursuing it and understanding it. Well, you're not alone in this pursuit. God is awakening many serious God-lovers.

This experience of transitioning the ages can be compared to how Peter, James and John and the rest of the disciples must have felt being born in one age and transitioning into a brand-new age heralded by John the Baptist and brought into reality by Jesus. The transition was confusing, mystifying, maddening, exciting, compelling and revolutionary all at the same time! After testings, shakings, a few setbacks and the crucifixion of their Leader, these same disciples who were pioneers, became the ones who promulgated a new Gospel to the whole world.

As dynamic and revolutionary as each age change was in Biblical history, I believe this present transition promises to be equally as pivotal and epic. In this Ascended Life Study Course, we intend to search out what God has in mind for this new age... and discover the tracks that extend 'beyond the map'. As Proverbs 25:2 says...

"It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter." – Prov 25:2

We will search out this matter together.

Before you start

We recommend these 5 things

1. You are saved
2. You are filled with the Spirit
3. You practice your Heavenly language
4. You have a sincere regular devotion life with God
5. You have developed a maturing ability to hear the voice of God

Getting started

Here's a simple but profound truth: To grow in faith beyond where we are, we must hear more than what we've heard. Expect to hear and encounter things beyond your grid and your comfort zone. But you are a hungry explorer, and you're ready for something more than the normal fare. God has heard your desire. He's going to speak dynamic and powerful rhemas into your heart and mind! Expect for faith to leap in your heart because, *"faith comes by hearing"* (Romans 10:17). It's time to grow!!

Three levels of study

Following is a brief overview of what we want to accomplish in this 3-level Ascended Life Study Course:

Level 1 – New Creation Identity (Who am I?)

Foundational realities as a new creation saint

Permission and basic tools to start our Heavenward journey

Level 2 – Expanded Inheritance (What is mine?)

Resources, Heavenly allies and possibilities for this new reality

Acquiring tools and skills to live 'above the line'

Level 3 – Governance with God (What is my purpose?)

Purpose, function and responsibility

Experience and participate in governance with God

Study and 'lift off'

The Ascended Life Study Course is designed to enlighten the curious and 'fuel' the studious. We will examine many highpoints that God is emphasizing in this new emerging age. Because of the number of topics and the brevity of this course, we will

not be able to cover every topic in depth, but most sessions will have follow-up study questions and resources for further research on your own. Beyond this study course, ALC offers a twice-monthly ALC Zoom School, a monthly and an annual 3-day in-person meeting, for those who are interested.

So, unbuckle your seatbelt, it is time to untether from this world in an exhilarating liftoff and liberating ride into the Heavenlies. We believe this is the emphasis our Father is making in this new age, so becoming familiar with and traversing in the Heavenly places has become our new obsession because we want to do what He's doing. Our confidence is that this will lead us to learning the Heavenly ways of our Father, even confidently co-governing with Him. This is huge! This passage may help give some context for our epic Heavenly ride!

“Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it.

Many people shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” – Isa 2:2-3

Ready! Aim! Here we go!!!



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 1 - Life beyond earth-based Christianity

Father's invitation - Designed to thrive

Setup for lift-off

When earth-life seems to get a little stale, maybe that's an indicator that it's time for lift-off... lift-off into a Biblical Heavenly promised land that God has always offered to us as our inheritance. It's quite likely that our leaders just haven't opened up this realm to us. Oh, we've always believed in Heaven... we just haven't been instructed about its present-day relevance. Heaven was for when we die... and then AFTER we die, we will get to see Jesus, Father, angels, loved ones, etc.

So... death will give us all these things. Wow! When put like that, it almost sounds like death is our savior! O boy! That statement literally makes us do a double take. Why do I have to wait to die to enjoy these things? Is it possible that we don't have to die to enjoy the things our Father has promised?

What if we have already died? We remember that we were crucified, buried and risen with Christ already (Rms 6:4)? And aren't we already dead and now hidden with Christ in God (Col 3:3)? I know Scripture says that it's appointed unto man to die once and then the judgment (Heb 9:27), but if I've already died, how many times does a man have to die? And then there are Enoch and Elijah who didn't die at all. They even took their physical bodies to Heaven with them! They seem to defy the Heb 9:27 passage. How can these things be?

And we remember that Paul said in Col 3:1-2 that we've already been raised to these Heavenly places? Now we're supposed to set our affections on these things above where Christ sits at the right hand of God and we're to seek after those things above... right? Well, it sounds like we're already at the place that we've been putting off for somewhere in the distant future. No wonder my soul is reaching for something more than I've been experiencing. Maybe it's because the reality of Heaven is already resident within my heart... dormant, but longing to be explored and enjoyed.

*"He has also put **eternity in their heart**" – Eccl 3:11*

*"For indeed, the kingdom of God is **within you**." – Lk 17:21*

*"... but we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even **we ourselves groan within ourselves**, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. For **we were saved in this hope**..." – Rms 8:23-24*

So, if the Kingdom of God is already in me and eternity is already in my heart, then why haven't those realities been more active and dynamic in my life? Maybe they just needed to be awakened from their dormancy. Maybe all it takes is someone to enlighten my mind and give my heart permission. Could it be that is all it takes for me to enjoy the Heavenly places? Wow! Maybe Heaven is closer to me and more easily accessible than I ever thought! Maybe I just needed someone to help me find the 'Door' so that I could make my grand entrance into the Heavenly places (Eph 1:3).

Hmmm. Did you feel that stirring? I did!

Hopefully this study will ignite your appetite and inspire your desire and give you solid tracks to run on.

You are powerful

But before we go on, I want to make sure you know that you are powerful to have your own opinion and convictions. Don't yield your conclusions or convictions to anyone, any group or any creed. There is only One who should be on the Throne of your life... and His name is Jesus!!! Yield to Him!

If you feel unsure or concerned about something presented here, you might be right and we might be wrong. Be like the noble Bereans who searched the Scriptures after hearing from Paul.

Of course, we always strive to be teachable, but I'm betting you've experienced some radical changes in parts of your belief system in the last 5 – 10 years. Is that true? It certainly is for me.

So, you have changed! That means you've let go of some previous truth in exchange for something more current and more true. If that is true, then we realize that we're going to have to hold everything loosely. Why? Because when God reveals new things, some of our old understandings will likely need to shift too.

Boy! I can hear the rattling of theological building blocks getting readjusted already!

Please don't misunderstand me. I am not hinting that we'll change our core beliefs in the Gospel. Nor will we knowingly embrace something that is antithetical to Scripture. That being said, Scripture has been reinterpreted many times throughout history. Upgraded interpretation is even present within Scripture itself! So, as God 'pulls back the curtains' of revelation on a passage, that passage could mean something very different from what we originally believed. We're not discounting those original interpretations. They were very valid at that time in our lives. Our wonderful Father is so good that He makes His Word capable of being multi-level in truth and application.

And then beyond Scripture, there are massive areas in our natural lives and spiritual lives that are not specifically addressed in Scripture. For example: driving a car, where to live, what to buy, what style to wear... you get the point! Regarding these areas, we'll all need to *"work out our own salvation with fear and trembling"* (Phil 2:12) and give each other a lot of latitude to find truth.

So, what do you say... let's do this thing together.

Designed to thrive

What would you think is the greatest enemy of all mankind today? Is it a mortal sin? Is it the spirit of murder? Is it some bold-faced evil or some 'cardinal' sin? I doubt that it is any of these. I think it is something far more pervasive and insidious, yet deceptively simple and subtle, as it patiently takes its toll on its victims. What is it?

I say it's boredom! Yep! Boredom.

Boredom is one of our greatest liabilities. Most of humanity... even Christianity... is bored. That doesn't mean that they're not busy. It just means that their inner man isn't activated and passionately engaged, even in the midst of our busyness.

Further, traditional religion is not gripping us like it used to. We've heard all the sermons... and likely we haven't heard anything revolutionary for months or years. Let me ask: When was the last time you learned something new at your church? And how do you feel about your recent spiritual experience? Are you excited and thriving... or are you restless and wondering if there's more?

I believe that people's diminished internal vibrancy and decreased attendance in religious meetings, are a result of boredom. And when boredom sets in, passion and desire wane.

Religion without ongoing fresh inspirations from Heaven quickly devolves into stagnation, because it has no inherent power to generate life—for itself or for others. Dead religion turns into rules and rule-keeping, keeping us busy and distracted from the persistent emptiness gnawing at our souls. We become little automatons of rhetoric, duty, and schedules. The outer man may be busy, but the inner man is hollow. Jesus called leaders with this condition, "white washed sepulchers". They looked great on the outside but they were dark and dead on the inside.

So, you ask, "Mark, what is the problem? And how does it get fixed?"

Well, this is a big statement: I believe that the Church has explored the scope of the Gospel as much as it can within the confines of an **earth-based Christianity**. You see, the Gospel was not meant to just get us saved. It intended to take us fully into living in Heaven while we're still very much alive on the earth (Jn 3:13, Jn 17:24). Our earth experience is the incubator... and Mama Church has provided a 'table' to nurture us. But this arrangement was only intended to prepare us to experientially move into the Heavens. Of course, we're very familiar with the Scriptures related to this mindset, but we lack the experience of our theology. I maintain that these Heavenly realities are dormant within us right now and are waiting for us to express and live them dynamically!

We're going to need Godly pioneers will declare where this journey is taking us. We need righteous examples of how this Heavenly life is to be lived simultaneously with earth-life. And we'll need personal and authentic Heavenly experiences to help us stay engaged in the growth process. Our spirit wants our whole being to thrive! If our soul isn't growing and thriving, our spirit begins 'talking' to us. It 'talks' to us by making us feel dissatisfied and hungry for more. Think of it this way: If we're still eating out of the Gerber baby food jar when we're 30 years old, something is very dysfunctional and out of whack. It won't be hard to see obvious signs of malnutrition. I'm sure that you're catching the spiritual parallels of this natural illustration.

You see, we were made to grow, to thrive, to expand, to propagate and to multiply. Everyone wants to feel that powerful surge of vitality, productivity and rewarding affirmation that comes as we accomplish something beyond our normal boundaries. There's an eruption of "I did it!" that spontaneously comes up out of our soul when we attain. We conquered! We went further than we've ever gone before. We did something for someone that no one else could do! This is an innate human trait that presses all of mankind beyond our previous boundaries. It's one of the primary ways that the Kingdom of God expands.

Givers and takers

My friend, this is the nature of our spirit. It was born to thrive. To further the point, Jesus said...

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came **so that they would have life, and have it abundantly.**" – Jn 10:10

There is one who always takes from us! And there is One who always adds LIFE to us.

Ultimately only God is the originator of life and vitality! It's part of His nature. But now He has imparted that nature in us... and that God-nature inside of us wants to express itself.

"The first man, Adam, became a living soul. The **last Adam became a life-giving spirit.**" – I Cor 15:45

There is something radically different about the Last Adam. He didn't need life... or take life. He came to give life. 'Adamites' and babies are takers... that's all they can do. Mature sons are givers just like their Elder Brother. Mature sons manifest the nature of their Father.

You are a life-giver

As we learn to live from our spirit, we discover that we actually have the ability to GIVE LIFE! Learning to live in this mode will likely require a serious life quest. Expect that it may involve years of learning because most of us haven't been trained to live from our life-giving spirit. Even though religion references our spirit and that our soul is 'saved', we haven't been taught how to connect to our spirit and communicate with our spirit. This is a huge and wonderful frontier.

We've largely been preoccupied with '**below the line**' living. That's another way of saying, living only an earthly life. Garden variety religion has kept us earth bound and consumed with outward behaviors, etc. O, we believe in Heaven... and want to go there after we die. But Heaven is kind of irrelevant today because it's so far off.

But what if I was to tell you that you could live in Heaven now! What if I can show you that it's in our Holy Bibles? Would you believe it then? Would you want to know more? I declare that God is inviting us to live **above the line**... in Heaven... now... while our ticker is still running strong.

**Earth-based Christianity
versus
Heaven-based sonship**

You are invited to graduate from
'Earth-based Christianity to Heaven-based sonship'

So, here's a little teaser of some of the things we're going to be covering in our Ascended Life Study Course.

1. Is ascended life real? Is it Biblical? Are there any testimonies?
2. Why is this happening now? Is this a special time in history?
3. So, what is ascension? How do we do it?
4. Seeing in the Spirit. Developing our spiritual eyesight.
5. Is imagination a Godly tool? What is golden imagination?
6. Is it Biblical to engage with angels? Can we talk with them?
7. What about Saints? Can we engage with them?
8. Our Heavenly environment and family... let's get acquainted.
9. What about *metamorphoo*, the Greek word for transfiguration?
10. Will mankind and creation be restored back to its pre-Fall status and glory?
11. Can we really travel in the Spirit? Is that astral projection?
12. What about Spirit traveling in the physical body?
13. Expanding our spirit over a person or place. Is that Biblical?
14. Acquiring tools for the journey. How many tools are in your tool box?
15. Is it possible to minister to someone in their dreams?
16. Disappearing and appearing – Did Jesus really change shapes?
17. Alchemy – Can things really change into other forms?
18. Can we bend time / travel in time / redeem time? Can we master over time?
19. Are there Heavenly things for which there are no earthly parallels?
20. Is immortality a real thing? Do we have to die?

Anyone hitting any triggers, yet? This is the part where you either lean in closer or run for the nearest exit. I'll bet you can feel that the middle ground is getting much smaller. Well, at least by now, you won't be bored as we process through these spiritual frontiers.

If you're like me, this is going to be one of the most exciting learning curves of your life. You were made for this! This is part of the dream that Father has held in His heart from before there was dirt! He knew you would come along and your heart and spirit would leap within you... leap with confirmation and anticipation for the next 'more' in God! Literally, there is a smile on my face right now as I feel the elation and wonder that you are experiencing. God joyfully saw this day and is here to take your hand and lead you into a land grander than your wildest expectations. It's gonna be a great ride!

Where are we headed

Talking about wildest expectations, try this passage on for size and let our Lord Himself blow your circuits!!

“On that day the Lord will shield those who live in Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them will be like David, and the house of David will be like God, like the angel of the Lord going before them.” – Zech 12:8

And here's a quote from that challenges me...

“I am opposed to any doctrinal position that pushes the promises of God into a time period that can't be obtained in my generation and therefore takes away any responsibility I have to believe God for them in my lifetime.” – Kris Vallotton

All the promises in The Book are mine... remember that little Sunday School song? I wonder if the premise of that little song is true. Well, it seems like it is...

“For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ. And so through him the “Amen” is spoken by us to the glory of God.” – II Cor 1:20

My friend, it's high time that we believe and walk in those promises! Let's say with Joshua and Caleb, "We are well able to go up and take the country!" Yay, God!

Activation

Let's slowly breathe in Yah... and slowly breathe out Weh. This is the name of our Lord. Do this several times. See yourself breathing in Heaven's breath (Jn 20:22) and breathe out your outdated beliefs and ways. Say, "Jesus, I want to get really good at being in the Heavenly places with You and breathing the same Heavenly air that You do. This earth air has been getting pretty stale and making me long for more. I'm hungry! Really hungry! I give you permission to upgrade me and lead me to wherever you want... as long as I'm with You. Amen.

Resources

Articles

Born again, again

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1oK>

Good and more good

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1i7>

First time experience – never to be forgotten

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1aH>

The Glory of God – another look

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-ru>

He is I Am in you

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-hp>

Videos

Bob Jones – (start at 3:45mins)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Gmg5MuB2_4

Relocation from earth-based Christianity to Heaven based sonship

<https://youtu.be/sjh6AYbdog4>

Weaned from earth-based only to Heaven-based primarily

<https://youtu.be/CRszGOiB6dQ>

Recommended books

How to See in the Spirit – by Michael Van Vlymen

Open My Eyes Lord – by Gary Oates



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 - New Creation Identity

Session 2 - What is my spirit?

Transitioning from my mind to my spirit

We are a 3-part being

Most Christians believe that we are a 3-part being made up of our body, soul and spirit. I put them in that order because after we are born, that is the order in which we become aware of them. As newborns we are consumed with our bodily needs and wants. Then we learn to use our soul... (emotions, mind and will) in order to try to get our way. Both of these phases of discovery are almost automatic... and we learn to use them quite compellingly to get desired results.

The last part of our being that we become aware of is our spirit. As we become a believer in Jesus, we are taught that we have a spirit. At conversion the Bible says that God put a new spirit within us.

*"I will give you a new heart and put a **new spirit** within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh" – Ezk 36:26*

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." – II Cor 5:17

And as we grow in awareness of what our spirit is, we find that our spirit is the central and most essential part of our being. In actual fact, our heart/spirit has been ordained by God to be a great source of life to our soul and body.

"Guard your heart with all diligence, for from it flow all the issues of life." – Prov 4:23

"The spirit of a man will sustain him in sickness." – Prov 18:14

Our spirit and God's Spirit

A fact that many do not realize is that our spirit is enjoying full fellowship and oneness with the Godhead right now. Here are several passages to support this incredibly wonderful fact.

"God has raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus." – Eph 2:6

"Since you were raised, set your affections on things above." – Col 3:1-2

"For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God." – Col 3:3

"He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him." – I Cor 6:17

"For you have come to Mt Zion, the City of God, the New Jerusalem..." – Heb 12:22

That was just for starters. Did you catch that the wording of these statements makes each of these passages past tense and current realities? These conditions are not relegated to the future! In other words, this is a condition that is present NOW and has been present since you became a believer.

Three-part-being graphic

This graphic isn't totally accurate because there are realities of our spirit and soul that just can't be depicted in 2-D graphics. But an oversimplified view may look something like this. When we were saved, we were given a new spirit and it was raised and seated with Christ in Heavenly places. Our spirit and God's Spirit began experiencing full communion all the time... even continuing to this present moment. Our spirit is the God-ordained life-giver to our soul and body. And of course, there are times when the Spirit of God imparts life from God directly into our soul and body. Later, we will look at this graphic in more detail.



Uniting with my spirit

The sad fact is that most of us have not been instructed how to discover the mysteries and ecstasies that our spirit is experiencing now. If you are one spirit with God (I Cor 6:17), what kinds of enjoyment do you think your spirit is experiencing? I think a "Wow!" would be an appropriate response, right about now.

Someone may ask whether it's permissible for us to engage with our spirit and the Heavenly location of our spirit. Let's look at Scripture. We find many relevant passages describing how God ushered men into Heavenly places and then gave them profound spiritual revelations. Let me remind us once again that Paul stated fairly emphatically, that we were to be consumed with the Heavenly realm.

"Therefore, since you have been raised with Christ, strive for the things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." – Col 3:1-2

And even the Psalmist knew that he needed his whole being to be in unity with itself and with his Lord. In other words, a divided heart would diminish his ability to walk in truth.

*"Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth; **unite my heart** to fear Your name."* – Ps 86:11

Let's talk about our spirit

1. We're born pure and with a sensitive spirit (think of John in Elizabeth's womb)
2. Environmental influence makes us sensual and sentient which dumbs us down
3. We must learn our spirit: stirrings, intuitive, discerning, the spirit realm...

Many people believe that during prebirth and in early baby stages, our spirit is still aware of the Heavenly realm, from which we came. But then this world's environment trains us in the ways of our soul... and how to live with our soul in charge. Interestingly, we began life with our spirit... but as we learn the ways of the soul, we start to forget our spirit (II Cor 4:4). As we mature Father opens up our understanding that we have a spirit... that our spirit is active... that we can engage it... and that we can partner with our spirit in the Heavenly realms to bring forth Kingdom purposes. This is part of the process of being conformed into the likeness and image of the One who made us. A major dynamic shift takes place in us. In the womb, we were primarily spirit dominant. After we were born, we became soul dominant, but as we grow in God, our mind begins to get renewed and learns to let our spirit become dominant. The

objective is that our soul and body functions in unity, with our spirit as the rightful leader once again.

Why should I get to know my spirit?

For the issues of this world, our mind is pretty adept at leading us. We've created protocols and societal norms that utilize our mind as a problem solver and leader. But where we're going in the Heavenlies, our minds do not have the capacity to lead us. Jesus highlighted this in His conversation with Nicodemus.

"If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?" – Jn 3:12

What does this verse mean? It means that Nicodemus was having trouble understanding basic Heavenly truth even though Jesus was giving earthly parallels (parables) to help him understand. But Jesus wanted to tell Nicodemus (and us) about other Heavenly things for which there were NO earthly parallels. And since Nicodemus was having trouble with the Heavenly truths which had earthly parallels, Jesus knew He couldn't possibly tell Nicodemus about Heavenly things that don't have any earthly parallels. I wonder how disappointed Jesus felt at that moment?

Limitations of our mind

Let's break this down even further: Jesus knows that the Heavenly realm will require us to operate from something other than our minds because there is an inherent problem with a human mind! It doesn't know what it doesn't know! So, how could it ever be our leader in the Heavenly places? Trying to use our mind to navigate Heaven is like trying to use a street map in outer space. The reference points just aren't there. Here's a quote...

"Our minds cannot be our tour guide in the Heavenly places." – Bill Johnson

Let me give an example of the dangerous limitations of our mind in Heavenly places. What if you are moving through a Heavenly encounter and you see a four-legged creature with seven horns and seven eyes. What would you think this thing stands for? What does it symbolize? After all, religion has taught us that something this grotesque is likely of the devil. For example, we read in Dan 7 that the horn (the devil) made war against the saints and won for a while. So, this 7-horned creature must be demonic or devilish, right? But check this out...

"The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth." – Rev 5:6

Oh boy, if we had relied on our mind to figure this out, we would have gotten this completely wrong... and we might have started 'casting out' Jesus, the Lamb. We're going to have to get really good at being in touch with our spirit, even greater than we have trusted our mind!

How do I engage my spirit

This topic is elementary and extremely vital to learning to 'live, move and have our being' in the Heavenly places. As we just saw, our minds will NOT be capable of leading us... especially when there are no earthly precedents to validate what God is doing in the Heavenlies. We'll only have His voice and the witness of our spirit with His Spirit.

"The brain is great servant, but a poor master." – Bill Johnson

So, let's get started: One may ask, "Where is my spirit?" That's a good question, because earlier, we said it was "raised" and "seated" in the Heavenly places (see verses above). Is our spirit in another galaxy? No! Jesus said, "The Kingdom of God is within you." (Lk 17:21) In addition, we know that 'Christ the hope of glory' lives within us.

