



New Hope Ministry

New Hope
For Spiritual Growth
Series Overview
& Excerpts

for
Small Group Bible Study
Sunday School
Discipleship



New Hope Ministry

MISSION

New Hope Ministry
exists to glorify God,
by making His purposes,
hope, and healing through Him
known to all people.

VISION

Sharing hope and healing with a passion for God's Word,
and training and equipping God's people with unique ministry tools
to further the Kingdom of God.

Executive Director and Founder: Cindy Farrington
Counseling Director: Andrea Clark
Production Director: Julie Woodley
95 Volunteers

A Brief History...

In 2001 God began speaking to the hearts of several different people, in different churches, and in different locations in the area, about the need for a place where Biblical Counseling could be done. Over the next two years, God was working in lives, calling workers into this ministry, preparing and equipping them to serve. After two years of groundwork and preparation, on February 14, 2003 the Articles of Incorporation were filed for New Hope Counseling Center. NHCC was founded as a faith-based, charitable 501(c)(3) organization and on the principles of Biblical Counseling.

The New Hope Biblical Counseling materials were written in-house and due to the high success rates, were put into several other ministry forms: A Small Group Bible Study series called New Hope for Spiritual Growth, a Prison/Jail Ministry series called New Hope for Freedom, and New Hope for Personal Freedom, Individual Workbooks series. New Hope Ministry was set up under the umbrella of NHCC for the distribution of the New Hope materials and all proceeds go to NHCC, which provides all counseling services free of charge as a home mission work.

As of 2010, New Hope has grown to having three Staff positions and over 75 Volunteers. NHCC has fully trained Biblical Counselor/Prayer Partner Counseling Teams meeting with numerous Counselees weekly. We praise God for the increasing number of Graduates who have completed the New Hope Counseling Program, as well as the hundreds of people who have gone through the New Hope Bible Study Seminars not only here in our local communities, but also at many other locations.

New Hope Materials and Ministry Kits are being used to help others serve the Lord even more effectively in their own ministries all over the country. God is using New Hope to not only transform the lives of the people who go through the program, He is also transforming the lives of the people who are a part of the ministry. We want Him to continue His work in each of us to make us more and more Christ-like. We praise Him for continuing His transformational work in us as we serve Him. “And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power,” (Ephesians 1:19).

New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center is a non-denominational ministry supported by the generous contributions of individuals, churches, businesses, and organizations.

“Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen” (Hebrews 13:20-21).

The Upper Room Prayer Group

When I (Cindy Farrington, New Hope Executive Director) first knew what God was going to get me involved in founding New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center, I started praying that He would go before me and prepare hearts. I asked Him to begin calling those people He wanted to be involved in this ministry. And He did. Little did I know, but He had already been preparing the way for at least 8 years!

My family and I had been living in Illinois for 15 years when God called us back to Iowa and into this ministry. (I would love to tell you all of that, but we just don't have enough space. I *have* written it all down and put it with the testimonies of the other people on our staff at New Hope on our website: www.NewHopeMinistryCC.org . But I want to give you just one example of the incredible things God did in raising up this ministry: When we moved back to the Centerville, Iowa area and I started working on setting things up, some people began telling me about a prayer group that had been meeting in Centerville for *8 years*. The group was made up of Christians from several different churches in the area who had been getting together once a week to pray for the pastors and churches in the area, praying for revival, praying for something that would bring the Body of Christ together. As some people began hearing about what I was working on, each person would say, "That sounds like what they have been praying for." Then each one ended by saying, "They meet in a place they call *The Upper Room*."

When the time came that we had all of the materials ready, and our Articles of Incorporation filed, all we needed was a place. I prayed, "OK Lord, I've done everything You've asked, and everything is ready. All we need is a facility, and You know we have no money to pay for one." God quickly arranged for me to meet the woman who led that prayer group I had been told about. As she shared with me her testimony and I shared with her mine, and what God was doing with this ministry, we both knew He had brought us together. She then offered us the use of the top floor of a building she owns in Centerville (at no charge). It was absolutely perfect to fit our needs. This woman's husband's law offices had been located in this space, but he had died a couple years earlier and the space had sat empty since then. She wouldn't let just anything in there.

It was beautifully decorated and all we had to do was just move in. We couldn't have designed a building to fit our needs any more perfectly. The most awesome thing about the whole place, though, is that the Conference Room, where we are able to hold all of our meetings and Seminars, is none other than "The Upper Room," where that prayer group had met for eight years, praying for this ministry before they ever realized that God was sending New Hope in answer to their prayers. Isn't that just like God to put this ministry in the very place where they had prayed for it for so long? He is so incredible.

And He did one thing after another just like that to establish this ministry and to continue to provide for it. It is so amazing to get to work at something that God is so evidently involved in every day.

Statement of Faith

1. We believe that there is one true God, who is the Creator, King, and Redeemer of all that exists, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
2. We believe the Bible, in the original text, is the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God, which provides the only absolute truth and authority for Christian believers in all matters of faith and life.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God; that He was conceived of the Holy Spirit; we believe in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential, and that this salvation is received by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and not as a result of good works.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life and fulfill the God-given commission to carry on Christ's ministry on earth.
6. We believe the victorious redemptive work of Christ on the cross and the power of His resurrection provides freedom from the power and works of the devil and provides the fullness of salvation revealed in the original texts of Scripture.
7. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of eternal damnation.
8. We believe in the spiritual unity of all those who have put their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and that His church exists to carry on His ministry and further the Kingdom of God by carrying out the Great Commission as recorded in Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20; Luke 10; Acts 1:8.

Two-Fold Calling

New Hope began as a counseling ministry and in our small minds all we could see was that it was to be a *local* mission work for the Centerville, Iowa area. Little did we know that God had a bigger plan. He led us to a *Biblical Counseling* approach. We didn't get our materials from some other counseling program. We watched God's hand at work directing and giving order to the materials we were to use and it is a very unique approach. We don't really counsel on "issues." (That's why many pastors feel unequipped to do counseling—because if you have to counsel on “issues,” then you would need to know everything there is to know about every single issue—which is impossible.) God gave us a burden, not only to help hurting people, but to also equip God's people to help others.

We believe the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God, without error, and He has laid down some absolute, eternal principles in His Word that if implemented have a 100% guarantee. Through much research we discovered that most experts, even in the secular field, agree that all emotional problems stem from one or more of eight main root problems. When I began to see this I thought, *Well, if you already know that, why don't you just cover those main root problems with people first? Why waste so much time traveling down endless roads, that usually wind in circles, searching for the root of the person's problem?*

So we developed a set-Scriptural system covering those eight main root problems, that we lead a troubled person through, and we do it the same for everyone. And it's true— if you deal with the roots first, the “issues” disappear along the way!

God then led us to put the materials into a handbook form with notes to the Counselor and step-by-step instructions of exactly what to do and what to say as you lead a person through it. That made it very *trainable*. Anyone could be trained to lead a person through the counseling program by just following the handbook. The Counselee gets their own binder and everything we cover with them is given to them in the form of handouts, so when they are done they have their own complete Counseling Handbook. This way they don't lose or forget anything. It is all right there for them. We are not just taking them through these principles to apply one time. We are teaching them how to implement these principles into their lives from that point on, which is what brings about the *lasting change*.

Then we began seeing it work. Then— word of mouth began to travel on how successfully it was working. Then— we began receiving requests from other ministries wanting to implement our counseling materials into their own ministries.

This whole ministry was birthed by a great working of the Holy Spirit to bring the Body of Christ together, and there is great power when the Body of Christ comes together.

Due to the dramatic results in the lives of our Counselees, and the requests from other ministries, we went through the process of getting our materials copyrighted. We then put them into kits and made them available to others.

We began teaching these materials in Seminars to groups of people using our Counselor Handbook. So many people at some point would say, “Oh, I wish my whole church could go through this,” or

“Every Christian needs to know all of this.” We were also hearing, “This is the best Discipleship Materials I’ve ever seen,” and “I wish I could teach this in a Sunday School Class.” From people in counseling we were hearing, “Oh, if I had only known this sooner, maybe all this wouldn’t have happened...” So we began the work of putting these exact same materials into a Bible Study form, by simply removing all references to “counseling,” which makes it able to reach, help, and bless so many more people. This is not *just* for people in need of, or wanting to get involved in, *counseling*. What a joy it is to be able to get this teaching to people *before* they develop life-controlling problems!

"Notes to the Counselor" are changed to "Notes to Leader" for the Bible Study form and the instructions are tailored to lead a group through the series. We then adjusted it even further to have a Prison/Jail Ministry form and we also put it into an Individual Workbook.

The same pattern God provided for us to set up our own New Hope Counseling Center is also now available in a kit and provides everything needed to set up an entire counseling center ministry just like New Hope. A smaller kit is available for anyone wanting to do personal Pastoral or Lay Counseling on their own. There is also a Seminar Kit available for anyone to lead groups of people through the Small Group Bible Study materials with step-by-step outlines of the 16-week seminar sessions. Hundreds of people from many different churches and denominations have gone through the New Hope Seminars finding hope and healing for themselves personally, while at the same time being trained and equipped to help others. Just as the Counselor and Leader Handbooks provide you with the step-by-step instructions of exactly what to say and what to do to lead someone through the materials, the kits also provide the simple instructions on how to implement them.

The whole idea was to create a ministry tool that *anyone* could use just by following the instructions. God directed us to make a unique tool that has multiple uses to accomplish His purposes in each person. It is a tool for meeting counseling needs, a tool for evangelizing your community, to help struggling Christians, for discipling new Believers, to help deepen your walk with the Lord, and the training and equipping of people for ministry. That’s what we see happening for most people who go through this— they want to get involved in ministry.

God uses ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. He wants to show Himself to be powerful through us, and it begins with one person at a time.

“I was so impressed with the materials New Hope has put together that I am seeking to use it to develop training centers in the churches of my denomination in Iowa. People from other evangelical church backgrounds are also seeing the value in this Biblical Counseling program and are wanting to use the material as well. I have been in ministry for 50 years, and these materials have been life-changing for *me*.”
—Rev. Norm Wenig, Executive Presbyter, Iowa District

Introduction

In the Bible, God says, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...”

There is evil in this world and our world is filled with lies. The Body of Christ has so fallen for the lies of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and is suffering severely because of it.

God has raised up New Hope Ministry to help hurting people, to build up the Body of Christ, and to equip God’s people to help others. Our heart’s desire is to see complete transformation in people’s lives.

New Hope Ministry is teaching people to know and apply the truth. *So many of God’s people are not applying the truth!* That’s why the Body of Christ is being so broken down!

God is using New Hope’s ministry tools to help rebuild and equip the Body of Christ. The New Hope Handbooks were designed to expose the lies of the world, the flesh, and the devil. People learn how to identify these lies, evaluating everything with the Word of God, then replacing these lies with truth.

The focus is not on people’s problems or “issues,” which are only outward symptoms of deeper problems, but goes directly to the roots. If the roots are dealt with properly first, symptoms and issues will disappear along the way.

The purpose of the New Hope Series is to initiate a transformational work in the life of each person who goes through it, while at the same time equipping them to reach out and help others.

Only God can bring about that kind of transformation.

The materials are laid out to create an atmosphere where people have *personal* encounters with *GOD*, so that they truly seek Him and love Him with all their heart, their soul, their mind, and their strength. And then—they begin to see the evidence of God showing Himself strong on their behalf (2 Chronicles 16:9).

We have created a ministry tool that anyone can use, just by following the instructions. This ministry tool has been put into several different ministry forms:

- *A Bible Study Series* that can be used for Small Group Bible Studies or Discipleship.
- *A Personal Workbook Series* for individuals or Sunday School Classes.
- *A Prison/Jail Ministry Series*.
- *A Biblical Counseling form*.

These New Hope ministry tools are teaching people to know the truth and apply the truth of God’s Word. Jesus said, “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

The New Hope Series

The New Hope materials help people, not to simply experience another good *program*, but to *personally* experience *God*. Our goal and desire is to lead people to experience the *presence* of the Lord Jesus Christ at work in their lives and we are witnessing this at an exponential rate.

This program accomplishes several very important things. It guides people toward, or affirms a personal, saving relationship with Jesus Christ; builds and strengthens their personal, intimate relationship with their Heavenly Father; brings healing and deliverance where needed; grounds people in their faith; produces a desire to serve and equips them to do so effectively. It begins with letting you know that you are a child of the King and ends with you having become a warrior of the King. There is a difference between a soldier and a warrior. A soldier serves out of duty. A warrior serves out of devotion. Imagine what a church full of warriors of the King could do for your church. What it could do in your community. What it could do in our world.

That is our mission *and* our ministry— to bring hope and healing as we lead people to the Savior, the great Healer, the Wonderful Counselor, and to train up and equip warriors of the King.

“Appanoose County is small in population, but there is great spiritual need in this area. Many people are struggling with life's problems, feeling like they are all alone. New Hope Counseling Center has brought hope in Christ and has brought Christian people together in a way we haven't experienced in this part of Iowa. But New Hope has gone well beyond Centerville and has had phenomenal success. It is easy material to grasp and powerful in its effect because it is based on Scripture, lots of Scripture. Counselees who have completed the program are changed by God's power. We are talking about people who have had serious emotional, relational, and/or mental problems.”

—Pastor Lloyd Johnston

Materials Overview

Regardless of the form you choose, all of the New Hope materials are set up in three phases. It starts out very basic, laying a foundation, building truth upon truth that prepares you to do what God reveals needs to be done in your life, and then it goes deeper and deeper:

Phase I: The Foundation

- Establishes the authority of God's Word
- Leads people to the Lord and begins establishing who they are in Christ.
- Introduces Biblical Principles and explains why they are so powerful.
- Begins the process of evaluating thoughts, exposing lies, replacing them with truth.
- Establishes the intimate, personal relationship with our Heavenly Father that He desires for us to have and enjoy, and corrects any distorted thinking we may have about Him.

Phase II: Freedom

- Further establishes who we are in Christ and what that means.
- Makes clear the basis for our power and authority in Christ.
- Covers Biblical Principles dealing with the main root problems from which all other problems stem.

Main Root Problem #1 – Counterfeit Spiritual Experiences

Main Root Problem #2 – Generational Problems

Main Root Problem #3 – Believing Lies

Main Root Problem #4 – Unforgiveness

Main Root Problem #5 – Pride

Main Root Problem #6 – Rebellion

Main Root Problem #7 – Causing Offense

Main Root Problem #8 – Habitual Sins

Phase III: Transformation

- Concentrates more on renewing the mind (you are transformed by the renewing of your mind – Romans 12:2), then being rooted and grounded and built up in faith (Colossians 2:7).
- It produces a desire to serve, and trains people up and equips them *to* serve.

Counseling Handbooks:

The first section of our Counselor Handbook provides inspirational information on counseling from a Biblical perspective and explains the New Hope counseling process. Phase I, II, and III are what we lead a Counselee through. It is specifically designed for the Counselor to follow, with notes and instructions on exactly what to do and what to say to lead someone through the counseling program.

(This Overview Booklet is providing a look at the New Hope Program in the Bible Study form.)

The following is a list of *all* the articles in the New Hope Handbooks:

Phase I: The Foundation

Two Plans
Emotional Healing
Commitment
Establishing the Authority of God's Word
The Power of the Word
That Hopeless Feeling
Anger
Making Sure
Sin Too Great?
Plan of Salvation
How to Receive Christ
When Heaven Celebrates
Having Accepted Christ As Your Savior
New Babies in Christ
Adoption
What Happened
The Holy Spirit
Depending on the Holy Spirit
Knowing God
The Truth About Our Heavenly Father
Biblical Principles
The Sword of the Spirit
Crying Out
Listen to What God Says About You
 Lie List Instructions
 When the Lord speaks vs. When satan speaks
Things to Evaluate
The Drawing of the Father
How to Have Peace
Trade Your Pain
Prayers of Brokenness, Confession, Forgiveness, and Praise
The Ultimate Test of Faith
Assurances
Faith Based on Fact not Feeling
Obedience
Marriage
The Joy of the Lord
The Principle of Rejoicing
Thankful List
31 Ways to Praise
You are Unique
Messages From Your Heavenly Father
The True Character of God
Names of God Exercise

Hebrew Names of God Study

Phase II: Freedom

Introduction
Principle of Replacement
Renouncing False Labels
Be Careful What You Say About Yourself
Who God Says I Am
Inner Vows
Know Who the Enemy Is
Truth vs. Lies
Power of the Spoken Word
Defeating Fear
Freedom From Shame
Biblical Balance
Appropriating Absolute Truth
Resisting the Devil
Mighty Weapons
Declarations on the Blood of Jesus
Pulling Down Strongholds
God's Laws
Turning Our Darkness Into Light
Biblical Principles Dealing with Main Root Problems
Victory Principles
Main Root Problem #1 – Counterfeit Spiritual Experiences
Main Root Problem #2 – Generational Problems
Main Root Problem #3 – Believing Lies
Main Root Problem #4 – Unforgiveness
Main Root Problem #5 – Pride
Main Root Problem #6 – Rebellion
Main Root Problem #7 – Causing Offense
Main Root Problem #8 – Habitual Sins
 Put Off... Put On...List
 More Specific Problems or Issues
Emotional Ties
Be Alert
The Principle of Service
The Righteous Judge of all the Earth
Testimonials for the Righteous Judge
Principle of Sowing & Reaping
Composing Your Personal Profession of Faith
Personal Profession of Faith Samples
Remembering Your Deliverances
Realize the Power of Your Spoken Word with Others
The Power of Spoken Blessings

Phase III: Transformation

Phase III - Continued Assignments

Introduction

The Armor of God

A Prayer for Deliverance from Strongholds

The Lure of the Tempter

Praise is a Key

Receiving a Sound Mind

Rejecting Sinful Thoughts

Overcoming Depression

Stand Fast

Proclamations of Truth

Trusting God

Daily Affirmation of Faith

Decision Making

Prayer

Praying Doctrinal Truth

Daily Bible Reading

Thanksgiving and Praise

Worship

Living For Him

Encouragement

God Can Change the Way You Look at Life

Our Parallel Journey

Your Full Inheritance

Christ's Finished Work

Grace

His Righteousness

Your Forgiveness

Faith

Biblical Principles of Faith

The Blessings

Obedience

All His Benefits

Health and Wellness

Benefit Blockers

Health and Healing

Entering Into God's Rest

Keep On Believing

Radical Faith

Living by Faith

Declare the Decree

Speaking Those Things That Be Not As Though They Are (sample)

Profession (What You Speak)

Be Careful What You Say

How Do You See Yourself?

Bearing Witness to the Truth
Firstfruits
Purity and Holiness
The Great Commission
Final Exercise
The Return of Christ
God's Plan for You
Your Calling
Blessing

Appendices:

Appendix A: Additional Resources List
Appendix B: Revelations on Truth Statements
Appendix C: Scriptures for Specific Issues and Conditions
Appendix D: Composing Your Personal Profession of Faith Worksheet
Appendix E: Session Plan Form
Glossary
Counselee Evaluation
Gideon's 300
Materials Evaluation

“As a minister trying to meet people's needs in Christ, one of the most important things is God's Word. Through New Hope and their material, lives are being reached and changed. All through Seminary and Bible College I never came across material that affected a person's spiritual life as this material does. The material allows for progressive life changing counseling and a guidance program focusing not on man's word but on God's Word. I have been using this material for three years and have personally seen the program change lives with problems of sexual impurity, drug abuse, spousal abuse, homosexuality, and the lost accepting Christ. I can only say if you want to see the life of an individual change or a congregation change, invite them to use this material.”

—Rev. David D. Welch

Comments: As you go through this sampling of the New Hope program, remember these exact same materials are also available in the Biblical Counseling form, Prison/Jail Ministry form, and Individual Workbooks. The New Hope for Spiritual Growth Bible Study form is in a three-book series. As you go through this booklet you will see what's in all of the forms as well. We conduct Seminars using the Leader Handbooks with a dual purpose. We want people to apply these principles to their own lives first, while at the same time being trained to lead others through the New Hope series in a group setting, and there are Student Handbooks available for that purpose. It is important for each Student to have their own Handbook as they apply what they learn.

“Not only am I involved at New Hope as a Counselor, but I use the same materials for people in my church. As a Counselor, as a Christian, and as a Pastor, it is very important to me when counseling someone that it must be saturated with Biblical Principles. The Word of God itself must be presented accurately. New Hope’s material is the best I’ve seen. And that may not mean much to you, but if you knew me— that means a lot.
It’s powerful. It’s life-changing.”
—Pastor Mike Willis

Comments: This program in no way attempts to replace God’s Word or the church, but it aims to increase the knowledge of God in people’s lives, which does much to strengthen churches.

Try to see this from two different perspectives. See the information from the Student’s perspective as you read through it. And also notice how easily this Leader tool would make it for you to train people to lead small groups in your church.

You may be a very gifted teacher, so you may not need all of the instructional notes to the Leader or feel like you need to follow the Handbook word for word. But think of people in your church, who might need that kind of help. I think the way our Handbooks are laid out and the way we just follow it page by page will start the wheels turning for you. You’ll be getting a picture of the ways this could not only strengthen and mature the people in your church, but also equip them with a ministry tool they could feel confident using to help in your church ministries.

Remember, we’re not just talking about *Bible Studies*. There are also Handbooks in the Biblical Counseling form that could equip people to help with a counseling ministry, as well as the Prison/Jail Ministry form to equip people in that area, and Personal Workbooks for individuals to go through the series.

It’s a little harder for some people to understand our method at first, but remember, this is what makes it something that *anyone* can do. It works best to go through these materials slowly, actually reading it out loud together, and then discussing it. We simply take turns reading one paragraph each. There really is something about the way the brain works that causes things to sink in better when you hear something and see it at the same time. The Students have a copy of exactly what we have taught them each lesson, and then they carry out the assignments through the week.

These materials start out very basic, and then they build, and go deeper and deeper. It is put together in such a way as to continuously be laying a foundation for what comes next. That’s why it’s very important not to do things out of order. It is building truth upon truth that prepares each person to do what God reveals needs to be done in their life. We must take the time to allow the Word of God and the Holy Spirit to work in our lives, preparing us for each step that needs to be taken.

THE KEY to this whole program is in how we have created the assignments to help them specifically apply what they are learning. This is the missing piece in most of whatever people are doing, whether it be Bible Studies, Discipleship, or even just reading books. If we keep moving on to the next book, or the next Bible Study, without ever applying what we learned in the last one, it's just useless knowledge. These New Hope ministry tools are teaching people to know the truth *and apply the truth*. This is what brings about lasting change.

These materials are presented in such a way as to create an atmosphere where people have personal experiences with *God*, so that they truly seek Him with all their heart, their soul, their mind, and their strength.

There is a kit of items that goes with each Handbook that are used in the assignments given.

So let's take a look at a sampling of the New Hope Leader Handbook:

The first section contains helpful hints and suggestions on leading a group through the study. The Handbook is designed for *anyone* to be able to lead a group through the study just by following the instructions. This is a guide to follow whether you customize it to your own teaching style or just simply follow the material as it is.

We do not map out exactly what should be covered in each lesson or class time, because class times vary greatly from one group to the next. This study is designed for the group to go through the materials together and carry out the assignments during the week, so you can just go at your group's pace and stop wherever your time runs out. This is designed to not only teach people the Word of God, but to help them apply it. We *must* be doers of the Word and not just hearers only (James 1:22).

All instructions to you are in the "Note to Leader" paragraphs in bold print. Everything to read together with the class is in light print. Discussion questions are built into the text and are in bold italics. The Student's page number is listed after the title of each article in your book, so that you may easily refer to their page number when needed.

The items marked "Comments" in this Booklet are just my comments about the program.

Phase I: The Foundation

Comments: This is where you begin with the Students—it explains the materials and how the program is laid out. Then this Introduction:

Introduction—

p. 11

Have you ever experienced coming to know Jesus Christ personally, and accepted Him as your Savior? Or maybe you have accepted Christ, but you are living what feels like a defeated Christian life? Jesus said He came so that we might have life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10). What does *abundant* even mean? Maybe you are a new Believer and don't really know what to do next. Or maybe you have known Christ for a long time, but have never really grown much and you don't even know why. Maybe you have been enjoying a close walk with the Lord and desire to serve Him more. Wherever you are, at whatever point you are with the Lord, the Christian life is a journey and God wants *more* for you. Do *you* want more?

There are so many hurting people. We believe God wants to use this study to bring hope, healing, and growth to you personally, and to train and equip you to help bring hope, healing, and growth to others. Every one of us has experienced suffering or pain. At some point, we have all been wounded or scarred. Some of those wounds never healed properly and old wounds can carry on throughout the rest of our lives. The majority of Jesus' earthly ministry was healing and He is still in the business of healing today.

We are excited to share this study with you that God is using to bring “new hope” to so many people. It is no accident that you are doing this. The Bible says that your steps are ordered by the Lord (Psalm 37:23). God personally arranged this for you for a very specific reason.

We speak this blessing to you in the name of Jesus Christ: *Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13), and may He guide you into all truth (John 16:13).*

Note to Leader: Remember to always stop and encourage them to discuss wherever there are questions in bold italics.

What problems or pain have you experienced in your life?

There are TWO PLANS for Your Life—

p. 13

The first thing you need to know about problems is that there is always something bigger going on.

