



HEAVEN IS HERE

MAY 16 - 22

**WORKSHOP
WORKBOOK**



BEACHES CHURCH

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

MONDAY

- 9:00am Worship
- 9:30am Called to Reign Part 1 - Ps Mareesa Cunneen
- 11:15am Winning Souls Part 1- Ps David & Anne Velu

- 6:30pm Winning Souls Part 2 - Ps David & Anne Velu
- 7:30pm Healing Part 1 - Ps David & Anne Velu

TUESDAY

- 9:00am Worship
- 9:30am Called to Reign Part 2 - Ps Mareesa Cunneen
- 11:15am Winning Souls Part 3 - Ps David & Anne Velu

- 4:00pm Street Evangelism
- 6:30pm Called to Reign Part 3 - Ps Mareesa Cunneen
- 7:30pm Inner Healing & Deliverance - Belinda Cain

WEDNESDAY

- 9:00am Worship
- 9:30am Called to Reign Part 4 - Ps Mareesa Cunneen
- 11:15am Healing Part 2 - Ps David & Anne Velu

- 4:00pm Street Evangelism
- 6:30pm Winning Souls Part 4 - Ps David & Anne Velu
- 7:30pm Soaking Worship - Beaches Worship Team

THURSDAY

- 9:00am Worship
- 9:30am Building in the Spirit - Ps Nathan Cunneen
- 11:15am Ministering with Angels - Belinda Cain

- 4:00pm Street Evangelism
- 6:30pm Healing Part 3 - Ps David & Anne Velu
- 7:30pm Walking with God into the Supernatural



HEAVEN IS HERE WORKSHOP NOTES

TOPICS

Called to Reign – Session 1	pg 2
Called to Reign – Session 2	pg 4
Called to Reign – Session 3	pg 8
Called to Reign – Session 4	pg 11
Winning Souls – Session 1	pg 15
Winning Souls – Session 2	pg 17
Winning Souls – Session 3	pg 19
Winning Souls – Session 4	pg 20
Healing	pg 24
Inner Healing and Deliverance	pg 30
Ministering with Angels	pg 35
Building in the Spirit	pg 40
Walking with God in the Supernatural	pg 44
Appendix	pg 53
Identifying Emotional Wounds for Inner Healing	
Was That Just My Imagination?	
The Biblical Basis for Listening Prayer	
The Meeting Place: Facilitating Encounters	

CALLED TO REIGN

Session 1: Identity - Who am I?

Facilitator Mareesa Cunneen

Called to Reign sessions are based on the book, *“Called to Reign, living and loving from a place of rest”* by Leif Hetland.

THE THREE CHAIRS

CHAIR 1	CHAIR 2	CHAIR 3
Kingdom of God	Kingdom of self	Lost



Ephesians 2:6

And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus

John 14:20

On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

SPIRIT OF SONSHIP vs SPIRIT OF ORPHAN

Romans 8:14-17

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

IN THE BEGINNING

Genesis 2:7

Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils (face to face) the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Gen 2:22

Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man (she spent time with God first).

BAPTISM OF LOVE

Receiving the love of the Father:

- Think what God thinks,
- Feel what God feels,
- Hear what God says,
- Say what He says

ACTIVATION:

Make a note of what the Father:

- Thinks about you
- Feels about you
- Says about you

Focus Areas:

- The Identity-Thief – the age-old lie that began in the Garden
- The Truth-deficiency – identity confusion violate the Kingdom family culture, and leads to an orphan spirit.
- Recognising Lucifer's Strategy – to keep up from intimacy with God.

CALLED TO REIGN

Session 2: Intimacy – Where am I?

Facilitator Mareesa Cunneen

Question: How does it feel to return home when you have been away from your family?

PART OF THE FAMILY – God's Living Room

Ephesians 2:6

And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

A spiritual orphan's heart is always looking for security, affirmation, love, acceptance, value, purpose, and significance.

YOU WERE MADE FOR REST

Philippians 4:7

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- > *God designed us to work from rest, knowing our identity as children of God*
- > *Sons and daughters of God produce sons and daughters of God; orphans produce orphans*
- > *Families see promises, not problems.*

Exercise: Entering the Father's living room

We can experience visitation from God (Chair 2), but we can also become a place for His habitation (Chair 1)

WORKING FROM REST

Ecclesiastes 10:10 NIV

If the axe is dull and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed, but skill will bring success.

Or AMP

If the axe is dull and he does not sharpen its edge, then he must exert more strength; but wisdom [to sharpen the axe] helps him succeed [with less effort].

Rest is a weapon of warfare

*Revival comes from a Chair 1 experience – people within the church
discovering identity and intimacy with the Lord.*

CYCLE OF REST

Genesis 8:9

But the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth.

John 1:32

Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him

Mark 4:37-38

A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. 38 Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, “Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?”

John 16:32-33

“A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

*IN JESUS we can rest and reign. He is IN the resting place, and IS the
resting place, and we are in Him.*

EXERCISE: Dinner plate

Reflection: Write down anything that Holy Spirit is prompting you to think about from this exercise. (You can follow this up in your own time.)

THE JOURNEY HOME

Luke 15

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. 2 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

3 Then Jesus told them this parable: 4 "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders 6 and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' 7 I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

The Parable of the Lost Coin

8 "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' 10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The Parable of the Lost Son

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

Question: Which son are you?

You can only experience the kingdom from a place of rest.

REFLECTION

Do you feel like an orphan on the street or a child in Papa's living room? Why?

We all find it difficult to devote extended time to soaking in God's presence in the midst of our daily lives. What are some of the roadblocks in your life to soaking with God?