*"To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you**, the hope of glory." – Col 1:27*

Remember, Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is within you! We must agree with Jesus and understand that Heaven is here and Heaven is now... and Heaven is within each and every true believer. So, when we say that we were 'raised', we mean that we've been raised into the awareness and the realities of another realm... the Heavenly realm. And to the degree that we practice this realm, that is the degree to which we have reward, effectiveness and authority in that realm. So, instead of going someplace in the sky to encounter God, He is actually already inside of every believer. Think of it, our 'travel time' to encounter God just got reduced to nothing.

What does my spirit sound like?

Have you ever thought about what the 'voice' of your spirit sounds like? Your body has a voice – 5 senses, etc. Your soul has a voice – reason, emotions, etc. So, what does your spirit sound like. I think our conscience is a good place to start. Our conscience knows things innately. Paul makes a good case for this.

"I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit..." – Rms 9:1

Paul is using his conscience as his validator in partnership with Holy Spirit. But our conscience can get 'seared' (I Tim 4:2) and then our conscience loses its righteous plumbline capacity. So, I believe we must strive to identify our spirit's voice by additional means. We won't go further into this at this time, but I'll list a few indicators that I've vetted as being part of my spirit's language to me.

God-tears, tingles, 'chicken skin', ethereal stirrings in my belly,
laughter, shaking, visions, temperature or pressure upon a part of my body,
an inner knowing, heat, oil, etc.

Out of my belly

The answer to the question of where is our spirit located can be a little complex... maybe even confusing, but Scripture uses several perspectives to describe and define our spirit and the location of our spirit. Don't get tripped up with how these different perspectives describe our spirit. Not only is it raised and seated with Christ (Eph 2:6) but it is also within you. Jesus described the location of our spirit quite poignantly when He said that "living water" would "flow out of our belly" (Jn 7:38).

"The one believing in Me, as the Scripture has said: 'Out of his belly will flow rivers of living water.'" – Jn 7:38

What is Jesus referring to when He uses the word living water? Obviously, it's not natural water (H₂O). He's referring to spiritual water... which is an energy or life force that has empowering spiritual qualities to it. So, why didn't he say it flows out of our mind? Because our minds must still be renewed (Rms 12:2). But a new spirit... a new creation spirit (II Cor 5:17) gets placed within you at the moment of conversion. So, in Father's wisdom, Jesus indicates that our spirit is in our belly or our inner most being. As a result, for the sake of activating our faith, we embrace the concept of our spirit as being in our belly area. We will use this foundational concept and practice throughout our study course. Placing my hands on my abdomen helps my faith to be activated when I want to engage my spirit.

The Kingdom of God is within

Have you ever been in a meeting where there was a powerful anointing and you felt something stir in your belly? I've had powerful times where my spirit in my belly area was so alive that I have cried, laughed, shook, fallen down and had visions, etc. My mind has NEVER overwhelmed me the way my spirit can. My spirit is the true life-giving part of me. It is born of God and is a brother to Jesus and has the same spiritual DNA as Jesus.

"The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit." – I Cor 15:45

Our flesh and carnal nature were ‘born of Adam’, but at conversion we are ‘born of God’. Since Jesus is the *‘firstborn of many brethren’* (Rms 8:29) and we have His spiritual DNA, then **we are also life-giving spirits**. This fact is not talked about very much because we’ve been indoctrinated with a perspective of our sinful fallen-ness and we may often wonder what can a weak vessel like me do? Sadly, we have become more conscious of our unrighteousness than our righteousness. I understand that we must acknowledge our unrighteousness when we come to God. We must acknowledge our sin and our need for a Savior, etc. But that was when you met Jesus and thank God, He has done a radical transformation in us. You are now a new creation (*kainos*-Greek) – a brand-new species (II Cor 5:17). Now Heaven invites us to believe what God believes about us. We’re so much better than just being a slightly improved human. We now have full Heavenly sonship status. And if we knew the stunning realities and dreams that Father has in His mind for us, it would likely get us into unbelief if we really knew His full perspective and His full inheritance for us. It’s time that we exchange our unrighteousness consciousness for updated righteousness consciousness.

Since this is a HUGE foundational revelation that will be crucial for our Heavenly journey, I’m going to open it up further.

*“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the **righteousness of God in Him.**” – II Cor 5:21*

*“Therefore, since we have been **declared righteous** by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” – Rms 5:1 Holman Christian Standard Bible*

*“... and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, **the righteousness which is from God by faith...**” – Phil 3:9*

*“For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of **the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!**” – Rms 5:17*

It is paramount that our minds get transformed by this powerful truth. Condemnation and awareness of our unrighteousness will ALWAYS compromise our faith and confidence with God. We will likely have to declare war on contrary thoughts.

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.” – Rms 8:1

We must see ourselves the way He sees us – righteous and blameless. This righteousness consciousness mindset will make you fully confident to respond to any Heavenly invitation that Father leads you into. As this mind gets worked in you, you will stop belittling yourself or negating your worthiness or diminishing your potentials. You’ll believe that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you (Phil 4:13). This is a game changer!

Bless my spirit

When I was a teenager, I learned to bless my spirit. Now, let’s lock something into our minds. Our spirit is perfect, holy, ascended, seated with Christ and righteous, etc... and it doesn’t need to be improved upon. It is *“one spirit with God”* (I Cor 6:17)! So, what are we doing when we bless our spirit? We are calling it up to the forefront of our awareness. We are giving our spirit

Process of engaging your whole being

- 1) Your mind identifies an objective and summons your spirit to take the lead.
- 2) Your spirit moves into the place of authority and skillfully ‘rides’ upon your faith.
- 3) Your soul (mind and emotions) support the process with complimentary feelings.
- 4) Your body witnesses the activity and gives confirming sensations to affirm and strengthen your confidence that the objective was completed.

permission and commission and authority to take leadership over our soul and body. This is the rightful order established in Heaven for all the saints of God. (We will talk more about this in our next session.) So, to bless my spirit, I put my hands over my stomach and speak blessing upon my spirit. I empower it with my acknowledgment, agreement and commission. While at the same time I am notifying my soul that it must 'bow' to my spirit's leading... now!

How do I make my soul 'bow'? I usually 'command' my mind to be still... to settle down! I may say something like, "Be still, my mind! You can't be in charge now." If your mind is like my mind, it doesn't want to obey very well. It has been the CEO for far too long! Honestly, it takes some practice with consistency to demote it to its rightful job... which is like a very helpful, but junior, administrative assistant to my spirit. But if you are persistent and follow through with this exercise, over time, your mind will begin to obey you! When my mind is stilled enough, then I make the 24" journey from my head down to my belly. I tell people, "At this time, instead of thinking with your mind, try to think with your belly (your spirit is located in your belly region). I know this can sound somewhat ethereal, but it's real. Mature saints have developed an ability to accomplish this 24" journey from their mind to their spirit with ease.

In the beginning, you may not experience much when you do this little exercise. But with repetitious activation your spirit will learn to rise to the forefront and your soul will 'bow' to your spirit. This becomes a learned response from both of them. This learned response is similar to the muscle memory that athletes develop. Instead of athletes having to tell their muscles what to do, their muscles deliver an automated response which greatly increases the athlete's skill.

And finally, most of the time, my body will serve me well by giving me the confirmation of chill/tingles going up and down my arms, back or legs. This is a most satisfying coordination of our spirit, soul and body working harmoniously together to accomplish a spiritual objective.

In overview, it goes something like this: 1) My mind identifies an objective and summons my spirit to take the lead. 2) My spirit moved into the place of authority and skillfully 'rides' upon my faith. 3) My soul (mind and emotions) supports the process with complimentary feelings. 4) My body witnesses the activity and gives confirming sensations to affirm and strengthen my confidence that the objective was completed.

Led by our spirit

This is one of the necessary momentous milestones in our quest to becoming fully led by our spirit, under the influence of Holy Spirit, of course. Being able to be led by the Spirit is a qualifier for being a mature son of God. Listen to what Paul had to say about this.

"These are the sons of God, they who are led by the Spirit of God." – Rms 8:14

If you are reading this, then you can be assured that Father God is inviting you to graduate from beginner-Christianity, based in our soul and body... to mature spiritual sonship, based in your spirit.

And this, my friend, is where the fun begins! Ascended Life Study Course will quite likely open up some new and exciting frontiers for you. Be aware that some of them will likely make you question their Scriptural veracity and make you follow the example of the 'noble Bereans' (Acts 17:11) who went back to search the Word of God. Be patient as we walk through the necessary elementary foundations... and hang in there when we move out beyond your comfort zone. This is going to be a most fun ride!

Activation

Objective: To engage our soul and spirit, and 'push' a 'packet' of love to our Father God.

Let's start by using words in your mind to describe how much you love Father God. Now take those words and gather them into a 'package' or 'packet' of sentiment. The idea here is that this packet is the essence of all of your impassioned sentiment. Now instead of holding that packet of sentiment in your mind... let's drop it down into your spirit (in your belly area). You may find it

helpful to place your hands over your belly. ‘See’ that packet of your passion for Father being securely and wholly held in your spirit.

Now, by faith and with your faith eyes, ‘see’ that packet of essence of love being ‘pushed’ toward Father’s heart – almost as if you are having a baby out of your belly button. Escort that packet through the full journey, until it is completely deposited into His heart. As you grow in your ability to do this, don’t be surprised if you feel physical sensations. These sensations are your body’s way of engaging with you and supporting you with confirming evidence.

Review: Words are fairly limited in their capacity to express the full scope of our sentiment. If we tried to fully communicate every detail of our intent, the number of words it would require would be too voluminous. So, we incorporate our spirit to host and transfer all that our mind comprehends and the unspeakable sentiments that reside in our soul and spirit. The totality of our sentiment can now be summed up in a ‘packet’ of essence. Then by faith, we ‘push’ this packet and escort it to its intended destination.

As your faith builds to really ‘see’ this function as real, you’ll find a huge liberation from having to speak a lot of words in spiritual activities and prayer. Rather, now you’ve discovered how to use your spirit to increase your effectiveness. At the same time, you’re learning how to use Heavenly modes of operation to communicate and transfer spiritual substance in the Heavenly realms. It’s likely that articulated words may only be used in the Heavenlies when it’s necessary to interact with humans, on a more elementary level. This spirit-to-spirit communication is a foundational vital skill and function that must become natural to us, as we transition into the Heavenlies.

Paul presents a great example of using our soul and spirit together. As long as our mind understands its rightful place... and stays in its rightful place... it can be a great team player.

“For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.” – I Cor 14:14-15

Here we see a clear distinction between our soul and spirit... BUT we also see that it is possible for our soul (understanding) to come into partnership with our spirit. Thank you, Paul, for a clear example of these two parts of our being functioning in harmony as each of them embrace their proper order.

Sum it up

Initially, we were a spirit being. God put skin-clothes on us so that we could have an earthly experience. His hope was that in the process of this earthly experience we would get to know Him and rediscover our initial spirit reality. He knows that this spirit discovery will take us into realms and realities that no mere human could ever fathom

(I Cor 2:9-10). Our session today is the elementary first steps into understanding, embracing, practicing and getting skilled at living from our spirit as primarily a spirit man or woman of God. An exciting journey awaits us!

For further study

- How big is my spirit? (Acts 5:15)
- What does my spirit look like? (Eph 5:8)
- Is my spirit active or passive? (Prov 18:14)
- Can I engage with my heart/spirit? (Prov 4:23)
- Can I speak to my soul/spirit? (Ps 43:5)
- Does my spirit respond to me? (I Cor 14:32)
- Can my spirit set things around me in Kingdom order? (Matt 10:13)
- How does my spirit communicate to me? (I Cor 14:2, 4)
- Can my spirit travel beyond my body? (II Kngs 5:26, I Cor 5:3-4)
- Can my spirit know more than my mind? (Matt 9:4)

Resources

Articles

Everything after their kind

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1Hp>

Living in and from our spirit

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1BA>

How's your heart? – Try this 'spiritual dipstick'

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-cl>

Videos

Governing our own soul until it is renewed

<https://youtu.be/7hqHSDE7jsI>

Feelings are our training wheels until we learn to live by our spirit

<https://youtu.be/q20BJSDaQ2Q>

Books

Beyond Human – Justin Paul Abraham

The Veil – Blake K. Healy

Josiah's Fire – Tahni Cullen

Beholding Trinity Through Relationship – Neil Fraser



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 3 - Aligning our triune self with our Triune God

Exercising authority over our soul and body

God loves unity

It is an understatement to say that God is unified with Himself. The Godhead agrees with itself and they function in divine harmony! And for reasons beyond what we can fully comprehend, God recognizes, loves and wholeheartedly responds to unity in His saints. Let's unpack this...

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!... For there the Lord commands His blessing—Life forevermore.” – Ps 133:1, 3

Did you catch that? He COMMANDS His blessing! And what is the blessing? LIFE forevermore. Heads up! Don't forget this because in ALSC L2 we'll find that this is a key for living forever.

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” – Eph 4:3

We know that God values corporate unity but it gets even more personal. He values the unity in our being... the unity of our spirit, soul and body. Check this out...

“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.” – Matt 15:8

But David the Psalmist got the memo... and he aspired to God's value system... and prayed that his heart would be unified. In other words, he didn't want his whole being to be duplicitous or fractured.

“Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.” – Ps 86:11

Likewise, we are training our soul to walk in sync with our spirit and requiring our body to support our spirit and soul. Why? Because when they function together in harmony not only is there a synergy that equals more than the sum of the parts, but God moves into the situation to crown it with His commanded blessing – LIFE FOREVERMORE!

Everything after its kind

So, by now, you're probably ahead of me, but before we dive deeper into unifying our 3-part being, let's talk about the characteristics and fruit of each part of our being. Each one of our parts is uniquely gifted and each bear fruit in keeping with the 'part' that they come from. Let me explain...

Every living thing (plant, animal and human) **begets after its own kind**. This is a law of natural science. Namely: **the source determines the fruit**. In fact, God stated it clearly...

*“Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth the living **creature according to its kind**: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, **each according to its kind**”; and it was so.” – Gen 1:24*

And this is true in the Spirit realm, also. Our goal must be to differentiate between our soul and our spirit, knowing that each one of them begets after its own kind. Our objective is to learn to live ‘in-sync’ WITH and live FROM our spirit.

Premise, pathway and goal

A huge belief that governs over all of my serious discourses, is to try to ‘live, move and have my being’ in the Spirit. This is **my premise, my pathway and my goal**.

1. **If I converse around mental / brainwave exchanges, then I beget the fruit of my brain which is: knowledge, data and basic truth, etc.**
2. **If I converse in and from my spirit man, I beget the fruit of my spirit: spiritual life and Heavenly power, etc.**

Another way of saying it is: the soul manages information; the spirit handles revelation. One begets **knowledge and truth**, the other begets **spirit and life**. So, which will I choose?

Our soul manages information
Our spirit handles revelation

Simply said

Body begets body – physical impact, offspring, etc.

Soul begets soul – basic data and truth & soulish emotions

Spirit begets spirit – spiritual life-giving impartation

Any time we gather as a corporate expression of the body of Christ, before any of us speaks in that Heavenly oriented gathering, we want to discern our own thoughts and impressions. Where are they from? Are they from our soul or from our spirit? Does what I’m sharing have the power to impart and awaken life? Or is it just facts and data? Here is an inspiring and motivating truth: believers actually have the ability to GIVE life when we choose to activate in this spirit mode. In this regard, we are like our elder brother Jesus (the last Adam), who was/is a **life-giving spirit**. This is contrasted against the first Adam, who was only a **living soul**.

*“The first man, Adam, became a **living soul**. The last Adam became a **life-giving spirit**.” – I Cor 15:45*

We ACTUALLY have the ability to GIVE LIFE! Hopefully, learning to live this way will be our serious life quest. But expect that it may involve years of learning because most of us haven’t been trained to live from our spirit. Most of the world and most of the church teaches us to govern over our physical behaviors and our mental thoughts. These areas of course, are reflective of our body and soul. Even though religion references our spirit and that it has been ‘saved’, we haven’t been taught how to

connect to our spirit and communicate with our spirit. This is a huge and wonderful frontier.

We're reaching for much more than just earthly impact. We're reaching for **spiritual and eternal impact**. Imparting spiritual life from our spirits is very much in line with several passages in Scripture. Here's one:

*"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. And we **impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.**" – I Cor 2:12-13*

This skill requires a disciplined effort, as we learn to differentiate between the sources of our thoughts and inspirations. Are our inspirations originating from soul or spirit? And then we must use discernment as to when and how to share those thoughts and inspirations.

*"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, **piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**" – Heb 4:12*

Finally, the reason we want to learn how to live **in and from our spirit** is because this skill must become **default** in order to **live and rule in the Heavenlies!**

"Our minds cannot be our 'tour-guide' through the Heavenlies." – Bill Johnson

Think of it! It would be IMPOSSIBLE to co-govern with God in the Heavenlies with just our mental capacities! I mentioned this in our last session: Trying to use our minds to navigate Heaven is like trying to use a street map in outer space. Senseless! So, we call our spirit up to full height and attention and give it full authorization to lead us into the Heavenlies (under Holy Spirit's lead, of course).

The record of death

Now, let's go a little deeper before we engage an activation. All humans are 'sons of Adam'. Part of the consequence of Adam's original 'Fall' was that when he sinned, he reaped the 'Curse'. That was, *"In the day that you eat of it (the tree...), you will surely die"* (Gen 2:17). This curse has been passed down through all generations, even to us. As a result, we inherited the 'record of death' in each of our mortal physical cells. This is inescapable... UNLESS or UNTIL we become a **new creation. And I have good news!**

*"Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." – II Cor 5:17*

When you became a son or daughter of God at Salvation, you became a new creation. The Greek word from which we get "new creation" is **kainos**. *Kainos* means that you're not just a better person, but rather, you are a new species! You became a completely different species than you were before you were saved. Instead of being born of Adam, you are now born of God. This is your new identity! You have a new creation identity!

*“But to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God—**children born not of blood, nor of the desire or will of man, but born of God.**” – I Jn 1:12-13*

So, how do we access the benefits and realities that come with being a new species? A huge part of it is ‘by faith’. We simply believe the Word of God and accept and embrace what He says. But another part of entering into the realities of being a new creation is agreeing with God in our vocabulary, our word choices and our speech patterns. Why is this so important? Because...

Beliefs create thoughts... thoughts create words... words create worlds

Here’s a well-known Scripture to back it up.

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.” – Prov 18:21

If we are wise, we’ll speak things that yield good fruit. So, what kinds of things do we naively say that release Adam’s curse? Here are a few examples...

“I’ll do that till my dying day”
“... till my last breath”
“I swear and hope to die”
“Go break a leg”
“O, that just kills me!”
“We’re all gonna die someday”
“Only thing you can’t avoid: death and taxes”
“You’ll catch your death of pneumonia”
“I’m getting older... I’m losing my eyesight, mobility, memory”

**Beliefs create thoughts
Thoughts create words
Words create worlds**

We’ve all said these lines. They’re like spiritual junk food. We consume them without thinking, but they’re propagating the curse of Adam’s death sentence in our cells. It’s time for a new diet, a vocabulary of life. We can do this! We’re escaping Adam’s death sentence and moving into new creation realities. Check out this powerful passage:

“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” – II Cor 10:5

That verse is an ‘in your face’ battle-tactic suitable for kings. No need living a day longer in less than what God has already secured for us. The following activation is just one of the ways that we reprogram our minds (renew our minds) to embrace and create new realities in keeping with the Word of God.

Alignment Activation

Here is an [alignment graphic](#) to visualize the relationship that our spirit, soul and body have with each other and with God. Study or print this graphic so that you can get familiar with it in your mind. Here’s an overview of aligning our triune being.

First, we speak to our spirit, acknowledge it, bless it, call it up to attention and full height, and commission it into its proper leadership position over our soul and body (under Holy Spirit, of course). It's amazing how our spirit begins to stir and respond when we acknowledge Heaven's proper order for our triune being. The Spirit of God and our spirit begin to resonate in harmony with each other and then spill over into our soul. Actually, this Song of Solomon passage describes it pretty well.

*"My beloved reached into me to **unlock my heart**. The core of my very being **trembled at his touch**. How my **soul melted** when he **spoke to me**! My **spirit arose to open** for more of his touch. As I surrendered to him, I **began to sense** his fragrance, the fragrance of his suffering love! It was the sense of myrrh flowing all through me!" – SoS 5:4-5 TPT*



Second, we speak to our soul to be a great team player... to complement my spirit. Addressing our mind, will and emotions, we adjure them to provide strong support with harmonious intellect or emotions. And we notify our soul that it is not 'king' in our being anymore. Any contrary thoughts or feelings will have to bow to my spirit... my spirit is the rightful leader over my soul and body.

And finally, we bless our bodies to update to the new creation record of life and life more abundantly (Jn 10:10) that is resident within my spirit now. We rescind our agreement with death, and speak directly to our cells to throw off the record of death that wants to linger after we became a new *kainos*. We introduce our cells and body to a new paradigm... a new belief... and a new law of the Spirit of Life that resides within us now.

*"For the **law of the Spirit of life** in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and **death**." – Rms 8:2*

Here's a tip

Since I was a teenager, I have laid my hands upon my stomach and blessed my spirit to arise to full height and authority over my soul and body. (Remember Jesus said, "*Out of your belly shall flow rivers of living water.*" – Jn 7:38) As we address our spirit, we give it permission and instructions to release living water into our soul and body to upgrade them by the washing of regeneration and the power of Holy Spirit.

*"... but according to His mercy He saved us, through the **washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit**." – Titus 3:5*

The more we practice this exercise, the more our spirit will literally and quickly take the lead. This is such a long-held exercise in my life that nearly every time I engage this practice, I have physical sensations in my body which are a result of my spirit arising to take its place and my soul submits to take its appropriate place, also. This is a learned response... similar to muscle memory. It's an amazing blessing to be able to be

tangibly engaged with our own spirit!

Alignment activation (advanced)

By now, we know that we must get out of our big-boy brain mode. The mind wants a 10-step plan with footnotes. The spirit just wants permission to fly. We must adopt the child-like mode of simply believing and seeing with child-like eyes of faith. So, with that in mind let's move into this activation.

Engage your **spirit**... Recognize and see it (what does it look like), set it 'before' you, commission it to lead you and bless your spirit. This activation may lead to you 'seeing' your spirit for the first time. I believe that this will lead to a fondness and affection for your spirit... drawing you into more desire to function in one-ness with your spirit.

Acknowledge and commission your spirit as the rightful God-ordained leader of your three-part being. Grant it the authority to lead... and require your soul to follow your spirit. Inform your spirit to transfer spirit life to your soul and body and to bring your soul and body into proper order. Bless your spirit with courage and stature and authority to lead. And follow up with declarations of how well it is doing in boldness and leadership.