How do you think things will end up for you? God made you with a specific plan for your life to bring about the end that He expects you to have. God's plan is found in the book of Jeremiah:

God's Plan: “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end... And there is hope in your end, saith the LORD” (Jeremiah 29:11; 31:17).

Here is an instance where the word “saith” reveals something important. It is both *past and present* tense at the same time. God first said this to the children of Israel when they were being held captives in Babylon, but He is also saying it to *you now*.

But satan also has a plan for your life and his plan is for evil.

satan's Plan: *he is a thief who comes to “steal, kill, and destroy.” (John 10:10)*

he *steals*:

- Hope
- Peace
- Joy
- Possessions
- Things of great worth or significance
- Things we hold dear
- Things we treasure
- Finances
- Motivation

he *kills*:

- Suicide (all thoughts of suicide are from satan trying to get a person to take their own life— that is one way he can kill.)
- Murder
- Your love for others or for God

he *destroys* (usually by causing division, strife, and offense):

- Friendships
- Marriages
- Families
- Ministries
- Churches
- Your future

Do you see him trying to do any of these things to you?

What most people don't realize is that *you* have the power to choose which plan to follow or allow.

Look at Deuteronomy 30:19— “I call Heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live.”

It's important to see that your choices affect the lives of your children, and their children, and so on.

Which plan have you been following? Or allowing?

Which plan do you choose now?

Note to Leader: Have them write down their choice.

You have to specifically *choose*. Joshua 24:15 says, “choose you this day whom you will serve.” Can you make this choice and verbalize it? Take a moment to read through the prayer below and think about your choice, then we will pray this aloud together.

Note: There will be written prayers to pray throughout this study. We are not saying that people should only pray written prayers. We are helping them pray and teaching them how to pray, especially showing them how powerful it is to pray God's Word. We are giving them patterns. Jesus gave us prayer patterns in the Bible (“The Lord's Prayer” being one of the most famous). Always read through the prayer first, silently, so you will know what it says and can choose to pray it, then please pray it aloud.

If this is your prayer and your choice, please pray this aloud:

Dear God, I choose this day, life and blessing. I will not follow or allow satan to carry out his plan any longer. I choose Your good plan. In Jesus' name, amen.

In the same verse where Jesus spoke about the thief, He says in the last part of John 10:10, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” Jesus died so that you could have an abundant life and God wants to bring about the end that He expects for you to have. All you have to do is follow God's plan.

The “Messages from God” that are dispersed throughout the New Hope Handbooks reveal His heart toward you.

Message from God: *Do you realize that I think about you? I have a specific plan for your life; a life of good and not evil. I can give you hope and a future that is better than anything you can imagine—if you will just follow My plan for you.*

Comments: So it begins with them *making a choice* and it is such an important thing to do. *This does something to people.*

“Through the New Hope program I learned how to battle the thief effectively! They showed me the love of Christ and helped me to be renewed in Christ.” —John V. (Counselee)

“The materials kept my attention and I could not wait to see what the next lesson had in store for me. You all have put so much time and effort into these studies. They are awesome and truly a blessing. When our minister started telling us about these study guides, we were excited about it. Then he got them and threw them down in front of us. I looked at that book and said to myself, what have I gotten into— 250 pages of studies? I am 44 years old and I’m not a student anymore. Well after the first assignment, I was hooked. To tell the truth I always skimmed ahead a little just to see what was coming up next. These materials are awesome and I have learned so much I did not know.” —Inmate, Wapello County Jail

Comments: The next topic is “Establishing the Authority of God’s Word.” Some people think that’s just something we have to take on faith, but there *are* actual proofs that the Bible is God’s Word and after going over those, people have even more confidence.

It then talks about *The Power of God’s Word*, it addresses *Emotional Healing* and *Anger* from a unique perspective, and the *Plan of Salvation* to make sure everyone is starting on the same page.

“These materials were so very beneficial for me. Each section was like stepping stones (advancement) in my getting more knowledge and getting to know my Father better.” —George (Bible Study)

Comments: One woman shared after going through this study:

“These materials are phenomenal, life-changing. I know I am accepted by my Heavenly Father. His love is constant and continuous. I was bought with a price and I belong to God. It’s what I wish I would have been taught when I first became a Christian.” —Paula Oberbeck (Bible Study)

Comments: We want to begin teaching them who they really are in Christ from the very beginning after affirming their salvation:

If You Have Accepted Christ as Your Savior—

p. 37

Romans 8:16 says, “The Spirit (Himself) bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.” And Psalm 47 tells us that God is the Great King over all the earth, so if you are a child of God what does that make you?

A child of the King! You are royalty!

Comments: They will begin using some of the items in their kit for the following assignments:

- **Assignment:** On the first card of your spiral note card set write: “I am a child of the King.” This comes from Psalm 47:2b which says “He (*God*) is a Great King over all the earth.” Below the Truth Statement, write out the words of Psalm 47:2b. Set this out where you will see it often. Every time you look at it, speak the Truth Statement and the verse aloud. Think about this and speak it out loud often this week. Every time you see it, speak it out loud, and meditate on it. To meditate on something you read it, speak it aloud, think about it over and over, and pray about it asking God to reveal to you what this really means for you. Ask God what it means for you to be a child of the King. God told Joshua to meditate on His Word in order to have success: “This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth (*should not stop coming out of your mouth*); but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make your way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success” (Joshua 1:8).

What do you know about yourself as a child of the King? God tells us in 2 Corinthians 5:17 that we are *in Christ*, and, “if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” When we have accepted Christ it is important to know we are at that point a new creature. Old things have passed away and we are made new.

Do you really know who you are—in Christ? Let’s read Romans 8:16 again with the next verse included. It says, “The Spirit (Himself) bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ.” Wow! *Who are you?... Who are you an heir of?... Who are you a joint-heir with?... What does that mean for you?*

Here’s an example: Think back to the days when kings were common. Let’s say, a king’s son was out surveying their kingdom and he was thrown off his horse, hit his head, and had amnesia. He woke up and didn’t know *who* he was. All the rights and privileges of being the king’s son were still his, but if he didn’t know it, they wouldn’t do him any good at all. It’s the same for us. If we don’t know who we are as a child of the King and what that means, we might end up living like paupers instead of royalty.

God’s Word tells us all the truths about who we are in Christ and we really need to know them. In the New Testament, God talks about us as Believers, saying, *in Christ, in Whom, in Him, in Jesus* over 175 times. That’s a lot of things we need to know about ourselves. It’s not talking about what you *will be* when you get to Heaven. It’s talking about who you are *now*. You have some rights and privileges as a child of the King and knowing what they are could mean everything for you.

Do you know who God says you really are and what that means? This has much to do with the kind of life you live and enjoy.

(Give: “Who God Says I Am” Bookmark) This is a list of highlights of *who God says you are because you are His child*. This is the truth straight from God’s Word about who you really are and the privileges you have because you are *in Christ*. We are going to read through this list together. If you don’t understand one of them or you wonder, *how can that be?* Just speak up and we will stop and look up the verses that prove it. God’s Word is truth. We need to believe what God says is true no matter what things may *feel* like, no matter what things may *look* like. That’s why He tells us to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7)! **(Note to Leader: Read through the list now having each person take one each— remember, you don’t need to read the references aloud).**

Proverbs 23:7 says as a man thinks in his heart, so is he. What you believe to be true about yourself determines how you feel and what you do. This is why it is so important to begin to change what you believe about yourself by making it line up with the truth about who you are in Christ.

- **Assignment:** “Who God Says I Am” Bookmark. Speak this aloud using the list on the front, first thing in the morning, and the list on the back, last thing at night. It makes a great deal of difference what you put into your mind first thing in the morning and last thing before you go to sleep at night. “Because I am in Christ” is the main heading over *all* the Truth Statements. That main truth can either be spoken at the beginning of the list, or if you prefer, before every Truth Statement. *Please make sure you do this assignment.* If you went to a medical doctor and they gave you a prescription, telling you to take it twice a day, wouldn’t you follow the directions? This is just as important. This is your *prescription*. Proverbs 4:22 is speaking of the words of the Bible and says, “For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.” The original Hebrew word used for the word *health* in that verse means *medicine*. God’s Word contains medicine! Don’t just read through the list. Speak it *out loud*. The reason this is so important is because your brain will eventually believe what it hears you saying. And if you want change in your life you have to change what you believe about yourself first.

Luke 4:4 says, “Man shall not live by bread alone, *but by every Word of God.*” There is power in God’s Word, and His Word needs to be in us. This is the most important thing for all of us to understand.

Message from your Perfect Heavenly Father: I know you don’t know where to start or how to live as My child, but trust Me, I will show you. I have so much I want to tell you and show you; so many treasures I have waiting for you to discover. Come with Me. Set aside a special time for Me every day. We will have adventures together!

Note to Leader: You will see in your preparation time for each class, different things that speak out to different Students and their different problems and situations. God seems to customize these materials to somehow address each individual’s needs. They see these materials from the perspective of their own problem or need.

Note to Leader: Begin every lesson with prayer. Pray for your Students and ask God to open their eyes of understanding, to show them what He wants them to see and tell them what He wants them to know. Here is an example of how you could begin each class time from now on:

Assignment Check:

- For the first class time after they were given the Truth Statement, “I am a child of the King” to meditate on, begin by asking the question:
“So tell me, who are you?”

If they followed their assignment instructions they will say, “I am a child of the King.” Ask if God revealed anything to them after meditating on this truth.

- See if they have been speaking the “Who God Says I Am” Bookmark list (using the list on the front, first thing in the morning, and the list on the back, last thing at night). Make sure they do this assignment throughout the course of this study.

“Is there anything else about yourself that you can tell me?” (Get them to tell you things from this list.) Stress the importance of continuing this assignment:

“I can’t stress enough how important this is; putting the truth of God’s Word concerning yourself into your mind first thing in the morning and the last thing at night.”

- You could thereafter, begin every class time with going around the room and having each person share if God revealed anything special to them while meditating on the weekly Truth Statement, or their favorite truth on the “Who God Says I Am” Bookmark list, or anything else from the materials you are working on.
- Remember, you as the Leader need to be doing this also!

Testimonial:

After meditating on the truth “I am a child of the King” for a week, one woman told us, “Well, I meditated on it, but I don’t think God really revealed much. All I received was: You know how members of a royal family have special protection? They are heavily guarded.” Wow! She didn’t think God had revealed much—until we pointed out just how profound this was. Because she is a member of His royal family she has special protection. She is heavily guarded. Then she felt very special that God had revealed this to her.

This is an example of why it is *so important* to do this assignment each day. God wants to reveal special things to you.

“Meditation produces revelation; and revelation motivates us to worship Him and obey Him.”¹

Here is another example to give you an idea of what this does for people:

One person, after meditating on the truth statement: *I am a member of the Body of Christ*, said: “God gave me the picture of the woman who touched the hem of Jesus’ garment and was healed. What He revealed to me was that there was so much power coursing through Christ’s body that all the woman had to do was touch His garment and she was healed. That same power is still coursing through Christ’s body today – And I am a part of Christ’s body – so that same power is coursing through me!”

Comments: Now when God reveals special things like that, what do you think happens to the person? There are Appendices in the back of the Handbook in which there is a list of all the truth statements and examples of things people have shared with us. It’s so important for you to actually *do* all of these little assignments. It may seem that it’s not very important since it’s so simple, but *it is so important*.

Here is a testimonial from a pastor who went through the counseling materials in a Seminar:

“What this has meant to me personally— I just can’t begin to tell you what God has done in my life. If you could have walked with Jesus personally, would you want to? Would you have liked to have been His disciple? Would you like to have known what it was like? You all have the opportunity through this course. You will see it. The things you learn will become a life experience, not just things written on a page. The first thing you will learn from this is that the people who come to you for help will have an improved self-image. The “Who God Says I Am” bookmark list will start to change their thinking. They will start seeing themselves in a different light. Then you will see the lies of the devil exposed. Next you will see them have an intimate relationship with God. You will also see interpersonal relationships grow within your church in the Seminar or class setting. So many things happen in that room because of what we are sharing with them. It is a powerful thing to see someone change right before your very eyes.”

— Pastor Rod Reynoldson

We do a big exercise on identifying any wrong thinking they may have about God:

“What we believe about God is foundational to our whole belief system. If we have wrong thinking about God, we will have wrong thinking about everything else.”² If we have a distorted view of God, our Heavenly Father, we will have a distorted view of everything else.

There is a difference between knowing about God, and *knowing* God.

Romans 12:2 says that you are “transformed by the renewing of your mind,” but when you received salvation your mind was not automatically renewed. We still have wrong ways of thinking, old incorrect attitudes, and wrong ideas about things. Satan can use these against us in his schemes to lie to us even about God. You are dealing with an enemy who wants to destroy your relationship with your Heavenly Father. God wants to be your Abba Father. *Remember? Abba means Daddy.* But past experiences and bad memories of our own father could affect the way we see and feel about our Heavenly Father. This makes it easy for the devil to lie to you about God so that your close, personal relationship with Him will be hindered. Jesus said in John 8:32, “...you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” God wants you to know the truth about Him to break you free from those lies. You can be set free to really know and truly worship Him “in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24) in ways you may have never thought possible. We are going to look through a list of lies about our Heavenly Father and see if any of them are lies you have believed.³

Let’s read through this prayer silently first, then to begin, we will all pray this aloud together:

Father, please show me where, in any way, that I have a distorted view of Your love, Your character and ways. Reveal to me the full truth of who You are. I want to know You, really know You. I ask this in Jesus’ Name, amen.

You know how you feel if someone is believing something that isn’t true about you? That’s how God feels when you believe something that isn’t true about Him. He doesn’t want you to think that of Him and feels bad until you know the truth. Let’s look through the list of lies about our Heavenly Father (on the next page). See if any of them are lies that you have believed about Him. Let’s read through the list aloud, working our way down, one by one, from left to right. Everyone take one each, beginning each one by speaking the statement at the top of that list. Please put a mark beside any of the lies you have believed. Your assignment will be to come back and do this personally with the Lord by speaking aloud the renunciation of any lies that you have believed about your Heavenly Father and the affirmation of the truth, working from left to right. Begin each one by speaking the statement at the top of that list. Stop after each one and look up and read the Scriptures that prove the truth.

Message from Your Perfect Heavenly Father: I want you to know the truth about Me. I want you to know Me— really know Me.

“I just feel that every member of every church should go through this.” —Darlene Campbell (Seminar)

The Truth About Our Heavenly Father⁴—

p. 58

I renounce the lie that my Heavenly Father is...

1. distant or disinterested.
2. insensitive or uncaring.
3. stern or demanding.
4. passive or cold.
5. absent or too busy for me.
6. never satisfied with what I do, impatient or angry.
7. mean, cruel, or abusive.
8. trying to take all the fun out of life.
9. controlling or manipulative.
10. condemning or unforgiving.
11. nit-picking, nagging, or perfectionistic.

I accept the truth that my Heavenly Father is...

1. intimate and involved (Psalm 139:1-18).
2. kind and compassionate (Psalm 103:8-14).
3. accepting and filled with joy and love for me (Zephaniah 3:17).
4. warm and affectionate (Isaiah 40:11; Hosea 11:3-4).
5. always with me and eager to spend time with me (Jeremiah 31:20; Ezekiel 34:11-16; Hebrews 13:5).
6. patient, slow to anger, and pleased with me in Christ (Exodus 34:6; 2 Peter 3:9).
7. loving, gentle, and protective of me (Psalm 18:2; Isaiah 42:3; Jeremiah 31:3).
8. trustworthy. He wants to give me a full life. His will is good, perfect, and acceptable for me (Lamentations 3:22-23; John 10:10; Romans 12:1-2).
9. full of grace and mercy, and He gives me freedom to fail (Luke 15:11-16; Hebrews 4:15-16).
10. tenderhearted and forgiving. His heart and arms are always open to me (Psalm 130:1-4; Luke 15:17-24; Romans 8:1).
11. committed to my growth and proud of me as His growing child (Romans 8:28-29; 2 Corinthians 7:4; Hebrews 12:5-12).

“I thought I knew God’s love, but this material takes the knowledge of that love not just one step farther, but *so many steps further*.” —Regina Allen (Seminar)

“The materials were *very* beneficial. They have helped me know my Lord so much deeper—an even more heartfelt love. I felt there was some kind of a ‘wall’ between God and me when I first started coming here. That wall has disintegrated.” —Linda (Bible Study)

We explain what Biblical Principles are:

Biblical Principles—

p. 60

Since this study is on Biblical Principles we need to understand what Biblical Principles are.

Definition of a principle: Fundamental truth, or law.

Many Biblical Principles are set forth in *if/then* passages. God says, *If you do this... then I will do this...* If you do your part, then God will do what He said, because God’s Word is His bond. He will not go back on His Word.

There are so many Biblical Principles set forth in the OT, but many people think because the OT was during the time of “the law” and we are in the “age of grace” that nothing in the OT applies to us now. God has set some eternal principles in place which absolutely do apply to us now. If you take the recorded accounts of what happened to the Israelites there is always a parallel to the Christian life. Romans 15:4 says, “For whatever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have *hope*.”

God told the children of Israel through Moses that He put them through the things He put them through to teach them eternal principles. Deuteronomy 8:3 says, “And He humbled you, and suffered you to hunger, and fed you with manna, which you knew not, neither did your fathers know; that He might make you know that man does not live by bread only, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD does man live.” “God knew those people were going to get sick of all that manna! Day after day after day, nothing but manna. That’s why He did it— to teach them this *principle* that man cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God!”⁵ Jesus proved this principle carried on into the New Testament, by proclaiming it to satan when he was tempting Jesus in the desert. This was also an example of using Scripture (the Sword of the Spirit – Ephesians 6:17) as a weapon to fight satan.

In 2003, our National Day of Prayer committee called on the people of the United States to implement a Biblical Principle; a day of “humility, prayer, and fasting.” This was not just the standard “day of prayer,” but one of *humility, prayer, and fasting*. They knew what 2 Chronicles 7:14 says:

“If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

Those leaders knew that implementing this Biblical Principle would *heal our land*.

Applying Biblical Principles is a life of great power, joy, adventure, and confidence in a God who does what He says He will do.

Chuck Swindoll gives an example of a Biblical Principle in his Insight for Living Bible Study Guide, *Gaining a Fresh Perspective*:

Joel 2:25-27: “And I will restore to you the years that the locust have eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, My great army which I sent among you. And you shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that has dealt wondrously with you: and My people shall never be ashamed. And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the LORD your God, and none else: and My people shall never be ashamed.”

“God offered the Israelites an opportunity to redeem the years stolen by the locusts. God offers us these same principles to clean away the years of regret and remorse that have built up in our lives... In His mercy, He wants to give back those years that were lost to the locusts.”⁶

The locusts in this passage represent things that bring devastation and destruction. Even though in this passage the bad circumstances were brought on by their sin, God still offered a way out. No matter what your circumstances are, or what the reasons behind them may be, God wants you to know that He can not only make your future better, but He can also make up to you for what was lost. This offers such *hope*!

But this Principle requires us to do something first. Joel 2:12-13 says, “Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn you even to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for He is gracious and merciful.”

We must turn to God with *all our heart*. This means giving Him everything in our lives. We need to come to Him in sincere repentance and be willing to let Him change us. *A common practice in the ancient Near East was the rending, or tearing, of garments to outwardly express sorrow.*⁷ But God wants a sincere change of heart, not just the outward appearance of remorse. He wants us to rend our hearts and not our garments. Turn to the Lord with all your heart. He is gracious and merciful.

If you fulfill your part of the Biblical Principle in Joel chapter 2, then God will fulfill His Word and bring restoration into your life.

Message from God: *I want to restore to you the years the locusts have eaten.*

The Sword of the Spirit—

p. 62

Did you know that God’s Word can be used as a weapon to fight against the enemy, or problems, or even temptations? In the Armor of God passage in Ephesians 6:10-18, we are given one offensive

weapon: “The Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.” Something very interesting about that is the Greek word for “Word” there was “*rhema*,” which means: *a word primarily spoken*. When Jesus was being harassed by the enemy in the wilderness, He used the “*rhema*” Word of God as His weapon to stop the enemy’s attacks. He spoke aloud the Scripture that applied to each temptation (Luke 4:1-14; Matthew 4:1-11). That is the “*Rhema*” weapon of God’s Word at work. We should follow the Lord’s example.

Think about this: Have you ever experienced *fear*? Fear can be a product of our own imagination, but it can also be an actual spirit of fear. There are times when you can actually *feel* fear creep up on you. If that happens and you speak God’s Word concerning fear aloud, you can actually *feel* it leave. Even if the fear is coming from your own imagination or insecurity, speaking God’s Word aloud also does something psychologically, bringing your mind into agreement with God’s Word, and the feeling will change. God’s Word is *powerful!*

You can stop these attacks the same way Jesus did— by speaking aloud God’s Word talking about fear. 2 Timothy 1:7 says: “For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” Personalize this verse and write it out on a loose note card to have ready when you need it: *For God has not given me the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind*. Whenever you feel fear, speak this aloud.

Anytime you are struggling with something, find a specific verse to use as a weapon (Sword of the Spirit – Word of God) to write down to fight with. There is a list of Scriptures for Specific Issues and Conditions, which may be helpful, found in Appendix C in the back of this Handbook. Find the Scripture that applies to your need and write it out (or personalize it) on a note card to have handy and be ready— then use it when you need it. Neither problems, nor the enemy, can stand against the truth of God’s Word used against them.

You know, there’s almost like a hidden clue found in the OT concerning this principle. It’s found in Leviticus 26:7-8 that says our “enemies will fall before us by the sword.” I believe spiritually, for us, it’s talking about the Sword of the Spirit!

Comments: Then we start getting into the renewing of the mind process. Romans 12:2 says you are transformed by the renewing of the mind.

What is in our mind? *Thoughts.*

What does God tell us to do with our thoughts? *2 Corinthians 10:5 tells us to take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ.*

So what does that tell us? *Our thoughts are not going to automatically be obedient to Christ and we have a responsibility to capture those disobedient thoughts. So we have to start paying attention to what our thoughts are.*

Did you know that we can have thoughts in our mind that are lies? Did you know that satan and his evil forces can lie to us in our mind? (See John 13:2). They can interject thoughts into our minds that are lies. Why do they do that? Because if they can control our thoughts they can

control the way we feel, and if they can control how we feel, they can more easily control what we do. The enemy can negatively affect or even actually destroy someone's life just by getting them to believe lies. So we want to teach them how to start paying attention to what thoughts are coming into their minds and how to identify lies, how to reject those lies, and how to replace those lies with the truth. And what is truth? God's Word is truth.

Here are some excerpts:

The devil tells us one thing and God tells us another. satan is the 'father of lies' and God's Word is truth. Which one will you believe? So you have to learn how to distinguish between satan's voice and God's voice, so you can automatically reject satan's lies and replace them with God's truth.

If you have a hard time distinguishing if something is coming from God or satan, remember this:

satan is accusing — God is affirming
satan is condemning — God is forgiving
satan is merciless — God is merciful
satan is cruel — God is tender
satan is hateful — God is loving
satan is abusive — God is nurturing
satan drives — God draws

According to *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*, to *renounce* something simply means to verbally declare your decision to reject, refuse, and cast off a certain thing or belief. The original Greek word used for "renounce" in the NT, indicates *an act of disowning* (2 Corinthians 4:2). I believe this does something psychologically *and* spiritually.

As you begin to start identifying lies the enemy tells you in your mind, you need to then learn how to reject and renounce those lies, and replace them with the truth.

Assignment: Start paying attention to the thoughts coming into your mind. God tells us in 2 Corinthians 10:5 to take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ. When you identify a thought that is a lie from satan, write it down. We have inserted two pages at the end of this Handbook entitled, "Lie List," for you to make this list on. Write down every lie the enemy tells you. You will find there are not that many. He usually tells the same few lies over and over, sometimes in different variations. Then figure out the truth to replace those lies with. A good rule of thumb is this: If satan is telling you a lie, the truth is usually the exact opposite. Draw a line through each lie as you speak aloud: *I renounce this lie that _____*. Then write down the truth and speak aloud: *I accept the truth that _____*. Then find a Scripture verse or passage that backs up the truth.

How do you find a Scripture with the truth to replace those lies? Some Bibles have a concordance in the back in which you can look up key words to find a verse. You would pick a key word from your *truth* (which would be the exact opposite of what the lie was). There is also a list of "Scriptures for Specific Issues and Conditions" in Appendix C of this Phase I Handbook that might be helpful. If you need help finding the truth to a lie or a Scripture to back it up, please tell us and

we will help you find it. We have inserted pages at the end of this Handbook for you to keep your Lie List and countering Truths.

Lie List with countering truths (sample):

~~Lie: I am worthless.~~

Truth: I am valuable (Matthew 10:29-31; Luke 12:6-7).

Speak aloud:

*I renounce the lie that I am worthless.
And I accept the truth that I am valuable.*

Then whenever satan tries to tell you that lie again, say (out loud): “*No. That’s a lie. The truth is...*” It will totally defeat those lies and they will no longer work on you. It is the truth that will set you free from all lies. John 8:32 says, “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

Note to Leader: Assignment Check— Remember to ask about their Lie List for several weeks. Help them find the truth to each lie and make sure they have crossed off the lie and written down the truth. Ask if they are speaking the truth out loud each time satan tries to use that old lie on them. Encourage them to keep doing this.