ACTIVATION:

Make a list of the "fruits" that have come from those times when you have been able to come into a place of rest with God.

Next, commit to setting aside a time to rest in God's presence daily for one week. At the end of the week, note the fruits of your time with God. It may be helpful to identify those areas of your life where you need to build in healthy margins for rest to include stopping, receiving, recharging, and realigning.

CALLED TO REIGN

Session 3: Inheritance – What do I have?

Facilitator Mareesa Cunneen

Discussion Q: As followers of Christ, what does the Bible say we will we receive? When will we receive it?

FATHER'S LIVING ROOM

Ask the Father how He sees, thinks, feels, loves you and WRITE it down.

Chair 1: Prioritises identity and intimacy over inheritance and destiny

Chair 2: Prioritises inheritance and destiny over identity and intimacy

Luke 15 – Full Text in Session 2.

An orphan spirit lives **towards** inheritance; a spirit of adoption lives **from** inheritance.

You will get to heaven with a robe, but you will not bring heaven to yourself until you've got the ring.

When we get a revelation of who we are and whose we are, we have no desire to return to anything else. We realise we have a responsibility to represent our Father, to loose and bind things in His kingdom. We wear the ring with understanding.

- > *Inheritance comes from a covenant, not a contract.*
- > *Abundance vs scarcity/limitations*

Discussion Q: What “Why?” questions are we asking God that are based on lack?

In Chair 2, we try to achieve our inheritance

In Chair 1, the inheritance gets you. (1 Cor 2:12; 1 Cor 2:9)

NATURE OF INHERITANCE

Galatians 4:4-6

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born[a] of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

Luke 15:31

31 "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.'"

Psalms 2:8

Ask me,
and I will make the nations your inheritance,
the ends of the earth your possession.

Colossians 1:16

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

Romans 8:17

Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Ephesians 1:3-14

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, 9 he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

Remember maturity – if we give an inheritance to children who are not yet mature enough for it, it will harm them rather than help them.

- > *Children of blessing (chair 2) vs children of inheritance (chair 1)*

The only way for inheritance to happen is to find your identity in being a son or daughter of the Father and pursuing intimacy with Him simply because He is. Everything with God is relational. Heaven on earth was a family business from the beginning.

CALLED TO REIGN

Session 4: Destiny – What am I Called to Do?

Facilitator Mareesa Cunneen

Jeremiah 29:11

'I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future' .

RECAP

Session 1 – Identity: _____ ?

Session 2 – Intimacy: _____ ?

Session 3 – Inheritance: _____ ?

Jeremiah 1:5

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.

Ephesians 1:4

Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

THE FAMILY CULTURE

When your inner environment changes, you start to become an environment changer. Our starting point is a place of rest. Our destiny depends on our rest.

- Chair 2 works to evangelise the world, not from a place of rest or an environment of family. They focus on getting people saved so they can go to heaven.
- Chair 1 wants to see people adopted into the family so they can get heaven into them.

We are made to be carriers of God's glory, living from heaven towards earth in God's training-for-reigning program.

The enemy doesn't attack copies; he goes for the original.

REFLECTION

Where have you been attacked? Ask God how that is linked to your destiny.

You have authority in the areas where the devil once attacked you but have now been set free.

Example: Moses' training-for-reigning process

- God's identity
- What was in Moses' hand – lay it down
- *God often steps into our journey toward our destiny and redefines it. (eg Jesus and the fishermen disciples – leave your nets so can be fishers of men)*
- When it was laid down, the nature of the world left it; God said "pick it back up"
- Moses was now in Chair 1. God's rod in the hands of God's man. Now Moses was holding God's ability, power, authority, presence and peace – everything he needed to fulfill his destiny.

When God asks you to do something, He is obligated to fulfill it – It's His responsibility. We are culture-bearers of a kingdom culture and a family culture in the world.

REFLECTION

As believers, we should have a mission statement. Sit down with the Father and define what He has set before you within the larger context of our Kingdom family mission, to spread the culture of His family across the earth. Ask Holy Spirit to lead you to scripture that supports your partnership with God. Here are some questions to get you started.

1. Where do I fit into this larger mission?
2. What gifts and talents has the Father given me to steward?
3. Am I accessing all the resources made available to me in Christ Jesus?

APPLICATION

What am I called to do in my:

- Marriage
- Business
- Church

IT IS NEVER TOO LATE! You are not responsible for the revelation you didn't have. Nothing is wasted.

ACTIVATION

Step in God's Living Room. Pull up Chair 1 in the presence of the Father. Let Him wrap His arms of love around you and draw you close, into the place reserved for beloved sons and daughters. Give Him all your "ships" (relationships, friendships, leadership, stewardship) and settle into the place of sonship marked with your name. Allow Him to wash away your regrets and your fears and doubts with His magnificent, loving presence. And then, just rest.