Engage your **soul**... 'Reach back' to your obediently waiting and supportive soul. Lovingly gather your soul 'in your arms' and bring it into this wonderful environment of being inside of God (Col 3:3). Speak affirmingly over your soul with commendations of how well it responds to your spirit. Gently but firmly inform your soul of its proper place of being in one-ness with your spirit... in servant-harmony with your spirit. Bless your soul to work in tandem with your spirit. Bless it to prosper well as a team player.

Bless your mind and emotions to give you strong support in keeping with the direction that your spirit is leading. Intellect and reason, feelings and attitudes must flow in harmony with your spirit.

Engage your **body**... 'Reach back' to your body and pull it into this Heavenly atmosphere. (Biblical reference: Enoch, Elijah and Jesus, all took their bodies to Heaven with them.) Instruct your body that this will become a normal mode for you. Instruct your body to expect a new 'law' to override and erase the old record of death that was lingering around from when we were sons of Adam. Now there is a higher law of the Spirit of Life that will take over transformational rulership in your body. Serve notice to your cells to adopt and conform to this new law of Life. They will begin to experience your youth being renewed... long life... even immortality and transfiguration.

For a more detailed prayer, click here: [Align our triune self](#).

Sum it up

The more we practice this exercise, the more our spirit will literally and quickly take the lead. Be advised, you may need to speak sternly to yourself at times.

"Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." - Eph 5:14

Remember, our spirit is fully alive and active and currently communing with God. But our soul may have assumed too much leadership over our spirit so that it may be difficult to 'get in-touch' with our spirit. When that happens, we speak to our soul to

submit and we commission our spirit to arise and lead our soul and body. This will take consistent practice. Don't give up! To stay engaged in this process, ask yourself, "How much do you want this reality functioning in my life?"

With practice, these dynamics will become default 1st nature to you. You'll begin to think this way as a normal mode of functioning in life. Learning to function in this divine order will grant us safe entrance into the Heavenlies and will become our tracks to travel throughout the Heavenly places.

Resources

Articles

Aligning our triune self with our Triune God - prayer

<https://tinyurl.com/yneectb9>

Alignment of our triune being – graphic

<https://tinyurl.com/ry7ce549>

Living in and from our spirit

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1BA>

Everything after their kind

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1Hp>

Videos

From fractured to whole – our 3-part being

<https://youtu.be/hrXVvwjP2Us>

Three part being – alignment diagram and prayer

<https://youtu.be/48kvDUSvvPk>

More aligning my being – with graphics and activation

<https://youtu.be/CO662ytM95E>

Aligning my whole being with Heaven

<https://youtu.be/CAwvGq2LqTQ>

Aligning our triune self with Heavenly order

https://youtu.be/w7_4wIPPbqs

Books

Beyond Human – Justin Paul Abraham

Beholding Trinity Through Relationship – Neil Fraser



ASCENDED LIFE STUDY COURSE

Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 4 – Dual realities of the believer

Our Heavenly paradigm revealed

Two realms simultaneously

Our newly revealed new-creation position in Christ is exciting and captivating. It's fresh, enticing and makes us eager to grow. But then, should we expect anything less? That is always the natural overflow of Jesus' Presence... because He came to give Life and Life more abundantly (Jn 10:10).

Heaven is becoming much more tangible and accessible than we've ever thought it could be. It's "like waking up from the longest dream!" (lyrics from singer Phil Keaggy) Can you feel it? Our spirit man is coming forward... our spirit is manifesting its ascendancy over our soul and body. Oh... and that feels REALLY good. It feels right... because it is the divinely correct order for our whole being.

The next thing we want to become aware of is that we've been invited to enjoy Heaven's activities, personalities and realities. At first this will be accomplished 'in the spirit'. In other words, our soul will begin to have more spiritual experiences of the Heavens – where our spirit is, currently – but our body will still be present on the earth. With that being said, here's a heads up: There is solid Scriptural precedent of saints leaving the earth with their physical body to 'travel' across earth and Heaven. My conviction is that this will become very commonplace in the not-too-distant future. There are many modern-day testimonies to this effect. We're going to learn how to live in Heaven and earth at the same time, with the Heavenly realm becoming even more real than the earthly realm. In other words, we're discovering that believers have dual realities.

Disclaimer: There is a religious belief called 'dualism' which separates God in the spirit realm from man in the natural realm. In that belief system, the two don't mix. Conversely, when I speak of dual realities, I believe that even though we may not be aware these two realms, they are intertwined and inseparable.

Heaven is real

Heaven is for real! And it's for now! Yes, we walk ON earth, but we've been invited to live IN and rule FROM Heaven, DOWN over the earthly places... while experiencing Heaven and earth simultaneously. God's original intention was for us to be aware of and live in the supernatural realm more than in the temporal realm. Unfortunately, most voices around us scream for us to give our full attention to this earthly realm. And most of the voices that would talk about Heaven would have us believe that experiencing the Heavenly realm is reserved for after we die. Of course this is JUST NOT TRUE! Jesus, our Supreme Model gave us examples that show how a mortal man can ascend into

Heaven while still living and breathing on earth. Here is a stunning example and one of our ‘blueprint’ Scriptures.

*“No one has **ascended** to Heaven but He who **came down from Heaven**, that is, the **Son of Man who is in Heaven**.” – Jn 3:13*

In Heaven and on earth

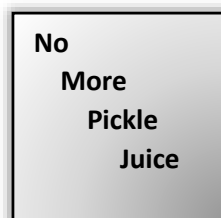
Jesus is referring to Himself in each instance in this verse... the One who ascended... the One who came down... and the One who is in Heaven. Just for reference; this verse is VERY early in His earthly ministry... long before Cross, the resurrection and His glorification. If that is true, how could He say that He had ascended? Because He had discovered how to ascend and descend. He had learned to traverse between the two realms. In fact, He lived in both simultaneously. One realm was not mutually exclusive or cancelling of the other. They had merged into one experience... all under Father’s jurisdiction and care. Jesus, being 100% man, has just set the example for us. So, this is doable!

To further make the point, think of this. Jesus is standing eyeball to eyeball and toe to toe with Nicodemus. Make no mistake, Jesus is fully in the flesh! But He didn’t refer to his mortal condition, rather, He anchored Himself in His Heavenly position by telling Nicodemus, “I am in Heaven.” His Heavenly reality trumped His earthly reality and He wanted to make sure that Nicodemus (and us) all knew it. To anchor this point, consider that Jesus is in the flesh on the Mount of Transfiguration, while at the same time His Heavenly glory shines forth! Both realities are happening simultaneously. Yay, God! I can hear you saying right now; This is for me! You right! It is for you!!

Jesus gave us these examples as our invitation to live in the same Heavenly realities with Him... now (Jn 17:24)! No delaying it until our ‘ticker’ stops. A host of Scriptures reference and establish this powerful fact. And this fact is easy to see if we use the right ‘glasses’ to view them. So now, while our feet walk on terra firma, we’re learning to live in and rule from Heaven, where we’re “*seated with Christ*” (Eph 2:6)!

Pickle juice

Unfortunately, this world has baptized and marinated us in the pickle juice of shame, insecurity and lack. And we’ve believed those diabolic lies. It’s time to drain the pickle juice of beliefs that has cut our faith off at the knees. Even as sons of God, we still operate nearly exclusively out of our ‘pickled’ state. We do this in our self-talk, in our conversations and even in our prayer life. Just listen to us talk about ourselves or our conditions the next time we talk to anyone... especially when we talk to God. Do you hear any ‘poor little ol’ me’ overtones... or do we rehearse the sad state of affairs... or do we pray outright beggar posture prayers just hoping for another morsel to help us make it till Friday. All I’ve got to say is, “No more pickle juice! I’m done with that!” So, what’s the antidote? The following quote says it quite succinctly:



“One of the most disbelieved scriptures in the entire Bible is found in Col. 2:10: “*You are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.*” This is the root of unbelief that gives rise to all of our struggles. When we do not believe we are complete in Him we spend our every effort **trying to become who God says we are**. We use our ‘faith’ to **get what God says we already have**. Our

prayer life is consumed with asking God to do **what He has already done** through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus!"

"Break the power of lack by persuading your heart that you are complete in Him. Memorize, meditate on, sing, say, and worship every scriptural promise that tells you what is yours in Jesus. (And, by the way, every promise God ever made to anyone, is yours in Christ (2 Cor. 1:20). Lose yourself in Him. Immerse yourself so deeply in your identity in Him that you have no sense of self outside of Christ! No lack can live in a heart that is complete." – Dr. James B. Richards

Did you catch that? Even our prayers reflect our beggar mentality because we're still slaves to the Liar and his lies. Believing his lies will prohibit us from being kings and kingly.

You are kings

But the Word of God says we ARE kings... co-heirs with Jesus and seated with Him in the Heavens! This MUST become our greater reality. We must throw off lies and unregenerated religious dogma. We must learn to think, see, speak, pray and rule from this reality. This newly emerging era needs and awaits us. And for perspective, this may sound grandiose, but what we're talking about is only a crack in the door of Father's incredible dream and design for us. As unbelievable as it may sound, He wants you to be *"filled with all the fullness of God"* (Eph 3:19). That's a mind buster right there! And that's exactly the point. We must get out of the mind and into our spirit.

In the beggar posture, we didn't have to accept responsibility for the rightness or wrongness of our prayers. We just cried out from our lack or pain whether it was real or perceived... and we let Almighty God do the sorting out. We didn't have any power anyway... it was all up to Him. Right?

No! That's not scripturally correct! Jesus said, *"I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy..."* (Lk 10:19). And this is NOT reserved for 'the millennium'... this is NOW! Friends, we've got a lot of growing up to do. We're going to have to require upgrades in our prayer type (ruling vs begging), our prayer focus (from Heaven toward earth) and our prayer topics (governance mindset). Listen to your prayer conversation to determine whether you've spent sufficient 'face-time' to get to know Father's heart so that you can pray authoritatively as His spokesperson and emissary of God.

"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God." – 1 Pet 4:11

Beggars ask for a handout. Kings issue a decree from a position they already hold. It's time to change our vocabulary because we've got a new identity and a new address.

Why is a Heavenly point of view important?

We've been instructed to speak as an oracle of God (an oracle means 'mouthpiece' of God). How can we do that UNLESS we've heard? It's impossible to speak as an oracle if we haven't heard? Think of this... if you have not heard a rhema FROM God, how could you possibly speak FOR God. Check this out.

"So, then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." – Rms 10:17

Evidently, it is not possible to have Biblical faith without hearing the Word (rhema) of God first! I know we say, “I’m just going to ‘exercise my faith’”... or “I’m going to take a ‘leap of faith’”. But by Biblical definition, that doesn’t qualify as true Biblical faith – UNLESS we’ve heard before we act. I think it’s commendable that we’re stretching and reaching for more... but we can’t call it true faith unless we’ve heard first. This may sound harsh, but what did our supreme example Jesus, say about this?

“For I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken.” – Jn 12:49

I wonder if this simple yet profound statement had any bearing on whether all of Jesus’ prayers came to pass? What do you think? Of course, we know the answer.

Hear first, then speak

It seems like we’re going to have to get to know the mind of God before we speak if we’re going to speak as an oracle of God. And how do we get to know His mind? By spending time with Him in the Heavenly places.

Think of this: If you are “*seated with Christ in Heavenly places*”... and if you are “*hidden with Christ in God*”, that sounds like an amazingly close proximity to be able to hear Father’s heart and the mind of Christ. Maybe that is why Paul admonished us to seek those things above and set our affections on things above (Col 3:1-2).

Consider the graphic below. See your position in Heaven... seated with Jesus and Father with Holy Spirit all around in that Throne Room environment. If you are a believer, that’s your reality! And that position is more profoundly impacting in your life than any position or title you could ever receive on the earthside. You are co-seated with Christ and He’s seated at the right hand of the Father (Lk 22:69, I Pet 3:22). Wow, wow, wow!

Heaven is inside you and it wants out!

This reality, my friends, will begin to consume us more and more and more! Here’s a perspective that may sound strange at first: Heaven is inside of you and Heaven wants out! Remember Jesus said the Kingdom of Heaven is within you (Lk 17:21). As we let Heaven out, it will overtake and overarch all earthside realities around us. Believe it!

In this graphic below, you can see that our place of reality and our rulership position will transition from earth-based to Heaven-based. In that position we speak with much more faith and authority. It doesn’t require our loud voices or even being physically present, because in the Spirit realm there is no mandated time or distance. So, we can speak from Heavenly places down into earth situations with great ease and authority – AFTER we’ve heard Father’s voice, of course.

We will cover this topic in much more detail in L2 S8. The point is that this revelation and ‘relocation’ will be revolutionary to ALL of our conversations with God. No more ‘earth-dweller’ perspectives. We are Heaven-based kings!

Trade old mindset for updated revelation

Here’s a revelatory quote from Joseph Sturgeon

“The last thing I want to speak to you about **will be the best and most freeing thing** we have spoken about thus far. You have done well up to this point. **One of the most profound things you can begin to trade is your revelation of your position. You are seated in Heaven.** There is no need to **pull things down** from Heaven. You are actually supposed to be administrating what you have already been given. It is time to transition away from receiving **from** Heaven to becoming the quantum-energetic resource of Heaven. **It is time to become the never-ending supply.** As long as you are looking to receive something from Heaven you will never shift into being Heaven's resource to the Earth and you will be bound to the Earth because of it. It is time for you to trade the mindset of **receiving things from God, on the Earth.... We must be what we learn in Heaven, then we become Heaven's resource on Earth.**” -

Joseph Sturgeon II - Treasures of Darkness - Vol 2 - pg 91

Are you getting it? Is there a stirring in your spirit? If so, this indicates an awakening... it means *“His spirit is bearing witness with your Spirit.”* (Rms 8:16)

The truth is that although we've been able to quote these verses and we know them to be theologically true, now, our Father has opened a great and effective door into the experiential reality of these truths. And along with that door, comes much grace to fill our well-established theology with practical encounter.

Graphic explained

The simple graphic below may help you visualize this powerful dynamic. This stick man represents you and me. Notice that his feet are on terra firma (earth). That is where all earth-based issues occur. But he's actually 'seated' with Christ in Heavenly places. This higher position is the greater reality. With this close proximity with the Godhead, we get the mind of God, we learn the nuances of God, and learn what to say as an oracle of God. From Heaven... and with God... we speak down into the earth places. We rule from Heaven over our earth spheres of influence.

Since each of us has been given authority over all the power of the enemy, by our governance, we create a canopy of Heavenly influence over all of our people and places that Father has given to us. How do we govern? We prophesy, we declare, we release, we proclaim exactly what Father has told us.

Notice that since you and I are in both the earthly realm AND the Heavenly realm, the idea of a 2nd heaven barrier is by definition removed from our reality. We are in both places at the same time. So, wherever we are, there is the possibility of a clear path of exchange between Heaven and earth. Of course, we can erroneously strengthen the negative 2nd heaven influence by how much we disbelieve our status and position in the 3rd Heaven. I think I can guess 'somebody' who might like that scenario. But he's a liar. And we don't buy into his lies anymore. Consider this quote...

“Wherever I go there is an open Heaven, because I bring it with me.” –
Bill Johnson

Ask yourself this; If I'm seated with Christ in Heavenly places, how much lack is there in this position? Should I recite begging prayers when I'm face to face with the One who knows me best and loves me most? Should I insinuate that He's been slacking on the job, regarding His care for me? I could go on... but you get the point.

We MUST retrain our hearts and mindsets to accurately reflect and experience the powerful theology that we would probably fight to the death to defend. I'm going to have to be more committed to becoming a Bible believing believer... AND a Bible experiencing believer. Notice all the Scriptural phrases on this graphic that validate the message.

Sum it up

God intended us to live in two realms – Heaven AND earth. We've lived most of our lives in earth mode. Father is inviting us into Heaven mode. It will surprise each of us how deeply the earth-based perspective has integrated itself in us. But Father is now sending mighty angelic partners to help us transition into our Heavenly inheritances. It'll take a while, but don't give up. This Heavenly door is going to overtake the world. The saints of God are becoming upwardly mobile!! Thank You, Father.

Activation - homework

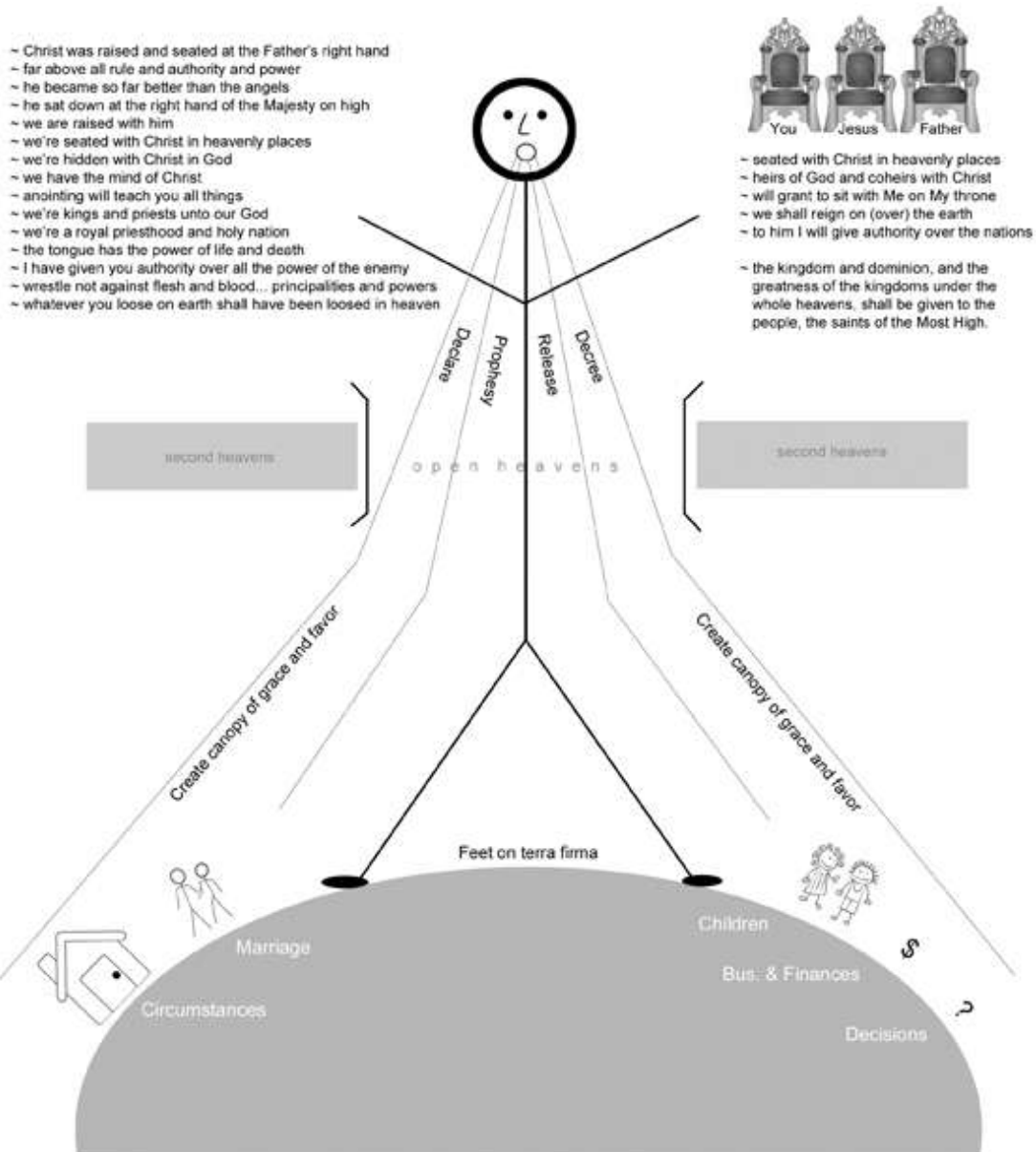
Try a fast... a unique type of fast... it's a fast from 'pickle juice'. Try fasting for one week from plaintive, beggar, earth-based prayers. Try praying only from Heaven... prayers like: releasing, prophesying, declaring and decreeing type prayers. This may feel awkward at first, but you'll find that it's much more in keeping with who you truly are. This fits your new creation inheritance in Christ.

Agree with God! You are a co-ruling king under the Great King of Kings. Are you ready, kings? Ok, no more pickle juice! Welcome to kingship in His Kingdom!

ASCENDED L

The Believer's Dual Realities

No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in Heaven. - Jn 3:13



Resources

Articles

Dual realities of the believer – No more pickle juice

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-73>

Transition, ascension, dominion... and beyond

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-13P>

Heavenly POV changes everything

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1Dq>

Videos

Shift our POV – Release Heaven's realities

<https://youtu.be/PpUtgZrINH4>

The Great Painter of Heaven is creating your Heavenly home

<https://youtu.be/7dS4ILy9PJc>

The believers dual realities

<https://youtu.be/KgME7sQ52Bw>

Heaven Is Here – song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fuY2NuQKTkY>

Books

The Merger – Ron Jones



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 5 – Accessing the Heavenlies

Jesus, the Door – our grand entrance

Your grand entrance

Are you ready for your grand entrance? Are you ready to make your grand debut in the Heavenly places? That's where we're going in Session 5. And it's much easier than you think. In fact, it's so easy that a little child can do it. About that, Jesus said...

“Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” – Matt 18:3

Wow! That is pretty emphatic! Sounds like we can't get in if we don't become childlike. Doesn't sound like there is much wiggle room on this matter. Sounds like the entrance policy is strict: all big-boy brains and intellectual baggage must be checked at the Door.

Relocation

We established in the last session that our Father wants us to relocate into the Heavenlies... to learn to live in both realms simultaneously with Heaven being the predominant realm. We highlighted Jesus' conversation where He told Nicodemus that He had ascended and was in Heaven – at the very same moment that He was talking with Nicodemus.

*“No one has **ascended** to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man **who is in heaven**.” – Jn 3:13*

This blows our circuits! Why would Jesus make this statement if He didn't want us to follow Him? Jesus is establishing a reality that is superior to earth paradigms. And whatever Jesus does, is what we've been given permission and authorized to do – and even greater (Jn 14:12). Try this paraphrase: Jesus did the low-level stuff so we could do the higher-level stuff! I'll bet that you're smiling right about now!

So, when was Jesus in Heaven?

Did you notice that Jesus was speaking present tense... not past tense or future tense. And this was way early in His ministry... WAY before the Cross or resurrection or glorification or being seated at the Father's right hand. While talking with Nicodemus, eyeball to eyeball, He said, “I am in Heaven.”