More excerpts:

It’s also very important for you to know that satan *cannot* read your mind, so he will not obey your thoughts. That’s why you need to renounce his lies verbally. Only God is Omnipotent (all-powerful), Omniscient (all-knowing), and Omnipresent (present everywhere at once). Sometimes it may seem like the enemy can read your mind, because he studies you and learns your patterns, weaknesses, and tendencies. And obviously, he does know the thoughts that *he* puts into your mind. But only God knows *everything* you are thinking:

- 1 Kings 8:39b says: “for You (*God*), even You only, know the hearts of all the children of men.”
- 1 Chronicles 28:9 says, “...for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts...”
- “You (*God*) know my down-sitting and my uprising, You understand my thought afar off” (Psalm 139:2).
- “And the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and said unto me, Speak; Thus saith the LORD; Thus have you said, O house of Israel: for I know the things that come into your mind, every one of them” (Ezekiel 11:5) (see also: Jeremiah 11:20; 17:9-10).

Do not allow the devil’s lies that he puts in your thoughts to remain there. Refuse to continue listening and thinking about them. Renounce them verbally (because the enemy cannot read your own thoughts) and choose to think about God’s plan for your life. Trust that as you follow His plan, He is forming and shaping you and your life. He not only wants you to have His best plan, He also wants you to be a light for others. That’s why the devil is trying to stop you with his lies. This is a process, but John 8:32 says that *the truth will make you free*.

Comments: There are several other assignments given, things such as: read a particular passage of Scripture or write out specific verses on note cards. One thing we really stress is journaling. Here is some of what we have to say when this assignment is first given:

- Journal.
 - Do you keep a journal? This would also be good for you to do.
 - This is not like a diary. You don't have to write in it strictly every day or every detail; just significant things.
 - Make it a spiritual journal. This is an opportunity to keep a record as you see the plans of God unfold for your life. Make sure you date each entry. It's almost like a *Hope Chest* that you *could* even pass on down to your children in which you can store the thoughts, prayers, or other treasures God gives you to discover. Or this may be very personal and you may not want to share it with anyone. It may just be between you and God. It is for remembrance, either way. In Exodus 17:14, "the Lord said to Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book."
 - This is also very therapeutic. Here are a few ideas to help you get started: Your first entry should be the choice you made on day one— Deuteronomy 30:19— life or death, blessing or curse... You could list Scriptures that are especially meaningful to you. Or you could write a prayer, committing yourself to the full purposes of God for your life. Or you may want to just pour out your heart to your Heavenly Father (remember David's examples in the Psalms he wrote, and be free to tell God *anything*). Maybe you would like to keep a record of the ways God leads you in His destiny for you and the purposes for which He created you, and you may want to write down the lessons you learn along the way.⁸

Comments: We continue on, teaching about who they are in Christ and deepening their Father/child relationship with their Heavenly Father. We go into more depth on the doctrine of Adoption and what it really means to be adopted as God's child and into His family. It is amazing to see not only new Believers, but people who have been Christians for many years as God opens their understanding in ways they've never known before. Then, more of the parallel of the journey of the children of Israel is revealed, and we use this comparison throughout all of Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III:

There is a direct parallel between the journey the children of Israel took and our journey through the Christian walk. Jehovah led them out of the land of bondage into the Promised Land. He is going to be leading *you* out of a life of bondage into your own personal promised land.

As God leads you out of a life of bondage into your own promised land, it is going to be a journey much like the journey the children of Israel took. You are going to have to trust God to lead you and you *must* obey Him. He will be your Protector and Guide.

Comments: Then we set up something that is going to tie all three phases together, and explain what will be their final assignment at the very end of the three-book series. We tell them:

You will want to keep track of the most important things you learn along the way. You can do this in a journal or in a separate notebook. This will eventually become your own *personal* “profession of faith.” The following verses tell us why this is so important:

In Hebrews 3:1 Jesus is called the “High Priest of our profession.”

Hebrews 4:14 says, “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.”

Hebrews 10:23 says, “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;).”

The original Greek word used there for *profession* means *confession with the mouth*. There are different types of confessions. The first thing we think of is confession of sin. But what we are talking about here are the things that you confess with your mouth. To confess means to *proclaim*; it’s what you speak. These verses also suggest that we are going to be subjected to pressures that could change or weaken our profession. But no matter what pressures come, triumph comes only through holding fast. God knew we would need something to hold fast to. How do you hold fast to something? Picture it: you would wrap your arms around it and hold tight to it and not let go. *To hold fast means we don’t give up. We continue to insist that the Word of God is true in our every situation. We must hold fast to the Word of God and what we believe in spite of everything else.*⁹

Your confession lines you up, gives you your place, it establishes your position. This is one thing you will be developing on this journey: Your own *Personal Profession of Faith* that you can hold fast to. As you go through this three-phase study, make note of things that are especially meaningful to you that could be included in your *Personal Profession of Faith*. It will come from things like your most meaningful truths on the “Who God Says I Am” Bookmark, special Bible verses, truths you will learn that become a part of who you are, etc... You should look back over what we have already studied, to see if there is anything there you might want to include. This will all be composed into your own *Personal Profession of Faith*, which you will write as a final exercise at the end of the Phase III book of this study (we’ll even help you put it together if needed). There are pages at the end of this Handbook to make note of things you want to include.

Comments: We also include something dealing specifically with marriage. There is a marriage prayer and verses that are used in some special assignments and are good for anyone to have, even if they are not in the class with their spouse. Even if your Students are not married, this is good for them to have for possible future reference.

Assignment: Begin by praying and asking God to bring to your mind things that you appreciate about your spouse. Then make a list of at least 10 things that come to mind (we have inserted a page for this). Pray and thank God each day for these good things about your spouse.

Marriage Exercise

Assignment: Husband and wife personalize and repeat 1 Corinthians 1:10 (below) to each other every day. Remember, God's Word has power built into it. The reason it is so powerful to speak it aloud together like this, is because God's Word has the power to bring about what it says. Husband begin, wife repeat):

I beseech you (name) .

I beseech you (name) .

By the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

By the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

We will speak the same thing,

We will speak the same thing,

So that there be no divisions among us;

So that there be no divisions among us;

But that we be perfectly joined together in the same mind and judgment.

But that we be perfectly joined together in the same mind and judgment.

Comments: Now what do you think it might do if a husband and wife spoke these specific words from God's Word to each other every day? We believe God's Word holds the power to bring about what it says, and that's what we see happen. We have couples from our counseling program at New Hope Counseling Center who years later will see me and say, "We're still doing our marriage verse together!"

"Before New Hope our personal lives were a mess, our children were suffering, and our marriage was split. New Hope taught us to order our private lives, develop our potential, and to release ability. Together we now serve in ministry, reaching out to people locally and internationally.

If you would like more information about how New Hope dramatically transformed our lives, please call us at 641-658-2606."

—Shawn and Holly Oden (Counselees)

Comments: We talk about the Principle of Rejoicing, the sacrifice of praise, and the sacrifice of thanksgiving. We get into how unique and special they are to God.

Comments: Once they have learned how to identify lies coming from the enemy and especially lies they have believed about God, then they are really ready to get to know their Heavenly Father. We do a study on the different Hebrew Names of God, revealing His character and faithfulness to His children.

“For thirty years, I lived the life of a defeated Christian. I had talked to pastors, doctors, psychiatrists, counselors, help phone lines, prayer phone lines, taken Prozac, Paxill, and nothing worked until I came here. I’ve learned how to have a close, personal, intimate relationship with my Heavenly Father. I know who I am in Christ. I know what kind of power I’ve been given. I no longer fear God or think He’s out to get me! I have received freedom from all the things satan tried to use against me for the past thirty years.” —Julie (Counselee)

Phase II: Freedom

Comments: Phase II is where they work into dealing with the main root problems in their lives by learning more about satan’s deceptions and strategies. satan’s power is in the lie and when his lies are exposed by the truth, his plans and “schemes against us” are defeated. This process of rejecting lies and replacing them with the truth is called the “Principle of Replacement.” This works in all areas and is used in an important exercise called:

Renouncing False Labels—

p. 24

Excerpts:

Knowing who God says you are in Christ is so important because what we believe about ourselves determines how we live.

Sometimes labels are placed on people when they are young that end up controlling them for the rest of their lives. Name calling by other kids, statements such as, “You are so clumsy,” “You are such a loser,” “You’re ugly,” “You’re fat,” “You’ll never amount to anything,” etc., or careless words spoken by parents, other people, or authority figures can leave lasting negative effects on people. Being labeled an “alcoholic” or “A.D.H.D.,” effect the way people see themselves and can actually lock them into that behavior. Faulty thinking can also cause us to label ourselves. What we believe about ourselves influences how we feel and what we do.

The enemy wants us to be labeled with things that are not the truth of who we really are. We when believe his lies and even speak them about ourselves, we are in agreement with him. Isaiah 28:14-15 describes some people who had made lies their refuge and says they were in agreement with the devil: “Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, you scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem. Because you have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves.” We need to make sure we are in agreement with God, and not be in agreement with the devil.

False labels that have been pinned on you, or that you have pinned on yourself, need to be verbally renounced so that you can be free of them. We believe this does something psychologically and spiritually.

After renouncing the false label, you then must make a declaration of the truth (principle of replacement). You will have to determine what the truth is that counters each false label in order to declare it (remember, the truth is usually the exact opposite). A declaration is “to make known explicitly some determination; to proclaim, announce, publicly declare.”¹⁰ Declarations are made to not only other people who will hear it, but also to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, to all the heavenly beings, ministering spirits (Hebrews 1:14), the great cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 12:1), and also to satan and all his evil spirits.

Ask God to reveal any false labels that are giving you a distorted view of yourself and negatively affecting your life. Psalm 46:10 says, “Be still and know that I am God.” We can ask God something, then sit quietly before Him and listen for His answers. Begin with the following prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Please reveal to my mind all of the false labels that have been placed on me or that I have placed on myself. I want to accept as my identity only the truth which comes from You and Your Word. In Jesus’ name I ask this. Amen.

Write down on the first blank sheet of paper we have inserted, anything that comes to mind, no matter how insignificant it may seem; there is nothing too silly.

For each false label, separately, speak the following renunciation and declaration out loud. After renouncing each false label, cross it off your list, then write down a Truth Statement that counters the false label on the second blank sheet of paper included and speak it out loud.

False Label Renunciation and Declaration:

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the power of His blood, I renounce the false label of _____. Father, I’m sorry for believing this was true of me. Please forgive me. I choose now to accept as my identity only the truth which comes from You and Your Word. I am a child of the King. In Jesus’ name, amen.

I now declare the truth:

_____.

Now tear up that piece of paper with the list of untrue things about yourself and throw it away! Use the new list of Truth Statements for your own personal list of who you really are.

Assignment: *Do* this exercise, prayerfully with the Lord this week. Find a Scripture that goes with each of your personal Truth Statements and speak this new personal list of who you are once a day for a week.

Note to Leader: At the next class time, check to see that everyone was able to find the Truth Statement to counter each false label they identified. Make sure they also found a Scripture to go with each new personal Truth Statement. If anyone was unable to find the truth or a Scripture to back it up, have everyone in the class help find this.

Message from your Perfect Heavenly Father: *I want you to know the truth about who you really are, so that you can have joy and peace in your life, and so that you can be who I created you to be. I hate it that you have been misled and that these untrue labels have hurt you and negatively affect your life. I want you to know, believe, and proclaim the truth about yourself. Be still and know that I am God. Listen to Me and I will reveal to you the truth. You are My child and My Word reveals the truth about yourself.*

You also need to be careful what you say about yourself:

What you say about yourself has a greater impact on you than anything anybody else says about you. Many people are over-critical of themselves or they constantly speak negative about themselves, saying things like, “I’m so stupid.” “I can’t... I can’t.” “I’ll never be able to lose weight.” “I can’t do anything right.” “Nothing good ever happens to me.” It’s as if they are cursing themselves with the words of their own mouth. You’ve probably heard the analogy that your mind is like a computer. This is true— and *your words program it!* All those negative statements program your mind and you develop a defeated mentality, low self-confidence, and low self-esteem. These negative mindsets can even interfere with God’s plan for your life. It becomes a stronghold in a person’s life and the best way to pull down these strongholds is by speaking words of God’s truth and victory. You can speak blessings over your life. When discouragement comes, don’t give in to it, counter it with God’s Word. Say: “*No. I refuse to be discouraged. God’s Word says I am a victor. I am an overcomer. God always causes me to triumph in Christ!*” And you have to do more than just think it. You have to speak it out loud, because your mind will eventually believe what it hears you saying.

Concerning your true identity in Christ:

The truth of who you are and what that means will become a part of you as you consistently speak it out of your mouth. That’s why your enemy will fight you so hard on this or try to make you feel like it isn’t important. He doesn’t want you to truly know who you are and what that means. This alone should prove to you how very important it is.

Comments: So we re-emphasize the importance of speaking aloud the Who God Says I Am bookmark list daily and meditating the Truth Statements.

It is also very important to continue meditating on the Truth Statements from the “Who God Says I Am” list each week. 1 Timothy 4:15 says, “Meditate upon these things; give yourself wholly to them; that your profiting may appear to all.” This verse tells us that we need to give ourselves wholly to the truths of God’s Word by meditating on them, and also that if we do, we are going to profit by it. We will profit to such a degree that it will be evident to others. Let’s renew our commitment to obey this specific instruction from God’s Word.

Continue using your spiral note card set, to write down the Truth Statement and *the entire verse* to meditate on each week. It is so important for everyone to do this simple assignment. It is so awesome when God reveals something special to you. This is when it drops from your head to your heart! You will never understand what this can do for you, unless you experience it for yourself. Continue to work your way down the list meditating on the next one each week. Please don't forget to do this every week. Remember, God says to meditate therein (*His Word*) day and night and it will make your way prosperous and you will have good success (Joshua 1:8).

*We are teaching people who they are in Christ,
so that their lives are transformed.*

Comments: We also do an exercise on “Inner Vows” they may have made that may be negatively affecting their life. We have them ask God to bring to their remembrance anything that needs renounced.

“Being involved in the New Hope program has been very helpful. Thanks to our exercises, I have been given the opportunity to get rid of a lot of junk that I have been carrying around for a very long time. Our studies have shown me how to use Scripture in the right ways so that I may apply the authority that God has given me to renounce satan at any time and claim my victory in Jesus’ name! I firmly believe every Christian needs to go through this program.”
— Channel Hill (Seminar)

We talk about fear:

Defeating Fear—

p. 205

Have you ever experienced fear? Fear can be a product of our own imagination or mistrust of God, but it can also be an actual spirit of fear. There are times when you can actually *feel* fear creep up on you. If that happens and you speak God’s Word concerning fear aloud, you can actually *feel* it leave. 2 Timothy 1:7 is the verse to use for fear: “For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” God’s Word is powerful.

For many people, fear and anxiety are a big part of their life. Anxiety is a “serious apprehension of evil” about something uncertain “which disturbs the mind and keeps it in a state of painful uneasiness,” but you don’t even know what it is you are troubled about.¹¹ Fear has a specific thing you are afraid of.

Fear is: False
 Evidence
 Appearing
 Real

What are some things people are fearful of?

Fears often come true for those who focus on them. Fears do manifest if you focus on and magnify the fear instead of focusing on God and magnifying Him. Psalm 56:3 says, “What time I am afraid, I will trust in You.” The most important thing is to not take your eyes off of Jesus. Peter learned this in Matthew 14:22-32. The Disciples were in a boat on a stormy sea one night and Jesus came to them walking on the water. They were really frightened when they first saw Him. They thought he was a ghost. It says they “cried out for fear.” Jesus told them, *Don’t be afraid. It’s Me.* “And Peter answered Him and said, Lord, if it be You, bid me come unto You on the water. And He said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when He saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, *(Peter was fine until he took his eyes off of Jesus and began to look around at the wind and the waves. When he took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink)* he cried, saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth His hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O you of little faith, why did you doubt? And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased” (Matthew 14:28-32). Peter was walking on water while he kept his eyes on Jesus! But when he began looking at his circumstances instead of Jesus, he began to go under. Yet even then, when he cried out to Jesus, the Lord reached out and caught him.

Fear is really the opposite of faith, in that faith is believing what God says and fear is believing what the devil says.

The word “fear” comes from the Greek word “*fobos*,” which means: *flight; to run away from.* One of the *Vine’s Dictionary* definitions is “*that which is caused by the intimidation of adversaries.*” You know who *the adversary* is. “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8). As with everything else, satan uses lies (*false evidence appearing real*) to cause fear. He uses fear to try to make people run away instead of standing firm, and falling backward instead of moving forward. You cannot let fear stop you. Don’t let the “feeling” of fear keep you from moving forward. God tells us over and over to “fear not”:

Comments: We look at all of the places in God’s Word where He tells us to “*fear not*” and then show them how to use God’s Word as a weapon to defeat fear. What is one weapon we are given in the Armor of God passage in Ephesians 6? The Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. Something very interesting about that is the Greek word for “Word” there was “*rhema*,” which means: *a word primarily spoken.*

Now think about this: *We know the enemy can attack us with fear. So how can we defeat the enemy’s attacks? The same way Jesus did. When He was being harassed by the enemy in the wilderness, what did He do to stop the enemy’s attacks? He called satan by name and*

commanded him to leave, but what else did Jesus do? He spoke the Scripture that applied to the temptation. That is the *Rhema* at work.

“Through this program I learned how very important it is to speak God’s Word out loud.” —David Sherrard (Bible Study)

More excerpts:

Psalms 34:4 says, “I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.” The AMP defines what it means by, *he “sought the Lord”*: “I sought (inquired of) for the LORD, and required Him (of necessity, and on the authority of His Word), and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.” For any fear, you can stand on the authority of His Word (Psalm 34:4) and proclaim: *I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears!*

2 Timothy 1:7 is great one to personalize and use for any fear. Write it out on a note card, keep it handy, and use it whenever you feel fear, by proclaiming: *God has not given me a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7)!*

Even if the fear is coming from your own imagination or insecurity, speaking God’s Word aloud also does something psychologically, bringing your mind into agreement with God’s Word, and the feeling will change. God’s Word is so *powerful!*

You can stop these attacks the same way Jesus did— by speaking God’s Word aloud. Nothing can stand against the truth of God’s Word used against it. (Remember the list of verses on different issues and conditions, which may be helpful, found in Appendix C.)

What usually goes along with fear? *Worry*. The definition of worry is: *to torment oneself with troublesome thoughts; to seize by the throat to shake and mangle*. Isn’t that a picture of what the devil tries to do to us? You know, if people actually kept a *Worry Journal*, they would find that 99% of the things they worry about, never happen.¹² So they’ve wasted all that time, and stress on their mind and body for *nothing!* Use 1 Peter 5:7: “Casting all your care upon Him; for He cares for you,” as your proclamation of truth to defeat worry. *Casting*, in the Greek, means to “throw upon.” Listen to the descriptions in the AMP of the Greek words used there: “Casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worried, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully.” When you first catch yourself worrying,

Testimonial:

“God has freed me from fear and anxiety. He spoke to me through 2 Timothy 1:7, “God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” As I spoke this verse aloud over and over, God revealed to me that He did not give us fear, which results from feeling helpless. He gave us POWER! He didn’t give us fear, which is focusing inwardly on ourselves, but LOVE, which focuses on others. He didn’t give us fear, which leads to anxiety and mental health problems, He gave us a SOUND MIND! Not only did He not give us fear, He gave us the opposite of fear!!”

—Heather Shubert

proclaim out loud: *I will not worry. I cast all my cares on the Lord, because He cares for me affectionately and watchfully.*

Assignment: Take a small bean bag and let that be your worry. Throw the bean bag across the room. Take all your care (all your worry) and throw it upon Jesus once and for all. Don't pick it back up. Let Him take it and keep it.

It's really a trust issue. Worry, fear, and anxiety all exhibit a lack of trust in God. That's the enemy's goal. He puts *thoughts* into our mind, or manipulates how circumstances around us *look*, or causes us to *hear* things that will produce *feelings* of worry, fear, or anxiety—all in his attempts to get us to not trust God. It's all apart of his lies. You must be more aware of his schemes against you, refuse his lies, and choose to believe and trust God. This is what He says:

Comments: We look at many Scriptures that talk about trust and end with this assignment:

Assignment: Write or personalize 1 Peter 5:7 (for worry), 2 Timothy 1:7 (for fear), or one of the trust Scriptures (for anxiety) on a note card and use it like in the examples above. Keep it handy this week to fight worry, fear, or anxiety every time it starts to come upon you (*or come up with one you specifically need*). Use it by speaking it out loud. We will have each person share at the beginning of our next class time what Sword Verse you use for your weapon this week and what happens as you do this.

Psalm 119:42 says, “So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproaches me: for I trust in Your Word.” Reproach means: criticism, blame, accusation, harassment. *This verse says we are supposed to answer the enemy with God's Word when he does those things to us!* The key is to be *consistent*— and *persistent*— when you are battling against something. You may need to keep proclaiming God's Word over and over. Keep doing it— just like Jesus did.

“I became overwhelmed with life's circumstances. I had lost hope, peace, and victory. I was overwhelmed with fear and had no clear sense of purpose. The eyes of my heart have now been enlightened, and I know the hope to which He has called me, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and the immeasurable greatness of His power in me who believes, according to the working of His great might. I am strengthened with might through His Spirit in my inner man. (Eph1:18-19, 3:16)” —Leiba Wiskus (Bible Study)

Comments: We do an exercise to experience victory over “Shame.” We also talk about having “Biblical Balance.” Here is an excerpt from that article:

It is important that we keep a Biblical balance in our spiritual warfare. The Word of God reveals that we face three unique enemies that seek to defeat the spiritual life of believers: the world, the flesh, and the devil. We cannot develop a mentality that Satan is behind everything. We cannot deny that we have to take responsibility for some things. The “old

self” or old nature of man and its bent for evil, along with the world system we live in, must be understood in a Biblical perspective. We know that “no good thing” dwells in our flesh (Romans 7:18). Yes, satan is “the tempter” (Matthew 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5). But James 1:14-15 says, “every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death.” We have to take responsibility for putting down our own flesh which has great potential for evil all on its own. As far as the world goes, we need only take a look at the entertainment industry, the mass media, and even our own judicial system to see that there is a concentrated attack against Christians going on. It is obvious that there is also some overlapping and working together of these enemies. satan’s activity stirs up the activity and intensity of the flesh and the world system.

And:

... When fighting temptation and sin, some people think they have to figure out whether it is coming from the devil or whether it is coming from the flesh *before* they can fight it. They fear giving satan credit for something that their flesh is responsible for. One of satan’s strategies is to get people to stop and not fight at all, thinking they have to figure out whether it is the devil or the flesh. I believe that our three enemies of the world, the flesh, and the devil are so tied together that they really cannot be separated. So you don’t have to figure out which enemy you are dealing with each time, just apply the principles of spiritual warfare and that will battle all three of your enemies at the same time.

There are some very evident clues given in the account of Jesus’ temptation in the wilderness (Luke 4:1-13). There were three temptations. The first was a temptation to satisfy His hunger by turning the stones into bread. This was a temptation of the flesh. The second, a temptation of the world, was for worldly power over all the kingdoms of the earth. The third was a temptation of the devil, to test God. There were temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, but the big thing to see here is that *all three were coming from the devil!* satan was *using* the appeal of the flesh, and *using* the appeal of the world, but it was still satan who was behind all three temptations!! For each temptation, Jesus used the same weapon— the Word of God. Everything depends on us following Jesus’ example. Just use the weapon of the Word and it will defeat the attack— no matter which enemy it is.

Here is a testimonial from a dear elderly lady who went through the Bible Study form in one of our Seminars:

“I am not quite sure why I chose this New Hope program, but I did and my life will never be the same. I am a positive person but I found myself learning new things about darkness, satan, lies, sins and their results. I was very uncomfortable at first. As the Spirit lead, I began to search my life for sins, lies, and I found an old self I had kept covered with a smile (for many, many years). It was good! By the end of the study I felt renewed, reclaimed, and as a result Christ is in me to a greater degree.

Greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world.”

—Mary Zintz (Bible Study)

Comments: We cover “Absolute Truth” and how to appropriate absolute truth. To appropriate means to: *claim or use, as by an exclusive right. Believers can overcome most emotional problems if they are taught absolute truth and how to appropriate absolute truth by applying it to their lives. We give them some prayer patterns to use to apply absolute truth against their three enemies of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and how to put on the Armor of God by faith.*

We teach more on how to resist the devil, with the key verse being James 4:7: “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” Again, we follow Jesus’ example teaching them to use His exact words. “*In Jesus name, by the power of His blood, Get behind me, satan! For it is written...*” Then to speak the appropriate Scripture.

Another article is called:

Mighty Weapons—

p. 101

In 2 Corinthians 10:4, we are told that, “The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.” What are these mighty weapons that will pull down the devil’s strongholds? There are three primary weapons God has given to every Believer that have built-in power in them: the Word of God; the Name of Jesus; and the Blood of Jesus.