CALLED TO REIGN

TWO CHAIRS

Chair 1	Chair 2
Kingdom of God	Kingdom of self
Love-based	Fear-based
Rooted in spirit of sonship	Rooted in orphan spirit
Experiences the Dove's habitation	Experiences the Dove's visitation
Be/Have/Do	Do/Have/Be
Prioritises identity and intimacy over inheritance and destiny	Prioritises inheritance and destiny over identity and intimacy
Wants to bring heaven to earth	Wants to get from earth to heaven
Lives from God	Lives for God
The believer's touch cleanses the world	The world's touch corrupts the believer
Sets the temperature like a thermostat	Measures the temperature like a thermometer
Treats people according to their destiny	Treats people according to their history
Influences the world	Influenced by the world
Confident in hearing God's voice	Afraid of being misled
God's pleasure without performing	Pressure to perform
At rest	Restless

WINNING SOULS PART ONE – BE EQUIPPED

Facilitators David and Anne Velu

KNOW SALVATION SCRIPTURES

- > The Word of God has power
- > This is not mental assent
- > We must **believe** that the Word of God has power
- > We must **know** that the Word of God has power

Romans 1:16

THE SALVATION SCRIPTURES

Acts 2:38

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 16:31

³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

Romans 10:9

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:13

for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

APPLICATION OF THE SCRIPTURES

How do we apply the Scriptures

- Salvation Prayer

- Baptism in the Holy Spirit Prayer

Separate Handout will be issued

BE BOLD

Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marvelled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus

- > Impartation of the spirit of boldness

HANDLING REJECTION

Romans 10:11

For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame

WINNING SOULS PART TWO – BE PREPARED

Facilitators David and Anne Velu

DAILY HOMEWORK

Daily homework

(3 min praise, 3 min thanks, 25 min tongues, 25 min bible, 3 min meditation)

Anointing will **ooze** out of you

The presence of God in you most of the time, especially when you speak the Word

UNDERSTANDING EVANGELISM & DISCIPLING

- > Evangelism – getting born again
- > Discipling – becoming true followers of Jesus

1 Cor 3:6- 8

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

PREACHING JESUS NOT TEACHING

- > When you preach, the Word endures forever
- > Preaching can be just two words

OBJECTIONS AGAINST JESUS

- > How can your God allow all the injustices, the suffering in the world

PRAYING FOR SOULS

- > Something we must do before we go out to meet people
- > Something that we should do on a daily basis

Luke 12:12

For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say

THE USE OF GIFTINGS

- > Holy Spirit Gifts
- > The Fathers gifts what are they?

WINNING SOULS

PART THREE – APPROACHING PEOPLE

Facilitators David and Anne Velu

ESTABLISHING RAPPORT

- > Pretend that you are a telemarketer. You have thirty seconds.
- > Humour is so so important

HUMOUR AND INTEREST

- > You are the daughter and you are taller than your mother. Did you get Mum's permission to become taller than her?
- > What a nice dog. I had a dog once. It only bit one person a month etc etc
- > Wow what a beautiful baby. What is the name
- > Can I pray for the baby Etc etc
- > God will give you what to say.

Remember **Luke 12:12** from yesterday

KNOW RELEVANT SCRIPTURES THAT MEET NEEDS

1 Cor 2:16

for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?". But we have the mind of Christ.

2 Timothy 1:7

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

MEET THE NEEDS - THERE IS NO SET FORMULA

- > Can I pray for you?
- > Pray for healing
- > Cast out evil spirits especially worry and anxiety – then ask them how they feel
- > Giving them your details for follow up
- > Give them the conference brochure – invite them to come for the meeting
- > Can I call you?

TIMING ON GETTING THE PERSON TO SAY SALVATION PRAYER

- > When do you get them to say the prayer
- > How do you get them to say the salvation prayer

WINNING SOULS PART FOUR - CAPTIVE AUDIENCE

Facilitators David and Anne Velu

- a. Your Family
- b. Your Workmates
- c. Your Neighbours
- d. As You Do Life
- e. As a Christian/Church Worker

a. Your Family –

Your family includes your extended family.
List those in your family who need salvation:

BIBLE VERSES:

Acts 16:31

They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

Acts 2:39

For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Ephesians 6:4

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

1 Peter 3:1

Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

Discussion: What strategies would work with your family members?

b. Your Workplace/Workmates**Proverbs 16:3**

Commit your works to the LORD and your plans will be achieved.

Colossians 3:23-24

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”

Ephesians 6:5-6

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear and sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. ⁶ And do this not only to please them while they are watching, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.

Ephesians 6:9

And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him

Are you free to speak of Jesus in your workplace? YES/NO

Which do you think would make the greatest impact on your workmates?

- a. Your work ethic
- b. Prayer for fellow workers/business
- c. Respect for fellow workers/clients/supervisors/those you supervise
- d. Ethics, beliefs, integrity

c. Your Neighbours**Matthew 12:31**

And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Romans 13:8

Be indebted to no one, except to one another in love. For he who loves his neighbour has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:10

Love does no wrong to its neighbour. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Galatians 5:14

The entire law is fulfilled in a single decree: "Love your neighbour as yourself."

James 2:8

If you really fulfill the royal law stated in Scripture, "Love your neighbour as yourself," you are doing well.

Are you a good neighbour? YES/NO/NOT SURE/SOMETIMES

What is a good neighbour? _____

Do you share your faith with your neighbours? _____

Who are your social media neighbours? _____

How do you view your neighbourhood? Physical / Online / People who share your interests?

d. As You Do Life

John 15:5

“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

John 15:16

You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

1 Corinthians 9:19

Though I am free of obligation to anyone, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

James 5:20

consider this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

List opportunities for evangelism in your everyday life

What makes you feel uncomfortable about sharing your faith?

In what situation are you comfortable sharing your faith?