Jesus is proving that Heaven isn't that far away. In fact, Heaven is “within us” and “at hand” and “near” – all Biblical quotes. So, Jesus had learned to live in Heaven-mode more than in earth-mode.

Jesus, the Pattern Son... our Supreme pattern.

*For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be **conformed to the image of his Son**, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. –*
Rms 8:29

Make no mistake; whatever Jesus is, whatever Jesus was and whatever Jesus did, is exactly what Father has ordained for you and me... and more.

We should probably be assured by now that it's Father's will and joy for us to become familiar with His Heavenly realm. But we're going to continue to build the case that it is Father's desire for us to be with Him in Heaven NOW. Listen to Jesus' heart here, as He implores His Father...

*"Father, I want those you have given me to **be with me where I am**, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world." – Jn 17:24*

First of all, we see that Jesus wants us to be with Him where He IS – His actual words are "where I am". When you read this verse, you may ask, "So where is Jesus?" Remember, earlier in Jn 3:13 He said, "**I have ascended**" and "**I am in Heaven.**" And that is where He wants you and me to be with Him... NOW! Since most of religion hasn't embraced this possibility that a Heavenly reality is available to us now, they have put this verse off to sometime after we die. Sadly, this robs us of a very dynamic life while we're still alive and well on planet earth.

While we're looking at this verse it seems as though getting to behold His glory is reserved for those who learn to "*be with Him where He is*". Maybe we've been earth dwellers so long that we had forgotten that there was a Heavenly reality to be experienced NOW. Maybe our earth dweller mindset dumbed us down until we only saw ourselves as needy little frail earthlings, instead of kings and priests and more than conquerors, etc. Maybe we've been in the wrong position all this time. We've been trying to get Him to come down and show us His glory in our lives and meetings. But He wants us to come up with Him, so that we can see His glory! Wow! This will change everything!

Don't raise your hand if you've prayed these prayers

1. Please come Holy Spirit and rest upon us
2. Let Your Presence fall down upon us
3. O that You'd rend the Heavens and come down
4. Lord, we invite You to our Sunday morning service

I've prayed those prayers. It makes me uncomfortable now when I think about how many years I prayed these prayers. I'm bothered by knowing that I cast a frame of thinking over the people that heard me. I'm sorry! I pray that Father 'revelates' them with upgraded perspectives. Now I'm not saying that it's illegal to pray these prayers, but it would probably be good to explore your theology to see if this still accurately frames up what you believe. I know this perspective and practice is a long-accepted dogma in most of our churches. So, am I meddling too much? Maybe. But, may I meddle just a little more? Check out each of these brief commentary responses against the parallel prayers above.

1. I thought we were already filled with the Spirit... maybe He wants out now
2. But Jesus said He wanted us to come up with Him
3. This Old Testament prayer is 2000 years out of date... He already came down

4. Are you saying that He's not here already?

I'm sure that those prayers are coming from sincere hearts. My heart was sincere. But thank God that Father has a wonderful way of deciphering the deeper desires of our heart, no matter what words we pray. The truth is, those prayers were the best prayers that we knew to pray, at that time. But honestly, earthling beggar prayers are way below our true status! God knows that we are already seated in Heavenly places with Christ... we just haven't had anyone 'revelate' us with understanding and permission to experience Heaven now, at least in a meaningful way that was more than just a theological dissertation.

Assent or ascent?

OK... let's press on! Let's build the case that God really wants us in the Heavens.

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ." – Eph 1:3

This verse automatically begs follow-up questions.

How many Heavenly places are there?

How many places am I familiar with?

Where do I have to be to experience the spiritual blessings?

"Has blessed us" implies past tense... so we can experience Heaven now.

Wow! This little verse is power packed and leaves a WIDE-open door of invitation for research and exploration. I'll leave it to you to 'mine out the gold'.

Can you feel Jesus' delight as He sees you and me pondering these things? He longs for us to be with Him RIGHT NOW! Not just in a theological assent, but in an experiential ascent. O boy, I can feel His smile and joy at the thought of having His people with Him where He is now!

Theological assent
versus
experiential ascent

'Go up' for higher learning

*"Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and **all nations shall flow to it.**"*

***Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths."** For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.* – Isa 2:2-3

Did you notice when they get taught of the Lord? It's **when they 'go up'!** Did you notice where they learn to walk in His paths? It's **when they 'go up'!** And God will personally teach all who 'go up'. This my friends, is another one of our 'blueprint' verses.

Ascension - hallmark of the age

We believe that ascension will be a central commonality among all of the activities of the saints in this new age. Many will learn to 'go up'. Ascension is the central invitation of this new age. It is the requirement to be able to appreciate God's age-specific grace in this new age. And it is the hallmark evidence that will distinguish the saints in this emerging new age.

So how do we do it?

Now that we've established the precedent that Jesus set for us... and now that we've established that we're invited to live in two realities simultaneously, let's create our first pathway with a very familiar verse.

"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture." – Jn 10:9

Jesus is the Door to the sheepfold. We've got that! And if we enter by Him, we are saved. OK... at this point, it sounds like this is a salvation verse. Right? But what does the next phrase say - "and will go in and out and find pasture". Hmmm. Can this really be a salvation verse if **in is saved** and **out is not saved**? I don't think so! Jesus is NOT advocating being saved and backsliding... saved and backsliding. Then what is Jesus talking about?

I'm confident that Jesus is referring to moving in and out of the Heavenly spiritual realm. And in actuality, Jesus modeled this practice of going in and out, back in John 3:13, when He told Nicodemus that He had descended... and then ascended... and now (while He was talking with Nicodemus) He was "in Heaven". I believe this is the exact reality that Jesus was referring to in John 10:9. Jesus had been practicing going 'in and out' for much of His life. No big deal... this was a normal mode for Him.

The Heavenly realm is where our spirit was made to thrive. Anything else leaves us with less than the full potential of our complete three-part being. Our spirit man needs to be given permission to escort our soul and body in and out of the Heavenly realms. This is the larger reality which eventually will cause our whole being to thrive.

Thieves and robbers

What about accessing the heavenlies, the wrong way? Let's go back up to the beginning of John chapter 10.

*"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a **thief and a robber**." – Jn 10:1*

Jesus is telling us that there are other ways of entering the spiritual realms, but if you try any other way than the Door, you are a thief and robber. It usually doesn't end very well for thieves and robbers. None of us intentionally desires to be a thief and robber. So, what is the 'safe' way? If you engage Jesus the Door you will be **saved** from the consequences that thieves and robbers experience. That's easy to understand.

In John 10:1 Jesus is clearly telling us that there are other ways to access and experience spiritual realms. Here are a few of those ways.

Mind altering drugs, illicit sex, habitual sin, mantras, trauma, ecstasies, human trafficking, shedding of blood and sacrifices, witchcraft, etc.

Any of these ways are false ways of entrance. All of them are motivated by the three core carnal drives of humanity: greed, lust or pride. There are natural world dangers inherent with many of these and there are spiritual negative consequences that also accompany them. Jesus plainly declares that all perpetrators who enter other ways are called thieves and robbers.

Wrong way Saul

A notable example of a wrong way to access the spiritual realm, is when King Saul

solicited the witch of Endor to entreat Samuel. What was Saul thinking?! He knew that God absolutely prohibited this practice! We have to wonder how much brokenness he was feeling to commit such a gross atrocity. It's likely that Saul was so desperate for a word that he climbed in through a 'thief's window' because he felt that God had locked the front Door. It's a tragic picture of what happens when we seek supernatural experience outside of relationship with Him. In any case, that act is one of his last major sins that led to his fateful fall from kingship and the loss of his life.

Here's another motive for entry that we should mention, just for the record. Accessing the spiritual realm for entertainment, for soulish experimentation or for escape from boredom, should also be understood as being off-limits. Jesus is the Door. We must go through Him and that assumes that we are duly engaged in sincere relationship with Him as we engage His holy Doorway into the Heavenlies.

This brings us back to John 10:9. So, Jesus is saying that if you come through Me the Door, you will be safe... you have no need to fear. And guess what? You can go in and out and find pasture. What is pasture: It's 'food', nutrition, nourishment. This practice of going in and out will cause you to thrive.

Become like a little child

So, we're about to highlight a tried and tested way to access the Heavenlies. This is a big milestone! But, if you let your big-boy brain rule you at this point, you will be robbed. How do I know? Because my big-boy brain robbed me for several decades. I'm learning.

There are many other ways to 'ascend' but the following way has proven to be the easiest and more effective way. Tell your heart to have faith and expectation for a very meaningful meeting with Jesus and Father. Now, still your mind and quiet your heart. Is your mind still and quiet now?

Activation – Here we go...

Let your little-child-heart believe exactly what Jesus meant when He said, "I am the Door." 'Paint' and create a picture of a door using the eyes of your heart (Eph 1:18). Now, let's move toward this Door. Remember, this Door is Jesus... the kindest, most gentle and loving Man you've ever met. He's waiting with an open heart and open arms to greet and embrace you. Say, "Jesus, I believe You and really want You and I really love You. So, I'm accepting Your invitation to come in. Here I come." Now, gently and with tender love in your heart, gently walk in through the Door.

A moment ago, you were outside... and now you're inside Jesus! Just stop... and relax. Take it all in. You're IN Jesus (Col 3:3). Slowly breathe Him in.

Gently ask yourself what kind of experiences are available for us, inside of God. What could we feel here? Overwhelming love... safety... His touch... refreshing... comfort. Be patient... and receptive. Can you feel the green cool pasture grass under your feet (Jn 10:9)? Do you hear Heavenly music? Can you hear His soft whisper voice? Soak in the moment and in the atmosphere of Jesus. He's fully available, more than willing, filled with tender love for you and fully understands you. Let your sanctified imagination engage with reality. Savor the moment!

Most people are interested in presenting their needs at this point and if you have to, go

ahead. But what could it do for both you and Jesus, if you just enjoyed Him... and let Him enjoy you?

At this point, you may feel nothing... or you may feel His hand around your shoulders or feel Him pull you into his heart in a most complete loving and warm embrace. You may just feel peace and acceptance.

Let's go a little further. Since Jesus is sitting at our Father's right hand and you're seated with Christ, then that puts you very close to Father. Wow! Look to your left and up to Father's face. What are His eyes saying to you... acceptance... security... pleasure... joy over you. Again, try not to be agenda-driven in these moments. Try to fully immerse and enjoy the tender exchange of love between Him and you! Drink it in... this is pure love... no strings... no gotchas... no agenda.

Take your time. If you and He are engaged in something now, just stay with Him... do what He's doing. But if not, then gently ask Him, "Father, is there anything You'd like me to know about You?" Then wait... be childlike... be fully attentive... listen quietly. After waiting and listening an appropriate amount of time, you may want to ask Him another question, "Father, is there anything You'd like me to know about me?" Again, wait patiently... and listen quietly. Does Father want to say something else... or do something else with you... or take you somewhere? Just stay present... available and willing.

If your conversation with Father is finished, then let's proceed just a bit further. Since you are with Father, that means you're in Heaven. Let's take this opportunity to slowly scan the Heavenly places and personages here. Let me prompt your mind... but please take your time and see if Father wants to highlight something special and personal to you. Let's do a 360 degrees scan. You may see: Your dwelling place... the Throne... Sea of Glass... emerald rainbow... 4 Living Creatures... 24 Elders... the Lamb... streets of gold... gemstone gates... wheels within wheels... thrones... powers... innumerable angels in joyful assembly (Heb 12:22) and saints from every tribe, tongue, kindred and nation.

Now if Father, Jesus or Holy Spirit are not engaging you with something special, then let's move back toward Jesus the Door. We respectfully and lovingly and thankfully move back through the Door. "Thank You, Jesus! What an experience! I had no idea that it could be this easy. I look forward to going in and out just as You said in Jn 10:9. I love You, Jesus!"

Well, that's it! Heaven is so much more easily accessible than we ever imagined. It's possible that some of you didn't have any experience (sadly, that was my experience for many years... for reasons that I've mentioned earlier in this study course). Please don't be discouraged because I'm so happy to say that with practice this will change for the better. Some of you have seen, felt and heard things that were fresh, life giving and profoundly impacting. And some have employed the eyes of your heart to create the imagery, for the very first time in a spiritual application. Yay! And to think... this is just a first baby step.

Baby steps

Generally, when we begin anything, there is uncertainty and maybe even some doubt just like a baby's halting and faltering first steps. How many times of falling does it take before a life pattern is learned, tested, proven and becomes an exercise of near mindless muscle memory. With frequent practice, your ability to ascend in and out

Heaven will become your easy default. How many other spiritual things do you practice without mental gymnastics; speaking in tongues, prayer for your meals, declaring “God bless you”, etc. It should be natural that maturing believers frequently find new tools getting ‘installed’ into their being and into their practice. Thank God, we’re growing!

Remember, Jesus said that you will go in and out and find pasture. This exercise – or something like it – will serve as your Heavenly entry and exit until it becomes easy for you. If it wasn’t easy this time, no problem. Jesus is always available and delighted to be your ‘Door’. He gently motions for you to come again... any time. I imagine that this was one of the joys that He saw as He endured the Cross. Thank You, Jesus!

Group ascension

This also works very well for a group experience. By the way, group ascension is Biblical. The first one was with Moses and his elders. They actually had a meal with God up on the mountain.

“Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank.” – Ex 24:9-11

You can use the personal activation above to facilitate a group activation. Just be sure that the facilitator gives plenty of time for the people present to fully engage each component of the activation. The facilitator should be fully immersed in the activation and having their own experience along with everyone else. Then, after the activation, we usually solicit responses from anyone who would like to share what they’ve experienced. Almost always, there are tears... and some laughter... and aha’s!

Actually, we find that many people who have been believers for much of their lives, discover a brand-new dimension of experience with God, even though they have faithfully served Him for decades. This is immensely rewarding to me. And I’m always mindful of what Jesus and Father must think about an activation like this which creates a fresh new ‘on-ramp’ for their dear family that they love so much. I’m confident that Heaven is smiling.

Resources

Articles

Come on up here

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1dx>

Step through the Door

<https://youtu.be/AaQmLIAFMNY>

The Door, the stairway and the Father

https://youtu.be/W0Xgpf3_Y8M

The Kingdom of Heaven is advancing – the Door

<https://youtu.be/g-H49Ahsic8>

Heavenly POV Changes Everything

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1Dq>

Videos

Step through the Door – A guided ascension activation

<https://youtu.be/AaQmLIAFMNY>

Third Heaven activation – Bob Jones

https://youtu.be/M6t_IHl2BU4?si=gOR-xyxL2F28GkWl

Moving on through the Door

<https://youtu.be/GirdvHml1cA>

The Kingdom is advancing – the Door activation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-H49Ahsic8>

The Door, the stairway and the Father

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W0Xgpf3_Y8M



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 6 – Find my ‘on-ramps’

Different strokes for different folks

On-ramps into Heavenly places

Did you realize that your spirit is having Heavenly communion with God RIGHT NOW! There is no separation between your spirit and God's Spirit. Your spirit is enjoying the ecstasies of the Heavenly places, even as you read this.

“For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.” – Col 3:3

“For you are seated with Christ in Heavenly places.” – Eph 2:6

“He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.” – I Cor 6:17

Is that enough Scripture to lock it in for us? Unfortunately, not many believers are taught this. So, our objective must be to acclimate our soul (mind, will and emotion) into the sublime atmospheres that our spirit is enjoying. It's our heart and soul that we want to jumpstart and reposition.

It's vital that we exercise our heart and soul into flowing in unity with our spirit. The condition of our soul determines much of what we are and what we do. Look at this...

“Guard over your heart with all diligence, for from it flows all the issues of life” - Prov 4:23

Here's a fact: A vibrant and healthy heart is mandatory if I intend to live life victoriously. The state of my heart affects every aspect of my life. In other words, 'as goes my heart so goes my life'. It's imperative that I find a way to feed my heart so that it has the power to overcome life's issues. If my heart is depleted, then life's molehill trials will seem like Alpine mountains... and it's likely that I will respond accordingly.

How do I feed my heart?

How does a person feed and activate their heart? Sometimes a person's heart can feel sluggish... or even, asleep. What does it take to awaken it and make it feel alive? Does a person just try harder, grunt and sweat more? That method will likely, only serve to make it more difficult to find freshness. Well, here are some possibilities: 1) going to a special tranquil place, 2) finding a special relationship, 3) getting in a unique spiritual environment... or you can probably list a few ways that work for you. But it's important to note, that trying to use someone else's method to feed your heart will only be partially effective at best. So, whatever it takes, we each have to find our own personal on-ramps into an encounter with the presence of the Lord!

What are on-ramps?

In our highway systems, an on-ramp is the **point of entrance** onto an limited-access inter-state, motorway or freeway. It's quite likely that even though we may be within sight of a freeway, we still can't get on the freeway without an on-ramp.

Likewise, in the spiritual, even though my desire is to tangibly feel the Lord's presence, it may be difficult, unless I use one of my on-ramps... which then becomes a catalyst that softens and opens up my soul to experience God's presence. **I define my spiritual on-ramps as the 'vehicle' in which my heart is transported into heightened awareness of my Lord's presence.** And more often than not, these moments are accompanied by gentle tears. Each person's on-ramps will be very unique and will likely, in some way, reflect the personal motivational giftings and spiritual seasons of that person's life.

Initially, most of our on-ramp experiences **will find us...** in other words, we will be taken by surprise when we suddenly realize that we're in a holy moment. When that happens, it is important that we preserve those experiences by hallowing them in our hearts. For instance: Jacob hallowed God's encounter with him in Gen 28:18 by literally erecting a stone of remembrance. We must not let those experiences just slip through our lives and out of our memory. I believe our Father is lovingly watching to see how much we value His times of tender affirmation.

Document my on-ramps

Over the years, I began to realize that certain events, subjects and scriptures consistently and repeatedly unlocked my heart. I realized that I was beginning to discover my on-ramps. So, for over 20 years, I have carried a 3" x 5" piece of paper in my Bible with a list of over a dozen such on-ramps. When my soul feels spiritually dry or distant or callous, I pull out my on-ramps and recite them to myself and to the Lord. More times than I can count, this practice has yielded a tender heart so that I can begin to flow from my spirit and 'with the Spirit'. Documenting those experiences and revisiting the tender moments from them, lets me quickly access the Lord's presence in my private time... or even when I'm standing before people. In fact, some of my most effective times of speaking are when I use these on-ramps as tools to open a big 'heart door' for myself and for a whole group. Frequently, just holding this piece of paper, or just mentioning one line about one of the on-ramps will almost miraculously and instantly take my heart there. They will trigger a most satisfying spiritual 'muscle memory' in my inner being. It's rather uncanny but most wonderful! You see, those on-ramps have now become major 'doorways' into awareness of God and are accessible nearly anytime.

Just for the record

Our spirit is ALWAYS integrated into the God-head (remember Eph 2:6, Col 3:1-3). There is no need to ask for a visitation from God to get our spirit into God's presence. Our spirit is already in God and His Spirit is already in us.

So, when we talk about utilizing our on-ramps, we're not referring to the condition of our spirit. What are we talking about then? We're talking about the condition of our soul, which sometimes gets dry, dusty, callous, vexed, distracted, etc. Notice this Scriptural example.

*“Lot’s righteous soul was vexed day after day by their lawless deeds...” –
II Pet 2:8*

It’s even possible for this feeling of dryness to happen in normal day-in day-out life. We realize that our soul needs to be **renewed and regenerated** (these are Scriptural terms relating to our soul – Rms 12:2, Titus 3:5).

So, our on-ramps are one of the ways that God gives us to ‘engage our soul’ without our mind being in control of the moment. It’s like we ‘sneak in’ through the back door... through a secret God-designed passageway... into the core of our soul and take it by surprise. Our soul never even saw it coming, but it was unlocked in a moment and in a way that our cognitive reasoning could have never accomplished. And now that our soul is unlocked, it is set free from those preconditions, so that it can now respond and come into harmony with the contagious realities that are continuously pulsating in our spirit. At the same time, we’re authorizing our spirit to take leadership over our soul and body! When this happens, our soul and spirit begins to flow in unity, harmony and in proper divine order.

Training our soul and spirit

With repetition, our spirit learns to respond quickly and take its place of leadership. Our soul learns to submit to our spirit and support our spirit. It learns that we value and love this divine order of our spirit being in charge of my triune being. This learned response is not unlike an athlete’s almost involuntary ‘muscle memory’. Eventually, engaging with our spirit doesn’t require mental processing... all it takes is a brief thought or gesture or mention... and boom - ‘we’re in’!

Finding your on-ramps

Begin to take note of the times you encounter God. Do those encounters happen repetitively? Do they always occur when certain environments are in place around you? Are they initiated by reoccurring experiences, circumstances or a special Bible verse? Are you moved to tears or is your heart made tender in those moments? Then you may have discovered one of your on-ramps. Now document this on-ramp so that you won’t forget it. You’ll be able to revisit it in the future when you need to find a door into the tangible sense of the Lord’s presence.

The next thing: ‘mine out the gold’ from these on-ramps. Ask yourself what specific facets of those experiences unlock and move your heart. Answering these questions will not only give you greater awareness of the presence of the Lord, but will help you discover unique aspects of your own personality and spiritual DNA. Often these on-ramps are discovered through what I call ‘the language of tears’—those moments when God’s presence bypasses our logic and touches our heart so deeply that tears spill from our eyes. I write more about this in my blog post entitled [‘The Language of Tears’](#). When we document these times, we’re beginning to be good stewards of our spiritual identity, our growth and our future.

Larger application

Using our on-ramps is not only powerful for personal application, but even for a group. You see, each person and group has a unique personality. And for reasons that only God knows, He has created unique pathways that will ‘open up’ and empower that person or group.

When we're a part of a group that knows how to move in and move with Holy Spirit, wow, does it make the vibrancy and life of the group 'come alive'! We're learning how to corporately be in touch with our spirit... and to identify our own spirit's voice. This dynamic is also described as recognizing and responding to the 'witness of our spirit with His Spirit'. Learning to be led by our spirit will become one of our most valuable and empowering skills... (under Holy Spirit's influence). This skill will take us into Heavenly places that our mind could not possibly discover, understand or accomplish. O boy, I'm beginning to feel His affirmation, right now! So good!

Activation

I suggest that we visit one of my personal on-ramps. It's the powerful story of the love-struck maiden found in Song of Solomon chapter 3. In this story, she is love sick and wants to be with her beloved so much that she searches for Him through the streets in the night. She can't find Him. And those around her can't help her either. BUT THEN... she finally found Him and so strong was her love that she says, **"When I found Him, I held on to Him and would not let Him go!"** Selah!