Comments: Here is an excerpt on the Blood of Jesus that provides some incredible information:

“We have become over familiar with the term the Blood of Jesus. Let’s explain what that phrase means. In a natural birth, new life begins at the time of conception. The blood type of the new child is determined at the moment of conception and is protected by the placenta from any flow of the mother’s blood into the baby. (*This is a scientific fact, easily verified by any medical practitioner or textbook.*) When Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary, the Holy Spirit planted the life of God’s Son. Since conception did not occur naturally, and Mary did not supply any of her Adamic blood into the spotless Lamb of God, the blood type of Jesus Christ, God’s Son, was pure and precious. Jesus’ Blood was free from the Adamic stain of sin and was not contaminated. The Blood that flowed in His veins was perfect. Jesus had the blood of God. (*God had to have planned this in advance, so it could work this way.*)”

Comments: Why is the Blood of Jesus so powerful? Because it was sinless.

We then talk about pulling down strongholds with our weapons:

“We all come to Christ with old ways of thinking, old attitudes, existing beliefs formed by what we have been taught, what we have read, and past experiences. Mindsets can be formed by misinformation, inaccurate teaching, and wrong perceptions. satan will use all of those things in his lies as he schemes against you. A mindset, or belief system based on lies can then become a stronghold. Definitions of a stronghold: *Having the power of great strength which keeps a thing fast and prevents escape; strict, severe; a prison; a place of confinement; forcibly affecting the sight, taste, smell, mind, intellect or any faculty; not easily overthrown; grown strong by time; power or*

*influence operating on the mind; advantage that may be taken in governing a person's conduct.*¹³ Does that not describe all “addictions” and major sin problems? Strongholds bring about actions that are always in direct opposition to God’s Word and His will. We have the weapons available to us to pull down strongholds, which is necessary for God’s truth to really penetrate our spirit and soul.”

Here is an instructional note to the Leader where we are ready to begin dealing with the Main Root Problems:

Notes to Leader: It is so important that the Students know and have confidence in who they are in Christ and as a child of the King, their victory over the enemy, and victory over sin, before you take them through the Biblical Principles dealing with main root problems. That is why their daily assignments are so important and you must continue to impress this importance upon them. Make sure you have them continue speaking aloud their “Who God Says I Am” list twice a day, and continue meditating on one Truth Statement per week. Begin each lesson sharing things the Lord has revealed. We need to continue to teach them and reaffirm to them these truths so they can stand firm, built up in that knowledge and confidence. They need to know that God has the power to take care of their problems, and they have the authority, in the power of His might, to overcome their problems.

Comments: There have been several other assignments given, and more will continue to be given, to apply and reinforce everything that is covered in your class times.

An excerpt from the “Introduction” to the main root problems:

Remember the parallel that exists between the journey the children of Israel took as Jehovah led them out of the land of bondage into the Promised Land, and our journey out of a life of bondage into our own promised land. The entire book of Judges provides an excellent overview of the cycle they fell into after God brought them into their Promised Land. The symbolism is profound and important for us to be aware of and understand. When they forgot the Lord their God and fell back into sin, breaking the commands He set down for them, God let them fall into the hands of their *enemies*. The enemies would take some of their land (which represents *ground* in our lives). The Israelites would come under hard *bondage* to their enemies. After suffering for a time, they would *repent* and *cry out* to God again. God would then have compassion on them and *deliver* them, enabling them to *fight their enemies*, breaking their yoke of *oppression*, and take back their land. They had *lost ground*, and then would have to fight to *take back ground*. This became a pattern; a cycle of: sin–bondage–repent–deliverance / sin–bondage–repent–deliverance; a pattern that kept repeating itself over and over. *They could only stop the cycle by listening to what God told them to do and obeying His Word.*

The breaking of spiritual laws set down by God in His Word allows the enemy to have ground in our lives. It opens a spiritual door, if you will, that gives the enemy access to us and makes it easier for him to carry out his schemes against us. Sin opens a door to the enemy. Every time you open a door, you give the enemy permission (or consent) to be there. The first mention of the word “sin” in the Bible reveals this powerfully. It is in Genesis 4:7, where God is speaking to Cain, who had presented the wrong offering. God said, “If you do well, shall you not be accepted? And if you do not well, sin lies at the door. And to you shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.” Sin is

described as crouching at the *door*, just ready to pounce. Interestingly, sin is also given personal pronouns— *his, him*. I believe this reveals the ties to the enemy. When you sin, you *open that door* and the enemy is just crouching there ready and waiting. It then gives the enemy power to bring about consequences to that sin, plus feelings of guilt and condemnation. It allows the enemy to rob you of victory here on this earth. It is an issue of living in victory. That verse ended by saying, “and thou shalt rule over him.” Remember, there is a big difference between the words “should” and “shalt.” “Thou shalt” is a *command*. We are commanded to rule over the enemy.

God gives instructions in His Word about how to take that ground back away from the enemy and close those doors, eliminating his access to you. Don’t get caught in the cycle the Israelites fell into. Stop the cycle by listening to what God tells you and obeying His Word.

The following Biblical Principles are designed to help you deal with the main root problems in your life, which all other problems stem from. You will deal with the things that *can* open doors for satan to have access to you. If he has an open door in your life, he is able to take advantage of you and cause problems in any area of your life. Strongholds can develop. A “stronghold” can be described as a vice-like grip. Your Heavenly Father wants you to be free from any and all strongholds. You will experience this freedom when you make the choice to follow the Principles that God has set in His Word. No one can do it for you. The battle for your mind and your life can only be won by you renouncing the lies, choosing the truth, and living according to it. Just knowing the truth is not enough. *You have to live it.*

“When you become a Christian, you learn about salvation, but you don’t learn as much about where to go from there. Everything you are teaching will help people grow as Christians and not have to live stuck in the past.” —Brenda Noe (Seminar)

Comments: We get into the main root problem principles by first going over some “Victory Principles.” These are truths that satan does not want people to know. The first are passages of Scripture that prove that victory over sin is already ours. What we need to do is *stand in the victory that is already ours.*

Excerpts:

Note to Leader: Now begin having *them* take turns reading the Scriptures, and you ask the questions. They need to let the Word of God speak to them and answer the questions from the verses. Everyone can answer— not just the person who reads the verse. You have the answers to the questions in *italics*. Let them give their answers first, then you repeat with the answers given here in your Handbook. Give them time to write down the answers to the questions. Sometimes there are further comments in *italics* for you to read to the Students. Or, you can have them continue taking turns reading the extra comments.

Romans 6:6-7—

“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.”

1) What has happened to your old self? (It was crucified with Christ.)

2) So what does that make it? (Dead.)

If your old self is dead, then you can choose not to sin.

Say: My old self is dead! I can choose not to sin!

Say that with me: My old self is dead! I can choose not to sin!

With sin comes prison.

Without sin comes freedom, peace, and joy.

Romans 6:8-11—

“Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dies no more; death has no more dominion over Him. For in that He died, He died unto sin once: but in that He lives, He lives unto God. Likewise reckon you also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

“Reckon” means: to regard as; make up your mind; decide.

1) What should we decide to be dead to? (Sin.)

2) Who should we decide to be alive to? (God.)

3) How? (Through Christ Jesus our Lord.)

Decide to be dead to sin and alive to God through Jesus.

Say: I decide to be dead to sin and alive to God through Jesus Christ my Lord.

Say that with me: I decide to be dead to sin and alive to God through Jesus Christ my Lord.

Romans 6:12-16—

“Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for you are not under the law, but under grace. What then? Shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under

grace? God forbid. Know you not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants you are to whom you obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”

1) Should we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? (No.)

2) Who should we yield ourselves unto? (God.)

*Know that you can choose not to sin.
Decide to be dead to sin and alive to God through Jesus.
Yield yourself to God.*

*You know what that makes you?... Submitted to God. And then what's next?...
Submit yourselves, therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you!
(James 4:7).*

Galatians 2:20—

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”

It is not only that you are in Christ— It is also Christ in you!

...You are the righteousness of God in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21). Positionally, you are already complete in Christ. The process is bringing what is already true of you in the spirit, into the physical realm. This is so important to remember.

Message from the Lord: *I long for you to live in freedom. You have been made free in the spirit, now you must learn and walk out that freedom in the mental/emotional and physical realm. You need to know, believe, and understand that I have made you free there as well. I gave My life so that you could be free from all that binds you.*

Comments: The next Victory Principle is “Victory Over the devil.” This is another powerful truth the enemy does not want them to know. Victory over the devil is already theirs; they just have to stand in that victory.

Excerpts:

Ephesians 1:19-20—

“...And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places,”

The Greek word used here for “mighty power” is dunimus, defined in the AMP as immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of His power.

1) What did God use this kind of power to do? *(Raise Christ from the dead.)*

2) What is His power for us who believe? *(That very same power.)*

The same incredibly mighty power He used to raise Christ from the dead is available to help you! It is right there, available for you, but you have to use it!

God Himself said it—He put it in writing—The questions is: Do you believe Him?

Ephesians 1:21-23—

“...Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: and has put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that fills all in all.”

According to the verses you just read, the church is the body of Christ. This is not any specific denomination. Those who have accepted Christ as their personal Savior are a part of the body of Christ. We are “the church.”

1) Who is the head of the church? *(Christ.)*

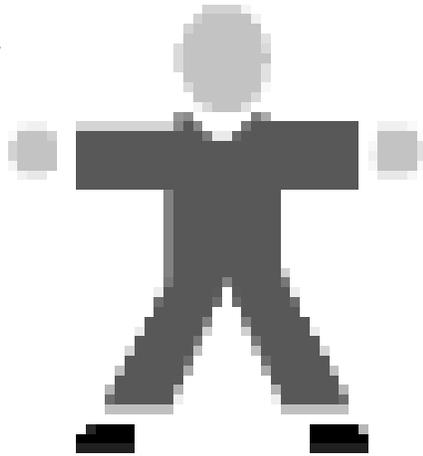
2) If God has placed “all things” under Christ’s feet, where would satan be?
(Under Christ’s feet.)

3) If Christ is the head, and we are the body, where is satan as far as we are concerned? *(Under our feet.)*

4) Where then does that mean satan is located in regards to you?
(Under my feet.)

satan does not want you to know that.

**Christ is the Head
of the Church**



**We (the Church)
are the Body
of Christ**

satan and his kingdom
are under our feet

Main Root Problem #1: Counterfeit Spiritual Experiences

Comments: This is talking about counterfeit spiritual experiences people have had, which covers false religions and the occult. Most people may not have been involved in many of the most serious things, but some people have, and we go through everything the same way with everyone. Being involved in any counterfeit spiritual experiences can open doors to the enemy and gives him legal ground in a person's life. They must specifically renounce those things and close those doors.

Here are some excerpts:

Many people don't know what their problems stem from, what started them, or even when they started. It may possibly be because of something they didn't even realize would open a door to the enemy.

Any connection, no matter how insignificant you may think it is, with anything, any person, or group that denies Jesus Christ, receives or gives guidance from any other source than the Word of God, or anything that has secret ceremonies or covenants, opens a door in the spiritual realm to give demonic spirits access to you. I am not talking about becoming demon possessed for a Christian, but evil spirits can come upon them from the outside and wreak havoc in a person's life. All occult (satanic inspired or directed), false religions (cult), practices, and any objects or symbols associated with them are included in this.

...According to *Webster's 1828 Dictionary*, to renounce something means to verbally declare your decision to reject, refuse, and cast off a certain thing. To renounce simply means to verbally proclaim your decision to turn your back on a specific thing, group, belief, activity, or practice. This is a spoken declaration of complete repentance, which means to turn away from the thing you are

repenting of. I believe this does something psychologically *and* spiritually. Confessing and receiving God's forgiveness is very important. Verbally renouncing *closes the door* that was open to the enemy and stops his access to you from that area. You can be forgiven and still have a door open to the enemy. You must verbally close the door. Closing this door *first* makes it a lot easier to deal with all of the other main root problems.

Our God is a Jealous God:

- “Thou shalt not bow down yourself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me” (Exodus 20:5; Deuteronomy 5:9).
- “For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God” (Exodus 34:14).
- “For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God” (Deuteronomy 4:24).
- “I am the LORD: that is My Name: and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise to graven images” (Isaiah 42:8).

Jealous is defined as: *Having that passion or peculiar uneasiness, which arises from the apprehension that a rival may rob us of a loved one's affection, or the suspicion that he has already done it; suspicion that another is more loved or respected than ourselves.*¹⁴ God deserves and desires all of our affection, love, respect, and honor. Giving any place to anything tied to false gods makes Him jealous.

There are riches of knowledge contained in the OT that we should be using in our lives today. God put spiritual laws in place to govern the universe. He did it for our protection. But if we break a spiritual law, then satan (the “accuser of the brethren”) goes before God claiming legal ground. *I didn't know it was a spiritual law* is not an excuse that will hold. God *does* hold us responsible for everything that is in His Word. He has gone to great lengths to preserve His Word and make it available to everyone. We all have access to a Bible. Therefore, we are without excuse. Do you know what police officers are trained to reply when someone says, “But I didn't know...”? — “*I'm sorry, sir, but ignorance of the law is no excuse.*”

Ignorance is not bliss:

- “For wisdom is a defense, and money is a defense: but the excellency of knowledge is, that wisdom gives life to them that have it” (Ecclesiastes 7:12).
- “Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto My words, nor to My law, but rejected it” (Jeremiah 6:19).
- “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou *hast (past and present)* rejected knowledge...” (Hosea 4:6).
- “Lest satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices” (2 Corinthians 2:11). *But this would also mean that if we are ignorant of his devices, he will take advantage of us.*

...There is great controversy over whether Christians can be “demon-possessed” or not. Possession infers ownership. As one who has accepted Christ as Savior, you were purchased with His own

blood, and ownership belongs to God. Possession is not really the issue. The truth lies in the original language. The term “demon-possessed” is used to translate a single Greek word *daimonizomai*, from which we get the word “demonized.” The original Greek word, according to *Strong’s Greek Dictionary*, can mean either to be possessed with a devil(s) or *vexed* with. So for a Christian, I believe, the problem is being vexed by a demon or demons. It is very interesting to see what the definition is of *vex* in *Webster’s*. *Vex* is: *to provoke, to irritate, to make angry by little provocation; to torment, harass, afflict; disquiet, agitate; trouble, disturb, distress, to stretch as by hooks*. To be vexed is: *a state of being irritated or disturbed in mind*. Those are all exact descriptions of being *demonized*. We waste so much time debating on whether a Christian can be demon-possessed and that is not really the question. Can they be possessed—as in “ownership”? *No*. Can they be demonized? *Yes*. It’s really a control issue. You can allow *other people* to control you, so why is it hard to believe people can let satan control them? Don’t let the enemy totally distract you with splitting hairs over the exact location of the evil spirits. It doesn’t matter where they are! They can have access to cause you trouble and problems in any area of your life. If you take the proper steps to remove them, they will be *gone*. This whole program is designed to help you eliminate satan’s access to you. When you get satan’s hand out of every area of your life—*everything can change*.

Ephesians 4:27 tells us, “Neither give place to the devil.” *Strong’s* identifies the Greek word “*topos*” for “place,” with a meaning of: *a spot, a location, a position, home*. If you have given the devil a place, then *you* have to take it back.

Comments: Will the enemy ever leave you alone completely? No. Not if you’re doing anything for the Kingdom of God. But we teach people how to be better fighters and appliers of God’s weapons and His truth.

After much more Scriptural evidence and preparation, at the end of this principle there is a prayer asking God to reveal everything to them that they need to take care of in this area and then have them look through a list of counterfeit spiritual experiences. There is a prayer pattern to help them renounce those things, close the doors that were open to the enemy, and declare their total allegiance to Christ.

In dealing with each of the eight main root problem areas, we go over the teaching together in class and then the Students go back during the week and actually do it personally.

Here is a testimonial from someone who was actually involved in the occult:

“I used to be a Wiccan high priest. I suffered from a very dirty and bitter divorce. I have seen combat against the Taliban and Al Queda forces. Even with my salvation through Christ’s blood, there was an unseen spiritual barrier between my Lord and I. I was ready to give up, to turn my back on God when I heard of “New Hope.” Because of New Hope, many of my walls and barriers have fallen like the walls of Jericho. God, my God, has healed my relationships, my heart, my body, and my household. He has made me whole.”

—Tim (Counselee)

Message from your Perfect Heavenly Father: *Child, nothing is too difficult for Me, absolutely nothing. I see your chains. My heart is compassionate towards you. Come to me. Trust me. Only I can bring out into prosperity those who are bound in chains. I desire to do this for you. Come close my child...let me set you free. In My Presence, the strongholds will come tumbling down. In My Presence, nothing can hold you fast, but My everlasting love for you! Stay close my child, true deliverance is on the way.*¹⁵

Main Root Problem #2: Generational Problems

p. 153

Excerpts:

Why do people so often follow in the same sins as their fathers?

Just as physical problems can pass down from one generation to the next, so can spiritual problems. Think of how something like alcoholism seems to run in a family, and how something like abuse can follow each generation in a family. There are many problems that can be passed down generationally. Some are through genetics, some are a product of learned behavior from our surroundings, and some are spiritual. Since the physical, emotional, and spiritual are all tied together in humans as tri-part beings, the spiritual possibilities must be dealt with since it can affect all other areas. This can be such an important turning point for many people.

...In most of the OT, the people were actually punished for the sins of their fathers, but God instituted a new principle in Ezekiel chapter 18. This tells us that the one who sins shall answer for their own sin. The children are not *held responsible* for their father's or forefather's sins, but their sin can still carry consequences that affect their following generations. Ezekiel 18:20 makes it clear that no one is judged for someone else's sin. What your family members or forefathers did are *not* your sins (unless you have chosen to give in to the same sins). You don't need forgiveness for their sins— but their sins gave the enemy permission to be involved in your family line, causing problems there or causing the people in that family line to be more susceptible to that particular sin area. When you renounce those specific sins, and confess and renounce any of the prevalent family sins *you* are committing, you remove permission for the enemy to be there for that reason. You have cut off and turned away from that sin. Then by verbally sealing that door shut with the blood of Jesus, it makes it so much easier for you to keep that door shut.

Message from your Heavenly Father: *I long to have all of you, My child, all of your love and all of your affection. Take hold of My strength and make complete surrender to My protection.*¹⁶

Comments: After much more Scriptural evidence and preparation, there is a prayer pattern for them to use asking God to reveal to their mind the things in their family lines that need to be addressed, with a prayer and declaration at the end.

Main Root Problem #3: Believing Lies

p. 165

Excerpts:

The starting point of most problems is lies. You have been lied to. You have been deceived. Revelation 20:10 reveals satan as the deceiver. He started with Eve in the garden and “from that moment to this, satan has used deception to win our affections, influence our choices, and destroy our lives. In one way or another, every problem we have in this world is the fruit of deception—the result of believing something that simply isn’t true.”¹⁷ Nancy Leigh DeMoss puts it this way:

“Regardless of the immediate source, anytime we receive input that is not consistent with the Word of God we can be sure satan is trying to deceive and destroy us. What we read or hear may sound right, may feel right, may seem right— but if it is contrary to the Word of God, it isn’t right.”¹⁸

God tells us in John 8:44 that satan is the father of lies. The very first piece of armor God provided for our defense against the father of lies is— the belt of truth (Ephesians 6:14). Psalm 51:6 says, “Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part You shall make me to know wisdom.” Jesus came and died so that we might have life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10). One of the ways satan can keep people in bondage and away from that abundant life is by getting them to believe lies. What we believe determines what we do. This is how satan seeks to control our actions. But Jesus said, “...you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). It is essential to have and to know the truth deep down inside our heart, in our spirit. Having this truth “rooted” and “grounded” produces a faith that is far greater than simply having knowledge. God’s Word is truth (John 17:17). God’s truth is powerful enough to divide soul and spirit, and joints and marrow, and to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12). Believing and acting on the truth is the only way to the lasting change and abundant life you desire. The truth is incredibly powerful!

Here is another little excerpt:

satan’s lies, if believed, then create a certain mindset in a certain area or concerning a certain thing. A mindset, or belief system, based on lies can then become a stronghold. Let’s review the definitions of a stronghold (let’s read through this slowly, really thinking about what it is saying): *Having the power of great strength which keeps a thing fast and prevents escape; strict, severe; a prison; a place of confinement; forcibly affecting the sight, taste, smell, mind, intellect or any faculty; not easily overthrown; grown strong by time; power or influence operating on the mind; advantage that may be taken in governing a person’s conduct.*¹⁹ What an accurate description of the bondage of strongholds that can control and determine our actions. But remember, we have the weapons available to us to pull down strongholds. satan will try to convince people that it is not possible for strongholds such as drugs, alcohol, smoking, over eating, etc., to be torn down, but that is a lie. God says, “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds” (2 Corinthians 10:4).

Message from your Heavenly Father: *I want you to know and believe the truth. I want you to be free from all bondage that believing lies has kept you in.*

Comments: We then take them through examples of lies from our three main enemy areas: the world, the flesh, and the devil. We consistently teach them to ask God specifically what needs to be dealt with and then carry through on what He reveals is true of them. They follow the prayer patterns and complete it by renouncing the lies and choosing God's truth.

"The program brought into sharp focus the Biblical truths, the issues,
and the answers to root problems. The materials are excellent!"
—Dave Stephens (Bible Study)

Main Root Problem #4: Unforgiveness

p. 181

In John 10:10—Jesus is speaking, and He says He came so that we might have life, and that we might have it more abundantly. *Unforgiveness* is one of the main things holding many people back from living that abundant life. *Are you living an abundant life?* If not, could it be due to unforgiveness you've held on to? How many people do you think there are, who appear to be fine, but inside are living in torment due to bitterness? *Bitterness* comes from unforgiveness.

Do you know what else Jesus said in John 10:10? (The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy.)

Who do you think the thief is? (satan – the enemy.)

So what does that tell us about the abundant life Jesus came to give us?

(The thief, satan, will try to steal it away.)

Bitterness (or unforgiveness) is one of the biggest ways he can do that. Bitterness actually opens a door to the enemy. So the enemy does not want you to *understand* what forgiveness really is or how to deal with unforgiveness, because it's one of the biggest ways he can keep you from the abundant life Jesus died for you to have.

Hebrews 12:14-15 instructs us to, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled." How could a root of bitterness in someone defile many others? Defile means: *To corrupt, pollute, infect*. Bitterness in someone can pollute others around them and may even pollute an entire family. The roots of bitterness run deep and may reach back several generations. (If this is something God is just now revealing is true in any of your family lines, you can go back to Principle #2 and break that chain.) A bitter root brings nothing but trouble, and roots branch out with little tendrils that are far reaching in many directions, spreading trouble to every area of your life. It *does* affect (or infect) those around you. But in order to really understand how to get rid of bitterness, we must first have a clear understanding of the terms involved in this principle, and one of those terms is "*forgiveness*."

The biggest hang-up most people have with forgiveness is the word itself. And it's because they don't understand its true meaning. A big reason why so many people have misconceptions about

what forgiveness really is, is that in our English language, we only have one word for “*forgive*.” Whereas, in both the Hebrew and the Greek there are four different words for “forgive.” Just like our one word, “love,” is the translation of six different Greek words used in the Bible. . .we lose a lot in the differences of meaning in translating them all to our *one* word— *love*. And it’s the same with our one word—*forgive*. Our one English word “forgive,” does not convey the different meanings of the *four different Greek words* for “forgive.” Let’s look at the Greek Dictionary in *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance*²⁰ for the different definitions in the New Testament uses (let’s read through these slowly and really think about each word or phrase):

God only:

*Strong’s #859 (aphesis) is used only when speaking of God’s forgiveness of sins (this is how He forgives us), and it means: freedom, pardon, deliverance, remission. The definition of remission is: release, relinquishment of a claim or right, pardon, the giving up of the punishment due to a crime; as in the remission of sins.*²¹

Us:

Strong’s #5483 (charizomai) means: to grant as a favor, gratuitously, in kindness, pardon or rescue: deliver, (frankly) forgive, (freely) give, grant.

Strong’s #630 (apoluo) means: to free fully, relieve, release, let depart, dismiss, let go, loose, (send) away, set at liberty.

Strong’s #863 (aphiemi) (used in the majority of the verses translated to forgive) means: to send forth in various applications: cry, forgive, forsake, lay aside, leave, let go, omit, put away, remit, suffer, yield up.

“To send forth in various applications,” plus the many different descriptions, reveal that there are different types of forgiveness. In this forgiveness principle, we will be talking about different types of offenses, so it is important to understand that there *are* different types of forgiveness.

To tell someone, “*Well, you just have to forgive that person who sexually abused you, just the same as you would someone who said something bad and hurt your feelings,*” is just wrong! To even tell someone that, is offensive. It *wasn’t* the same! So the types of forgiveness are not the same.

Realizing that there are different types of offenses, doesn’t it make sense that there would be different types of forgiveness? What are your thoughts on this?

Comments: We take them through these different types of forgiveness and how they fit different situations. We show them what God’s Word specifically says about forgiveness, and how to actually do it. They go to God, asking Him to reveal to them who they need to forgive and they make a list of what He brings to their mind. Then we help them actually give the type of forgiveness that is required for each one. This is one of the most dramatic experiences people will have. At the very end, we have them destroy their list. It is truly an amazing and even miraculous sight to see the healing that takes place during this time.