Have you ever tried “Kindness Evangelism” with your neighbours? YES/NO

Did it work? Explain the outcome:

e. As a Christian / Church Worker

Matthew 5:16

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Psalms 92:14

In old age they will still bear fruit; healthy and green they will remain,

Daniel 12:3

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Matthew 4:19

And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Sharing Testimonies

- Inviting people to your home
- Allowing your children to invite friends home
- Serving on the ministry team
- Ministry of Helps
- Chaplaincy
- Working with volunteer organisations

HEALING

Facilitators David and Anne Velu

FAITH

- > It is ultimately faith that is the healer
- > Faith in God
- > Faith in the Word of God

FAITH IN THE PERSONS

- > Faith in myself praying for healing and faith the receiving person
- > Generally the faith level is about 80 % in you praying for healing and about 20% on the person who is to be healed
- > God does not want to put you to shame

IT IS GOD'S WILL THAT WE ARE HEALED

- > It is God's will
- > We need to understand that there was no sickness at the time of creation

Gen 1:1-31

Everything was good or very good. Man did not get sick

Matthew 6:10

- > Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
- > On earth as it is in heaven

There is no sickness in heaven. God's will for earth is the same

WHERE DOES SICKNESS COME FROM

- > From the Devil
- > When Adam gave dominion of the earth to Satan

WHAT ABOUT DEUTERONOMY CHAPTER 28?

Deuteronomy 28:21-22, 27-28

²¹The LORD will plague you with diseases until he has destroyed you from the land you are entering to possess. ²²The LORD will strike you with wasting disease, with

fever and inflammation, with scorching heat and drought, with blight and mildew, which will plague you until you perish.

²⁷ The LORD will afflict you with the boils of Egypt and with tumors, festering sores and the itch, from which you cannot be cured. ²⁸ The LORD will afflict you with madness, blindness and confusion of mind.

- God talks about striking us with diseases, in these verses
- It depends upon how the Hebrew word strike, or smite is translated
- God does not smite you and me with diseases
- He permits Satan to smite us with diseases
- We must tell people this

Romans 5:12

Therefore just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men because all sinned

AM I PAYING FOR MY SINS?

- > You will hear this often when you see sick people
- > They will never get healed as long as they believe that

- > Truth - Jesus paid for our sins
 - Jesus permitted the diseases, He did not cause or give them

Exodus 15:26

and said "If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you

When the plagues hit Egypt, the plagues did not happen in Goshen

PROTECTED LIKE GOSHEN

- > Never take our prayers lightly. God hears every prayer
- > Prayers are effective, however small or long
 - When we pray for people God hears
- > When we pray for ourselves God hears

THE WORDS THAT WE SPEAK MATTER

Every word that I speak is a building block
 I am building a boundary or a wall
 That can either enclose me or give me hope

HAVING AN IMAGE OF POOR HEALTH

- > Some people speak negatively about their health
- > They are creating images and walls
- > They have a poor image of their health
- > They are sick all the time

Proverbs 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the tongue
And those who love it will eat its fruit

Luke 6:45.

A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks

Job 22:28

You will also declare a thing
And it will be established for you
So light will shine on your ways

- > We speak God's word from our hearts
- > My word creates images
- > Images of healing of good health

John 6:63

What does John 6:63 say?

GOD WORKS MIRACLES**Acts 19:11-12**

Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them

DISCUSS THE ABOVE

LET US LOOK AT COMMUNION

- > Communion is a covenant with God
- > Communion is a Covenant meal
- > A communion meal can get instant healing, financial blessings

No one can deny a person of a covenant meal
No church can deny a person of a covenant meal

This is a covenant between Jesus and the individual

Not between the church pastors, priests and the church goer

1 Cor 11:23-24

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said "Take eat, this is my body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me

Do this in remembrance of Me. I am the sacrificial Lamb
A covenant

People may tell you that they are unworthy to have communion.. how would you respond?

1 Cor 11:27

So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

Who are the unworthy? Discuss

1 Cor 11:27 2 Cor 5:21

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

We are worthy of healing

- > Many people believe that they must do something to be healed

- > We must tell them that they are worthy of being healed

There is no payment

- > Nothing for them to do, except believe
- > The body of Jesus was broken for us

Isaiah 53:5

But He was wounded for our transgressions
He was bruised for our iniquities
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him
And by His stripes we are healed

Compare this with **1 Peter 2:24**

Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed.

PSALMS 103:1-4

1. Bless the lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name
2. Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits
3. Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases
4. Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with loving kindness and tender mercies
5. Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagles

What are the benefits?**MINISTERING TO PEOPLE**

- > Continue to remind them that sicknesses and diseases come from the Devil
- > Remind them that it is God's will for healing to take place
- > Tell them that God wants to heal them now
- > Build their faith up
- > At the same time build your faith up

GOD IS WILLING**Matthew 8:1-3**

When He had come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed Him. And behold, a leper came and worshipped Him, saying "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean". Then Jesus put out His hand and touched Him saying, 'I am willing, be cleansed". Immediately his leprosy was cleansed

How did the leper get close to Jesus? He should have been stoned

- > The leper knew that Jesus could heal him. No doubt what so ever
- > The only question was whether Jesus was willing
- > Not only was Jesus willing but the healing was immediate

We need to tell people that not only Jesus is able, but that He is also willing

TYPES OF HEALINGS

1. There are instant miracles and also gradual healings
2. There are different gifts of healings and healing anointings

Let us discuss what the above means and let us have some testimonies

Most recipients need faith

- > It is our job to supply them the faith, to build up their faith
- > If someone has cancer and is suffering, it is hard to have faith
- > This is where anointing is so useful

SICKNESS, DISEASE, CONDITION

Matthew 4:23-24

And Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of disease among the people. Then His fame went through all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon possessed, epileptics and paralytics, and He healed them

- > Sickness – like flus
- > Disease – like cancer
- > Condition – a damaged knee and the like
- > God can heal all

TAKING MEDICINE

When I take the medicine, say even as I am taking the medicine, ‘that I am completely healed’

OBEYING THE DOCTOR

- > If the doctor says goes into the hospital, do it
- > Do not say that I am standing on God’s Word
- > That is standing on pride

LET US DO SOME PRACTICAL NOW

INNER HEALING AND DELIVERANCE

Facilitator Belinda Cain

How do demons influence?