**When I found Him I held Him
and would not let Him go!**

Did you feel that? Oh, it melts my heart nearly every time. There is passion and power in those simple yet profound words. And for some wonderful reason that I don't fully understand, her passion and her words make my heart tender and make it easy to feel real union with my Father. This story is just one of my powerful on-ramps. So, here is the complete selected passage (SoS 3:1-4). Read it slowly! Fully insert yourself into this story and let the sights, sounds and passions of yearning and the reward of fulfillment overtake you.

"By night on my bed I sought the one I love; I sought him, but I did not find him. "I will rise now," I said, "And go about the city; in the streets and in the squares I will seek the one I love." I sought him, but I did not find him. The watchmen who go about the city found me; I said, "Have you seen the one I love?" Scarcely had I passed by them, when I found the one I love. I held him and would not let him go..." – Song of Solomon 3:1-4 NKJV

How did it go for you? Were you able to enter into the story? Could you 'put on' the heart wrenching pathos of longing... and the overwhelming sense of satisfying fulfillment? If so, did it make you feel deep stirring emotion? Wonderful... maybe you've found one of your on-ramps. But if not, don't be discouraged, possibly you'll need to marinate longer until you're able to feel in-touch with the deep heart passions of this passage. And then again, maybe this is not one of your on-ramps. If so, what should you do? Keep searching... get some more glory on you!

"It's the glory of God to conceal a matter, but it's the glory of kings to search a matter out." – Prov 25:2.

Honestly, this is our kingly duty. A wise king knows his territory. He knows where the hidden springs are and where the fertile pastures lie. Discovering our on-ramps is like mapping the royal territory of our own heart to find the hidden pathways that will lead to a healthy and empowered heart. This is evidence of a wise and mature king.

Homework

Journal your on-ramps. Put your journal document in an easily accessible place. Practice holding this document between your fingers and giving it honor. Recount to God, the stories of each of the powerful moments on this list. Tell Him that these stories are holy ground between you and Him. Of course, He doesn't need to hear it again... but your soul does. So, inform your spirit, soul and body that you have recognized each of these on-ramps as doorways into times of refreshing. Remind your soul that you will be visiting these on-ramps often until they are etched indelibly upon your memory. Train your soul to learn the proper 'muscle memory' response when you engage this list. As you guard over your heart with all diligence, your heart and soul will learn to follow wherever you lead it. And that will empower you into free and easy access to the life-giving waters that flow 'out of your belly' (John 7:38) any time you turn aside to engage your spirit.

Sum it up

This is a powerful tool. You don't have to wish, hope, grasp or thrash around to try to find times of refreshing. Just engage your on-ramp. Now, that you know how to find and use your on-ramps, it's time to enjoy the freeway!

Resources

Article

On-ramps into God

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-ci>

Bouncing on 'E'

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-gU>

How's your heart? – Try this spiritual 'dipstick'

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-cl>

The language of tears

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-3N>

Got oil?

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1y1>

Videos

Have you discovered your on-ramps yet?

<https://youtu.be/5Em0i0-lHao>

Deep dive – Finding and using our on-ramps

<https://youtu.be/aLDn2eqYj-o>

How do you feed your heart? (Chinese translation)

<https://youtu.be/xwNkbTSOZdU>

How long has it been since I had tears?

<https://youtu.be/BfAiITl7dAE>

The gift of tears

<https://youtu.be/b-eoATmm8nE>

Books



ASCENDED LIFE STUDY COURSE

Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 7 – Must abide in the Vine

Greater intimacy required – enjoying God

Turn aside

I wonder what Moses thought when he saw the bush on fire? It was a very average day like every other afternoon in the last 40 years. He was tending Jethro's sheep near Mount Horeb when he happened upon this fiery bush. Was this scene a mirage... or a strange apparition of nature... or was it supernatural? At least one thing stood out: this burning bush wasn't being consumed by the fire. But my curiosity is piqued. What captured his attention... what made him 'turn aside'? Was it curiosity? Was he just bored and didn't have anything better to do? Did he have an inner witness that this was a God-thing?

What would you and I have done? Would we have been so consumed with our busyness that we just wouldn't have had the time to spare? Or have we trained our heart and spirit to notify us whenever there is unusual activity of God?

It turns out that God had the Angel of the Lord appear to Moses in the burning bush. I wonder if God was just trying to help Moses so that he didn't miss his window of opportunity. God is good that way. Sometimes we would likely miss our moment, but God helps us when we don't even know He's standing right in front of us. He's so good!

We're going to continue drilling down in this epic occasion to get more gold, because the simple gesture of Moses turning aside paid BIG dividends for him. Key details in this scenario are very relevant to us.

God is watching us

Yes, He's watching us... but not in the stereotypical domineering way that shallow minds perceive. Actually, He's watching with longing and searching eyes to see if we notice Him... to see if we want Him... to see if we really love Him and His Presence. His eyes are filled with desire, hoping that He's found a friend and partner with whom He can entrust His secrets.

"The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant." – Ps 25:14

Think of how much you love the friendship of a trusted confidant. There's a deeply satisfying reward in the bond and the exchange between your hearts. How much more is it true with our Father! He has never looked for or desired robotic automatons. He

has always wanted friends! In fact, Jesus spoke this message loud and clear in this passage...

*“No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but **I have called you friends**, for all things that I heard from My Father I have **made known to you.**” – Jn 15:15*

Voluntary lovers

As incredible as it may seem, the Supreme Potentate of the Universe desires something... and even more incredible, He desires you... He desires your friendship.

*“This is what the Lord says: “Heaven is My throne and the earth is the footstool for My feet. Where then is a house you could build for Me? And **where is a place that I may rest?** For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist,” says the Lord. “But **on this one will I look:** on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and **who trembles at My word.**” – Isa 66:1-2*

He's the great King who has EVERYTHING, yet there's still one thing that He longs for, and that is – voluntary lovers – people whose hearts are captured by the One Thing (Ps 27:4)... people who love His face, His touch, His caress, His voice... Turning aside is the spiritual equivalent of putting down your phone when someone you love walks into the room. It's a simple act that says—You are more important than what I'm currently doing.

Friend to friend

I'm not sure when Moses' friendship with God started. To be sure, Moses had his rough patches with God, but somewhere along the line, his heart became anchored in a relationship that rivals most others in history. In fact, his relationship with God was so tight that he argued with God... and changed God's mind... and among many other distinguishing hallmarks of Moses' life, he is the only person that God buried. How close was he with God?

“So, the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.” – Ex 33:11

Why are we belaboring this point? What relevance does it have to ascended life? Everything! The short answer is that we must learn to love His touch and voice if we're going to traverse through the Heavenly places.

This will take a while to unpack, but hang with me as we drill down further. Let's go back to Jesus and Nicodemus. Jesus said...

“If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?” – Jn 3:12

You see, Jesus had been using earthly parables to convey some of the parallels between earth and Heaven. In other words, there are some earthly realities that accurately reflect Heavenly realities. Here are a few examples: sowers, seeds, springtime and harvest, birds, flowers, talents, vineyards... birth and death... to name a few. In each of these earthly illustrations is a component that Jesus used to convey a Heavenly truth, premise or quality, etc.

But this day, Nicodemus is having trouble understanding these basic parallels. Now think with me... all of these parallels were 'low-level' building blocks to help us understand a Heavenly application. But today Jesus wanted to give Nicodemus a Heavenly truth for which there was NO earthly parallel. I want to say that again... There was NO earthly parallel for what Jesus wanted to present to Nicodemus! Did you grasp the depth of that statement? The Son of God wants to give us something that has never been seen before on earth! But Jesus ran into a problem. What Jesus encountered in that moment might be likened to a plane on final approach to an airport, and the pilot realizes that for whatever reason, the runway is unsuitable to land on. That day, Jesus probably heard Father sharply say in His headset, "Pull up, Pull up! This landing is not going to work today!" There was going to be no landing with Nicodemus today. Later in the book of John, Jesus actually elaborated on this problem.

*"I still have **many things** to say to you, but **you cannot bear them now.**" – Jn 16:12*

Ease His pain

Does this fact hurt your heart? Can you empathize with what Jesus felt? Here was the Prince of Peace, the Savior of the world, the Friend of sinners... He wanted to share His secrets and there was no place suitable to land the plane. Sad... almost makes me want to cry! Our best friend ever, couldn't share His heart with us.

Hypothetical scenario: I've thought about this scenario countless times. If I was there, I would like to think that I would have stepped up to Jesus and said, "Time out, Jesus, could we just try one of those things that You wanted to tell us! Can we just try it on for size? I'll try to believe You with all my heart." I would hope that my mind wouldn't get offended at Jesus' words. I'd hope that I would have been able to hear, embrace and implement all that He said. I don't know if I could have, but my heart really aches to be able to be one of those with whom He could feel the delight of sharing His secrets.

Did that last paragraph move your soul? Did your spirit give a 'witness' to His Spirit? Oh, I hope so! It rumbled through my soul, big time... like the experience that the two on the way to Emmaus had when their hearts burned within them.

"Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" – Lk 24:32

I wish we could 'camp out' right here for a while. This is so rich! Maybe you and I could take a *selah* and let our hearts marinate in this moment. More, Lord!

We turn: God speaks

OK, let's go back to Moses. The wonderful fact is that Moses did turn aside. And now we're getting down to the crux of this session. What happened when Moses turned aside? How did that impact God's heart? What did God do when He saw Moses turn aside? Listen to this...

*"So, **when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."**" – Ex 3:4*

Moses' turning was the catalyst that began the conversation. God called out to him... and even called him by name! O, there's so much in this moment! I imagine that this is where God and Moses began their mutual relationship. For sure, Moses began to realize that God knew His name and desired relationship. This speaks VOLUMES to any son or daughter of God. Out of our depths erupts a visceral response – "He knows ME!!" When God calls us by name, it answers the most nagging questions. Deeper than we can understand, we become confident that – **He knows ME!** It stills our insecurity. We now know – **He cares!** It empowers us to be courageous – **He's with me!**

Now the conversation and relationship can begin the building process. Moses is instructed to remove his shoes and the plot thickens with God establishing His sovereignty, holiness and Lordship over his life. At this point Moses realizes he has just met The One to whom all else must bow. All Moses can do is hide his face. But now that we've got that cleared up, God begins instructing Moses about his life mission.

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the affliction of My people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their oppressors, and I am aware of their sufferings..." – Ex 3:5-7

Epic outcomes

Who knew that that one very simple little gesture of 'turning aside' could yield such an epic outcome! This my friends, is at the core of any mature relationship with God. We must learn to 'turn aside' every time He whispers... every time we feel that gentle nudge... every time we feel that inner prompting. When our response becomes predictable and historical, that's when we've begun to qualify as being a resting place for God (Isa 66:1).

**Whenever a person
turns to the Lord
the veil is removed.**

Let's make one more point to help seal the deal. Paul said...

"...but whenever a person turns to the Lord the veil is removed." – II Cor 3:16

There it is! Turning aside is HUGE in God's eyes. When we turn, He takes away the blinders... and the fog begins to lift. Can I say, that's when revelation begins to flow.

And we're going to take this much farther in L2 S4. We'll highlight turning aside and emphasizing how mandatory it is... and we'll define its benefits in the Heavenly places. We'll make applications to discerning Heavenly entities and moving into unknown frontiers and moving in time. At this time we're establishing the mandatory fundamentals, so that we can begin to construct the framework of our Heavenly inheritance in future sessions. Fun, Fun!!

Activation

Let's put ourselves in this Bible passage with Moses (Ex 3:1-7, 13-15). Please read slowly through these selected verses with frequent stopping between phrases. 'See' yourself walking along with Moses on any average day. You've been thinking about your flock of sheep... dinner... and your last 40 years of shepherding. You happen to

see a strange sight: a bush is on fire and it doesn't get consumed. Then you realize an Angel is in the Flame. Let your heart and soul feel all the passion of wonder and compelling attraction because you feel that unique attraction that you've come to know as 'His Presence'. You know this is a rhema moment for you. You drop everything and even though you don't know where this will end up, you know your Father has never disappointed you. He wants YOU... and this will be good!

YHWH begins to speak to you from out of the bush. He affirms you... He calls your name. Your heart responds with deepest respect and reverential fear... and you're also filled with deepest love and affection. As you and God both mingle your wines of love, your mind begins to clear and becomes more single. The blinders and fog lifts... and He begins to impart identity, inheritance and commission. You were made for this! This is the beginning of the merging of Heaven and earth... the union of God and man. You came into the Kingdom for this!

Please take your time as you move through the above activation. Don't rush it. Savor each moment. Let Moses' story be your storyboard, but if Father takes you on a tangent, then by all means follow Him. He'll always do right by you!

Sum it up

When we get right down to the nitty gritty, there are only a few core issues that determine everything that follows in our walk with God. This is a big one...

Do we respond when He beckons?

We either become a servant or a friend based upon this heart-level response. We either stand afar off, as a spectator, and wishfully talk about Him as if He's the latest blurb in the news... or we draw near and enjoy the oneness of being His bosom friend. Oh, I can hardly write this without being overwhelmed with the delightful pleasure that our Father has in His wholehearted voluntary lovers who respond easily to His nuances.

Blessing

I declare that you will have just such a heart. You will be very good at being an easy responder to Him. And you will experience the fulfilling Emmaus burning of your heart that serves as a witness to the deep oneness you have with your Father. You are going to be really good at being His best friend! Amen!

Resources

Articles

Autonomy... or Abiding in the Vine

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-Dk>

How can I feel God?

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-4h>

Videos

Turn aside and take another drink

<https://youtu.be/GYPv-DNCRTQ>

ALC distinctive – intimacy and tenderness with God

<https://youtu.be/OWxk8VUcWE4>

The nearness and the tenderness of You

<https://youtu.be/GibVb3fUkZE>

Cultivating a tender heart

<https://youtu.be/JZB0EsYAsM4?si=r3xZW8KABmu1-41>

How do you turn?

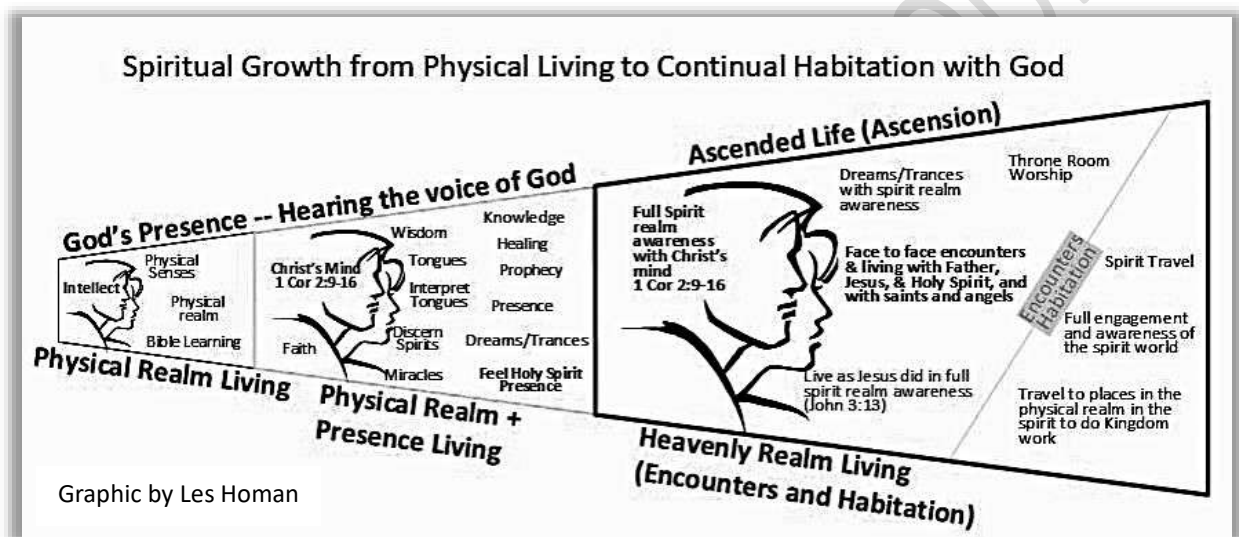
<https://youtu.be/HX22xmUtVQI?si=d9M3bOosdMsPdZX1>

Those eyes! – intimate prayer

<https://youtu.be/1NLsWoNg56g>

Books

He Qualifies You – by Chad Mansbridge



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 8 – Seeing and hearing are part of our inheritance

Golden senses and our seven gateways

It doesn't seem fair

It just doesn't seem fair that some people are able to see in the Spirit even from a young age. And then there are those like me who, through much of my life, have seen in the Spirit very little. I've always thought of myself as being a 'knower' and a 'feeler'. Somehow, I just 'know' things that can't be known by the natural mind. And I 'feel' the stirring of the Spirit of God very easily. My father and mother were a big asset to me, in that regard. They loved our Lord's dear presence... and as a family, we went to great lengths to be in His Presence... even traveling great distances to be in anointed meetings. I'm sure that helped to train my knowing and feeling. But I always wanted to see like those who could simply read the ticker tape that was scrolling across the screen of their mind. It wasn't until the last 5 or 10 years that I've begun to see more easily in the Spirit. This development makes me very happy! I love growth!

Seven 'gateways' of access

Although seeing and hearing have been the most common ways of receiving Heavenly 'communications', the way I understand it right now is that we have at least seven 'gateways' through which God can give input to us. Sometimes I ask people, "Have you got your antennas up?" In other words, have you activated all of your 'receiver' capacities? Each gateway, which is like its own antenna apparatus and requires a different 'decoding' method. Strange as it may sound, it's possible to be receiving 'signals' but not even be aware of it. The truth is, each of these gateways requires learning a new language. In fact, to make the point, sometimes I ask people, "Through how many different languages can God speak to you?" We want to become skilled at monitoring each of those gateways, because they each utilize a different 'language' medium through which God conveys His heart and mind to us.

I'm confident that we will accrue more gateways in our spiritual and Heavenly journey, but for right now, these seven gateways are the most easily understood and embraced.

See, Hear, Feel, Smell, Taste... plus Imagination and Knowing

We'll unpack these gateways further in this session, addressing the validity, the benefit and the 'how-to' of each one.

God promises spiritual sight

So let's begin with sight... or seeing in the Spirit. Among the many wonderful things that we could give praise to our Heavenly Father about is His promise that we would see.

This is a huge **'gateway'** through which God helps us understand His mind and will. Let's read...

*Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that **if you would believe you would SEE the glory of God?**" – Jn 11:40*

*"The one who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and **I will love him and will reveal Myself to him.**" – Jn 14:21*

As you know, God doesn't lie. So, this gives us more faith to believe that our own capacity to see, will mature.

To emphasize the point that sight is God's design for us, consider what He asked Jeremiah, "What do you see?" (Jer 1:11, 13), and Amos, "What do you see?" (Amos 7:8, 8:2) and Zechariah, "What do you see?" (Zech 4:2, 5:2). God's reality for us is that we can see! Whether we think we can see or not, God's design is for us to see.

Golden senses

What do we mean by the term 'golden'? As we mature, the objective is that all of our natural senses will become 'golden'—meaning that with discipline and exercise our senses become trained to yield to Holy Spirit and support His emphasis' at that time. This is a huge tool for moving us further into full spiritual awareness and receptivity.

Imagination / Golden Imagination

I think one of the biggest helps God gave us in the growth process toward seeing spiritually is discovering that we can begin with our imagination. We start out with using our natural imagination. Then as we train our imagination, it grows into what we call, our 'golden imagination'. Golden simply means that our imagination has been trained and matured to support and 'display' Father's thoughts and intentions. This process has to start somewhere, so let's step into it.

I've only met a very few people who cannot picture anything in their minds. Almost everyone that I know, can imagine. So, let's try this purely natural world exercise...

Imagination activation

First, let's imagine an elephant. Construct pictures in your mind from these word descriptions: See a tall 5-ton roundish grey animal, a long flexible trunk with large wrinkles and two stubby 'fingers' on the end, tree trunk legs with no toes but with large toenails, a disproportionately short skinny tail with a wiry-haired end and huge floppy ears.

See, this is pretty easy, right? We do this all the time. And we could have easily engaged our other senses as well, such as: What does an elephant smell like? What does it sound like? etc.

Now, let's address the real elephant in the room. We're going to transition our same imagination faculty to picture things in the Word of God. In other words, we're going to give the eyes of our hearts permission to create pictures and scenes in keeping with the narrative found in the passage of Scripture that we're reading.

Put yourself in the Bible scenes

In his book 'How to See in the Spirit' (see Resources below), Michael Van Vlymen describes his desire and his growth in seeing in the Spirit. Here's one of his quotes:

“Practice using your imagination by putting yourself into biblical scenes... or imagine the visions that John & Ezekiel describe as if they are happening to you. What will happen is that you will find yourself being ‘pulled’ into these visionary experiences. The doorway is your imagination.” – Michael Van Vlymen

I suppose some people could be squeamish about using imagination to create internal pictures of Jesus. But I have to ask myself this question, “What could possibly be wrong with believing that the Word of God is true and entering into the poignancy of the passion and the scenery of these passages?” I can’t in a thousand lifetimes believe that God has a problem with this. We all believe in meditating upon the Word of God... and this is just one part of meditating. This is a most POWERFUL tool to begin to activate our seeing skills. Before long, you will not have to jump through hoops to be able to ‘see’ anything that is in the printed Word of God. Thank You, Lord!

Activation – Enter Scripture

Now let’s give this exercise an application. I’ve selected a few very intimate and gushing expressions that the Maiden in Song of Solomon had for her Beloved. Let your imagination ‘paint’ pictures for each of these descriptives. Slowly read these descriptive phrases and let your imagination paint full color pictures for you. Activate all of your senses; hearing, smell, touch, etc. And give your emotions permission to feel the full gamut of desire, anticipation, passion, elation and joy, etc. Take it slow! Take your time.

SoS 6:2-3 (TPT)

“My lover has gone down into His garden of delight, to the flowerbeds of spices to feast with those pure in heart.”

“I am fully devoted to my Beloved, and my Beloved is fully devoted to me.”

SoS 6:11-12

“I decided to go down to the valley streams where the orchards of the king grow and mature. I longed to know if hearts were opening. Are the budding vines blooming with new growth? Has their springtime of passionate love arrived?”

“Then suddenly my longings transported me. My divine desire brought me next to my beloved Prince, sitting with Him in His royal chariot. We were lifted up together!”

SoS 5:10-16 (TPT)

“He alone is my beloved. He shines in dazzling splendor yet is still so approachable – without equal as He stands above all others, outstanding among ten thousand!”