“My faith has grown so much. I was also able to forgive and let go of being sexually abused by a relative over 20 years ago. I have learned to deal with things differently, as God would like them to be dealt with. I have learned life is so good when we have God with us in every way. I am now feeling the wonderful freedom of forgiveness and love of my Father/God.” —Anita

Main Root Problem #5: Pride

p. 205

Pride is: an unreasonable conceit of one’s own superiority (thinking you’re better than everyone else) in talents, beauty, wealth, accomplishments, or rank, which manifests itself in lofty airs, haughtiness, arrogance, and often contempt of others.²²

It can be the biggest hindrance to that “Abundant Life” God so wants for you to have.

Isaiah 14:12-14—

“How art thou fallen from Heaven, O lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which did weaken the nations! For you have said in your heart, I will ascend into Heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High.

1) Who is lucifer? (satan.)

2) For what reason did God cast satan out of Heaven?
(He tried to exalt himself above God.)

satan “said in his heart” (meaning mind), *I will... I will... I will...*

“*I will...*” means “I want my will, not God’s will”

3) What is that called? (Pride.)

When you are living or acting in pride, you are most like satan.

*Pride was the first sin ever committed.
There is no sin that pride is not at the heart of.
Pride opens a door to the enemy.*

Comments: We take them through what God’s Word says about pride and what it says about humility. Here’s one example:

1 Peter 5:5b—

“God resists the proud, and gives grace to the humble.”

1) Who does God resist? (The proud.)

“Resists” in the Greek means that God actually sets Himself against that person.

2) Who does God give grace to? (The humble.)

What’s extremely interesting about this verse is that it is the first in a line of three other very familiar verses—they all go together! Seeing them all together reveals even more:

Verse 5 – “...God resists the proud, and gives grace to the humble.”

Verse 6 – “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.”

Verse 7 – “Casting all your care upon Him; for He cares for you.”

Verse 8 – “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour.”

Listen to the descriptions in the AMP for verse 5: “...Clothe (apron) yourselves, all of you, with humility [as the garb of a servant, so that its covering cannot possibly be stripped from you, with freedom from pride and arrogance] toward one another...” Humility is a covering for us! A covering is protective! With this covering over us, we can then cast all our cares upon the Lord. With this covering over us, we are protected from the devil who seeks to devour us! Those who are proud are easy targets for the devil because they have no covering!

Comments: At the end of this principle, there is a list of possible areas of pride. They ask God to reveal to them their own areas of pride, which they renounce and humble themselves before the Lord.

Message from your Heavenly Father: Please stay under My protective covering by walking humbly before Me and others. I want to pour out My grace upon you, and give you more and more. I want to make all grace abound in abundance toward you; that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound in all that you do and have an abundance for every good work. Humble yourself before Me and I will lift you up.

“I grew personally so much. I knew that God was going to refine me, but I didn’t know how much I was going to grow.”
—Pastor Rod Reynoldson (Bible Study)

Main Root Problem #6: Rebellion

p. 218

Rebellion is: Pride in Action

James 4:7 says, “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” If your efforts to *resist the devil* don’t seem to be working, the problem may be that you are not submitted to God. If you are not doing it according to God’s Word, the devil will not flee, and you will experience constant defeat in many areas.

God is your ultimate authority, but He has also established lines of authority for us here on earth. By submitting to those He places in authority over you, you are actually submitting to Him, because that is following the order He has established. When you rebel against God’s authority, or rebel against any of the authorities He has set you under, you open a door to the enemy that allows him to wreak havoc in your life. Confessing and renouncing your rebellion, and choosing to submit to God and to the authorities He has set you under, is the only way to close that door.

This is one of the most deceptively dangerous main root problems because 1 Samuel 15:23 says, “...For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.” Witchcraft is direct contact with demons. God says rebellion is the same thing. Since rebellion also takes you out from under God’s protective hand, you are literally opening yourself up to the demonic world without any protection! Idolatry is the worshipping of idols. Stubbornness (demanding your own way) is worshipping yourself. God says stubbornness is the same as idolatry. Remember what God commanded concerning idolatry in Exodus 20:4-6? You could look it up and read it again for a reminder (there’s a judgment involved.)

You must always remember the order God set up in James 4:7: *first you must be submitted to God, then resist the devil, then he will flee from you*. Being submitted to God, gives you the authority to resist the devil. But if you are rebellious toward anyone else in authority over you, then you are not submitted to God.

Submitting to authority is a work of grace and an act of faith. There are no perfect parents, or husbands, or pastors, or government leaders, etc... It takes great faith to trust God to lead you through them when you don’t agree with them. But *grace* gives you the *power* to do it. It is by submitting that we *prove* to God we are trusting Him to work on our behalf through the lines of authority He has set up.

As we go through this principle talking about submission, please keep in mind that we are not talking about submitting to criminal, abusive, or wicked authorities. There is no room in God’s order of things for abuse of authority...

...Rebelling against God or any authority He has set you under is a very serious matter. This principle about rebellion and submission will challenge our attitudes and it’s important to remember that God looks at the heart. Is there a heart attitude of rebellion, or a heart attitude of submission? This principle contains some hard admonition from the Lord. But it says in John 6:15-68 that some of Jesus’ teachings were so hard that many turned away and went back from following Him. The hard truth *is*, that choosing submission over rebellion is the only way to take back the ground the enemy has taken because of it, and close that door.

Comments: We then take them through Scriptures which talk about submission concerning government and law, church leadership, employers, parents, school authorities, and husbands. Through prayer, God reveals to them any rebellion they are guilty of. The same prayer pattern of renunciation is provided to help them submit to God and the authorities He has placed over them.

At any point during their dealing with these main root problem areas, we may begin seeing some major things changing in their lives *and circumstances*. They may seem to be totally unrelated to the spiritual things they are dealing with, but we are aware of the bigger picture and how “we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” (Ephesians 6:12).

Main Root Problem #7: Causing Offense

p. 235

When Jesus was asked: “Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said to him, Thou shalt love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:36-39). The Lord said that all of the Law hangs on those two commandments (Matthew 22:40). He also said that obeying these two greatest commandments means more to Him than any offerings or sacrifices (Mark 12:33). Listen to this: “And Samuel said, Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry...(1 Samuel 15:22-23a). *We’ve heard that verse before, haven’t we?*”

Do you remember how you felt going through the principle of forgiveness and remembering people who have hurt you, who never asked for your forgiveness? That’s how people you have hurt or offended feel. You know the “Golden Rule,” which basically says, *Do unto others as you would have them do unto you* (Matthew 7:12; Luke 6:31). Romans 13:10 says, “Love works no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.”

Acts 24:16 says, “And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offense toward God, and toward men,” so *offense* toward God *or man* would be the opposite of the two greatest commandments to love God and others. *Offense* here means: *insult, sin, hurt, or harm*. If you sin against God, you know you are to ask His forgiveness. He expects you to do the same with others. If you offend or sin against someone, in order to obey God’s second greatest command to love others as yourself, you are to ask the person’s forgiveness. If you offend or sin against others whom God has told you to love, you sin against God. You need to confess this sin to God and ask His forgiveness, and you also need to confess the sin to the one you offended and ask their forgiveness. Your conscience won’t be completely free of offense toward God until you are free of offense toward others.

“Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God” (1 John 3:21).

God's Word says that love fulfills all of the law (Romans 13:8). "Now the end of the commandment is charity (*love*) out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned (*sincere*)" (1 Timothy 1:5). There is a tie between love and faith. Galatians 5:6 says that without love your faith isn't even going to work right.

"For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love your neighbor as yourself. But if you bite and devour one another, take heed that you be not consumed one of another. This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh" (Galatians 5:14-16).

Comments: God reveals to them anyone they need to ask forgiveness from and we help them plan how to carry it out.

Main Root Problem #8: Habitual Sins

p. 241

It is so important to remember that we have *three* enemies we have to deal with: *the world, the flesh, and the devil*. You have all power over the devil and his oppressive evil spirits who stir up the appeal of the world and sins of the flesh. So if you are struggling with some sin and you have commanded the evil out, but it doesn't seem to be working— here's a clue— it probably isn't all the devil— you have to take responsibility for your flesh. *You can cast out the devil, but you can't cast out the flesh— you have to crucify the flesh (Galatians 5:24)!²³*

Sin not dealt with leads to bondage. Proverbs 5:22 says, "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be held with the cords of his sins." This principle is intended to break the bondage of repetitive sins of the flesh that have become habits in your life and tear down strongholds of mental deception that have been built up concerning those sins. It will also help you complete the renewing of the mind process, so that your life can be totally transformed (Romans 12:2).

It is the same for all the Main Root Problem areas. Christ has already provided forgiveness for your sins (1 John 1:5-9; 2:1)— past, present, and future— but sin opens a door to the enemy, giving him permission to be in your life. It needs to be renounced, permission removed, and the doors closed.

Comments: We have them read several Scriptures and answer some questions. Here is one of them:

1 Peter 2:11—

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul."

1) What do fleshly lusts do? (*War against the soul.*)

Message from your Heavenly Father: *Don't be afraid or distressed; I will go before you. I will fight for you. I will carry you as a man carries his child. As you go into battle with the enemy, let not your mind or heart faint; don't fear, or*

*tremble, or be terrified because of them, for I am your God who goes with you to fight for you against the enemy to save you. I will not fail you or forsake you.*²⁴

...For a sin to become a habit or a lifestyle, the person is believing lies from the enemy concerning that particular thing. They are then in bondage to that sin, trapped in the chains of a sin-confess-sin-confess cycle they so desperately want to be free of. The only way to free yourself is to renounce that sin and the lies concerning it, replace those lies with God's truth, and then live according to that truth. In Ephesians 4:22 where we are told to "put off" the old man, according to the *Jaimeson-Faucett Brown Commentary*, the Greek word used there meant, *wholly put off; utterly renounced*. To walk in the victory that Jesus provided for you requires *sin-repent-renounce-resist*. This will then close the door to satan's access to you in that area, which will make it easier to put down your flesh.

Ephesians 4:22-24—

"That you put off concerning the former conversation (*behavior*) the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that you put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

- 1) *What are you instructed to put off?* (*The old man.*)
- 2) *What are you instructed to put on?* (*The new man.*)
- 3) *How are we made new?* (*In our mind!*)

Comments: There is a "Put Off – Put On" list to help them put off the old man and put on the new where these habitual sins are concerned (Ephesians 4:22-24). There is one of the most powerful assignments we give included in this principle which puts the power that is in God's Word to work against these sins as they put together their own Personal Put Off – Put On list.

"I will be forever thankful to New Hope and God for leading me to and through this program. I think everyone should take this course. I knew it would be time consuming, but I would not have missed it for the world."

—Trisha Stephens (Bible Study)

Comments: After dealing with the main root problem areas, the remainder of Phase II continues deepening their relationship with the Lord, standing fast in the freedom they have gained, experiencing how these Biblical Principles lead to the Principle of Service, and connecting threads between the three phases of the program.

Here is an excerpt from another article:

Principle of Sowing and Reaping—

p. 283

The Principle of Sowing (planting) and Reaping (harvest) is a spiritual law. If you want to reap good things in your life you have to sow good things. The law of sowing and reaping (Galatians 6) says we will reap:

1. What we sow.
2. Where we sow.
3. After we sow.
4. More than we sow.

Haven't you already seen this in your life? Sometimes it's for good and other times we would like to pray for a crop failure! The reason you have accomplished so much these past few months is because of the consistency with which you have been sowing good seeds into your life from God's Word.

Comments: We take this opportunity to stress that they work toward what will be their final assignment of preparing their own Personal Profession of Faith:

...When you come to the end of this entire three phase study, we want you to be prepared to continue sowing the good seeds you have gleaned from the truths of God's Word in these materials. You *could* just make a list of all the good things you've learned and read it aloud everyday, but most of us are very busy, and it would be easier and more likely to get done if you *record it*. It is important that you make this recording in your own voice, because we really only believe what we hear ourselves speak. We mentioned this goal back in Phase I. We call it composing your *Personal Profession of Faith*.

Comments: We give them ideas of what to include in their profession of faith:

“Seeing then that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession” (Hebrews 4:14). “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised)” (Hebrews 10:23). We need something to “hold fast” to.

This is something you can be working on while we go through the Phase III book of this series. Begin by looking back through your Phase I and Phase II Handbooks from the beginning, and make a list of special things you have noted or highlighted, the biggest things you have learned that have made a difference for you, and have become a part of who you are. You could list your favorite truths on the “Who God Says I Am” list, your counter Truth Statements to your old list of lies, your personal Who I Am list you discovered after renouncing false labels, your most powerful Sword verses, etc.. These are just ideas—there is no right or wrong way to do it—it is totally up to you, and for you.

We are seeing people set free from the bondage of life-controlling problems to become productive members of society.

Phase III: Transformation

Comments: Phase III continues and strengthens the renewing of the mind process. It does take time to renew a mind, but that is how we are transformed (Romans 12:2). We want them to continue reading through the “Who God Says I Am” list *out loud* twice a day (using the list on the front, first thing in the morning, and the list on the back, last thing at night). They need to keep doing this all throughout this study. Time and persistence will pay off even if they don’t *feel* any difference for awhile. We encourage them to keep at this and to also continue meditating on the truth statement each day.

Excerpts from Phase III:

When struggling to break a stronghold some people say, *Sometimes I wish God hadn’t even given me a free will.* Well, He *did* give us a free will, but think about using it in a different way. You could pray a prayer such as this:

Father, You have given me a free will, and as a choice of my free will, I now ask You to override my will on this (name the stronghold) to line up with Your will for me. In Jesus’ name, amen.

When dealing with a particular sin or destructive habit, whether it be overeating, smoking, gossip, etc., remember that you are transformed by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2). This is why it is so important to have your Personal Put Off – Put On list done and pray through it every day. God’s Word has power to transform these things in your life.

Recommended Reading: *Praying God’s Word*, by Beth Moore is an excellent book on how to use God’s Word to break strongholds.

Praying God’s Word may be more powerful than we can even comprehend. Listen to this testimonial from one of our New Hope Volunteers:

Testimonial

My family knows first hand the power of praying God’s Word! My daughter, Emily (22 yrs. old), has been “labeled” as mildly retarded and is on medications for a seizure disorder, depression and until recently for aggressive behaviors. Even though Emily has only a 4th grade level of reading and comprehension, God laid it on my heart to have her read the “Sound Mind” prayer daily during our morning devotions together. When Emily first began reading the prayer, she needed much help in speaking many of the words. Through consistent repetition of it, she can now pray aloud the entire prayer on her own, which delights her so. Many of the words, even now, she would not be able to tell you what they mean, but she faithfully reads this prayer and believes that God has indeed given her a sound mind! God has set her free in a miraculous way! We have witnessed evidence of Emily receiving a “sound mind.” She is now off of one of the medications and the seizures have greatly decreased! And her recall has increased! Praying God’s Word aloud is powerful...making wise the simple (Psalm 19:7)! We are witnessing it with our own eyes and testify to God’s Power and Goodness!

—Cathy Berner

More excerpts:

“satan will continue to oppose us with mental and emotional pressures: doubts, fears, guilt, confusion and so on. He may also assail our bodies with various forms of physical infirmity. Against all this God has provided us with one supremely effective weapon: His Word. In Ephesians 6:17 Paul directs us: ‘Take...the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.’”

“The Greek word Paul uses here to describe God’s Word is *rhema*. This is primarily *a word that is spoken*. It becomes effective only when it is spoken through believing lips. It is not the Bible in our bookshelves, or even on our nightstands, that Paul is speaking about. It is the Bible when we take it on our lips *and speak it out loud with bold faith.*”

“Our greatest pattern in the use of this Sword is the Lord Jesus Himself, as He demonstrated in His temptation by satan in the wilderness (see Matthew 4:1-11). Each of satan’s three temptations contained the word *if*. In other words, it was aimed to produce *doubt*, then in the third, attempting to lead Him to direct disobedience.” (*The same pattern of temptation he uses with us*).

“Jesus only used one weapon to defeat satan: the *rhema*—the spoken Word of God. He countered each temptation with the same phrase: ‘It is written.’ Each was a direct quotation from the Scriptures. satan has no defense against the Word of God thus quoted directly at him. He has to withdraw, defeated.”

*Our desire is to see God's people equipped with the knowledge of
God's Word that will prevent their lives from
being destroyed by the enemy.*

Comments: We stress over and over how we are to use God’s Word as our weapon against temptations, strongholds, problems, and the enemy. God’s Word is the most powerful weapon we can use against anything that comes against us to defeat us and stop God’s plan for our lives.

Phase III also includes more discipleship type teaching covering:

- Receiving a Sound Mind
- Rejecting Sinful Thoughts
- Overcoming Depression
- Standing Fast
- Trusting God
- Decision Making
- Prayer
- Praying Doctrinal Truth
- Warfare Prayer
- Daily Bible Reading
- Thanksgiving and Praise

“A tremendous discipleship course! Every Believer should take and every church should have.” —Sheryl Bishop (Bible Study)

Comments: The second half of Phase III goes deeper into the parallel between the journey of the children of Israel and our journey through the Christian life.

Excerpt from “Our Parallel Journey” article:

God brought the Israelites out from Egypt with a strong hand and mighty signs and wonders. God has brought you out of the world, and the bondage of the enemy and sin, with a strong hand and miraculous deliverance. But even though the Israelites were then free, they still had a slave mentality. The whole book of Exodus was their journey of learning how to walk and live in their freedom and to fulfill the plans and purposes of God. The underlying principles are extremely valuable to us for our learning to walk in freedom and fulfill God’s plans and purposes for our lives. When they came to the impossible situation at the Red Sea, God divided the waters and made them to pass through safely, while the enemy was destroyed. When you come to impossible situations, you are to trust God to lead you safely through, knowing that He can make a way when there is no way. God longs for you to trust Him. He led His people through the wilderness and struck down their enemies, giving their land as an inheritance to His children.

The OT accounts reveal ways that God will lead *you*. When the Israelites went in and took possession of the land, as long as they trusted God to lead them and they obeyed Him, God gave them success in life, in battle, and protected them from their enemies. When you take possession of the land of your life, you must continue to trust God to lead you. You must obey Him and He will give you success in life, in battle, and protect you from the enemy. None of this is possible in your own strength or power, but as a part of the New Covenant, we now have the Holy Spirit and His power at work within us to enable us to trust and obey the LORD. It all depends on your personal, intimate relationship with the LORD. That’s why the most important thing in your life should be to look after, cultivate, and focus on an ever deepening relationship with Him. Your abundant life and fulfilling God’s plans and purposes depend on it.

...Grasp the spiritual parallel here to your own journey. When God led the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt, He didn’t lead them the quick way. He led them through the wilderness. The quick way would have been through the land of the Philistines, but God knew they would encounter war there, and He didn’t want them to be sorry they left the land of bondage and go back. God led them through the wilderness of the Red Sea, and it says they went up *harnessed* out of the land of Egypt. The definition of the word *harnessed* in *Noah Webster’s 1828 Dictionary* is “defended, equipped with armor.” It was God who was defending and equipping them as armed soldiers. This is symbolic of the armor of God, which He has supplied for you (Ephesians 6:10-18).

God brought His children out of bondage, so that He could lead them to the Promised Land and bring them into their full inheritance. God doesn't want *you* to ever go back to what He delivered you from— so He leads you through the wilderness— not the quick way— not the easy way— so that He can teach you, train you, equip you, and get you to obey and trust Him, because your *abundant* life depends on it. He wants to lead you into your promised land. Your promised land is not *only* Heaven. It is also your place of inheritance *now*, even while you are here on earth, while you are fulfilling the plans and purposes God has for your life.

As they made their journey, "...the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people" (Exodus 13:20-21).

God *led them*— but He also allowed the enemy to come after them. "And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD" (Exodus 14:10). By leading them to the Red Sea, God brought them to an impossible situation. They had the Egyptian army chasing after them from behind, they had mountains on each side of them, and the Red Sea in front of them. It looked like there was no way out. God leads *us* into what look like impossible situations, so that He can teach us to trust Him. Moses' advice to them is the same for you. "And Moses said to the people, Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will show to you today: for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you shall see them again no more for ever. The LORD shall fight for you, and you shall hold your peace" (Exodus 14:13-14).

Then God had Moses tell the children of Israel to go forward. They must have thought, *How can we go forward? The Red Sea is there! There is no way.* But in the middle of what looked like an impossible situation, God told Moses to lift up his rod over the Sea and split it, so they could go through on dry ground. Everything depended upon them obeying, even if it sounded ridiculous. God can make a way for you to get through problems and difficulties when there seems to be no way.

The enemy followed the Israelites, but the waters crashed in on them, and they were destroyed. The devil may think he is getting us into impossible situations, but it is really God allowing it, so that the enemy will be trapped. He is leading the enemy into a trap! God wants the enemy to be destroyed in your life!

God gave them a mighty deliverance and He led them out of bondage with a strong hand. The people then sang praises to the Lord, "Your right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power: Your right hand, O LORD, has dashed in pieces the enemy" (Exodus 15:6).

...God also allows us to get into situations to show us our total dependence on Him. He will give you opportunities to exercise your faith and demonstrate your trust in Him. He does this to prepare you to be able to handle the enemies you will encounter *in* your promised land on this earth, while you are fulfilling His purposes for your life. It is not that when we make it to "the promised land" we are finally going to live in ease and comfort. No— it is to develop our faith and trust in Him. To get us ready to face the enemies we are going to encounter *in* the promised land of our life here on earth. The enemies who will seek to defeat us *in* the promised land will be even bigger and stronger.

We will need even greater and stronger faith and trust in God. He wants you to remember His great power and strength, so that you will trust Him even more and have faith in His mighty power by which He has delivered you time after time. He wants you to have full confidence in His love and faithfulness, and the absolute truth of His Word. It is in the “promised land” that you fully move into fulfilling His plans and purposes for your life. When you have to trust God for things and see Him come through over and over again, then you will be able to trust Him for bigger and greater things. God wants to do even greater things in and through your life.

Comments: This leads us into a study on faith to make them rooted and grounded (Colossians 2:7). Let’s begin by looking at my testimonial from an excerpt out of this section:

Testimonial (from founding Director of New Hope): New Hope began as a counseling ministry. When we first began the New Hope program in our counseling center in 2004, as the very first round of Counselees were nearing the end, they began to be fearful. They were dreading the end and not knowing what they would do when they were no longer with us once a week. It was because of this that I knew something was missing— an ending— something to make the program complete. I began seeking the Lord on what was needed, because people should be finishing this built up, and strengthened, and eager to move on. God began to reveal to me that there needed to be teaching on faith. Everything I was hearing and reading was all of the sudden teaching about faith. I thought, *That’s it!* People need to be “Rooted and built up in Him, and established in the faith...” (Colossians 2:7). So we added a faith series at the end of the program and that is what began happening. Instead of leaving the counseling program fearful, people were leaving built up in faith and strong in the Lord, eager to be moving on into fulfilling the purposes and plans God had for them.

Then in 2005, as we were preparing to have our materials copyrighted, it went through a five person editing committee for proofing and updating. As we neared the Phase III materials, I knew something needed to be done in that section. I knew it was definitely God who had directed it to be added, but it was all inspired by what others were teaching on faith, and I still felt like it just wasn’t complete for *our* program yet. We prayed for many months about what God wanted done with it. I began to realize that He wanted me to study it myself— not just go on what other people were teaching on the subject— but to really study it in His Word for myself. So that is what I did, but some things in God’s Word are very clear and other things are more vague. My study helped shape my own beliefs and opinions. Please understand that some of what I will share with you is *my opinion*. I may have Biblical reasons for believing the way I do, but I also realize my opinions may continue to change as God continues to mature me and my understanding.

One thing I found was that you cannot study faith without the subject of healing being included. When the first materials were added on faith, anything speaking of healing, we always said, “We are just applying this to *emotional healing*.” But many people would speak up and say, “You can’t really do that though, because emotional and physical are tied together.” At one of our seminars, a pastor spoke up and said, “I know you are just dealing with emotional healing here, but this is *powerful*. I don’t think you understand how powerful this is. If someone came to me who had a disease, I would send them here. If I had cancer, I would come here.” Wow. I can’t even describe how that touched us. But God was showing me that this is true. It is all connected. Then I saw something. I saw that God had woven

threads of this all the way through the whole program from the very beginning and we didn't even realize it. This now ties it all together and brings it all to completion. I believe God had it planned that way all along.

It has been such a tremendous blessing to me as I studied it and I pray that it will be to you also. I sure don't claim to have it all *exactly right*. It has now been updated several times. God does continue to adjust the way I see and understand these things. I'm sure He will continue to do so. What follows is what I have come to at this time. So please give grace if there is anything you don't agree with. I hope we will all continue to study and seek God's leading and instruction on these things. God promises in Psalm 32:8: "*I will instruct you and teach you in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide you with My eye.*" And Isaiah 48:17 says, "*...I am the LORD your God which teaches your to profit, which leads you by the way that you should go.*"

I believe that God leads you in the way that *you* should go concerning health and healing. He created us all so different and our bodies all have different needs that only He knows. I have come to know God personally as The Lord That Heals Me. I have experienced Him healing me of something through a medical treatment. I have experienced Him bringing gradual healing of something through proclaiming and holding fast to His Word. I have experienced Him healing me of something miraculously. And there are things that I have to continue to trust Him with. In Jesus' earthly ministry, He healed different people in different situations, in different ways. The important thing to do is to seek Him for healing and He will lead you in the way that *you* should go. I believe the bottom line on faith and healing is really what needs to be covered first. The bottom line is trusting God's love and sovereignty, and concentrating on developing a deepening love relationship with Him. Wherever you are in your Christian life—you need to go *deeper*. *You will find HIM in the deeper places where few others ever go.*²⁵ Please continue to seek Him, His wisdom, and all that He has for your life.