- Lies (deception) and wrong thinking " form strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4)
- Soul/mind influence,

Jesus is the ultimate answer to deception

Where ever Jesus, The Truth enters – demons will flee.

The battle of the mind

Repentance (metanoia) change your thinking

Colossians 3:1-3

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ²**Set your mind on things above**, not on things on the earth. ³For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Romans 12:2

²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Isaiah 42:6-7

"I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness;
I will take hold of your hand.
I will keep you and will make you
to be a covenant for the people
and a light for the Gentiles,
⁷to open eyes that are blind,
to free captives from prison
and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

What's my authority?

Luke 10:17-19

¹⁷The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given

you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you...”

Matthew 10:1

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

Preparing to Minister with someone

Isaiah 50:4

The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue,
to know the word that sustains the weary.
He wakens me morning by morning,
wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

Know your strength in God

- > Surround yourself with his anointing
- > Block the enemy from interfering
- > Bind truth (Yeshua) to everyone’s mind
- > I abide in Yahweh

Proverbs 18:10

The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

Psalms 91:1

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.^[a]

John 14:6

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

1 Corinthians 6:17

But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

Have Faith

Romans 10:17-18

So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: "Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."

Matthew 4:4

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'^{1a}"

Psalms 119:7

I will praise You with uprightness of heart, When I learn Your righteous judgments.

Don't have Fear only believe

Mark 5:36- 39

As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe." ...

Mark 9:23

Jesus said to him, "If^{1a} you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes."

Ministering Inner Healing

Let Jesus light your path

Psalms 119:105

Your word *is* a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

Proverbs 6:23

For the commandment *is* a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction *are* the way of life,

1 Corinthians 2:9-13

⁹ But as it is written:

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

¹⁰ But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. ¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Ephesians 5:8-10

For you were once darkness, but now *you are* light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the Holy Spirit *is* in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), ¹⁰ finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

Above all love as Jesus did

Colossians 3:12-17 –

¹² Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. ¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Be aware that God works in mysterious ways

Ephesians 6:19

and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the **mystery** of the gospel,

Matthew 13:11

He answered and said to them, “Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given

Ask Jesus what needs to happen and watch what he does

- John 5:19-20 - It's not a formula
- Matthew 20:34- Just a touch
- Matthew 9:23 – Jesus present
- Matthew 9:28-29 – according to their faith
- John 9:6 – Used mud with saliva
- Matthew 8:13- from a distance
- Matthew 14:36 – touching his garment

What God says goes

MINISTERING WITH ANGELS

Facilitator Belinda Cain

Where do we start?

Isaiah 26:3

You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.

Deuteronomy 28:9

The Lord will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the Lord your God and walk in obedience to him.

Do you have a personal angel?

Matthew 18:10

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.

Why don't we always see angels?

Numbers 22:22-25

Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road with his sword drawn. So he bowed low and fell facedown.

(2 Kings 6:17 as well- Elisha and his servant)

How did Jesus interact with Angels?

Matthew 4:11

Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Psalms 91:11-14

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a

stone. You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. “Because he^a loves me,” says the Lord, “I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

Did Jesus expect his disciples to see angels?

John 1:50 – 51

He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see ‘heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

What is our Position in the Heavenly Realm?

Co-alive, Co-raised, Co-seated with Christ

Ephesians 2:6

And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

Jesus body on earth

1 John 4:17

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because **as He is, so are we in this world.**

John 17:22-23

I have given them the glory You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one— **I in them and You in Me**— that they may be perfectly united, so that the world may know that You sent Me and have loved them just as You have loved Me.

As children of God, we are higher than the angels

Hebrews 1:5-7

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son;
today I have become your Father”^a?

Or again,

“I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son”^(b)?

⁶ And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”^(c)

⁷ In speaking of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels spirits,
and his servants flames of fire.”^(d)

What do the angels do?

Hebrews 1:14

Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

- Not to be worshiped

Interactions with Angels

Physical interaction

Acts 12:7-9

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

⁸ Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him.⁹ Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision.

Acts 12:15

“You’re out of your mind,” they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, “It must be his angel.”

Hebrews 13:2

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

Speaking to us in dreams

Matthew 2:12-13

¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

Involved in your life

Luke 15:10

In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Participating in spreading the gospel

Revelation 14:6-7

Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷ He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Angels in different forms

Job 4: 15-16

A spirit glided past my face,
and the hair on my body stood on end.

¹⁶ It stopped,
but I could not tell what it was.

Hebrews 1:7

⁷ In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire."

Exodus 3:2

²There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up.

Acts 12:7

⁷Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell.

Seraphim

- **Isaiah 6:2**
- **Ezekiel 1:4-28** – 4 faces, facing 4 directions, 4 wings, calf feet, human hands on each side.
- **Revelation 4: 6-8** – four living creatures with eyes in front and back. One an ox, a lion, a man, and an eagle. Each had six wings and covered with eyes all round even under their wings.

How do we engage?

BUILDING IN THE SPIRIT

Facilitator Nathan Cunneen

What can we do in the Spirit?

- Walk by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16),
- Live by the Spirit (Galatians 5:25)
- Sow to the spirit (Galatians 6:8)
- Spirit govern our mind (Romans 8:6)
- Birth in the spirit (John 3:6)

How does God build?

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that time was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are invisible.

Mind of God -> Spoken -> Made visible.

How by the Spirit are we already creating things in our life?

Matthew 6:20-22

But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

You become what you behold.