“The way He leads me is divine. His leadership – so pure and dignified as He wears His crown of gold. Upon this crown are letters of black written on a background of glory.”

“He sees everything with pure understanding. How beautiful His insights – without distortion. His eyes rest upon the fullness of the river of revelation, flowing so clean and pure.”

“Looking at His gentle face, I see such fullness of emotion. Like a lovely garden where fragrant spices grow – what a man! No one speaks words so anointed as this one – words that both pierce and heal, words like lilies dripping with myrrh.”

“See how His hands hold unlimited power! But He never uses it in anger, for He is always holy, displaying his glory. His innermost place is a work of art – so beautiful and bright. How magnificent and noble is this one – covered in majesty!”

“He’s steadfast in all He does. His ways are the ways of righteousness, based on truth and holiness. None can rival Him, but all will be amazed by Him.”

“Most sweet are His kisses, even His whispers of love. He is delightful in every way and perfect from every viewpoint. If you ask me why I love Him so, O brides-to-be, it’s because there is none like Him to me. Everything about Him fills me with holy desire! And now He is my beloved – my friend forever.”

If you are in a full-blown encounter with your Beloved, don’t be in a hurry to go any further. Stay with Him. He’ll always do you right.

So how did it go for you? Was your imagination able to help you get started? Most people find at least some ‘success’ in this kind of exercise, but the good thing is that we can grow! When we mature in this skill of using imagination to support and enhance the Word of God with visuals, then we can begin to use our imagination to enhance the rhema words that God gives us.

Tip: Being around others who see in the Spirit can ignite our imagination into vivid action. Sometimes all another person has to do is mention what they’re seeing and that will be the spark that launches our faith to see.

What about carnal imagination

Obviously, imagination can be carnal and used for carnal purposes. God speaks against prophesying out of our imagination.

*“Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who are prophesying. Say to those who **prophesy out of their own imagination**: Hear the word of the Lord!” – Ezk 13:2*

*“Above all, you do well if you recognize this: No prophecy of scripture ever comes about by the **prophet’s own imagination**.” – II Pet 1:20*

*“...**casting down imaginations, and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God**, and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.” – II Cor 10:5*

So, imagination can be carnal... and God specifically singles this practice out. Do not go there! But if you think about it, EVERY OTHER SENSE that we have can also be used in polar opposite ways. Yet, we continue to use our sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste, etc. For instance, God speaks very critically of the destructive power of an unbridled tongue (Jms 3:2-12). But He also esteems the practice of speaking as an oracle of God (I Pet 4:11). So, for sure, the negative possibility does not negate the overwhelming Godly benefit of positive usage! So, it is with imagination!

Imagination esteemed

OK, I think we’ve got it. Here are a few verses esteeming the values of using our imagination...

*“O Jehovah, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, **keep this forever in the imagination** of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee.” – I Chron 29:18*

*“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably **more than all we ask or imagine**, according to his power that is at work within us.” - Eph 3:20*

*“I pray that the **light of God will illuminate the eyes of your imagination**, flooding you with light, **until you experience the full revelation** of the hope of His calling that is, the wealth of God’s glorious inheritances that He finds in us, His holy ones!” Eph 1:18 TPT*

Did you catch that Paul saw the progress of imagination leading unto full blown direct revelation? He prays that God will shine on your imagination to the point that you begin to experience the full revelation. Imagination is the powerful tool available to us which can bridge between not seeing at all... until we are able to see direct Heavenly revelation without using our imagination. Imagination is an AMAZING tool Father has given us.

Follow this sequence

We start with 1) **basic imagination**, then activate 2) **golden imagination**, then receive 3) **direct revelation**, then we transition into 4) **actually experiencing Heavenly places** in ‘real time’. (See the Spiritual Growth graphic in the Resources below.) The following is a great personal story which lends support to this sequence.

In my blog post referenced in the Resources below, I traveled in the Spirit 500 miles to visit my buddy, Paul. I have no shame saying that I started out with my imagination and golden imagination because I knew I was following Holy Spirit’s prompting. But then my awareness suddenly switched to a Heavenly encounter where I wasn’t initiating anymore. Heaven ‘took over’ and ‘fed’ me the next crucial parts of this experience. The proof of whether this encounter was real was evidenced in the follow-up results! I’m confident that when you read this story, it will inspire you with faith for your own journey.

Sight Growth Process

Start with

- 1) **basic imagination**, then
- 2) **golden imagination**, then
- 3) **direct revelation**, then
- 4) **actually experiencing Heavenly places** in ‘real time’.

Become like a little child

For many people, including myself, the journey into seeing in the Spirit begins with imagination, just like a child. A child has no problem creating an inner reality based upon simply believing what they heard! In fact, Jesus put a high value on this quality...

*“Truly I say to you, unless you change and **become like children**, you **will not enter the kingdom of heaven**.” – Matt 18:3*

Did you catch the consequence of not becoming like a child? It’s not good! You won’t enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. Wow! That is really direct!

Refocus

A very helpful insight is to consider how we can choose to focus our natural eyes on different aspects in our field of view.

Try this. Hold your open hand in front of you and stare through your open fingers, at the wall on the other side of the room. While you are focused on that wall, notice that your

fingers are blurry and out of focus. Now, shift your focus onto your fingers. Notice that the wall goes blurry and out of focus.

This principle will likely be a useful tool to employ the next time you are exercising your spiritual sight. Try to adjust your focus from the natural realm to the spiritual realm. Blake K. Healy explains this principle very well in his book entitled 'The Veil'. (see Resources below)

"I've seen angels, demons, and other spiritual things for as long as I can remember. I see them **whenever I have the mind to look**, and I see them with my eyes, just as I would see you if you were sitting in front of me."

"When You're driving a car, you can look through the windshield and pay attention to the scenery, the road, and other cars (which is probably what you ought to be doing). **Or you can look at the windshield itself** – the glass – and all the particles of dust and water spots on it. Seeing in the spirit is not all that different. **You can focus on what is happening in the physical world, or you can focus on what is going on in the spirit world.**" – Blake Healy

Activation – Focus / refocus

With eyes closed, 'look' around your room. Then do the same thing with your eyes open. Practice shifting your focus from the temporal realm to the spiritual realm. Try not to fixate on any specific physical aspects of the room. Look for something that can't normally be seen in the natural.

Remember that Scripture says that we do NOT have a veiled face (or sight) any longer. Remind your mind and your eyes. We must embrace God's perspective of this... we do not have a veil... thus we can SEE! Our ability to see will increase as we exercise our 'sight'.

Biggest hurdles

Our own logic gets in our way. Think of Jesus and Peter out walking on water. Peter's heart and faith led him at first, then his logic dragged him down.

Over 40 years ago, our close friend Bob Jones would say, "How about after dinner, let's all go to Heaven?" I wanted to go. I had no resistance that I knew of. I tried to not over-process the experience. But still, I didn't see or feel anything. And similar times with Bob came around again, 20 years later. By this time, Debbie and I had teenage children. And you probably guessed it; Debbie and our children had meaningful experiences, but my mind was mostly blank.

In retrospect, I feel that my problem was that I had a 'fat head'. Remember Jesus' words in Matt 18:3 about not being childlike? I had a big boy brain and my head was too fat to get through the 'door'. I didn't think so at the time. But little did I know that it would take another decade or so for me to become more childlike. But thank God, I can see in the Spirit more easily now. I've still got a long way to go, but I sure ain't where I used to be! Thank You, Lord!

Spiritual resistance

Up till now we've talked about the natural aspects of seeing and learning to see, but it is possible that a spiritual component may need to be addressed.

Acts 9:18 – *"something like scales fell from Paul's eyes"*... then he could see.

Michael Van Vlymen says that these scales may be demonic devices. “The primary things that I’ve discovered in my own experience were veils, scales, demonic devices and devils.” So, what removes them? Michael goes on to say, “It’s things like repentance, forgiveness, sanctification and warfare.” - How to See in the Spirit by Michael Van Vlymen (see Resources below).

Speaking of unveiled

When it comes to considering our feelings and circumstances versus the Word of God, which one is more real? I wonder which one we should give more credence to? Well, of course, we know that the Word of God is more real! So, sometimes all we need to do is ‘shake off’ any thought, feeling or circumstance that contradicts God’s Word. For instance: When God says that we have unveiled faces, then we must do violence to any contrary thoughts. Here’s a great verse in two translations regarding our ‘unveiled face’ before our Lord!

*“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 by the Spirit of the Lord.” – II Cor 3:18 NJKV*

*“But all of us who are Christians have **no veils on our faces**, but reflect like mirrors the glory of the Lord. We are transfigured by the Spirit of the Lord in ever-increasing splendor into His own image.” – II Cor 3:18 Phillips*

As we learn, the progress could be slower than we hoped and we might be tempted to say... I can’t see... I’m not graced for seeing... or I don’t have that gift. When those thoughts try to dominate our thinking, we must *“take every thought captive and make it come into obedience to Christ”* (II Cor 10:5). The Word of God says you can see... and there is no veil over your face. Be brave... be decisive... exercise governance over your mind and soul so that they don’t run roughshod over Father’s design for you.

Ditches on either side of the road

This growth process has potential pitfalls along the way. Here are a couple of polar opposite ‘ditches’ that have to do with our motivation and attitude. 1) Insecurity and fear may make us too hesitant to even try to activate our imagination ... or 2) arrogance and naivety may make us so presumptuous and flippant that we assume every imagination that enters our mind is of God. The ditch of insecurity says, “It’s probably not God.” The ditch of arrogance says, “It’s probably all God.” The road to maturity says, “Father, will You help me travel the center of the road with You.” There are dangers and potential excesses along this way, but to opt out of the growth process because of these possible dangers is not acceptable. Growth only happens when we apply ourselves with exercise. Remember...

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

What promotes growth? Exercise and practice! I don’t know any better place to start than by activating our imagination. As we overcome our mental hurdles... and our religious hurdles... imagination will become a great bridge into the wonderful world of seeing in the Spirit realm.

Flowing with the Spirit of God

Flowing with the Spirit is a high priority with us. We don’t want our unbridled brain impulses and excitable thoughts to distract us. If we are to rule and govern from the

Heavenlies, we must be able to rule over our own mind. We must make our mind become subject to our spirit and the Spirit of God.

Question: How do we know if we're flowing from our spirit and with the Spirit?

My answer is going to be very subjective, but here are a few things to consider. We must pursue maturity until we are able to determine the difference between **1) excited mental moments** and **2) deep spirit stirrings**. One happens in our head... and the other happens in our spirit (belly region). You may want to ask yourself: Does my experience create God-tears... or does it make me think of mere facts and truth? There are many other uniquely personal ways to assess the origin of your impressions, but you'll have to 'work out your own salvation' regarding these specific personal methods. This skill will become very crucial as we transition into living, moving and having our being in the Heavenly places.

Activation - Come to our senses

In a moment, we'll engage each one of our seven senses – one at a time. These seven become our primary and elementary '**gateways**' to engage with God. They are like doorways that God has created in our early development through which we can access the Heavenlies.

See, Hear, Feel, Smell, Taste... plus Imagination and Knowing

We'll focus on each individual sense and engage our natural senses first... then after giving full attention to our natural sense for a short time, we'll refocus our attention to our parallel spiritual sense.

Remember, we are in exploratory mode. We're starting out just like a baby learns to walk. Father is excited about you taking your 'first steps' in this exercise. He's cheering for you! Come on, you can do it! Don't be afraid to try. Don't strain or 'sweat'. Make sure that your eyebrows aren't furrowed and your hands and feet are relaxed. Evidences like this will tell you whether you are operating from your brain or from your spirit. Relax and enjoy this important opportunity to encounter God in a new way.

After you engage each of your physical senses, then try to refocus using your spiritual senses. Remember Blake Healy's insight about refocusing? Can you distinguish between your natural sense and your spiritual sense? Tip: Instead of thinking with your head, try to think with your 'belly'... your spirit. (Remember, "*out of your belly will flow rivers of living water*".) Allow plenty of time to engage each of these exercises. Don't be too hard on yourself if you aren't experiencing 'success' right now. We're in a 'classroom' and our Father is committed to helping us learn!

Here are a few Scriptural references to support these senses:

O taste and see – Ps 34:8

Your oils have a pleasing fragrance – SoS 1:3

A hand touched me and set me trembling – Dan 10:10

Now, let's use Acts 2:1-21 which is the description of the Day of Pentecost. This story line will be our launching pad to activate our senses. Fully put yourself into the story and slowly explore all the sensory and spiritual nuances that color this passage. Here, I'll give you a few prompters to look for as you move through this passage.

Feel the centuries-long yearning and anticipation that has been prayed into since Joel originally prophesied this day. Feel the unity among the 120. What was the first 'spark'

that started this holy eruption. See tongues of fire on each head. Hear the wind. Smell the bodies and animals. See the packed upper room and exquisite Temple. Feel the exploding elation and drunken Holy Spirit joy. Watch Peter step up and deliver his hallmark speech. See the joy and revelatory delight when foreigners heard the Gospel in their own language. Hear the mocking of the religious. Were the religious leaders in a huddle making plans? Imagine the buzz that rippled out through the city about this very strange and phenomenal occasion. Okay... now you've got the idea.

So... are you ready? Do you have your seven gateway antennas activated? Explore the language of each antenna. A unique facet of Father's beautiful heart will come through each gateway. Now, it's your turn. Take your time. Read through Acts 2:1-21 and 'enter' each word and phrase in this passage while you employ your **natural senses one by one**... and each of your **spiritual senses one after another**.

Sum it up

God has given us 'gateways' that serve as conduits to receive His mind and will. He knows they will serve us well as we grow in our ability to use them. And since He's the very best Shepherd, He's going to watch over the whole learning process... all the time, cheering for us. Literally, practice activating your 'antennas' which represent each gateway. Govern over your thoughts. Don't let discouragement rob you of what you know to be true in God's Word. Remind yourself of God's intention for all seven of these 'gateways' to be fully functional and rewarding to you. Be patient and give yourself plenty of time to learn. Remind yourself to lean into Father's abundant Grace. And thank Him MANY TIMES!

Resources

Articles

What is golden imagination

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1Cv>

And I will manifest Myself to him

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1us>

Spirit travel 500 miles to pray for my buddy Paul

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1hH>

Field of dreams

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1BV>

Videos

What is golden imagination?

<https://youtu.be/rSNHUSLUNuo>

What role does golden imagination play?

<https://youtu.be/rMIRDrkYnUY>

Imagination – a powerful tool

https://youtu.be/7Mk71nZT_TM

Come to our senses - activation

<https://youtu.be/HiwfqVDphyk>

Seeing in the Spirit – activation

https://youtu.be/BkXOBkZ_dU0

Hearing – one of the hallmarks of maturing saints

<https://youtu.be/sdOYRpOGGe8>

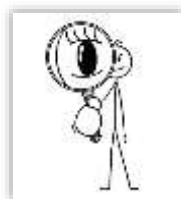
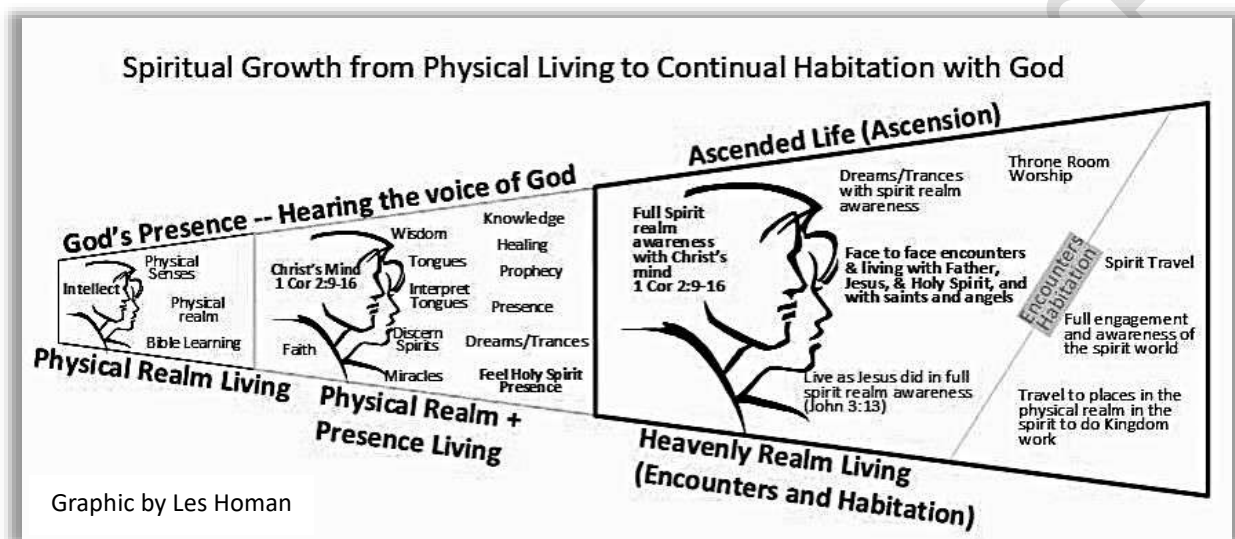
Developing your gift of 'knowing'

<https://youtu.be/rtESa3W2A5o>

Books

Seeing in the Spirit Made Simple – Praying Medic
 Hearing God's Voice Made Simple – Praying Medic
 How to See in the Spirit – by Michael Van Vlymen
 Open My Eyes, Lord – by Gary Oates
 The Veil – Blake K. Healy
 How to Hear God's Voice – Mark & Patti Virkler
 Holy Fascination & Holy Imagination – Steve Bartlett

<https://kansascityhealing.org>



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 9 – How is this different from the dark side?

The similarities and differences – the source and door matters

Let's talk!

The moment we start talking about engaging with angels, accessing the Heavenlies or traveling in the Spirit some folks get nervous. They start thinking about Ouija boards and weird stuff. So, let's clear the air.

There are other spirit realms 'out there' which ARE NOT currently ruled by God. And the truth be known, God has destined us to rule over those realms. But, until we grow into our full destiny, diabolic forces are trying to bluff their way into men's hearts and minds in an attempt to destroy their souls before they can embrace their full identity and inheritance. Do those bluffs look enticing? You bet! But their end result only leads to pain, dissipation and death. That's why there are stern warnings plentifully sprinkled throughout Scripture. Don't be deceived! Don't go into those places. Practice the Heavenlies in God's way and in God's order and you'll have nothing to be afraid of.

The counterfeiter

Let's establish something. **The devil never created anything.** He lies, usurps and counterfeits. There is one Creator... and He is God... and He is good! There is one who cannot create, so he counterfeits... he's the devil... and he is bad!

But the fact that there is a counterfeit only proves that there is an authentic version that God Himself created. So, don't get dismayed and disillusioned by the counterfeit. But the counterfeit only places greater value on the righteous real. It's imperative that we embrace and employ God's version. His version will not take life from you and leave you disappointed. If we do it His way, it will empower you, feed you and bring you into maturity. Remember, Jesus said...

"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work." –
John 4:34

Authentic vs counterfeit

Let's highlight a few contrasts between the authentic and counterfeit versions.

Authentic God-version

Counterfeit dark side version

Rainbow after the Flood -- rainbow – deviant subculture's banner

Gen 9:12-16		
Prophecy	--	fortune telling
I Cor 12, 13, 14		
Tongues	--	counterfeit tongues
I Cor 12, 13, 14		
Traveling in the Spirit	--	astral projection
II Kngs 5:26		
Lk 24:31		
Group ascension & travel	--	séance
Ex 24:9-11		
John 6:21		
Heavens declare glory	--	zodiac
Gen 15:5		
Job 38:31-33		
Matt 2:1-2		
Angels minister to/for us	--	demons deceive, rob, kill & destroy
Heb 1:14		
Ps 91:11-12		
Ecstasy – ‘beside myself’	--	substance abuse - induced ecstasy
II Cor 5:13		
II Sam 6:14		
Golden imagination	--	divination / scrying
I Chron 29:18		

What then shall we do?

Should we forsake using the Rainbow because a fallen world usurped it?
 Should we debunk prophecy because the dark side has invented fortune telling?
 Should we debunk traveling in the spirit because new agers employ astral projection?
 Should we not observe the celestial glory of God because the occult uses a zodiac?
 Should we devalue group ascension because the dark side employs séances?
 Should we declare angels off limits because the ungodly use demons?
 Should we not allow ecstasy because of the carnal ways to enter ecstasy?

May it NEVER BE!!!! God created these things before the new-agers were ever invented! The new-agers and occultists only stole it and counterfeited it. They knew that using these things would result in some form of benefit... even if it was a distorted and temporary benefit. So, they usurped God's great intentions and gifts and they reshaped them to fulfill their own lusts for knowledge and power, apart from God. We must ground ourselves in the original intentions of God regarding these spiritual realities. So much so, that we fully understand the intentions of God and recoup the resulting powerful Godly benefits that are inherent in each of these practices.

Remember, the fact that there is a dark-side counterfeit only authenticates the existence of the Righteous real.

So, what's the difference?

The confusing and difficult part about this topic is that **on the surface**, there may be very little difference between the authentic and the counterfeit. **But there is a difference!** And that difference may be far deeper than what the natural mind can

comprehend or discern. Actually, it is impossible for even the best natural mind to discern this. Scripture acknowledges the hurdle that this will be for natural man and natural minds.

*“But the **natural man does not** receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he **know them**, because **they are spiritually discerned**.” – 1 Cor 2:14*

So, what does religion do? Shallow Christians with shallow religion ‘wall off’ both versions because they haven’t learned how to discern between the two. I don’t allege that they intentionally wanted to short-change us. I think they were naïve, ignorant or just trying to protect their people from possible pitfalls. But think of the travesty! They built walls that separated us from the authentic too! And to add gravitas to this travesty, the authentic version is part of our Father’s dream of inheritance that He’s had for us, from before the beginning. How sad!

What we want to do is, understand the difference AND learn how to discern between the two.

*“But **solid food belongs** to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their **senses exercised to discern both good and evil**.” – Heb 5:14*

Three big differences are the Door, the Source and the Fruit!

Bottom-line, the difference is the Source... and the Door we use to get there!! This is something that natural minds may not be able to evaluate by external observation only. As we’ve highlighted in other areas of this study, we must learn how to live from our spirit... and by the Spirit of God. (Refer to L1 Sessions 2, 3 & 7 for more on this topic.) Learning this will not only protect us, but it will keep us safe so that we may live long on the earth. Truly, accessing the heavenlies incorrectly has the serious possibility of shortening our physical lives.

The differences?