—Cindy Farrington

"Through New Hope's teaching I believe I can overcome any situation or circumstance in my life. I believe I am being made whole through God's Word. I was taught to speak truth and was truly healed."

—Teresa (Counselee)

Comments: As we get into the subjects of faith, health, and healing, we begin looking into the original Greek and Hebrew words in the Scriptures talking about these specific things and the depths of our salvation:

Excerpt:

Take a look at this nugget: "Therefore with joy shall you draw water out of the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:3). Having *wells* of salvation that we can draw from, doesn't sound like just a one item thing, or a *one time* thing. Once receiving salvation (which begins with forgiveness of our sins for

eternal life in Heaven) through faith in Christ, there are many *benefits* of our salvation that we can draw from. *There are wells of salvation we can draw from!* The word “salvation” there was the Hebrew word *yashuw`ah* (*Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance* #3444) meaning *something saved, (abstractly) deliverance; hence, aid, victory, prosperity*. This same Hebrew word was translated in other places as: *deliverance, health, help, saving (health), welfare*. That word, *yashuw`ah*, is the name of Jesus in Hebrew! So, it’s actually *drawing from the wells of Jesus!!* It doesn’t mean that because you are saved you will never get sick, or never have any problems, or never be attacked by the devil, but there are benefits of our salvation that we can draw from when those things do happen. We can draw deliverance from the wells of salvation. We can draw aid. We can draw victory. We can draw health and help. We can draw prosperity and welfare. These are all things we can draw from our salvation. All these things are there for us to draw from—and it says we can draw them with joy!

Listen to these definitions of “draw” and think about how each one applies to drawing from the wells of salvation: “*To pull out, as to draw a sword from it’s sheathe. Hence, to draw the sword, is to wage war. To pull up or out; to raise from any depth; as, to draw water from a well. To receive or take, as from a fund; as to draw money from a bank. To draw or take from; to cause to flow from. To cause to issue forth; to call forth. To pull; to exert strength in drawing.*”²⁶ How do you *unsheathe your sword and wage war?* With the Sword of the Spirit—speaking God’s Word aloud. We are to take it *as from a fund and receive it*. We are to draw from our salvation *as drawing water from a well, to call it forth*. And it does require us to *exert strength in drawing*.

Have you ever realized that you could draw from the wells of salvation?

More excerpts:

What God seeks is an intimate, loving relationship with you. He doesn’t seek people who simply adhere to a set of rules. *He wants our hearts*. If He has our heart, appropriate actions will follow. He doesn’t want actions that do not come from a heart of love that desires to know Him *and be with Him*. God said through the prophet Hosea that He doesn’t really want your offerings or your sacrifices; He wants you to know Him and love Him (Hosea 6:6). God seeks those whose hearts are fully His, so He can reveal Himself to them. He wants that kind of relationship to be the deepest longing of your heart.

I read something one time that describes this kind of a relationship so well:

“It is clear that God longs for us to truly know Him. He doesn’t want to be a mystery to us. Throughout the OT, God takes pains over and over to reveal to us what He is like, and how we can live in fellowship with Him. In examples of those such as Abraham, Jacob, and Moses, we can see that God uses and blesses people who are imperfect, who become angry with Him, and who, like us, seem to have an uncanny aptitude for mistakes. He also, however, uses and blesses those whose heart is fastened on Him, despite their mistakes. They show us that He doesn’t zap us with lightning when we have trouble believing, when we ask questions, even when we grab onto Him, refusing to let go without a blessing (*like Jacob*).

“In short, God seeks real people, who long to know Him, and He responds to their longing by revealing Himself— His person—to them and entering into a friendship that surpasses any other.

“Abraham, Jacob and Moses— none of them ‘perfect’— were ‘real people,’ like all the rest of us. However, there was a steadfastness in all three, a determination to continue in the path they had chosen. There is questioning and wondering, but no turning back. Finally, there was a wonderful openness and honesty in their conversation with God. There is nothing ‘holy’ about the exchanges between Moses and God, or between Jacob and his wrestling partner. And both Abraham and Sarah laughed out loud when God spoke to them about the coming birth of their promised son. They were fallible, they were faithful, and they were, above all, honest before God. And God loved it.”²⁷

It was out of this kind of love for you that God sent His Son to save you. It was His finished work at the cross that purchased and provided everything *for you*.

To live your life to the fullest, to truly fulfill the Lord’s commission, and to fully accomplish the plans and purposes God created you for, you must have a correct mindset about this very thing. We must be *spiritually minded*. It is a way of looking at things from a *higher perspective*. It is a *mindset*, which God’s Word says produces life and peace (Romans 8:6).

If we don’t already have this higher perspective, we have to adjust our mind to a different way of thinking; to have a correct perspective. It’s like this: Just as you already have eternal life in Heaven by accepting Christ, you already have everything that is in the New Covenant of Christ. Think of it that way. Have that perspective. You already have perfect peace. You already have perfect health. You already have perfect healing. You already have perfect wholeness, etc...; just the same as you already have eternal life. The degree to which you see these things manifest (appear) in this life depends on several things, which we will be covering in this section of our study. Having this proper understanding though, can make so much difference. It is having the right *mind-set*, where we stand on what God’s Word says and what Christ has already done, even if it is still unseen. He told us to walk by faith and *not by sight* (2 Corinthians 5:7). “For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace” (Romans 8:5-6). To have the most life and peace, we have to be *spiritually minded*. We want to teach you to be spiritually minded. It is a totally different way of thinking than most people have, but I think that’s part of what God had in mind when He said: “And be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...” (Romans 12:2). “While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal” (2 Corinthians 4:18).

“This program has been so very life-changing for me.”
—Sharon (Seminar)

"It is a spiritual feast, amazing, I am in awe and grateful."
—Pam Dennison (Seminar)

Comments: We believe we have some of the most balanced and Biblical teaching on healing and faith there is. Here is an excerpt that reveals some of that balance:

God can do miracles and many times He does, but sometimes He doesn't. Sometimes He chooses to bring gradual healing, and sometimes healing can be taking place even before you can see it or feel it. And sometimes there are different degrees of healing that are according to the plans and purposes God has for your life. That's where trust comes in. Sometimes, that's where God sees if we are going to have faith and trust Him even if we don't see it, or feel it, or understand it.

When you are really trusting God—you enter into His rest. "There remains therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into His rest, he also has ceased from his own works, as God did from His. Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief" (Hebrews 4:9-11).

How do you enter into God's rest? By coming to the place of total and complete trust in God's promises, His character, His love for you, and in what Jesus Christ accomplished at the cross and provided for you. There is a settled confidence that gives no place to doubt or fear. It is a continual faith and trust that God is with you, He will not fail you, He will never leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5), so that it really doesn't even matter what happens. We also must cease from our own works—trying to do it all ourselves, trying to make things happen, or trying to do everything perfectly. You have to put forth the effort to stop *striving* and enter into His rest. It's the difference between striving in our own efforts trying to figure everything out, and simply doing *what God tells you to do*, doing it in His strength and power. Ask for His wisdom and then do what He leads you to do (James 1:5-8). This is why developing that deepening relationship with the Lord is so important—so that He can *lead you in the way that you should go* (Psalm 32:8; Isaiah 48:17). You love Him, obey Him, have faith in Him for your health, healing, and everything else you need—*then rest in Him*. Rest in His love. "For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end" (Hebrews 3:14).

Sometimes we may not see the miracle or healing in our lifetime here on earth. The first half of Hebrews chapter 11 is like a "Hall of Faith," giving examples of people who had great faith and the miraculous results they received. Then it lists others and what they went through and it says: "These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth" (Hebrews 11:13). They were seeing the things God had promised in His Word with their eyes of faith. We have to remember that *it is our faith in Him and His Word that God blesses and honors*, and our lives go far beyond this physical life. He wants us to believe, *no matter what*. Sometimes there are things God knows that we just do not know. Sometimes we cannot even begin to understand God's sovereignty. We must then be able to say, "*No matter what, Father,—I trust You.*"

Has there ever been a time when you have released someone or something to the Lord and said, “No matter what, Father, I trust You?”

Message from the LORD: *Look into My eyes, My son (My love). I love you so much. I will never leave you. I will never forsake you (Hebrews 13:5). I promise. I only want what’s best for you. My desire all along has been to have a relationship with you—a very personal one. You can trust Me. Please trust Me.*

...When we accept Christ as Savior and receive salvation for eternal life in Heaven, we understand that the perfection of it will not be until we get to Heaven. But I think everyone would agree that God still doesn’t want His children to be *spiritually sick* during their life here on earth. Even though *the perfection* of our spiritual life will be in Heaven, God *does* want us to be *spiritually healthy* in this life as well. He also wants us to be mentally and emotionally healthy in this life. I believe it is the same physically. Even though our physical perfection will not be until Heaven, because we are not in our incorruptible bodies yet (1 Corinthians 15:53-54), the Perfect Father heart of God still desires for us to be physically healthy in this life (*keep in mind that it is possible to live a “healthy” life, even if there are physical problems we are dealing with*). There are things though, that can *cause* us to be spiritually sick or emotionally sick. And there are things that can *cause* us to be physically sick. *Some of these things* can be stopped or prevented and those are the things we want to teach you. There are even times when people are sick because they simply accept and receive it, not knowing they don’t *have to*. We want to show you what God says in His Word about faith, trust, health, and healing. To come to the place of: *this is what we can believe; this is why we can believe it; and I am going to believe it even if I don’t see it until Heaven, because it is faith that pleases God and it is faith that God blesses and honors (Hebrews 11).* Please remember this is what we are saying as you go through the rest of this study.

Here is an excerpt from:

Christ’s Finished Work—

p. 88

It’s seeing everything from the proper *perspective* of Christ having *already* purchased and provided everything for you through His broken body, shed blood, death, and resurrection. His work at the cross was finished! It was completely complete! My heart’s desire is to help reveal, exalt, and magnify Jesus Christ the Messiah and His finished work. *Magnify* means *to enlarge so you can see it better*. The OT Tabernacle, with all of its meticulously detailed furnishings, did not have any chair where the High Priest ministered. He could *never* sit down, because his work was *never done*. Guess what Jesus did after He became our High Priest in Heaven? He sat down at the right hand of the Father, signifying that His work was done (Hebrews 1:3)! He even said it at the cross: “It is finished” (John 19:30). Hebrews 10:11-12 says: “And every priest stands daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.”

...When Jesus finished the work He was sent to do through His death and resurrection, He sat down at the right hand of the Father (John 17:4; 19:30; Hebrews 1:3; 8:1; 12:2; 1 Peter 3:22). Then He

made us to sit *with Him*: “But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace you are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:4-6). Sitting down with Him is a picture of *rest*. You must always rest in the finished work of Christ. This is what saved you, sealed you, and provided everything that is yours in the New Covenant in Christ. This is what you place your faith in and your trust in— His *finished* work. That means all the work is *already done*. Your faith and trust must be in what Jesus has already done for you, not in anything you do. When you accepted Christ as Your Savior, everything He accomplished at the cross became yours. Do you remember the parable Jesus told of “the prodigal son” in Luke 15:11-32? The father had two sons and to both of them he, in essence, said: *All that I have is yours!*

The younger son demanded his inheritance from his father, then took it and left his *position* of sonship within his father’s house. He squandered his inheritance, not realizing there would have been so much more available to him if he had remained in his *position* of sonship. He was still the father’s son, but he walked away from his father’s *presence* and away from his position of sonship. It says he wasted his portion with riotous living. You should want *your* inheritance with all the privileges of sonship, or it will inevitably be squandered like the prodigal son’s. Proverbs 20:21 reveals this well: “An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed.” When times got tough, that foolish son began to be *in want*, no longer enjoying the “abundance” of sons and daughters who remain in their *position*. He knew that even the servants in his father’s house had their needs met with even more to spare, and here he was suffering *lack*. Remembering this, it says, *he came to his senses*. He decided to go back to his father’s *presence*. The father hadn’t left his son’s presence; the son had left his father’s presence. He didn’t feel like he even deserved to still be considered a son and had determined to settle for being a servant for his father, but his father didn’t want that. His father was waiting and watching for his son to come back into his presence. When he saw his son coming back, he *ran to him*, and *threw his arms around him*. He clothed him with the best robe, the best shoes, and put a special ring on his finger. Oh, the joy of the added benefits that come from actually being *in the father’s presence*.²⁸

Understanding the true intimacy of your relationship with your Heavenly Father makes your prayers way more powerful, because you are praying from this correct *position*. Praying from a position of intimacy is way more powerful than legally presented petitions.

Formal, legally presented promises of God based on His Word are good, but there is an even better way. When you have a relationship of intimacy with the Lord, you barely have to whisper “*Abba...*” before He responds tenderly, “*What can I do for you, My son?*” or, “*What can I do for you, My love?*” You don’t have to try to convince Him of anything or prove something. *Why?* Because of the privileges of intimacy. Don’t try to move the hand of God— *move His heart*.

Recommended Resource: For more on a son’s or daughter’s position of intimacy with the Father, the book “Son!” by John Sheasby is excellent.

“Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ” (Galatians 4:7). *A son is so secure in his Father’s love, that he is able to rest in the promises that his Father has made of protection, provision, and His abiding presence.*²⁹

Message from the LORD: *My son (My love), I want you to know and understand, all that I have is yours.*

“When I came to New Hope I was down and had no hope. But I have the Word of God now and New Hope gave me a guide for my life. The time I have spent here I would not give up. I have peace and the Word of God. For me, New Hope gave me peace all the time.”
—Stephen (Counselee)

Comments: There are also articles on understanding “His Righteousness” and “Your Forgiveness.” We provide some strong and balanced teaching on building and strengthening your faith, sharing Biblical Principles of faith, holding fast to God’s promises, and how to apply these principles to your life. We also give a very unique perspective on grace:

More excerpts:

Grace is a hard word to actually *define*. We have been giving descriptions of grace and results of grace, but what is the actual definition? The standard definition of grace that most Christians would give is: *God’s unmerited favor*. But I have come to believe with all my heart that this definition is incomplete. Sometimes the complete definition of something can only be found by studying the word in Scripture. Scripture contains the definitions of the words it uses through its descriptions. When tested with Scripture, the definition of “God’s unmerited favor” is *not always* accurate. Grace is so multi-faceted, it cannot be accurately defined in only one way.

The first mention of the word grace in the NT is found in Luke 2:40, which is speaking of Jesus. Let’s start there and substitute the definition of “unmerited favor” for the word “grace”: *And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the “unmerited favor” of God was upon Him.* (Ooo, that does not work.)

The next verse is John 1:14: *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of “unmerited favor” and truth.* (See what I mean?)³⁰

The Greek word that is translated “grace” when speaking of Jesus is the exact same Greek word translated as “grace” when speaking of us (#5485 – *charis*), so there is a problem with using only that one definition.

It seems like we have somehow developed the tendency to see grace only from *our perspective* and our perspective is not always God’s perspective. This is another reason why we need to change our *perspective*. I have only just begun to comprehend how important our understanding of grace is. Grace is something so magnanimous, so huge, so immense, our minds cannot even begin to grasp it. It can only be revealed by the heart and Spirit of God. We need to ask Him to give us *His perspective* and true understanding of grace (let’s all pray this aloud together):

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to You in the powerful name of Jesus Christ, asking that You would give me mighty, revelation knowledge and understanding of “grace.” My mind cannot even begin to grasp the truth of what grace really is, but I believe You want me to know and understand. Your Word says, “...ask, and you shall receive, that your joy may be full” (John 16:24). This reveals that You want me to ask, You want me to receive, and You want my joy to be full! Oh, Father, please reveal to me what Grace truly is. I want to truly believe and receive this. In Jesus’ name I ask it, amen.

Message from the LORD: I do want you to ask. I want you to receive. And I want your joy to be full.

Let’s look at Luke 2:40 again now: “And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him.” Because we are in Christ, the grace of God is upon us also. It is Christ who makes us worthy. We saw that John 1:14 says Jesus was “full of grace and truth.” Our standard “unmerited favor” definition does not fit there. As an example of God’s great sovereignty, as I was studying these Scriptures, He arranged for me to hear a message called, “The Domain of Grace,” by Pastor Dan Davis. He gave a definition of grace that *does fit* here, *and* with every Scripture containing the word “grace.” May I submit this to you as more of the definition of grace:

“The empowering presence of God to enable you to be what He created you to be and do what He calls you to do.”³¹

Grace is not *only* “God’s unmerited favor,” it is also “GOD’S EMPOWERING PRESENCE”! I believe God’s grace toward us starts out with unmerited favor, which makes the initial gift of coming into right relationship with God available. Jesus didn’t need this aspect of grace. He was already God’s Son. But once we become a child of God, His grace then provides us *so much more*. *Webster’s* says it is the “free unmerited love and favor of God, the spring and source of all the benefits men receive from Him.” (*This fits “the spring and source” of the “wells of salvation!”*) It begins with unmerited favor, then it is the source of everything else and the power of *His presence* to enable us to be who He created us to be and to do what He wants us to do! This is ours to experience and enjoy! Look how this aspect of grace agrees with the verses we have looked at:

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace (the empowering presence) of God was upon Him (Luke 2:40).

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace (the empowering presence of God) and truth (John 1:14).

Now look again at the grace verse we mentioned speaking of us:

“By whom also we have access by faith into this grace (*God’s empowering presence*) wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God” (Romans 5:2).
See what that can do to your understanding—and your faith?!

Let's check this out on the first mention of the word "grace" in the OT:

It is found in Genesis 6:8-9. Man had become so corrupt and wicked that God regretted creating him and determined to destroy the earth. "But *Noah* found grace in the eyes of the LORD" (Genesis 6:8). The Hebrew word translated as grace does indicate favor. God *did* give Noah *favor*, but it wasn't totally unmerited. Noah had a relationship with God that I'm sure *began* with God's unmerited favor, which Noah responded to, but at this verse we are beyond that point. Verse 9 says, "Noah was a just (*moral*) man and perfect (*full of integrity and truth*) in his generations, and Noah walked with God. This walk with God (*Strong's #1980 from root #3212*) describes a *very close relationship*. I'm sure Noah wasn't perfect, but He loved and honored God (he was not wicked and evil like all the other people), and this caused God to give Him *grace* (*a different expression of grace*), which the entire passage reveals gave him not only favor, but a calling, purpose, a specific assignment, the knowledge and skill needed to accomplish his assignment, plus the power and strength to endure everything and succeed— all by *grace*. It was *the empowering presence of God Himself to enable him to be what He created him to be and do what He called him to do!*

We too must respond to God's grace with faith and obedience, walking with God, abiding in Him, which gives us access to more grace, which empowers us to be and do what He wants.

1 Peter 4:10 speaks of the *manifold* grace of God: "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." *Manifold* means *multi-faceted*. Grace has many definitions. It is like the multi-faceted brilliance of a diamond!

Our minds *could* tend to see grace as only one thing— so many people see only *mercy*. We must renew our minds with the truth of God's Word revealing the *multi-faceted* grace of God. Because I had an *incomplete* understanding of grace, I didn't even know I wasn't realizing the *power* of grace. Everywhere the word "grace" is used in Scripture, the verse or the passage surrounding it reveals there is something dramatic and powerful happening or being spoken of. I sure don't want to be in danger of "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof..." (2 Timothy 3:5). The power that comes from the very presence of God is present in all aspects of grace.

One of the Hebrew *root words* for grace in the OT is *Strong's #2583*, which means "*to incline toward us as the slanting rays of evening; specifically, to pitch a tent; to encamp for abode.*" There is His *presence!* In the OT, God's people had to set up an actual tent (the Tabernacle) for God's presence to come into. It was the sacred place they would go into and worship God. It was their temple, but it was a movable, temporary habitation of God. Now, in the "dispensation of grace," *He comes to us* and itches a tent, to abide with us individually— and permanently! He spreads His Tabernacle over us and covers us with His presence. You are His temple! And you carry His abiding, empowering presence! *That is grace!!*

Do you know what happened when God's presence filled the tent, the Tabernacle in the OT? *The glory of the LORD filled the Tabernacle! The temple manifested His glory!* Manifest means *to appear, to display*. God wants to display His glory and His power in and through you! "For God,

Who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels (*our bodies*), that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us” (2 Corinthians 4:6).

- “Know you not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16).
- “What? Know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own?” (1 Corinthians 6:19).
- “For you are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people” (2 Corinthians 6:16b).

You are an expression and evidence of God’s grace (*His empowering presence*). You are a walking witness of the power of God’s grace to deliver people out of bondage and darkness into His glorious liberty and light! Anything He has made available to you or that He accomplishes through you comes by *His power*— the power of His presence!...

Excerpts on the key to faith:

Galatians 5:6 holds a huge key. It says, “For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision avails any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which works by love.” “Avails” means: *to be of worth; to be strong or able to profit, to be of force or authority; to be valuable, to prevail, to be binding, to be useful.*³² In the context of the book of Galatians, the term “circumcision” stood for those who were trusting in obedience to the OT Law for justification. This verse says *that* has nothing to do with true faith. *So what is faith that “avails;” that is “strong” and “able to profit” a person?* The answer is: *faith accompanied by love.*

Love *reveals* true faith. It reveals true faith in Jesus Christ for the starting point of salvation, and it’s what makes your faith work right for everything thereafter. For those who don’t really love God, or have bitterness, strife, unforgiveness, hatred for anyone, who criticize, condemn, gossip about, or slander others, etc., faith is not going to work right. Faith is activated and energized by *love*. The AMP describes it like this: “For (if we are) in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith activated and energized and expressed and working through love.” Love is what makes your faith “avail;” *to be of force or authority, to prevail, to be binding and useful.*

“Works” in “faith works by love,” is from the Greek word (*Strong’s* #1754) meaning: *to be active, efficient; (it is also translated as): do, (be) effectual (fervent), be mighty in, show forth self, work (effectually in).* It is from the root word (#1756) meaning: *active, operative: effectual, powerful.* Do you see what this is saying? This is huge! Love makes your faith active and efficient. It makes it effective, mighty, and powerful. A deeper root word from which “works” comes (#1722), indicates that it is “related to *rest*.” Someone who does not allow the devil or his demons to steal their love for God or anyone else; who does not let the enemy give them bitterness or strife, offense or unforgiveness, hatred or contempt for anyone— is a person *at rest*. This person is able to enter into God’s rest and trust Him to work on their behalf. This person knows how much the Lord has

forgiven him for, how much grace he has received, and is able to give the same forgiveness and grace to others. This person is truly experiencing *rest* instead of strife and turmoil. That state of being stirred up all the time affects people emotionally, spiritually, and physically. This is where a majority of problems, sicknesses, and even diseases come from.

Love is the evidence of true faith. This is the “religion” Christ came to establish. He revealed it when He stated the two most important commandments. He said these two summed up *all* of the Law. “Jesus said..., Thou shalt love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, Thou shalt love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:37-40). Jesus said *everything else* hangs on these two commands— and they both have to do with love! Romans 13: 8-10 says: “Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loves another has fulfilled the law. For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love your neighbor as yourself. Love works no ill to his neighbor: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.”

This is the key to everything involved in living a victorious Christian life. If people were truly walking in love as Jesus commanded, they would be experiencing more of the fullness of the covenant benefits purchased and provided by the Lord Jesus Christ. Everything that comes from our salvation in Christ is by grace, through faith. We receive all of the benefits of salvation through our faith, but we sure won't be receiving the fullness of those benefits if our faith is not activated and being made effective by love.

Christians are to be like a conduit by which Christ's “living water” is to flow, not only into us, but through us to those around us. John 7:38 says: “He that believeth on Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.” But, thinking of this conduit analogy, sometimes rocks and garbage can block the exit and the water cannot flow out. The rocks and garbage represent things like unforgiveness, hatred, bitterness, wrath, fear, envy, jealousy...all kinds of sins of the flesh (see Galatians 5:16-21), even cares of the world that we allow to take top priority in our lives, instead of putting our devotion to God first and foremost. When this happens, we are grieving and quenching the Holy Spirit. He is not allowed to express or manifest Himself in and through our lives. Love is then not flowing through our lives, because the first thing mentioned in the “fruit of the Spirit” is love (Galatians 5:22-25). We need to make sure these rocks and the garbage are being removed from our lives on a consistent basis through repenting from sin, and through faith and confidence in God and His Word. Once these things are dealt with, then the Holy Spirit and Christ's “living water” will flow through us once again, blessing not only ourselves, but God and others as well.

If there is any unforgiveness in you, that means there is strife somewhere, and your faith is not going to work right if you are in strife with anyone. This is why the enemy attacks so often with stirring up strife, because he knows if he can cause strife, offense, unforgiveness, bitterness, hatred, contempt, etc, he can keep our faith from being effective. It keeps us blocked up, so the “living water” doesn't flow through us. I can't say that your faith won't work *at all*, because I'm sure there are probably varying degrees. This is a matter of the heart that only God can truly know and judge. But the more you walk in the love God commanded, the more effective your faith is going to be. Jesus said this is the most important commandment, so this is what should always be checked first...