Practical tip - Your (emotional) focus will determine your reality.

Metaphysics of building in the Spirit.

a. The Heart is a Garden

- **Proverbs 4:23**- Keep (guard) your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.
- **Proverbs 23:7** – as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.
- **Matthew 13:1-23** – types of hearts and words/ideas planted

Matthew 13:23-25

Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. 25 But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. 26 When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

The heart grows what is planted – whether good, bad, indifferent.

b. The Mind is the Gatekeeper for the Heart

2 Corinthians 10:5

We demolish arguments* and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and **we take captive every thought** to make it obedient to Christ.

**logismous* – thoughts – KJV has a poor translation. *Logismous* does not mean imagination.

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed (metamorphosis) by the **renewing** of your mind.

Colossian 3:1-2

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **Set your minds** on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, **think** about these things.

Winning the Battle of the Mind

Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the man
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law (instruction/teaching) he **meditates*** day and night.

He shall be like a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper.

Hagah (Hebrew) definition - to moan, growl, utter, muse, mutter, meditate, devise, plot, speak, imagine, groan/long. Other places that encourage meditation: Joshua 1:8, Psalm 19:14, Psalm 104: 34, Psalm 77:12,

Psalm 37:4

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Delight requires emotion and desire.

Meditation includes – words, thoughts and imagination.

What is science saying about the brain?

a. Subconscious:

- The subconscious is the autopilot of our life / program that our life runs on.
 - The subconscious contains the heart beliefs about ourselves
 - The subconscious can be reprogrammed through meditation and affirmations.
-

b. Reticular Activating System

- Filtering information system for survival
- You can rewire your brain for automation of new behaviours.

Habakkuk 2:2 Principle

Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.

Neuroscience and psychology teach that the subconscious can be retrained and programmed to generate new behaviours by intentional writing of goals and beliefs, speaking, repeating, and reviewing these new thoughts until they can be felt, owned, and believed as ones own. ie – planned in your heart.

Creating in the spirit and manifesting in the flesh.

Mark 11:24

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have (already) received it, and it will be yours.

Practical

- > Have you got written goals for your life / your year? (Habakkuk 2:2)
- > When did you last review them?
- > Do you have written decrees about yourself and read them aloud daily (Job 22:28)
- > Are you daily meditating on things above (Colossians 3:1-2)

But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with Him in spirit. 1 Cor 6:17

WALKING WITH GOD INTO THE SUPERNATURAL

Facilitator Nathan Cunneen

Based on *Beyond Human, Fully identified in the New Creation* by Justin Paul Abraham.

Who are we?

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the **new creation** has come: The old has gone, the **new** is here!

Colossians 3:10

and have put on the new self, which is being **renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator**.

1 Corinthians 6:17

But he who unites himself with the Lord is **one with Him in spirit**.

New Creation Beings

1. Cardioknosis (Heart Knowing)

a. Scripture

- > **Matthew 12:25, Luke 11:17-18, Mat 9:3-5, John 2:24**- Jesus knew their thoughts
- > **Acts 5:1-9** – Holy Spirit reveals the heart of Ananias and Saphira to Peter.
- > **Acts 16:9** Macedonian man appears to Paul in a dream “Come to Macedonia and help us”

1 Chron. 28:9

The Lord searches all hearts and minds, and understands every intent and inclination of the thoughts.

Philippians 2:2

Then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

b. Saints –

French Mystic Guyon

“During this extraordinary sickness, the Lord gradually showed me another way for souls to converse – in profound silence. Whenever Father La Combe entered the room, I would speak to him on in silence. Our hearts spoke to each other, communicating grace without words. It was like going to a new country, both for him and for me, but it was obviously so divine, I cannot describe it. We passed many hours in this silence, always communicative, without uttering one word... I was later able to communicate in this way with other souls, but it was one-way communication. I imparted grace to them but received nothing from them. With Father La Combe, there was a back and forth communication of grace.ⁱ

St. Philip Neri

(St. Philip Neri) also had the gift of reading souls and hearts. This gift was exercised frequently in the confessional when a sin had been forgotten or a penitent withheld the telling of a grievous sin out of shame. One time, when a young man found it difficult to describe a certain sin, the Saint had pit on him and revealed exactly how it had taken place.ⁱⁱ

2. Unlimited Sight.

a. Prophets

2 Kings 6:11-12

Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places.

¹¹ This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, “Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?”

¹² “None of us, my lord the king,” said one of his officers, “but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom.”

Ezekiel 8: 3-11

The Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and in visions of God he took me to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the north gate of the inner court, where the idol that provokes to jealousy stood. ⁴ And there before me was the glory of the God of Israel, as in the vision I had seen in the plain.

⁵ Then he said to me, “Son of man, look toward the north.” So I looked, and in the entrance north of the gate of the altar I saw this idol of jealousy.

⁶ And he said to me, “Son of man, do you see what they are doing—the utterly detestable things the Israelites are doing here, things that will drive me far from my sanctuary? But you will see things that are even more detestable.”

⁷ Then he brought me to the entrance to the court. I looked, and I saw a hole in the wall. ⁸ He said to me, “Son of man, now dig into the wall.” So I dug into the wall and saw a doorway there.

⁹ And he said to me, “Go in and see the wicked and detestable things they are doing here.” ¹⁰ So I went in and looked, and I saw portrayed all over the walls all kinds of crawling things and unclean animals and all the idols of Israel. ¹¹ In front of them stood seventy elders of Israel, and Jaazaniah son of Shaphan was standing among them. Each had a censer in his hand, and a fragrant cloud of incense was rising.

b. Jesus

John 1:48.