1. The Source
2. The Door
3. The fruit

And I should add that in the end, the fruit will manifest the root... or its origin. Sometimes it takes a while for the fruit to manifest and to be able to ascertain, but if we have grown in our ability to discern, we won’t likely have to wait for the fruit in order to determine whether a thing is from the Dark side or the Light side. The door and the source may give all the input necessary to discern its origin.

Thieves and robbers

Believe it or not, Jesus actually said that there are **other ways** to enter the spirit realms.

*“He who **does not** enter the sheepfold by the door, but **climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber**.” – Jn 10:1*

Now, let’s be clear. We are not talking about finding other ways to get to Heaven (where God lives) or other ways to become a son of God. We’re talking about finding access to the 2nd heaven’s spirit realm where humans solicit and employ spiritual realities without the assistance of the Spirit of God... and where they go to fulfil their carnal desire for knowledge and power.

Here are few ways that carnal man uses to access the spiritual realm:

Drugs, ecstasy, mantras, trauma, sex, ‘trading’, blood and human sacrifice...

Jesus acknowledged that thieves and robbers enter the spiritual realms the wrong way. So, what is the right, Godly and safe way? Jesus gave us specific instructions and parameters in John 10.

*“I am the Door. If any man enters he will be **saved (safe)**, and he shall go in and out and find pasture.” – John 10:9*

What is the **safe way**? Enter through Him and you will be saved from the negative consequence that thieves and robbers incur upon themselves. And did you notice that if you do it Jesus’ way, that you can go **in and out and find pasture**? What does ‘pasture’ mean? Pasture is symbolic of nutrition, food and nurturing for growth, etc. **So how do we grow? By going in and out!** And I believe the inference can be made that if we are not practicing going in and out, then our spiritual growth will be inhibited. In other words, we won’t experience and ‘eat’ the spiritual nutrition that comes from the Heavenly realms. Look at this verse...

“We’ve been blessed with all spiritual blessings in the Heavenly places.” – Eph 1:3

Did you notice where we must be in order to be blessed with spiritual blessings? In the Heavenly places! In our day, you and I are experiencing a radical global shift in religious culture. Our whole religious culture is moving over the threshold into a brand new age of believing in and practicing the Heavenly realities.

Gateway blockers

I pray mercy for those who shut the door and keep God’s people out of the Heavenly places where the spiritual blessings are. Jesus had something rather harsh to say to those who kept people out of the Kingdom.

“But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut the kingdom of heaven in front of people; for you do not enter it yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.” – Matt 23:13

An appropriate and descriptive moniker for the people who practice this, is ‘gateway blockers’. For various reasons, they block the access of others into the Kingdom of Heaven.

So, we’re getting over our squeamishness of the ascended life... and we’re getting over some of our traditional religious beliefs that were erroneous and have kept us out of the Heavenly realms. We are becoming Bible believing believers! Can you believe it! It’s happening! A whole religious culture is currently in the throes of change.

But, let me say, emphatically, we are NOT talking about the ‘deconstruction of Christianity’. NO! We’re talking about a radical uptick in the reality and power of true Christianity. Believers are being upgraded from earth-based Christianity to Heaven-based sons of God. Christianity is being redefined by the upgraded availability of

powerful Heavenly realities... realities that have always been available for the few who contended for them... but now are becoming available wholesale, to all Heaven-based sons of God!

A final word about light and darkness

There has ALWAYS been an expression of darkness in the world. The counterfeit has always contended for supremacy over the authentic. Darkness and Light are active SIMULTANEOUSLY! But the Light is... and has always been greater.

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” – John 1:5

We have a choice to ‘feast’ on the darkness... or on the Light. What we meditate on, will manifest through us! Our thoughts create words... our words create worlds! If we focus and feast on the Light, we won’t fear the darkness. Rather, when there is darkness, we see it as our time to shine. Notice in Isaiah 60 how both polar extremes – light and darkness – are at work simultaneously. We were born for such a time as this... and the kings and nations will come to our rising!

*“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, **darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; but the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.**” – Isa 60:1-3*

Light is superior to darkness

As we stated earlier, light is superior... and it always wins! Think of it... inherent in light is a power source. It can be measured, quantified and it has impact. On the other hand, darkness has NO power in and of itself. The only way you measure darkness is by the absence of light... or how little light is present. Darkness is only the absence of light. You know, when we put it like this, it really knocks the ‘teeth’ out of darkness and the plans of the enemy.

The devil has perpetrated a lie upon mankind in such a way that it made him look substantial. Why... we almost thought of him as an equal to God. The devil is crafty and cunning. He preys on the vulnerability and naivety of our minds. If he can find a fingerhold, he would love to make us think that Heavenly things are sketchy and dangerous.

Don't forget
The devil is bad... all the time!
God is good... all the time!

And consider this... it's quite likely a doctrine of demons that built religious walls of prevention around our Godly inheritances, because the devil made us think that the Heavenly realms were off limits... even devilish. Did you catch that? Here's an example: in some religious circles it's allowable to talk to demons... even getting information from them, but we dare not talk to an angel because we might worship one. Have you ever considered this belief? I think that this is quite likely a doctrine of demons. The devil feeds into our righteous concerns by mislabeling those Heavenly things as having their origin in him. Think of it... he's okay with taking the brunt of blame, IF it keeps us from our Godly inheritance. Wow!!! What a diabolically twisted plan!

Don't forget this: The devil is bad... all the time! God is good... all the time!

And with us buying into his toothless and baseless lies, the devil hopes to get us to completely miss our rich place in God's blue print for mankind.

Handle the real

I've heard that banks teach their employees how to recognize the counterfeit paper currency by handling the real currency. And you know... maybe that is why religion has been so afraid of the counterfeit heavenlies... because they haven't handled much of the righteous real. I don't know... that's just a thought.

But we are those who are born of the Light. We recognize the Light because it resonates within us. We're spending more time in the Heavenlies which gives us more opportunities to *"train our senses to discern good from evil"*. (Heb 5:14)

Friends, we have a powerful tool at our disposal... it is spending as much time as possible 'in the Light'. Get familiar with Heavenly realities so that the practices of the dark side don't scare us or unnerve us. The more familiarity we have with the Light, the less fearful of being deceived and vulnerable to base lies, we will be.

Plain and simple, we must spend as much time with Father and His world as possible. Each encounter, each new Heavenly territory, each new revelation helps us become more familiar with the nuances of Father's voice, His ways, and His world! Here is just one of the things we can always look for; what is the core value that comes through His words and ways? His words and ways will make us fall in love with Him even more! As we mature, we will grow in easily identifying errant motivational values... and this errancy will tip us off that the source is likely a counterfeiter.

Must be able to discern

Here's an example of the necessity of being able to discern...

You are in the Heavenlies and you come across a very strange figure. This figure has seven horns and seven eyes. If this is our first rodeo, we'll likely castigate this figure to some devilish entity. We may try to 'cast it out', or 'bind it' or some traditional religious practice. This decision would have most likely come from our brain and its repository of stored pictures and stories. But did we bother to 'discern' what this entity was? Have we exercised our senses to discern good from evil? If spiritual discernment has not been developed then we're only left with the limited benefit of our previously stored knowledge.

But what if I told you that this seven horned and seven eyed being was The Lamb of God. O boy, that's crazy, isn't it? Read this from the Book of Revelation...

*"Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. **The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.**" – Rev 5:6*

So, discernment... being able to discern good from evil... not only benefits us in the earthly places, but will become paramount and mandatory as we begin to move in the Heavenlies.

Prayer

Father, it's becoming quite apparent that our minds are surprisingly limited and wholly incapable of being our tour guide into the Heavenly places. We give ourselves to exercising our spirit and our spiritual discernment so that we can move in the Heavenly realms with confidence and skill. In addition, we renounce the fear of deception that made us so afraid that it kept us from our inheritance. We choose to trust You, the Good Shepherd, to lead us safely. *"For we know whom we have believed, and are persuaded that You are able to keep that which we have committed unto You against that day"* (II Tim 1:12). Amen!

Activation

Bless the eyes of your heart with wisdom and revelation. Place your hands on your heart and let's bless the eyes of our hearts to be able to see and comprehend the glorious inheritance that God is offering to His people. Oh... and let's bless our ability to believe the magnitude of our stature in His eyes. We are Jesus' inheritance. That's right! You are Jesus' inheritance! And that inheritance includes the same power and realities that Jesus walked in... and even greater! O boy! This is stunningly powerful!

*"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the **Spirit of wisdom and revelation**, so that you may know him better. I pray that the **eyes of your heart may be enlightened** in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of **his glorious inheritance in his holy people**, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That **power is the same** as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come."* – Eph 1:17-21

Can you see yourself embracing and manifesting everything that Jesus was and is? If not, then you should repent (change your mind)... and then go reread this passage and ask yourself if you are truly a Bible believing believer. For many of us, we'll have to begin by taking every thought captive and making it come into obedience to Christ's thoughts about us!

Remember: Whatever Jesus did, we can do... even greater!

Homework

Be like the 'more-noble Bereans' (Acts 17:11). Since we've prayed for the eyes of our heart, search the Scriptures with new eyes... like it was the first time. For every one of the contrasts between the authentic and the counterfeit, check out what our Father says about the authentic. Let Him wash your mind and 'believing system' until you believe that every promise in The Book is yours. Each of those Scriptural examples of the authentic God-version are to give us permission that we can do the same... and to teach us how to do it correctly. Thank You, Father!

By the way – The book recommended below 'Traveling in the Spirit Made Simple' by Praying Medic, has some great insights and examples of the differences between the Dark side and the Light side.

Resources

Articles

“We are as He is” – Is this too good to be true?

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-3a>

Videos

I'd rather be a light releaser than a dark fighter

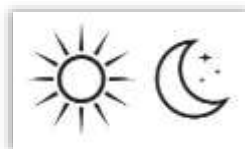
<https://youtu.be/CQhkYSWA8BQ>

What about the silver cord?

https://youtu.be/9t03aOeA_BY?si=o_P5atUZ7_sGBz7y

Books

Traveling In the Spirit Made Simple - Praying Medic



Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 10 – Can you feel the shift?

Everything changes with the transition of ages

Everything is changing!

As we move into this new Kingdom age (or whatever it finally gets named in a couple of hundred years from now) we must expect that many of our paradigms will radically change. Among many shifts that are currently happening, the one that I'm most certain of, and the one that I'm most familiar with is the shift from being primarily earth-dwellers to becoming dynamic Heavenly citizens with new experiential realities emerging frequently.

This will change everything we think, say and do... including our vocabulary, our identity, our perspective of God's identity, our position, our authority, our prayers and our religious practices, etc.

So, hang on to your hat but 'unbuckle your seat belt' because we're going to untether from planet earth... at least in terms of its influence over us. As we learn to live in Heaven and hear His voice... and as we learn the protocols of Heaven and its rules of respect... our new position and our new reality will empower us to rule with Heaven's authority back down into our earthly situations. The increasing scope of our authority and impact will be commensurate with our growing maturity.

Change the understanding and expression of Christianity

This statement – 'change the expression of Christianity' – almost sends off seismic shockwaves through our souls. It can also trigger concerns of heresy or dangerous and spurious ideologies. Here is the full quote:

"God said, 'I will change the understanding and expression of Christianity on the earth in a single generation.'" – Mike Bickle

This sentiment has been echoed and confirmed across the body of Christ for several decades now... by many different voices. I'm very confident that we didn't know what that meant back in the 1980s. It was exciting, but we had very little understanding of it.

Although the Word of God and the central tenets of the Gospel are unshakable, I wonder which pet peripheral sacred-cow doctrines and practices will get sacrificed upon the altar of the emerging new expression of true Godliness in a new age? It's like this new age has invited us to a barbecue and I wonder which of our sacred cows will make the best burgers? O boy... maybe that was a little too irreverent. But if we can believe all the indicators, we better get prepared for serious changes for all of us.

Historically, epic age change is usually scary, traumatic for ‘settlers’ and thrillingly exciting for frontiersmen. And there is usually a push back from the authority regime of the preceding age. So, count the cost. But for many, counting the cost is a moot point because their hearts are firmly fixed on pilgrimage with God, no matter the cost.

Heresy... or revelation?

Ponder this: If you were promised that everything you held dear in Christianity was going to be exchanged for something better, what could you imagine or predict would be better? Our problem is that we don’t know what we don’t know! And for many people the unknown is a fearful thing. Can I say, fear is to be expected if we don’t know that a very loving Father is orchestrating the orchestra... and that He loves you and me dearly. But when we really know this... ‘perfect love drives out all fear’ (1 Jn 4:18)! When we truly get to know this wonderful Father, then the unknown becomes not just tolerable but exciting!

So will you be able to energetically cross the threshold from the old age into this newly emerging age? That’s the ‘million-dollar’ question, isn’t it? For reference, consider how well you would have done in making the transfer from Judaism to Christianity? Would you have left temple worship and temple sacrifice behind to become a follower of this new young upstart called, Jesus? Hmmm. I’m confident that we are in a time in history with very similar dynamics.

We’ll elaborate on some of the differences between the two ages in this session.

Shift happens!

It has always happened... and it’s happening now... from daily and personal shifts... to epic shifts. Let’s be clear, this current shift is not your average garden variety. It is an **epic change from one Biblical age to the next Biblical age**. Sound too grandiose? Listen to what the Bible says about this:

*“... that in the **ages to come** He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.” – Eph 2:7*

According to this verse, there must be **at least two more ages** beyond the age in which the book of Ephesians was written. And so, even if you don’t think it’s probable, it’s still possible to have an age shift in our day.

What are the hallmarks at the transition of ages?

I believe a change of ages always involves a radical shift from what God was doing... into His new order of things. For example, take a look at the change of ages from Old Testament to New Testament... from Law to Grace. It wasn’t just a little tweak of how we do things. It was a major revamping of much that we knew and held on to as sacred. In the Old Covenant we had... laws, sacrifices, curses, religious orders, the way we related with God, etc. ALL those and so much more were antiquated and trumped with the new and improved, when the ages transitioned. In fact, if you held onto the past norms, you became an enemy to God’s new way. Hmmm. Serious business.

So, if old values and systems get put on the chopping block when an old age ends, what will get replaced in this current age shift? And what will the new values and systems look like?

Would we be able to see it?

Do we think we would have recognized and embraced the monumental shift from BC to AD? The very best religious scholars and leaders didn't... but strangely, a few gnarly fishermen, tax collectors and fringe guys did. They were invited, saw, believed and became forerunners of the new age. But most other religious and likely candidates missed it completely... and worse yet, became an enemy to the change of the ages. So, assuming that we're in another epic shift, what makes us think we would recognize the shift and embrace it? Would it be because we honor and go with the flow of popular opinion... or because we hold to the 'old time religion' tenets... or because that's what I was taught as a child? Yeh, that will guarantee it, for sure (I'm jesting)! Unfortunately, that didn't work so well for the religious 'scholars' in Jesus' day.

Actually, a **simple childlike heart** has the most likely prospects of helping us hear, embrace and be able to adapt to the changes. You see, a child has the **least to lose** and is likely **more sensitive to Father's overtures of love and guidance**. And maybe that is just one of the things Jesus meant when He said,

"Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." – Matt 18:3

Are there any indicators of impending change?

In my opinion there are MANY indicators. One of the hugest indicators I know, is something that probably hasn't been recognized by many, but when I mention it will be very obvious to all... and it has powerful historical precedent. That is: the **global prayer movement**. Let me explain.

The global prayer movement

Throughout all of Biblical history, **when God's people called out to Him**, He answered. Just think about the little phrase, **"And they cried to the Lord."** What happened in the very next phrase or verse in the Bible? It was, **"And God heard their cries"** and sent a deliverer, judge, prophet, king, etc., to extract them out of their distress. In keeping with this truth, consider this: **There are more people praying publicly and privately on the earth right now than at any other time in all of history**. And what is God's historical response? ...HIS INTERVENTION! In my opinion, **this is a most compelling indicator** and it isn't even an 'end-times' prophecy Bible verse. This is huge!

By the way – I think **God may have a different perspective on the prayer movement** than we've had. We thought we were going to be more self-disciplined... more spiritual... we were going to help God out... and do His Kingdom stuff. But I wonder if God's view was more on trying to get us to spend time with Him... so we would get to know His heart... so that we could hear His voice better... so we could move with Him when He initiates the shift of ages. Maybe the prayer movement was all about **relationship versus praying hard**. You see, if we were still steeped in our 'religious man' strength, e.g., religious dogmas, traditions and mindsets... we wouldn't likely be able to 'turn the corner' with Him when we have to lay some of the last age things down. But since we've prayed long enough to know that we can't force God,

we're beginning to settle down and just let Him be Father and God. We're beginning to just agree with His Word and His heart of love for us. We're beginning to realize that it isn't *"by our works of righteousness which we have done but according to His mercy He saved us"* (Titus 3:5). And to think... all the while He just wanted to **spend time with us** so that we wouldn't miss the next step of the journey.

An insight about prayer meetings

One of the iconic events in the last great transition of ages was birthed out of a prayer meeting where 120 people were praying in one-accord in an upper room. One day there was no baptism of the Holy Spirit and the next day baptism of the Holy Spirit was a real thing! Radical and revolutionary changes were birthed out of a prayer meeting. It's quite likely that the last 25 years of the prayer movement was the catalyst that is birthing this brand-new age.

Let's unpack the current shift

The moniker over this newly emerging age has yet to be determined. Will it be called the Grace Age, the Age of God, the Kingdom Age, the Sonship Age, the Kingship Age, the Glory of God Age...? We'll have to wait and see. But already there are a few overt evidences of change... and they are obviously, changes for the better. Here are just a few of those changes.

Big Picture

The goodness of God is being exalted as a supreme tenet
Many 'old time religion' tenets are being upgraded

Our Identity

Harried 'orphan' Christians are becoming happy beloved sons
'Always-do-good' servants are becoming peace-filled bosom friends with God
Spiritual beggars are becoming spiritual kings
Belittling lies about our identity are being obliterated
An insecure salvation is now becoming an unshakable position in Christ
Fearful sin conscious saints are now secure in righteousness consciousness
Sin management is replaced with confident rest in Jesus' righteousness
The Gospel is becoming the 'unbelievably' Good News

God's Identity and Nature

Onerous lies about Father God are being exposed
An uncaring distant God becomes a committed and loving Father
Working hard for His acceptance is being replaced with resting in His love
'Sweat' is now understood as the result of the curse, which He became for us
Rest in Jehovah Jireh's provision is popping the anxiety and striving bubble

Now and the Future

Traditional eschatology is being trumped by fresh revelation
Imminent doom is replaced by victorious future
Fear and hiding are replaced with courage and anticipation
Little-remnant hide-out mentality is replaced by expectant kingly ruling
Darker and darker worldview is replaced with ever increasing Kingdom
Future theologies are becoming now theologies
Heavenly realities postponed until after death are being realized now
Some 'millennial' Kingdom theologies are being experienced

Our Position and Prayer Posture

Desperate beggarly intercession becomes confident kingly declaration
Praying from earth to Heaven is trumped by praying from Heaven toward earth
Emphasis shifting from praying TO God... to praying WITH God
We're not praying FOR victory... we're praying FROM victory

How was that for starters?

Can you list other paradigm shifts that you're experiencing?

Big picture objectives

I'm convinced that the following are a couple of God's primary objectives for this newly emerging age.

- 1) **Completed sonship** – confident living in our 'new creation' identity as co-governors with God
- 2) **Ascended life** – God's people 'relocating' into Heaven and living from Heavenly places

Completed sonship

It's likely that you're already aware of some of these hallmark tenets which are finding their way into the Church's narratives. Without a doubt God shining a light on our **'completed sonship' and new creation identity**. All we have to do is listen to the conversations and narratives of various Christian voices and we realize this is actual and measurable. Each of these points identifying the shift, which are listed above, will profoundly impact the lives of anyone who begins to embrace and practice them.

God's big picture objectives
1. Completed sonship
2. Ascended life

Ascended life

Next is the **ascended life – learning to live above the line**. I feel confident that another major and central tenet of this newly emerging age will be the 'relocation' of saints from earth to Heaven. Heavenly realities that are dear to us, but in actual practice have been relegated to mere theological truths, will become commonly experienced. This shift will have the effect of feeling like our **new reality is based more in Heaven than on the earth**. Of course, we'll still be living and breathing on earth, but Biblical and Heavenly realities will take precedence and become normal.

This shift has to start somewhere... and one of the primary places it starts is in our mind! Our mind has to be renewed (Rms 12:2) before we are transformed. The 'trickle down' effect then begins to impact the rest of our lives.

I can remember the first time I heard that God wants to change our earthling prayers from the perspective of praying **from** earth **to** Heaven... **TO**... praying **with** God **from** Heaven. This was a radical shift in paradigms, but resonated in me deeply. I knew this was so right, and I committed to pursue this radical shift as a high priority focus in my life. Interestingly, even though my heart and mind were firmly convinced of this profound invitation, it still took me 5 years or more just to change my rote vocabulary.

By now, most of us embrace the theology of our Heavenly position, but that doesn't necessarily mean that our mindsets and words are reflecting the same. So, how would

we know if our theology has been worked in us. I recommend listening to ourselves pray. This will give us a pretty accurate ‘readout’ of what we really believe. Don’t be surprised if you are still using last age terms and values even though you have acknowledged higher revelation. It just takes a while to disentangle from decades of repetition. I know from my own personal experience.

Living ‘above the line’

Most of us have only lived ‘below the line’... that is to say that we’ve lived a primarily earth-based Christianity. We knew there was a Heaven, but had very little experience in it. Here are a couple of verses to validate moving above the earth-based perspectives.

“Look up to the skies above, and gaze down on the earth below.” – Isa 51:6

“In the last days the mountain of the Lord’s temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be **exalted above the hills**, and **all nations will stream to it**. Many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the **mountain** of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. **He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.**” The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.” – Isa 2:2-3

Did you notice that the Isaiah passage says MANY will say, “Come let us go UP to the mountain of the Lord”? And when we’re there, we will be taught by God Himself... also, we’ll learn to walk in His paths... and the law and word of the Lord will rightfully go forth from this Heavenly place. The rightful place of rulership is when we’re seated with Christ in Heavenly places. Our co-reigning inheritance becomes fully engaged as we learn to relocate to our Heavenly throne position. Remember...

“... whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.” – Matt 18:18

Where does it get loosed from? From Heaven
Who does the loosing? You and me
From where? From Heaven down into earth places and conditions

How do we start

It all starts ‘internally’ – in the heart. Then everything flows out of our heart.