...Now look at this: Love also works—as an action word. In the Greek, “works” is a *participle*, describing the faith. But interestingly, it’s in the *present tense*, indicating *continuous action*.³³ So the kind of faith we should have, should be a continuous active faith, expressed by love, and the love then activates and energizes the faith. It’s kind of like a power loop, a never ending circle. Saving faith and love lead to good works. We are not saved by works, but our works prove that we are saved (James 2:18-26). True faith activated by and expressed through love will then cause you to do works of love. “My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18). Having love and expressing that love in action then also activates and energizes our faith. That’s how it all works! It’s all connected!...

“Christ is my Healer, my Counselor, my Deliverer! I have inherited so much because of what Jesus has done for me for no reason at all. I am a child of Christ and I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. This has an entire new meaning to me now and it is awesome!!”
—Julie H. (Bible Study)

We talk about “Blessings” and “Obedience.” Here’s one excerpt:

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 says, “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing (*here’s that point of decision again*): therefore **choose life**, that both you and your seed may live: That you may love the LORD your God, and that you may obey His voice, and that you may cleave to Him (*this is all about relationship – to cling to, to be joined together*): for He is your life, and the length of your days: that you may dwell in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them (*symbolizing God’s perfect plan for your life*).” Who did Jesus say in the New Testament that He is? *He said: I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life* (John 14:6). When God said, “choose life” in Deuteronomy 30:19, He was saying, “**choose Jesus**”! Choosing Jesus is choosing life and blessing! It is choosing to follow Him, to walk with Him, to walk in His ways. It’s about a personal relationship with Him. God wants to pull you into the kind of relationship He had with people like Abraham, and Moses, and David. He wants you to have a life of blessing.

All His Benefits—

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The Greek word translated as “adoption” in the NT (*Strong’s # 5206*) means so much more than just a legal adoption. It literally means *the placing into the position of a son*. “Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ” (Galatians 4:7). It’s not just a legal transaction, but *a new birth*. “But as many as received Him, to them gave He power (*Greek meaning: power, or the right, or privilege*) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12-13). “For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit (Himself) beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of

God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together” (Romans 8:15-17). “Abba” implies close familiarity and intimacy—it is deeply personal—the expressing of “Daddy” or “Papa God.” As an actual son or daughter, you possess the full rights of sonship, which includes *inheritance*.

This entire New Hope program is set up to help you establish and develop the personal, intimate love relationship with your Heavenly Father that is needed to live the abundant life Jesus came to give you. This doesn’t mean an easy, problem free life. We need all the benefits of our salvation in order to live above the difficulties and problems of life, in order to fulfill God’s plans and purposes for us and through us.

There are some people who know God has a call on their life for something specific, and sometimes it is something big. Then they wonder why they seem to experience even more difficulties and have to face even bigger enemies trying harder to discourage and stop them. Here is a good analogy: *The bigger the building, the deeper the foundation has to be. You could throw together a building quick, but the first storm that comes along is going to blow it down. So remember, if it seems like hard things are coming against you—you can just figure it must be an awfully big thing God has purposed for you. Then you can be encouraged and excited while you are on your way to getting there—while God is laying that deep foundation—knowing what that’s an indication of.*³⁴ “Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as you are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, you may be glad also with exceeding joy” (1 Peter 4:12-13).

God wants you to have and enjoy all the benefits available to you as a child of the King, not only for your enjoyment, but for your endurance through this life. But we have to know what all His benefits are before we can believe and receive them through faith. David said in Psalm 103, “Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:” Then he lists all the benefits in verses 3-5: “Who forgives all your iniquities; Who heals all your diseases; Who redeems your life from destruction; Who crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercies; Who satisfies your mouth with good things; so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.” The Hebrew word for “benefits” here means: *that which has given rewards*. We are instructed to not forget them.

Let’s look closely at all His *benefits* by finding the meanings of the original words in *Strong’s* (*you don’t need to read the number out loud, but do read the definitions in parenthesis*):

- He forgives all your iniquities (#7551 – *sin*).
- He heals (#7495 – *Jehovah-rapha, my Healer, Physician*) all your diseases (#8463 – *sickness*).
- He redeems (#1350 – *to buy back, purchase, ransom, avenger*) your life from destruction (#7845 – *a pit, especially as a trap*).
- He crowns (#5849 – *to encircle for protection*) you with loving-kindness (#2617 – *favor, kindness, mercy*) and tender mercies (#7356 – *tender love, compassion*).
- He satisfies (#7646 – *to the full, have plenty*) you with good things (#2896 – *prosperity, welfare, be well favored*).

- So that your youth is renewed (#2318 – *rebuild: repair*) like the eagle’s (tied to Isaiah 40:31, “But they that wait (#6960 – *to bind together by twisting, to expect, look, patiently*) upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”) *I love how “waiting on the Lord” is described here as to bind together by twisting. You are so close to Him that you become intertwined.*

Now that’s how you search for hidden treasure! You must spend time in God’s Word, seeking the guidance and teaching of the Holy Spirit. There is priceless treasure hidden in God’s Word. You have to search for it, because you have to know something before you can believe it, and you have to believe it before you can receive it— then you have to specifically tell God you believe and accept it in order to receive it (Matthew 21:22; Mark 11:24). Psalm 68:19 says, “Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.” We all accept and receive so easily the benefit of Him forgiving all our sin for eternal life in Heaven, but fail to accept all these other benefits. If you are not enjoying “all His benefits,” is it because you were not aware of what those benefits are? Or is it because you do not believe it? Remember, God said some people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, and sometimes it’s because they *reject* knowledge (Hosea 4:6). All of those benefits are yours, but you have to believe it in order to receive them.

Is there anything in the meanings of those words in Psalm 103 you did not realize?

“This class has changed so much in my relationship with God. I had so many questions that have been answered and I am a more confident Christian and I have been able to give better counsel to friends and family using this material. Thank you!” —Amy N. Phillips (Bible Study)

More excerpts:

So why do we see such *varying degrees* of prosperity or physical conditions in Believers? I am beginning to see that the many varying degrees could be connected to the different purposes for which God created each person. I’m not saying God makes us sick so He can accomplish some purpose. I’m saying that He will give us, at the very least, the degree of health, healing, or provision we need to accomplish the purposes for which He has created us. It is still very important to check the other possibilities first, such as a lack of love, sin, not being submitted to God, not resisting the devil, not taking care of your body (the temple of the Holy Spirit), or having unbelief concerning healing. I cannot abuse and defile myself physically and then say salvation doesn’t include any physical benefits. I cannot ignore a sin problem the Lord is trying to reveal needs to be dealt with and expect it to not eventually affect my health or well-being. I cannot refuse to submit to God in an area (which is rebellion), and then wonder why God doesn’t keep me healthy. I cannot just accept and receive sickness or attack from the enemy without resisting him as God has instructed (James 4:7), and then say it must be God’s will for me to be sick. It may also be according to how much you will receive. But if you do believe and receive God’s healing and you are following God’s

Word in these areas, and the problems still remain, then trust God’s love and sovereignty, and enter into His rest.

...I am believing and trusting God to give me the health and wholeness, wealth and prosperity I need to accomplish His purposes for my life. As I submit and surrender myself to Him, and resist the devil (James 4:7), I make sure I have myself in the position to receive all that God has for me. Romans 8:28 says, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.”

Having pure faith and trust in God, in His power and faithfulness to fulfill His promises, no matter what (whether you ever see it all in your lifetime or not), releases contentment and *joy*. If we do not have and show *joy*, then we really aren’t content, or in submission to His Lordship, or in His rest. If we are in submission to His Lordship in our lives, and are obeying His Word to us, then we can enter into His rest and joyfully accept whatever He provides for us. He will provide everything we need to carry out His will, plans, and purposes. And when we truly live like this, He often blesses and provides even more than what we *need*.

If you are following God’s Word and living God’s will for your life, you have His promise to provide for all your needs according to His riches (Philippians 4:19). His riches are not affected by higher gas prices, inflation, recession, depression, or even economic collapse (praise God)! *But it requires strong faith and absolute trust in His Word and His faithfulness*. Although, in His wisdom and love, His temporal blessings (pertaining to this life and this world) come with the conditions that they will be for His praise, His glory, and His people’s good. His covenant promises contain everything we need, to do everything He calls us to do, which includes health, protection, provision, grace, strength, holiness, etc., *plus* glory in Heaven (2 Timothy 2:10). When you truly enter into this kind of understanding and right heart attitude, you are truly aligning yourself with God’s will, and then what you will find is that His blessings and provision often go even beyond your basic needs.

Psalm 37:3-4 says, “Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shall you dwell in the land, and truly you shall be fed. Delight yourself also in the LORD; and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

Message from the LORD: *I love to surprise you with things that go even beyond your basic needs—things deep within your heart—things that only I could even know about.*

“I have been a Christ follower for 35 years and have read and studied the Bible for all that time. So I am embarrassed to say New Hope has opened my eyes to truths I had missed. The Biblical Principles changed me completely. I am a new person.”

—Kathy Sherrard (Bible Study)

Comments: We also talk about things that could affect our health and wellness, and then move right into fulfilling God’s Commission for their life, which gives them a desire to serve and trains and equips them *to serve*:

The Great Commission—

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When we go in to possess our land— the land of our life— *our abundant life* in Christ, like the children of Israel did after going through the testing and proving ground in the wilderness, it includes fulfilling His will, plans, and purposes for our life. The Lord stands ready to bring in the abundant life He has been waiting and wanting to give you. It is time to move into the miracle working power of God and fulfill His commission for your life.

When a commission is given, it is for service. When Jesus sent out His Disciples, the Greek word meant: *sent out on a mission*. The definition of commission is: *Any writing from proper authority, given to a person as his warrant for exercising certain powers, or the performance of any duty.*³⁵ This is what the Bible is to the Believer. A person who has been commissioned has been given the power and authority to perform the duties assigned to him. But in order to fulfill the commission, we must be more than just Believers. There is a difference between a Believer and a Disciple. There are many Believers, but not all are Disciples. A Believer is someone who has come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, who through faith and repentance has asked for forgiveness of their sins and asked Jesus to be their Savior. A Disciple is someone who has chosen to surrender their life to the Lord, making Him their Master.

What you need to determine is whether you are going to be a Believer or a Disciple of Jesus Christ. What did Christ's Disciples do? They gave up *all* to follow Him. They said, *Everything I have and everything I am, I give to You, Lord*. They gave up their right to their own lives and gave their lives completely to Him. They were willing to give up anything He asked them to give up and do anything He asked them to do. They made Jesus the Lord of their lives.

...Disciples are the ones God sends out on missions. This isn't limited to being a full-time missionary or being involved in full-time Christian work. God commissions and sends out His Disciples on missions in the secular work place and in every walk of life. The Lord said in John 15:8: "Herein is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit; so shall you be My disciples." But we can only bear fruit if we abide in Him and His Words abide in us, as stated in the whole text before this verse (see John 15:1-8). Then in John 13:34-35, He provides another requirement: "A new commandment I give to you, That you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love one to another." So if we allow offense, strife, unforgiveness, resentment, bitterness, a critical spirit, etc., to come in, we lose power to carry out our commission. We grieve the Holy Spirit, the very source of our strength and power (Zechariah 4:6). That's why it is so important that we have seriously gone through dealing with the main root problems covered in the New Hope Phase II Handbook, so that we can have the power and authority in Christ to accomplish what God calls us to do.

When God calls us to do something, He begins to equip us for that call. Philippians 4:13 which says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me," doesn't mean that I can desire to do whatever I want to do and God has to enable or strengthen me to do it. It means that when I come to the understanding of what God has called me to do, and then surrender to that call, He will strengthen and enable me to fulfill that call. That verse also means He will give me the strength to do and get through any difficult thing I am faced with, such as the trials and tribulations we have in life. Jesus said in John 16:33, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

What we learned about “grace” has everything to do with you fulfilling your commission...

...Jesus gave His authority to His Disciples to carry out His commission. “For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left His house, and gave authority to His servants, and to every man his work...” (Mark 13:34; see also Luke 9:1-2; Luke 10:19; Matthew 28:18-20). The Commission recorded in Matthew 28:18-20, reveals the same thing. “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All power is given to Me in Heaven and in earth. Go you therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them to observe all things whatever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world. Amen.” Something very important is also revealed in verse 17 (the verse right before this commission to us). It says, “And when they saw Him, they worshipped Him: but some doubted.”

- Remember? Jesus was a fulfillment of all the names of God from the OT, so the name of Jesus today encompasses every one of those elements of the character of God. All of the aspects of the power of God are encompassed in the power of the Name of Jesus. And Jesus granted the power and authority to the disciples to go in the power of His Name. He said, “All power is given to Me in Heaven and in earth. Go you therefore, and teach all nations...” (verse 18-19a).
- Jesus has all power and authority and He gave His power and authority to His Disciples. *We* are His Disciples *too* if we have made Him Lord of our life— so this same commission is for *us*.
- Would the Lord send us out with this kind of a commission and not give us the power and authority to carry it out? *Absolutely not!* We can go out with power and all confidence knowing the Lord is with us as we do His work. This is delegated authority.
- In these verses, Jesus tells His Disciples to go and teach. To “teach” goes beyond making *Believers*. The original Greek word meant to make “Disciples.” Who were they supposed to teach?

All nations. Not just their nation, but all nations.

- What were they instructed to teach them?

Everything He had commanded them to do.

- So everything Jesus had already commanded and taught His Disciples to do, they were to go and teach everyone else.
- When you teach somebody something, what is it for?

So that they will know it and know how to do it.

- Verse 20 says teaching *everyone* (that means us too) to “*observe all the things*” *He had done and told them*; everything that is recorded about Him in the Bible.

- What does that word “observe” mean there? (This verse is actually quoted in *Webster’s* definition of the word “observe”!) It says, “*To keep or adhere to in practice; to comply with; to fulfill a command; to obey; as to observe the laws of the state; to observe the rules and regulations of the society. As in ‘teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you... Matthew 28’*” And here’s the final word: “*To practice.*” It means to do it.
- So all of the things Jesus commanded them to do, *we* are to hold fast to and put into practice. And do you know why?

Because it’s the only way we can fulfill the commission!

- So if this commission is ours, and it is, then Jesus’ power and authority to do all of those things is still being passed on to us. Why?

Because it’s the only way we can fulfill the commission!

- It doesn’t mean that we think *we are the ones doing it* or that *we have the power*. It’s His power at work through us. It is Him right there with us, just as He promised in the last verse—*His presence!* God uses just ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things. It is God showing Himself powerful through us. We have to be available and willing to cooperate with Him.

The very first miracle Jesus performed holds a key (John 2:1-11). Jesus was attending a wedding in Cana and they ran out of wine. Jesus’ mother, Mary, was also there and she knew that Jesus had the power to take care of the problem. Jesus’ reply made it sound as if the time was not right, but He was just waiting for the exact moment to perform the miracle. I picture Mary giving Him a knowing look, then she simply turned to the servants and said, *Just do whatever He says*. If you want to move into the miracle working power of God, just do whatever He says. You have to be willing to do whatever He says! That means making Him the Lord of your life. That is the way to the best life— the most abundant life. But it does not mean an easy life. It is a life full of adventure and miracles. But it is impossible looking problems that require miracles. It is a life of incredible provision. But that can’t happen without incredible needs. It is a life of amazing protection. But protection is only needed when danger is present. I once read somewhere that you’ll never understand how big the miracle is unless you understand how impossible the solution is.

Jesus said, “But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and you shall be witnesses (*ambassadors*) unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). We need to get back to what the apostles taught at the beginning of the Church. It’s what was needed for the early Church to thrive and fulfill their commission, and it’s what is needed for the Church today to thrive and fulfill our commission. It’s what we need to even survive in this world today in the condition that it’s in.

We pray that you will seriously consider your decision to make Jesus the LORD of your life and become a true *Disciple*, receiving the full power and authority to carry out His commission and purposes for your life.

If you want the Lord to make you into a true Disciple, please pray this aloud together with us:

Lord, I have believed and trusted You as my Savior, and I now choose to make You LORD of my life. Please make me willing to do whatever You say. Please make me into Your Disciple, so that I can carry out Your commission and fulfill Your will, plans, and purposes for my life. In myself, I am nothing, but I am in covenant with You. I have been born-again as a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) and have the exceeding greatness of Your power toward me (Ephesians 1:19). The same power that You used to raise Jesus from the dead, You have toward me. I receive Your power toward me. I thank You for what You are going to do in and through my life. In Your name, Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.

We are seeing people set free from the bondage of life-controlling problems to fulfill the call of God on their lives.

“I began the class not really knowing what to expect. I knew I wanted to learn more about God and how to apply myself in my Christian life. I have learned and gained more than I imagined from this class. When I began the program, I was a timid person when it came to speaking about Jesus. This class has given me knowledge and boldness about Jesus and applying the Word to situations that arise in my life and in others. I feel confident now about sharing what the Lord has to offer all of us. I can stand firm in my faith and hopefully be an example to those around me.” —Dana Hutton (Bible Study)

Comments: This requires more of applying your faith and living by faith, fully realizing the power of God’s Word and the importance of our own words, learning how to not cancel out our faith with our own words. People so often discourage themselves with the words of their own mouths. Stressing more of the importance of what we speak, leads right in to their final assignment of writing their Personal Profession of Faith.

Excerpt:

It is time to do your final exercise: Composing and recording your Personal Profession of Faith. When pressures come, this is what God says you need to hold fast to. Keep in mind that it’s not something that is going to be set in stone for the rest of your life. This is just a culmination of your journey so far. Your profession will change and grow as you continue to change and grow. Put it together in written form (there is a Worksheet in Appendix D for ideas) and then we will record you reading aloud your Profession of Faith.

You can take the list of special things you have been compiling from our study and put them together in the form of a written declaration. There is no right or wrong way to do it. This is something just for you.

This exercise will sum up your whole journey through this study; your own Exodus from slavery and the land of bondage, into the Land of Promises, bringing it to completion, and you are going to

go out with such power in fully knowing who you are in Christ and what that means! And fully knowing the powerful truth that satan is defeated in your life! Praise God!

But your mind will probably try to run the old programmed-in thoughts. Take complete control and responsibility of your mind and reprogram it with what God says! As soon as your mind or your enemy tries to run the old untrue thoughts, use that as a trigger mechanism to remind you every time, to speak aloud or play the recording of your *Personal Profession of Faith*, because this is what God told us to *hold fast* to. *How do you hold fast to something?* Picture it: you would wrap your arms around it and hold tight to it and not let go.

Over turn all the old thought patterns you've had about yourself all your life. That is an insult to Christ who dwells in you. Galatians 2:20 says, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, Who loved me, and gave Himself for me." When you manually override the old programming of your mind enough times, your brain will gradually get the new picture, and you will find yourself transformed, because your mind will have become renewed.

"Through the New Hope program I now know God has so much for me. I just need to listen, obey, and not be swayed by anything. I have put on a new way of thinking, not looking around me, but keeping my eyes on Jesus. I am wanted, loved, called, and anointed for service.
Nothing is impossible with God."
—Betty (Counselee)

"I finally feel like I'm coming into who I'm suppose to be."
—Olga (Seminar)

The outcome from this in-depth program is changed lives.

Comments: We close with some counsel on purity and holiness and thinking about God's specific plan for them, considering ways they could be involved in serving Him and what He is calling them to do.

Closing excerpts:

The very first thing we learned in this study was of God's good plan for your life. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end... And there is hope in your end, saith the LORD" (Jeremiah 29:11; 31:17). You were given *hope*. Through the course of your journey, our prayer is that now, this hope has become the anchor of your soul. "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast..."

(Hebrews 6:19). “Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

...The main point is that you cannot let the complications of life, problems, or schemes of the enemy make you forget that you were created for a purpose. Your deepening, personal relationship with the Lord and accomplishing His plans and purposes for your life should be your focus, your top priority. You must not allow the enemy, anyone, or anything else distract or deter you.

This is our blessing upon you:

“The LORD bless you, and keep you: The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you: The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace” (Numbers 6:24-26).

This is the blessing Moses and Aaron were instructed to speak over God’s people. God said that when this blessing is bestowed upon His people, that it puts His name upon them and He Himself steps in and blesses them (Numbers 6:27). The first line of this blessing is asking God to bless and keep you. The Hebrew understanding is: to do good for you, protect you, sustain you, provide for you and rescue you from all evil and distress. *Bless* comes from the Hebrew word meaning to *bless greatly and abundantly*. The Hebrew word for *keep* actually means *to hedge about (as with thorns), to guard, protect, and attend to*. The second line of the blessing asks God to make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Hebrews understood the shining of God’s face as *a beaming, friendly expression; a brightness to give light and make things clear*. The shining of God’s face on you means that He is looking toward you, paying attention to you, and taking note of you. For God to be gracious to you means for Him to give you favor. It’s really the same concept as *grace* in the NT. It means everything that comes from having *His presence* with you. This blessing saves the best for last: the blessing of peace. The Hebrew, *shalom* of God, encompasses the physical, spiritual, and mental/emotional— all areas of our being. It is to be *safe, well, happy, friendly; it is welfare, health, prosperity; it is to be at peace, and rest*. Shalom peace is not just “peace.” It is a very personal relationship and intimate friendship with Jehovah, our Abba, Father. We see in the NT, this peace of God surpasses all comprehension (Philippians 4:7).³⁶

We bless you in the name of the LORD Jesus Christ!

One New Hope Counselee, who was also in the Army said, “I’m a good soldier, but God is teaching me to be a *warrior*. There is a difference between a soldier and a warrior. A soldier serves and obeys out of duty. A *warrior* serves and obeys out of devotion.”³⁷ That’s what we are for Christ— Warriors— and we serve and obey out of our love and devotion for our King.

You are no longer only a child of the King— you are now a Warrior of the King!

“I praise God that He is using New Hope to help so many who are in need... When I look back and see where I was when I first came and where I am now; I am in awe of how God has done a great work in my life.” —Betty (Counselee)

“I have learned so many things in this study. I couldn’t begin to tell you! It was brought into my life at a very timely event. This study is: incredible, awesome, wonderful, powerful.” —Prissila (Bible Study)

“I received Jesus Christ as my Savior in January of 1980. Over the years, I have grown in my relationship with Him, but the last 3 or 4 years I felt like my excitement for the Lord had dimmed, like a fire as it burns down. My “first love” for the Lord God and His Word had weakened, and my faith also. Going through the New Hope materials which include God’s precious and powerful words have reignited the fire, passion and faith in my heart. I have been encouraged and reminded of the power, might, love, holiness and awesomeness of our Abba Father. I have been reminded of who God is and who He wants to be in my life. The Holy Spirit has faithfully revealed sin in my life, wrong thinking I’ve allowed in and most of all shown me how much I am loved by the Father. This love goes beyond my understanding. My hunger and thirst for the Lord and His word has been increased and my heart’s fire is flaming once again!” —Camille (Bible Study)

Overview Conclusion

God said His people are destroyed for lack of knowledge and how sad— when He has put everything they need to know in His Word. It is the truth that will make you free and Jesus said, “If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36)! Christ died so that we might have abundant life. Are you living an *abundant* life?

The New Hope program begins with letting you know that you are a child of the King and ends with you having become a ***warrior*** of the King. There is a difference between a soldier and a warrior. A soldier serves out of duty. A warrior serves out of devotion. What could a church full of warriors of the King do for your church? What could it do in your community? In our world?

That is our mission ***and*** our ministry— to bring hope and healing as we lead people to the Savior, the great Healer, the Wonderful Counselor, and to train up and equip warriors of the King.

If you have liked what you’ve read in this Overview Booklet, it has been only a taste of what is in the entire New Hope Series. If you find yourself wanting more, or wanting to share this with others, please place your order and get started today!

“I’ve been trained in a number of different models of counseling and been frustrated by them all... finding a low degree of success. Jesus Christ called me to see the captives set free. In

our counseling program now, using these materials, we have a waiting list.

We are seeing tremendous results. There are incredible moments of deliverance that happens in people’s lives as they go through this. We are also using this program in our church as Basic Leadership 101. Every leader in my church has to go through this course.

Some awesome benefits of this program we are seeing is that it is drawing people into ministry. People who’ve been Christians for 25-30 years are beginning to discover new ministry gifts that they never thought they had before. To sum it all up, this is what I see:

1) I see true discipleship, 2) I see people being called into ministry and using their ministry gifts, 3) I see the power of the Gospel really working.”

—Pastor Paul Backhaus

“I can’t begin to tell you how wonderful your program is. I have seen many lives changed. I really think this program could help many people from re-offending and really clean their life and their family’s life up.

This program is life-changing. —Inmate, Wapello County Jail

The following ministry kits and materials are designed to help you fulfill the call of God on your life and equip you for your service to the King:

New Hope Bible Study Materials

**The New Hope For Spiritual Growth 3-Book Series
is available with a Leader Handbook and Student Handbook**

Leader Handbooks:

This three book series puts the New Hope Materials into a group format that can be used for a Sunday School Class, Discipleship Class, One-on-One Discipleship, or Small Group Bible Study. The Leader Handbook is specifically designed for the leader to follow, with notes and instructions on exactly what to do and what to say to lead a class through the program. Discussion questions are built into the text. These handbooks can equip *anyone* to lead a group through the series. The items included in the handbook kits are used in assignments that are given, designed to help them really learn and apply God's Word; to be doers of the Word and not just hearers only (James 1:22). The Leader handbook kits contain a few items needed to lead the study.