“How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.”

Matthew 10:26

So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.

c. Saints

One day, on Iona, St. Columba suddenly got up from his ready and said with a smile: Now I must hurry to the church to beseech God on behalf of a poor filr who is tortured by the pains of a most difficult childbirth and who now in Ireland calls on my name. For she hopes that through me the Lord will release her from her anguish, because she is related to me, for her father belonged to my mother’s kindred.

On another occasion Columba met a man at a guest house. Immediately, he saw where the man was from and saw key events taking place with his family back home.ⁱⁱⁱ

d. Other Scriptures

- > **2 Chronicles 16:9** - For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth
- > **Psalms 139:7** - where can I go from your spirit...?
- > **1 Corinthians 6:17** - But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

3. Infused Knowledge

a. Scriptures

1 Kings 4:29

God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore.

Infused knowledge is the gift of natural secular and supernatural knowledge miraculously conferred by God.

b. Jesus

Luke 4:39

³⁹ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did."

c. Saints

St Bridget and the harp –

Bridget loved music and one time at a chieftain's fortress, somewhere near Knockaney (county Limerick), Bridget went to ask for the release of a captive. She was asked to sit and wait for the chieftain by the man's aged foster-father. While she was waiting, she saw some harps hanging on the wall. She asked for some music but the harpists were not there. The sisters with Bridget told the foster-father to take the harp, and while Bridget was present he would be able to play. The man took down the harp from the wall, thrummed it clumsily, but suddenly found he could produce airs and harmonies. Another of the household anxiously tried a second harp with the same results. Presently the place was filled with happy music and the chieftain arrived home to hear it. He heard rare laughter from his foster-father. Pleased with his homecoming he conceded to Bridget all that she asked.^{iv}

4. Miraculous Transport

a. Scriptures

Acts 17:28 –

In Him we live and move and have our being.

Luke 24:36-39

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

John 6:21

²¹ Then they were willing to take him into the boat, **and immediately** the boat reached the shore where they were heading.

Acts 8:38-40

³⁸ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

b. Stories

John Paul Jackson

I was in Geneva Switzerland. I'd been travelling for 21 days and I was not feeling very good. In fact I was really sick... It wasn't fun. I left Los Angeles airport thinking I would get better... 21 days later I was getting worse.

It was 2:30 in the morning. I am awake hurting really bad, doing my best not to double over in pain. I look at the clock and it says 2:30 and I look to my right and there's this man standing there. I'm sicker than I thought. I think I'm hallucinating. There's nobody here. It's probably a hallucination.

I said, “Lord if this is you then I want you to have him touch me and pray for me. I want him to put his hand on my hand. I don't want the Spirit stuff where it goes right through me. I want to feel the weight of his hand and I want to be healed.

He's probably late 70s, early 80s really weathered, he looked like he was Spanish/Mexican. He said, 'I've come to pray for you that you might get well.' He puts his hands on me. Prays for me. It felt like a scroll went into me. It felt thick like honey and as it rolled up there was no pain. It rolled up my head and down my feet and I was instantly healed. I looked at him and he smiled at me and disappeared right in front of my eyes.

I was healed! I was really happy and got up praising the Lord. I thanked God for sending on of his angels... He said, “It was a servant of Mine from Mexico who lived in a small village and was asking me if there was any way I would use him. So I took him and brought him back.”^v

- > **Saint Ammon** – stream crossing.
- > **Saint Dominic and Cistercian** monk – spend the night in prayer at the altar (church door locked).^{vi}

5. Metamorphosis

a. Scriptures

Matthew 17:2

² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

John 20:15

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

John 21:4

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

Mark 16:12

Afterward Jesus appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking in the country.

Acts 6:15

¹⁵ All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

2 Corinthians 3:18

¹⁸ And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit

1 John 3:2

² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,^a we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

b. Stories

> Nancy Coen

6. Dimensional Shifts

a. Scriptures

Luke 4:29

Jesus passed through the crowd

John 8:59

⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid (*kytpo* – concealed) himself and went out of the temple.

Mark 6:49

⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost.

Jesus knew how to Phase shift.

Hebrews 11:5

⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up (*metathemi* – changed over) so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him.

Acts 8:12-18 – Peter walks out of the prison.

b. Saints

“We are more in Heaven than on Earth.”

Julian of Norwich

St Francis of Paola.

When he was about to leave, people swarmed around the governor’s palace to see and be near him. Their great enthusiasm for the Saint was expressed by tearing off bits of his clothing – which the Saint surprisingly permitted.

God would renew his clothing as fast as it were being torn away. Spectators were amazed to see that after scores of people had torn away pieces from his hood and tunic, they were both still miraculously whole.

Finding it impossible to make his way through the crowd which was closely packed in the square, and being somewhat embarrassed by the adulation, the Saint suddenly disappeared

before the people's eyes, much to their confusion. One moment he was there the next moment he was gone. His companions much to their amazement found him waiting for them outside the walls, ready to begin their journey.^{vii}

7. Floating / flying.

a. Scriptures

Acts 1:9

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Isaiah 40:31

But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

a. Saints

Maria Villani (a Dominican nun) –

On one occasion I found myself conscious of a new experience. I felt myself seized and ravished out of my senses, and that so powerfully that I found myself lifted up completely by the soles of my feet, just as the magnet draws up a fragment of iron, but with gentleness that was marvellous and delightful. At first I felt much fear, but afterwards I remained in the greatest possible contentment and joy of spirit. I was quite beside myself, still in spite of that, I knew that I was raised some distances from the Earth, my whole being suspended for a considerable space of time. Down to last Christmas eve (1618) this happened to me five difference occasions.^{viii}

Teresa of Avila –

I felt that the Lord was about to enrapture me again, and once in particular during a sermon – it was at our patron's feast and some great ladies were present – I lay on the ground and the sisters tried to hold me down, but all the same the rapture was observed.