“... for out of your heart flow all the issues of life.” – Prov 4:23

Our mind begins picking up the ‘signal’ from our heart and at that point our mind must decide whether to pursue it or leave it. But as our mind pursues and gets renewed then the transformation process begins. According to Romans 12:2 our minds must get renewed before transformation begins. And shockingly this must happen before we can even approve the will of God. Wow!

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. **Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.**” – Rms 12:2

We must hear, receive, embrace, and practice what we’ve heard in order for it to become fashioned in us. As it gets **fashioned and formed in us**, it becomes not just theology but it becomes the **authority-base** from which we **rule and reign** with our

Lord.

How do we do this? We pursue and assimilate all the revelation and rhema that God is currently speaking. We begin adopting and adapting to the upgraded modes of operation of this newly emerging age. Some of this process will be solely by the sovereign work of God in our lives. But much of it will be as practical as setting a guard over our mouth so that our 'autopilot' words don't reinforce outdated patterns and paradigms, thereby negating our fresh revelations.

Old patterns and modalities will not work, because they were empowered by the values of the previous age. God ordains new values which are the 'fuel' for that new age. As God introduces a new value with new modes appropriate for those values, then the old modes won't function as satisfyingly as they used to. Those old modes will only have the outdated and diminishing past-age values to 'fuel' them. If we don't realize this diminishing dynamic, we may become exhausted, burnout, frustrated or disillusioned. For example: It would be like living in a future of only electric cars and you still have a car with an internal combustion engine... but there is no gasoline to be found to fuel it. Nice car... but outdated, powerless and worthless, except to sit in our car and talk about the good ol' days.

Each new age brings with it a new modality, which is fueled by the new value that God is introducing in the earth.

Other voices heralding this shift

Fiorella Giordano – shift of ages

"What once worked will not carry you forward. There is a reason why so much of our engagement feels heavy or unfruitful right now. It's not because Heaven is withholding – but because Heaven has shifted. Dimensional lag is what occurs when we continue to operate in principles, language, and structures that were aligned with a previous age, but no longer correspond with what God is doing now. The result is a spiritual misfire where effort increases, but fruitfulness diminishes. This isn't an invitation to do more. It's a call to perceive differently. The architecture of Heaven has changed. And our alignment must move with it. This is a time to move with what is unfolding now, not to rebuild what once was. Because what once worked... will not carry you forward." – Fiorella Giordano

Bill Johnson – ascended life

"Some people call this the ascended life."

"It is my desire that we understand and learn to practice this in the next couple of years."

"I feel that the difference between praying/living from earth versus praying/living from Heaven is the difference between being a servant and being a son."

"Some of what we think comes with the return of Christ, comes with the renewed mind of Christ." – Bill Johnson, Bethel Church (Oct 2021)

Activation

Let's move through Jesus the Door into the Throne room. Move in close and find your place near Father. Get comfortable. Relax. Let your mind unwind. Take a few deep breaths. Let your heart feel fondness and love for your Father. Notice how soft His

eyes are. Notice the gentle smile of approval on His lips. Your heart feels safe and secure in His love. This is home.

After you've purposefully done nothing but enjoy Him for a while, softly ask Him for suggestions to help you transition the epic age shift. Don't be in a hurry. Give Him time to 'speak' to your heart. Maybe you could say, "Father, I really love being with You and I don't want to miss a thing that You're doing in my life... and in the earth... and in Heaven. And just so you know, I am fascinated and gripped with desire to move with You as you lead us into a new age. I love being with You in these Heavenly places. Thank You! I love You!"

Sum it up

In future sessions we will unpack this epic age shift in much more detail. We'll include Biblical and historical precedent, the corroboration of calendars from multiple societies and include celestial evidence. I believe that this weight of evidence will remove any doubt that a dramatic age shift is currently in motion. God's intention is that this shift will transport us beyond anything we've ever dreamed of.

*"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart has imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him. **But God has revealed it to us by the Spirit.**"*
– I Cor 2:9-10

Verse nine sounds really good, doesn't it? But it puts all the goodness way beyond the blue... someday... after I die. Did you catch that verse ten starts out with a 'But'? That 'But' introduces the fact that all this 'too-good-to-be-true' goodness is available to God's people now! Most people stop quoting at the end of verse nine. When we stop there, verse nine becomes a sort of sad epitaph on life... a life where we knew there was more but we wouldn't be able to experience it until after we die. I'm so glad that Paul didn't stop there. Holy Spirit is revealing it and many are picking up the signs of the shift of ages and are embracing the shift... even eagerly and aggressively running into it. Jesus predicted this:

*"... and from the days of John the Baptist to this time, the kingdom of Heaven is as it were forced into, and **the most pressing seize upon it with eagerness.**"* –
Matt 11:12 (Worsly New Testament)

It has become the joy of my life to be a part of a company of believing believers who are eager to be on the front edge of heralding and birthing this new age! Does that resound in your heart also? I thought so! Then, let the shift continue and increase until it fills the whole earth! Amen! So be it!

Resources

Articles

Have You Experienced the Shift yet?

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-Wb>

Can You Feel the Shift?

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1B2>

The Changing Church – What's Happening to My church?

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-5a>

The Manifesto: The Age of God – Fiorella Giordano

<https://www.fiorellagiordano.io/manifesto>

Videos

Change the Expression and Understanding of Christianity in One Generation

<https://youtu.be/1H1w0rninr0>

Can't use old M.O. in a new age – angels function in a new M.O.

<https://youtu.be/-3wK4qEDpcY>

The shift from glory to glory

https://youtu.be/_FDq-LJ9SSY

Shift our POV – upgrade our M.O. – release Heaven's realities

<https://youtu.be/PpUtgZrINH4>

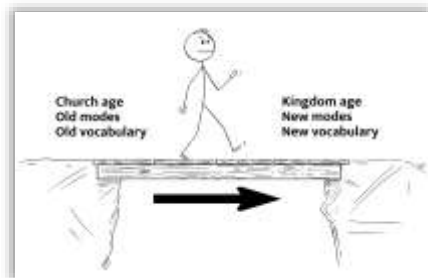
Books

Cosmic Shift – by Christopher Paul Carter

Kingdom Shift – by Del Hungerford

SonShift – by Mel Wild

Mega Shift – by James Rutz



ASCENDED LIFE STUDY COURSE

Ascended Life Study Course

ALC L1 – New Creation Identity

Session 11 – No more boredom

Exhilarated and in love with God

Did you feel the mountains tremble?

Did you feel your mountains tremble during this first Level of Ascended Life Study Course?

I remember some of the first times I began hearing of the Heavenly realms and the ascended life. My brain was wildly stimulated with a myriad of tangential thought-trails while I tried to 'hang on for dear life'. I was trying my best to assimilate this new and fantastical information. My CPU activity was so intense that it was hard to even find the appropriate pigeonholes to store this new data. The power-packed rhema of God was sending shockwaves through the mountain strongholds of belief that had been fortifying my life. They were good mountains and strong mountains... in their day. But God had opened a great door and a voice was saying, "Come on up here" (Rev 4:1). My spirit knew without a doubt that what I was hearing was right for me. But what do you do with this new input? There were no file cabinets to put this data into. No preacher had told me to prepare for such an outpouring of revelation. It was a life-changing earthquake and there have been many aftershocks since.

Beyond all of this whirlwind of mental activity, something was happening inside me that was much deeper than my mind. Those Heavenly-realm words were speaking to my core identity... they were absolutely talking about ME! They fit me. They belonged to me. It was as if I was meeting those words of identity for the first time... but yet, they resonated as if we had always known each other. I couldn't fully define it. All I knew was that it felt more right and good than anything I have ever felt. It was like the real me was awakening and being affirmed. The sleeping giant was awakening from a long and deep sleep. 'Something' was breathing life into the real me. The feelings were an uncommon but wonderful sensation... an ecstasy... a sense of completeness that made everything else feel like imitation or plastic.

Eruption!

While taking it all in, almost simultaneously, an overwhelming eruption ignited... an automatic urge to respond and voice my elation. This rumbling started somewhere deep in the internal regions of my being. Those original core stirrings were eliciting an involuntary eruption of shouts accompanied with tears. What a wonderful phenomenon! Literally, many times, out of my mouth burst, "Wow"... while waves of tears rolled out of my eyes.

It's difficult to describe the profoundly dramatic awakening and the involuntary responses I was feeling because they didn't originate from any of my cognitive abilities. They were not controlled or governed by mental energy. They were deeply internal and visceral... lightyears beyond my intellect... but so strong and impacting that they forced a physical response. This spiritual experience was (and still is) a most euphoric state of being. It has marked me and made everything else less desirable. It is as a seal that branded me and made other earth-bound 'fineries' less attractive.

Such a time as this

Do you remember Mordecai's statement to Esther?

"Who knows but that you've come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" –
Esther 4:14

That is exactly what I was feeling. It was like all the rest of my life was to serve this purpose... this theme. All of my earth-based Christian life had been to prepare me for transitioning into Heavenly-based realities. It was like coming home! I found me! And I found my purpose!

Extract the gold

Several years passed before I discovered that those feelings were one of the ways my spirit communicates with my conscious mind. I realized that my spirit was 'talking' to me. And further, I now know that my spirit was bearing witness with His Spirit (Romans 8:16). When that happens, our spirit is recognizing the distinct presence of our Abba. In fact, Romans 8:15 says, a deeply impassioned "Abba" is the likely vocal expression that will involuntarily erupt out of our spirit.

Most of the time, those overwhelming experiences just pass on by and we don't bother to extract the 'gold' out of the moment. Many people simply forget those precious God-moments when He awakened them to the awareness of their spirit. This awakening to the awareness of our own spirit is the initial development of a most precious tool which will empower us throughout earth-life, Heaven-life and eternity. This tool is far more important than I can emphasize. We'll just have to grow into it and enjoy the process.

This is to live for

It's sort of like love. Love is something that is nearly impossible to describe effectively to someone who has never experienced love. But once love has been experienced, a new high-water mark has been established in our lives and conversations about love are now easily understood and appreciated.

The same is true for when we become aware of our spirit. Before a person has experienced the stirring of their spirit, any attempt to describe that experience to them is only marginally understood, at best. But the fact is, now there is a new reality that has been awakened inside. A reality that was always there... without our knowledge. But because it is so powerfully awakening, now I can't live without it. This is to live for! In fact, this is one of the things that is absolutely vital to really living.

"Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." – Matt 4:4

I believe this is the plan of our Father. We are born into an earth-based reality so that our character and mind can get tutored and trained. Then in our Father's wisdom, He decides that it's time to graduate from earth-based living to spirit-based living. How pivotal is that! It's like everything is measured by and from that moment of being PRE-spirit aware versus POST-spirit aware. So, you can see how our first introductions to

our spirit become hallowed occasions. Father knew that everything in life was intended to serve this graduation moment of moving into a whole new dynamic way of living.

“What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father.” – Gal 4:1-2

We must learn earth-based Christianity first... and we must learn to serve the tutors and governors of earth well. This process is vital for establishing important foundations that will be necessary as we move into the frontiers of higher living. But then at a time set by the wisdom of our Father, He awakens us to life in the Spirit and begins to bring us into a broad place (Ps 18:19). He invites us to learn to fly with our new wings.

“they shall mount up with wings as eagles...” – Isa 40:31

This wonderful freedom is what Jesus was referring to in John 10.

“I came that they may have life, and have it more abundantly.” – Jn 10:10

We didn't know what abundant life could be like when we only knew the natural world realities. Father had appointed those vital realities to have a limited sense of reward and inspiration... until He said we could graduate. But as we become aware of our spirit, and that we can have Heavenly interaction with our Father, then Heaven and Heaven's realities take on a whole new meaning.

Wait, there's more

This isn't just a new toy to have fun with (although it is marvelous in our eyes). This awareness of our spirit is only the beginning of learning how to 'walk in the Spirit'. This is where things really begin to get fun.

So, you've graduated now. You are going into the next higher grade. You'll need your new tools and upgraded skills. These tools are spiritual tools... not tools born of this world and not born of our intellect. Those old-world tools served their purpose very well... and we'll still use them for many temporal world applications. But the Heavenly realm has no mandate to use any old tools or paradigms from the old-world. The way you originally discovered communication with your spirit is your first step toward becoming a mature spiritual son or daughter of God. Paul says that mature sons are known by a specific practice in their lives. Can you identify what that practice is, in this verse?

*“For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God**, these are sons of God.” – Rms 8:14*

We're going to face some things in the next sessions that will defy traditional mindsets. Your mind may get triggered. But you'll be alright, because you're learning to live from a place deeper and more in touch with the Spirit of God. You'll be able to discern the validity of the topics highlighted in each session. Your ability to commune with your spirit (under the leadership of God's Spirit) will now take you much further than your mind could have ever taken you. You are being brought into a large place (Ps 18:19).

2000 years

If it took us 2000 years to explore Christian realities in the earth-bound paradigm... how long do you think it will take to explore the expansiveness of limitless Heaven-based realities? On earth we are limited by 3 or 4 dimensions and the laws of physics, etc. But in Heavenly realms there are no such limitations. Gravity, Time and Distance have

no mandatory governance over us. Everything is as untethered as Father's mind wills for us. How awesome is that!

Awakened

So, you've already experienced some of the Heavenly realities... they've gripped your heart... and set you on a course to become more Heavenly minded than earthly minded. You've been awakened to another world beyond your wildest imaginations. Yes, both realms are still present, but your Heavenly realm realities will become more superior and empowering.

You and I were made to thrive... to soar... to live in the Heavenlies – NOW – while we are fully alive in this present world. To my knowledge there has never been a time in all of history when God has released so much powerful revelation about Heavenly living and opened such an effectual Heavenly door.

We made God too small

Back in one of the revivals of the 90s, the first verse to one of the popular songs contained these lyrics...

Be Magnified – by Lynn Deshazo

I have made You too small in my eyes. O Lord, forgive me.
And I have believed in a lie that You were unable to help me.
But now, O Lord, I see my wrong. Heal my heart and show Yourself strong.
And in my eyes and with my song
O Lord, be magnified. O Lord, be magnified.

The problem wasn't that God was too small. The problem was that I **made Him** too small in my own beliefs and mindsets. My unbelief or lack of knowledge limited His ability to move unhindered in my life. What we believe generally (not always) influences the level of Divine activity in our lives. We see that in each of the following passages where their belief or lack of belief was a determining factor. This is generally true.

"My people perish for lack of knowledge." – Hos 4:6

"... we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." – Acts 19:2

"... according to your faith, be it unto you." – Matt 9:29

"He did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief." – Matt 13:58

But fresh rhema is helping us to 'set God free' in our minds. (Note: He's always free! It's just that we have limited Him!)

God is getting 'set free'!

Many years ago, when our children were young, they watched a cartoon that has left a powerful impact on us (**Rescuers Down Under**, see Resources below). Back then I had no idea how relevant and applicable this cartoon would be to this current time and our ascended life focus. This children's cartoon is like a modern-day parable. We are the boy and the great eagle is God who we've bound by our ropes of poor beliefs which make God too small. The boy freed the eagle but got knocked over a cliff (sometimes our new freedoms overwhelm us with fears and cautions). The eagle catches the boy and teaches him to soar (our Good Father helps us in our weakness). Soaring high and low and then the eagle takes the boy to its home (Father says come spend time with me in the Heavenlies and learn my ways). I think you'll love this simple but relevant story-line.

It's time to soar

Each new revelation 'sets God more free' in our understanding. We realize that He is bigger than our dreams or what we could even imagine (Eph 3:20). Faith bursts alive when it is awakened by hearing. Desire begins to overtake us... compel us and carry us.

*"Then suddenly my **longings transported me**. My **divine desire brought me next to my beloved prince**, sitting with him in his royal chariot. We were lifted up together!" – SoS 6:12 TPT*

We're finding our wings now... the wings that He dreamed of for us from before the beginning. This is what He longed for and created us for... to have oneness with Him in the Heavenly places (Eph 1:3). Dark clouds of orphan thinking and little-ol'-me thinking has passed. Wow! Feels like liberation day! Feels like fresh Spring breezes are beginning to blow over our gardens. New life is popping up all around us. It feels like it's going to be a bright, bright sunshiny day! Remember the old song?

I Can See Clearly Now – by Johnny Nash

I can see clearly now the rain is gone

I can see all obstacles in my way

Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind

It's gonna be a bright (bright) bright sun-shiny day

Look all around, there's nothing but blue skies

Look straight ahead, there's nothing but blue skies

Here is that rainbow I've been praying for

It's gonna be a bright, bright sunshiny day

New Horizons

This is David's "*spacious place*" (Ps 18:19). Our Father has opened a wide and grand door. Blue skies, unlimited horizons, beauty all around, and Father's own hand to lead and guide us. What could get better than that!?

In Level 1 we had to get grounded in the unshakeable love of our Father. We had to establish our identity as highly loved sons and daughters who are destined to co-rule with Father – starting now. With some of these foundations in place we can now move on into territory that may shake-up traditional religion and may even elicit a few personal knee-jerk reactions. But I think we're ready because we're learning to live in and by our spirit versus out of our head and intellect. Thank You, Father.

In Level 2 and Level 3 we'll open up more of these Heavenly horizons. We'll talk about angels, saints, travel in the spirit, expanding our spirit, co-reigning and co-creating with God, and some crazy cool possibilities for what the hallmarks of Christianity may be in this new emerging age.

Do you have your wings out and ready to catch the Heavenly breezes? Is your heart and mind sufficiently secured so that you can move into the Heavenlies without fear? Then we're ready to move on. Let's do this thing!

I'll leave you with these delightful passages.

"This was the Lord's doing; It is marvelous in our eyes." – Ps 118:23

**They shall fear and tremble
for all the goodness and all
the prosperity that I provide.
– Jer 33:9**

*“Then it shall be to Me a name of joy, a praise, and an honor before all nations of the earth, who shall hear all the good that I do to them; they shall fear **and tremble for all the goodness and all the prosperity that I provide for it.**” – Jer 33:9*

Have you ever trembled because something was just SOOooooo good! Well... get ready to! Father loves to exceed our expectations!

Activation

Now that we know all believers can see (Jn 11:40), let's put ourselves in this wonderful passage of Song of Solomon chapter 6 in the Passion Translation. Find a quiet place. Clear and still your mind. Read very slowly and put yourself in this scenery. Take a walk with your Beloved. See what He sees. Smell what He smells. Let your passions become whatever His passions are and your joys become whatever His joys are.

Ready? OK... We'll start with Song of Solomon chapter 6, verses 2-3 and 11-12.

My lover has gone down into his garden of delight, to the flowerbeds of spices to feast with those pure in heart. I am fully devoted to my beloved, and my beloved is fully devoted to me. I decided to go down to the valley streams where the orchards of the king grow and mature. I longed to know if hearts were opening. Are the budding vines blooming with new growth? Has their springtime of passionate love arrived?

Then suddenly my longings transported me. My divine desire brought me next to my beloved prince, sitting with him in his royal chariot. We were lifted up together!

How are you doing? I'll bet you're 'there'. O yeah! Let yourself be carried wherever He takes you.

Now that we're in His garden of delight, let's move to Song of Solomon 5:10-16. Use the Passion Translation if possible. Read it in your own Bible or on your device. Read very slowly. Picture everything. Engage each of your senses with the word pictures in the passage. Don't hurry. Marinate. Let your heart, love and passions be gripped with the wonder and beauty of your Beloved... just the way the Maiden's heart is gripped. Linger longer, if you can.

Homework

Coach your heart into the love of God... Why? Because His perfect love drives out all fears (1 Jn 4:18). How many verses can you find that declare the magnitude and power of His love for you? Write them down. Send a letter to yourself from Father. Wash your soul with these immutable truths. They will hold you and strengthen you as we move into higher heights. Your confidence and familiarity with His love for you will overcome your fear of the unknown. You're going to excel amazingly!

Resources

Articles

Listen up, explorers! – pleasures forevermore

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-ax>

What is a pioneer?

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-BV>

I believe it now – He told me so

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-1aK>

Declare war on boredom

<https://wp.me/p23r7p-8u>

Videos

Rescuers Down Under - cartoon

<https://youtu.be/gj043f05C1U?si=uEn1tRPddkVyrpuN>

Presence is better caught than taught

https://youtu.be/9vLTdU_hfew

Keep looking down

<https://youtu.be/Ke37dit09Hs>

You're somewhere in the future and you look much better than you do right now

<https://youtu.be/Hq-gLHFEFNQ>

Bill Johnson – The Renewed Mind

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGRhVklLFuI>

start at 19mins and play till 22mins

Look for these quotes in this video clip:

“The ascended life”

“I hope that we can come into this in instruction and experience in the next couple of years”

“It's the difference between being a servant and a son”

Books

Beyond Human – by Justin Paul Abraham



ASCENDED LIFE STUDY COURSE

www.ALC.one



Congratulations

You've completed **Ascended Life Study Course, Level 1 – New Creation Identity**. I'm proud of you for persisting and processing new and sometimes strange concepts. You put your whole mind and heart into this time of study. Way to go! Like the noble Bereans (Acts 17:11), you've taken these revelations back to the Word of God to see if they are really in your Bible. I commend you for being studious and requiring that whatever you embrace in your heart, must line up with God's Word first.

You've identified and engaged your spirit... which is a core essential in moving into your Heavenly inheritances. You've learned that we're living in two realities simultaneously – earth and Heaven. You're beginning to move in and out of your dual realities with ease (Jn 10:9). You've given your spirit permission and commission to begin to be your leader (under Holy Spirit, of course). You've found some personal tools to help access your journey into and through the Spirit realm. You've quashed some erroneous religious mindsets about the Heavenly realm by identifying the compelling contrasts between the 'light and dark side'. Don't you just love coming out into the Light!

Now you've studied many crucial preliminary instructions regarding your identity which are a huge step toward moving into our Heavenly inheritances. In **Level 2, Our Expanded Inheritance** you'll be outfitted with some exciting new tools which will equip you to then move into **Level 3, Governance with God**. This is a fantastic journey... one that Father dreamed of for you and me from before the foundations of the world (Eph 1:4).

Now, here's a question I ask myself frequently, "Where will I be on this journey in the Heavenlies in 1 year... in 2 years... in 5 years... if I just don't give up or get distracted?" We know that many things in life are just a consistent series of faithful small steps... and before long you have conquered mountains. I can see you now... with a smile across your face and happy reward in your heart as you explore your new frontiers. And more than that, your Father is delighted that you are becoming what He has always believed about you! And there isn't anything better than Father's smiling approval.

Let's ride on, fellow Heavenly traveler!

Much love

Mark Hendrickson



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