New Hope For Spiritual Growth - Phase I - Leader Handbook contains:

Who God Says I Am Bookmark
Spiral Note Card Set
Prayer Bookmark
That Hopeless Feeling audio
Bible Companion Booklet

New Hope For Spiritual Growth - Phase II - Leader Handbook contains:

Who God Says I Am CD
The Speaking Blood audio sample

New Hope For Spiritual Growth - Phase III - Leader Handbook contains:

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet
Personal Profession of Faith Background Music CD

Student Handbooks: Available for each Student to have their own copy of the materials, which is very important for their application assignments.

New Hope For Spiritual Growth - Phase I - Student Handbook contains:

Who God Says I Am Bookmark
Spiral Note card Set
Prayer Bookmark
Bible Companion Booklet

New Hope For Spiritual Growth - Phase II - Student Handbook (no kit items)

New Hope For Spiritual Growth - Phase III - Student Handbook contains:

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

"These materials and the presentation in a class format were phenomenal. I saw people bond together, grow in their faith, laugh, cry and be accountable to one another. Everyone offered something unique. The materials were great for creating a discipleship format." —Pastor Greg Colegrove

New Hope Counseling Materials

New Hope Counseling Kit (For individual Pastoral or Lay Counseling):

This Kit contains:

Hardcopies:

2 Counselor Handbooks (*Contains 600+ page printed materials in a 3-Ring Binder with section dividers, training information for Biblical Counselors, “Notes to Counselor” and step-by-step instructions as you lead a Counselee through the materials.*)

Each Counselor Handbook also contains:

Spiral Note Card Set

Prayer Bookmark

Who God Says I Am Bookmark

Bible Companion Booklet

That Hopeless Feeling Audio

Who God Says I Am CD

The Speaking Blood Audio by Jack Hayford

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

(Additional Counselor Handbooks can then be ordered through New Hope as you need them.)

1 Counselee Handbook (*Contains 600+ page printed materials in a 3-Ring Binder with section dividers. The Counselee is given a copy of everything that is covered in each counseling session in the form of handouts to make up their own Counselee Handbook.*)

Each Counselee Handbook also contains:

Empty 3-Ring Binder for Counselee

Instructions for using the binders

Spiral Note Card Set

Prayer Bookmark

Who God Says I Am Bookmark

Bible Companion Booklet

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

(Additional Counselee Handbooks can then be ordered through New Hope as you need them.)

1 Counselee’s Binder

Counseling Kit Handbook

New Hope Resources Catalog

Counselee Testimonies Video

New Hope Founders’ Testimonies Booklet

Advisory help from New Hope

Counseling Kit CD

Counseling Kit (continued)

On CD to adapt to your ministry and print copies:

Counseling Kit Handbook containing:

- Helpful Hints
- Biblical Counseling Training
- Immediate Needs Session Plan and Forms
- Marriage Counseling Helps
- Intercessory Prayer Team Guide
- Counseling Forms

Sample Session Plans

New Hope Counseling Seminar Leader Instructions and 16-week Session Outlines

New Hope for Spiritual Growth Seminar Leader Instructions and 16-week Session Outlines

Spiritual Birth Certificate

Graduation Certificate for Counselee

Certificate of Completion for Seminars

Samples: New Hope Miracle Set
Counselee Records File
Spiritual Birth Certificate
Graduation Certificate for Counselee
Certificate of Completion for Seminars
Personal Profession of Faith Audio Sample
Personal Profession of Faith Background Music CD
Who God Says I Am Scriptures Booklet

Complete Counseling Kit — Includes a one year New Hope Membership, plus Advisory Consultation from New Hope Staff for implementation

Yearly Membership:

Includes:

- All updates, revisions, and additions to all Handbooks
- Continued Advisory Help from New Hope Staff
- Continued Training Materials
- Newsletters

Many people whose lives are a disaster, go through the New Hope program and end up either in full-time ministry or involved in their church's ministries.

New Hope Counseling Center Ministry Kit (To set up and operate your own Counseling Center Ministry):

This Kit contains:

Hardcopies:

2 Counselor Handbooks (*Contains 600+ page printed materials in a 3-Ring Binder with section dividers, training information for Biblical Counselors, “Notes to Counselor” and step-by-step instructions as you lead a counselee through the materials.*)

Each Counselor Handbook also contains:

Spiral Note Card Set

Prayer Bookmark

Who God Says I Am Bookmark

Bible Companion Booklet

That Hopeless Feeling Audio

Who God Says I Am CD

The Speaking Blood Audio by Jack Hayford

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

(Additional Counselor Handbooks can then be ordered through New Hope)

1 Counselee Handbook (*Contains 600+ page printed materials in a 3-Ring Binder with section dividers. The counselee is given a copy of everything that is covered in each counseling session in the form of handouts to make up their own Counseling Handbook.*)

Each Counselee Handbook also contains:

Empty 3-Ring Binder for Counselee

Instructions for using the binders

Spiral Note Card Set

Prayer Bookmark

Who God Says I Am Bookmark

Bible Companion Booklet

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

(Additional Counselee Handbooks can then be ordered through New Hope)

1 Sample of Counselee’s Binder

Board Member Handbook (*Provides detailed instructions on how to start a non-profit ministry organization; how to structure it, staff it, oversee it, fund it, and run it.*)

Administration Handbook (*Contains every form that is used and explains how to use them.*)

Legal Handbook (*Addresses legal matters for a counseling ministry.*)

Policies and Procedures Handbook (*To use as a template to structure your own.*)

Counseling Center Ministry Kit (continued)

Employee Handbook (*A template of personnel policies – [still in progress]*)

Intercessory Prayer Team Handbook (*Contains teaching and suggestions on intercessory prayer.*)

Helpful Hints Binder

Counselee Testimonies Video

New Hope Founders' Testimonial Booklet

Forms listed on Disc

Advisory help from New Hope

On Disc to adapt and print copies:

- Board Member Handbook
- Administrative Handbook
- Legal Handbook
- Policies and Procedures Handbook
- Intercessory Prayer Team Handbook
- Helpful Hints Binder
- Biblical Counseling Seminar Leader Pages (with 16-week Session outlines)
- New Hope for Spiritual Growth Seminar Leader Pages (with 16-week Session outlines)
- Board Member Application Packet
- Board Member Interview
- Board Member Reference Form
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Volunteer Application Packet
- Volunteer Interview
- Volunteer Reference Form
- Volunteer Orientation and Training Packet
- Initial Telephone Contact
- Counselee Contact Record
- Counselee Progress Record

Ministry Kit Testimony

God's timing is perfect! He made it possible for the New Hope Outreach Center to be placed in the Moravia Church of the Nazarene early in 2007. We (Dick and Jan Allen) had been involved with New Hope Counseling Center in Centerville as Counselors for two years. After calling me into ministry, God allowed me to quit my full time job to concentrate on my pastoral studies as well as expand my service to the Lord through New Hope. We have conducted the New Hope Biblical Counseling Seminars at the Moravia church since September 2006. God orchestrated the Outreach Center to be formed in the church in early 2007, and we are excited about being able to bring the hope of God to people in the church as well as those who are outside of the church. We have faith that God will continue to transform lives through His Word and His promises in this ministry. Starting the counseling center in the church was much easier than I thought it might be. The New Hope Counseling Center Ministry Kit that we were able to purchase from New Hope Ministry in Centerville made that process go like clockwork. The Handbooks and materials that were all put together on CD, with instructions for operations and suggestions, were a big help to me in setting up the Outreach Center. —*Dick and Jan Allen*

Counseling Center Ministry Kit (continued)

Samples: Session Plan Form
Session Plan Samples (Sessions 1-3)
Assignment Sheet
Spiritual Birth Certificate
Graduation Certificate for Counselee
Certificate of Completion for Seminars
New Hope Founders' Testimonies
New Hope Miracle Set
Counselee Records File
Spiritual Birth Certificate
Graduation Certificate for Counselee
Certificate of Completion for Counselor Seminars (sample)
Certificate of Completion for Leader Seminars (sample)
Personal Profession of Faith Audio Sample
Personal Profession of Faith Background Music CD
Welcome Packet for Partners
New Hope Founders' Testimonies Booklet
Who God Says I Am Scriptures Booklet
Brochures

**Complete Counseling Center Ministry Kit — Includes a one year New Hope Membership, plus
Advisory Consultation from New Hope Staff for implementation**

Yearly Membership:

Includes:

All updates, revisions, and additions to all Counseling Materials
All updates, revisions, and additions to the Ministry Handbooks
Continued Advisory Help from New Hope Staff
Continued Training Materials
Newsletters

*God is using New Hope Ministry to bring the Body of Christ
together to further the Kingdom of God.
Just like that Upper Room Prayer Group fervently prayed for.*

New Hope Prison/Jail Ministry Materials

**The New Hope For Freedom 5-Book Series
is available with a Leader Handbook and Student Handbook**

Leader Handbooks:

This five-book series puts the New Hope Materials into a form that can be used in Prison Ministry or Jail Ministry being formatted with daily lessons and assignments that start out very basic and then build and deepen as they progress through the study. The handbooks are in plastic comb bindings and most of the kit items are built into the text (*Who God Says I Am* Bookmark, Prayer Bookmark, Note Cards, Journal Pages). The Leader Handbook is specifically designed for a leader to follow, with notes and instructions on exactly what to do and what to say to lead a class or small group Bible Study through the program. Discussion questions are built into the text. These handbooks can equip *anyone* to lead a group through the program. A free paperback Bible comes with every Phase I Handbook.

New Hope For Freedom - Phase I - Leader Handbook contains:

That Hopeless Feeling audio
Bible Companion Booklet

New Hope For Freedom - Phase II - Part 1 - Leader Handbook contains:

Who God Says I Am CD
The Speaking Blood audio sample

New Hope For Freedom - Phase II - Part 2 - Leader Handbook contains:

No Kit Items

New Hope For Freedom - Phase III - Part 1 - Leader Handbook contains:

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

New Hope For Freedom - Phase III - Part 2 - Leader Handbook contains:

Personal Profession of Faith Background Music CD

Student Handbooks: Available for each inmate to have their own copy of the materials in a workbook form, which is very important for their application assignments. A free paperback Bible comes with every Phase I Handbook.

New Hope For Freedom - Phase I - Student Handbook contains:

Bible Companion Booklet

New Hope For Freedom - Phase II - Part 1 - Student Handbook contains:

Not Kit Items

New Hope For Freedom - Phase II - Part 2 - Student Handbook contains:

No Kit Items

New Hope For Freedom - Phase III - Part 1 - Student Handbook contains:

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

New Hope For Freedom - Phase III - Part 2 - Student Handbook contains:

Not Kit Items

“I am writing to thank you for the life changing, powerful message of the student handbooks. Using this technology (The Word of God arranged in such an organized way), I have reached out to God and found a peace and fulfillment I never knew possible! Through prayer and meditation (on God’s Word) I realized God’s calling for me... I’ve personally witnessed men coming into jail, detoxifying from alcohol/drugs, then coming to the Lord. Every man wants to do well, be better, and not re-offend. Many men are released, lose contact with the ministry team, do not become involved with a church or organization, and consequently become caught in the temptation and circumstances of the world. I believe the missing component is a well organized, step-by-step gradient approach to healing – which is exactly what the New Hope Ministry Handbooks are! God knows the information contained in the handbooks is more powerful than a thousand drug task forces and drug courts! I’m convinced these handbooks can be used to make a huge impact on newly released inmates and people outside jail to come to God and lead drug-free, meaningful lives! Whether one wants to call this treatment, counseling, ministry, or learning how to be healed and brought to God...Your materials are the most powerful rehabilitation tool I’ve ever experienced!” —Inmate, Wapello County Jail

“These materials were absolutely life-changing for me!...Because of the New Hope materials, I am more in love with my Heavenly Father, His Word, and I have a real burden to get these materials into the lives of everyone— everyone who is seeking Truth. I believe the answers for everything are truly within the Word and He rewards those (with revelation) who diligently seek Him. Thank you staff and volunteers for your passion to bring people to Christ and to New Hope! My life has been changed! I have kingdom purpose!”
—Cathy (Bible Study)

Individual Workbooks

New Hope for Personal Freedom is a 5-book Series in a Workbook form

The New Hope program is also available in an Individual Workbook form. We have incorporated many of the assignment items into the text of this new workbook assembled in a plastic comb binding. The materials are laid out in daily lessons with workbook questions to answer. At the end of each day there is an assignment checklist and blank cards on the page on which to write out your Truth Statement and Sword Verses. Blank Journal pages are also inserted at the end of each lesson. The New Hope bookmarks are on a card stock page inside the front cover, which can be left in the book for easy access, or cut out to use as bookmarks.

New Hope For Freedom - Phase I - Leader Handbook contains:

That Hopeless Feeling audio
Bible Companion Booklet

New Hope For Freedom - Phase II - Part 1 - Leader Handbook contains:

Who God Says I Am CD
The Speaking Blood audio sample

New Hope For Freedom - Phase II - Part 2 - Leader Handbook contains:

No Kit Items

New Hope For Freedom - Phase III - Part 1 - Leader Handbook contains:

Spiritual Warfare Prayers Pamphlet

New Hope For Freedom - Phase III - Part 2 - Leader Handbook contains:

Personal Profession of Faith Background Music CD

Broken lives are being restored.

We minister hope and healing through the power of God's Word.

This is impacting lives, which impacts families, which impacts churches and communities – We are impacting the world one person at a time.

New Hope Miracle Set

This Miracle Set includes a “Who God Says I Am” bookmark, a “Who God Says I Am” CD, “I am a child of the King” note card, and a “New Hope Miracle Set” booklet. The booklet first leads you through the plan of salvation (just to make sure), then establishes your identity as a child of the King, by giving four simple assignments using the items in the set for a 30 day period of time. Knowing who you are in Christ, as a child of the King, releases the miracle working power of God in your life. Just doing these few simple things could totally transform your life. At New Hope, we give this gift to everyone on our waiting list for counseling. It prepares them for the program. Packaged in a beautiful gift bag, this set makes an awesome gift for *anyone*, no matter what level of spiritual maturity they are on. Give the gift that could change a life.

Other New Hope Resources are available In the New Hope Catalog

Instilling hope, and then purpose, which gives meaning to life.

Transforming lives by the power of Jesus Christ, freeing and equipping people to impact the world.

“I want to thank New Hope for helping me to finish the process of renewing my mind to the truth and letting what is true of me in Christ flow into my physical/spiritual/emotional life.” —Ingrid (Bible Study)

We are equipping the Body of Christ, empowering them to serve.

Projects in Progress:

Graduate Materials



Warriors of the King

It had been on our hearts for a long time to put together a New Hope Graduate Program. Our Graduate Program is in progress and will be called:

Warriors of the King.

When someone first starts the New Hope program they become or learn that they are a child of the King, but as they go through the program they become a *warrior* of the King. There is a difference between a soldier and a warrior. A soldier serves out of duty.

A warrior serves out of devotion.

Warriors in the Old Testament were often referred to as “mighty men of valor.” *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance* defines the Hebrew word used there for *mighty* as:

A valiant warrior; powerful; champion; to excel; strong.

We want to continue to encourage and train our graduates in their service to our King. We say to them: *Stand firm mighty warrior and do valiantly for your King.*

*“Through God we shall do valiantly:
for He it is that shall tread down our enemies” (Psalm 60:12).*

Children’s Materials

New Hope for Children

“Train up a child in the way he should go:
and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6).

It had been in our hearts from the very beginning to someday have the New Hope materials put into a child’s form. The child’s form will be called “New Hope for Children” and the handbooks are being formatted with daily lessons and assignments that start out very basic and then build and deepen as they progress through the study.

A Teacher Handbook is being designed with notes and instructions on exactly what to do and say to lead a child or children through the Children of Hope program with accompanying Student Handbooks that also contain a kit of items used in assignments throughout the study.



Will you be one of Gideon's 300 for New Hope?

We're asking the Lord to raise up an army!
We need 300 Gideon Warriors to join us on the front lines.

What could God do with 300 warriors? We have a good idea, but we need your help! Join the army and become one of Gideon's 300 for New Hope. Enlist today, and unite with us on the front lines to help transform lives and offer hope to a hurting world.

—300 warriors (people or churches) giving at least \$30 per month—

For about *a dollar a day*, you can help make a huge impact, not only on local communities, but around the world.

Here are a couple lives that have been changed:

"You are a ray of hope and light among the lost and dying world. God has placed you here for all the wounded to enter in and get healed." (Betty, Counselee)

"I can't begin to tell you how wonderful your program is. I really think this program could help many people from re-offending and really clean their life and their family's life up. This program is life-changing." (Inmate, Wapello County Jail)

We are asking God to lay it on the hearts of 300 people to join us in regular monthly support.

You will receive a certificate for framing: **A Member of Gideon's 300 for New Hope**
You will also receive a FREE **Faith & Trust** book as a thank you gift.

Will you be one of Gideon's 300?

Return this Support Card or sign up on our website at: www.NewHopeMinistryCC.org



New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center

303 W State St. (upper floor) • PO Box 151 • Centerville, IA 52544 • 641-856-3326

WILL YOU BE ONE OF GIDEON'S 300?

Name (please print): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

I will be one of Gideon's 300 for New Hope (Please send my free *Faith & Trust* book as a thank you gift):

- I will give at the \$30 level per month.
- I will give at the \$50 level per month.
- I will give at the \$100 level per month.
- I will give at the \$200 level per month.

I will be a regular supporter at \$_____per month. I will give a one-time gift of \$_____.

Testimony for Gideon's 300 for New Hope:

In Judges Chapters six and seven we read about Gideon, a farmer whose task was to deliver Israel from the evil stronghold of the Midianites. He was a resourceful man who obeyed God when convinced he was doing God's will and not serving his own purposes. Though Gideon had no confidence in himself, God called him a "mighty man of valor."

God's Word tells us that Gideon had an army of 32,000 soldiers at his disposal to battle the Midianites. But God determined that only 300 dedicated warriors were needed. God wanted to demonstrate that victory depended not on strength or numbers, but on obedience and commitment to Him. Similar to the Marines, God was looking for a few good men.

The ministry of New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center parallels that of Gideon's in that New Hope Staff and Volunteers are dedicated, resourceful servants who are engaged in the important battle of releasing ordinary people from the bondage of hopelessness by offering genuine hope found only through saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Just as Gideon needed only a small divinely-selected army to successfully execute his ordained mission, New Hope Staff is seeking a small group of partners who will invest in New Hope on a regular monthly basis so they can focus on their primary mission – producing their ministry materials and providing Biblical Counseling Services – rather than doing fundraising.

While New Hope has many Volunteers, it still takes a small number of paid Staff (3), equipment, and lots of paper and supplies to write and produce the New Hope Materials, operate the ministry, and offer Biblical Counseling services free of charge. The New Hope Staff and Board are effective, efficient stewards of the ministry's finances, as reflected in the disciplined budget and divinely blessed outreach success.

Gideon's 300 for New Hope is a unique opportunity for you and/or your church to become personally involved in this life-changing ministry. Three hundred supporters giving at least \$30 each per month will enable New Hope to meet the ever increasing calls for help from hurting individuals and families, and the strengthening of the Body of Christ through their ministry materials and kits.

Please pray about partnering with New Hope through your regular monthly financial support. Then keep in mind what God did through Gideon and his army of 300 dedicated warriors.

You can become a member of **Gideon's 300 for New Hope** by sending in the response card, or by e-mail, or phone call.

My wife and I have witnessed first-hand how God has used and is using New Hope Ministry to change lives in ways thought impossible, because He is using His servants to achieve His purpose for His glory. An investment in New Hope is an investment in people's lives - with priceless eternal returns. We are privileged to be members of **Gideon's 300 for New Hope**. Would you join us?

Keith & Vicki Sherman

Or, your church could be a part of the New Hope Mission Work by participating in:



Dove Dollar Days

New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center is a faith-based ministry, established in 2004 providing Biblical Counseling free of charge as a home mission work. Our belief is that counseling needs should be met through the local church and we are an extension of the local church to help meet these needs. The symbol of the dove acknowledges the work of the Holy Spirit in establishing and directing the ministry. The unique counseling program addresses the main root problems common to all people, from which all other problems and “issues” stem. When the roots are properly dealt with first, problems and “issues” disappear along the way. This program has resulted in scores of people experiencing changed lives; freeing them from the bondage of life-controlling problems, and enabling them to fulfill God’s plans and purposes for their lives.

The work of New Hope Ministry is carried out through three staff members and over 75 Volunteers who are giving of their time and talents to serve the Lord in this ministry together. New Hope has become a vital part of the community— impacting people’s lives so they can impact the world around them. Because of the high success rates with the New Hope Counseling Materials, we have put them into several other ministry forms including a Bible Study Series, Prison/Jail Ministry Series, and Personal Workbooks to help equip others to minister in greater and even more effective ways.

The ministry has been so blessed by the outpouring of support and encouragement received from the body of believers in many local churches. God has used His people to supply all of our material needs to completely furnish and operate New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center, and several churches and individuals are providing regular monthly financial support as part of their missionary outreach. However, the needs of hurting people in the area are great and there is much more work to be done. Your church can be an important part of this work through your prayers and by participating in *Dove Dollar Days*.

Here’s how it works. Your church authorizes New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center as a local mission project and inserts the flyers with attached envelopes provided by New Hope once a month on *Dove Dollar Day*. An offering of just \$1 once a month from each person would meet the financial needs of New Hope.

The Staff and Volunteers of New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center fully believe that God shall supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). Our main goal is to give Him glory in His provision and to bring Him glory in everything that we do. Thank you for your consideration and support.

New Hope Ministry & Counseling Center

303 W State St. (upper floor) • PO Box 151 • Centerville, IA 52544 • 641-856-3326

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- ¹ *Spirit-Filled Woman's Devotional Bible*, Knowing God by Joy Dawson, Thomas Nelson Bibles, A Division of Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2003, XXXIII.
- ² *Lies Women Believe*, Nancy Leigh DeMoss, Printed by permission of Moody Publishers, Chicago, Illinois, 2001, 47.
- ³ Inspired by Neil T. Anderson.
- ⁴ Taken from: *The Bondage Breaker*, Copyright © 2000 by Neil T. Anderson, Published by Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, Oregon Used by Permission, www.harvesthousepublishers.com, 215.
- ⁵ Quote by Joyce Meyer, used by permission of Joyce Meyer Ministries, PO Box 655, Fenton, Missouri, 63026, 800-727-9673.
- ⁶ *Gaining a Fresh Perspective*, Charles R. Swindoll, Insight for Living, Plano, Texas, 2002, 7-8.
- ⁷ *New Bible Dictionary*, J. D. Douglas, Tyndale House, Wheaton, Illinois, (access through the Logos Library System), 1996.
- ⁸ Adapted from *Spirit-Filled Woman's Devotional Bible*, The Hope Chest Journal, Thomas Nelson Bibles, A Division of Thomas Nelson, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee, 2003, 67b.
- ⁹ Source Unknown.
- ¹⁰ *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ¹¹ *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ¹² Quote by Scott Farrington.
- ¹³ Combined definitions of *Strong* and *Hold* from *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ¹⁴ *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ¹⁵ From Jeremiah 32:27;
- ¹⁶ From Isaiah 27:5.
- ¹⁷ *Lies Women Believe*, Nancy Leigh DeMoss, Printed by permission of Moody Publishers, Chicago, Illinois, 2001, 32.
- ¹⁸ *Lies Women Believe*, Nancy Leigh DeMoss, Printed by permission of Moody Publishers, Chicago, Illinois, 2001, 32.
- ¹⁹ Combined definitions of *Strong* and *Hold* from *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ²⁰ *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1982.
- ²¹ *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ²² *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ²³ Statement inspired by Joyce Meyer.
- ²⁴ From Deuteronomy 1:29; 20:3-4; 31:6.
- ²⁵ Quote by Jill Briscoe.
- ²⁶ *Noah Webster's 1928 Dictionary*.
- ²⁷ Source Unknown.
- ²⁸ Insights from 'Son!', by John Sheasby, Liberated Living Ministries, Roanoke, Texas, 1999.
- ²⁹ 'Son!', by John Sheasby, Liberated Living Ministries, Roanoke, Texas, 1999, 30.
- ³⁰ First shown this by my friend Kevin Wiskus.
- ³¹ *The Domain of Grace*, by Dan Davis, Hope Chapel, 6701 Arroyo Seca, Austin, Texas 78757, 512-453-7012.
- ³² *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ³³ Greek language information from Pastor Spencer Kerroff,
- ³⁴ Illustration by Joyce Meyer.
- ³⁵ *Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary*.
- ³⁶ Definitions from *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*.
- ³⁷ If you are a soldier serving in the Armed Forces and you do not merely serve out of duty, but out of devotion, then you are really a warrior for our country.

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Illustrations by Shawna Morgan, 1722 Drake Ave, Centerville, IA 52544, 641-895-9017.

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