The effects of rapture are great. One is that the mighty power of the Lord is manifest. We see that against His Majesty's will we can do nothing to control either the soul or the body. We are not the masters; whether we like it or not, we see there is one mightier than we; that these favours are given by Him, and that of our ourselves we can do absolutely nothing.

She continues:

This imprints a deep humility upon us. I confess that in me it roused a great fear at first a real great fear. One sees one's body being lifted from the ground and though the spirit draws it up after itself, and does so most gently if it does not resist, one does not lose consciousness. At least I myself was sufficiently aware to realise I was being lifted up. The majesty of the One who can do this is so manifest that one's hair stands on end, and a great fear comes over one of offending so great a God^{ix}.

St Francis

(Brother Leo) found St. Francis outside the cell (his room) raised up into the air sometimes as high as three feet, sometimes four, at other times halfway up or at the top of the beech trees – and some of those trees were very high. At other times he found the Saint raised so high in the air and surrounded by such radiance that the he could hardly see him.^x

Jospeh from Copertino was totally addicted to God and simple things would trigger him into raptures and ecstasies from seeing a Christmas painting of Jesus, to daily communion. He floated between two and three hours a day. No wonder he's the patron saint of pilots!

John G Lake

One evening as I was preaching the Spirit of the Lord descended up on a man in the front row. It was Dr. E. H. Cantel, a minister from London, England. He remained in a sitting posture, but began rising from the chair: gradually he came down on the chair: and again gradually began to rise, somewhat higher, then gradually he came down. This was repeated three times. Was it a reversal of gravitation? I think not. My own conception is that this soul became so united with the Spirit of God that the attractive power of God was so intense it drew him up.^{xi}

ⁱ Jan Johnson, *Madame Guyon*. Bethany House Publishers (1998).

ⁱⁱ Joan Carroll Cruz. *Mysteries, Marvels, Miracles in the Lives of the Saints*. Tan Book and Publishers (1997).

ⁱⁱⁱ Richard Sharpe, *Adomnan of Iona – Life of St Columba*. Penguin Books (1995).

^{iv} Kathie Walters, *Celtic Flames*, Good News Ministries (1999).

^v John Paul Jackson, quote take from a live recording in England. UK

^{vi} Joan Carroll Cruz. *Mysteries, Marvels, Miracles in the Lives of the Saints*. Tan Books and Publishers –

^{vii} Joan Carroll Cruz. *Mysteries, Marvels, Miracles in the Lives of the Saints*. Tan Books and Publishers –

^{viii} John Crowder, *The Ecstasy of Loving God, Trances, Raptures and the Supernatural Pleasures of Jesus Christ*. Destiny Image (2009).

^{ix} Teresa of Avila and J. Cohen, *The Life of Saint Teresa of Avila by Herself*. Penguin Books (1987).

^x Rev. Fr. Angelo Pastrovichhi, *St. Joseph of Corpertino*. TAN Books (1980).

^{xi} John G Lake, *John G Lake: His Life, His Sermons, His Boldness of Faith* Kenneth. Copeland Publishing (1995).

APPENDIX

IDENTIFYING EMOTIONAL WOUNDS FOR INNER HEALING

Do you display or feel:

- Inner rawness
- Little or no tolerance:
- Overly sensitive about an event in your past
- Hard to feel loved
- Feelings of anger towards God
- Easily frustrated
- Cutting
- Irresponsible behavior
- Perfectionism
- Drivenness
- Hostility towards God, self, and others
- Irritability
- Feelings always rising up
- Hard to forgive
- Lashing out:
- Self-hate
- Escapism
- Retaliation urges
- Irrational expectations of others
- Feelings of hopelessness
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder or OCD

Be honest with yourself!

- Who is it that you hate or blame?
- What did they do to you?
- What things have you done, that you deeply regret?
- Is there anything in your past that you feel excessively embarrassed or ashamed of?

Keys to inner healing

- > God's Word tells us to cast our cares upon Him, for He cares for us (see 1 Peter 5:7)
 - > Why should we carry something that Christ has carried for us on the cross?
 - > Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows [grief, pain, affliction]: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:4-5)
 - > Find things to be thankful for – Colossians 3:15
 - > And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.
 - > Becoming thankful is a huge key to breakthrough if you struggle with unforgiveness. Unforgiveness and unthankfulness are closely related.
 - > Are we paying more attention to the problem than we are the solution?
-

- > **Stop blaming the person who wronged you**
- > **Share your pain with someone else**

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16

Four people you need to Forgive

- The perpetrator
- The bystanders
- The victim (you)
- God for “allowing it”

Forgiveness can be a process (70x 7). You need to be able to pray for their blessing (bless your enemies).

WAS THAT JUST MY IMAGINATION?

Excerpt from Ch 4 of Brad Jersak's Book – Can You Hear Me?

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”—but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. - 1 Corinthians 2:9–10 “

*We cannot have faith [belief in what is unseen] unless we have imagination; imagination is the vehicle through which faith is expressed.”
Our prayers are often fitful and half-hearted because we cannot “see” the One to whom we pray, and we cannot envision what we are praying about.*

R. Paul Stevens, Poems for People Under Pressure, 90.

Either/Or?

In asking “Was that God or my imagination,” we also inadvertently set God’s voice and our imagination at odds, as if we were restricted to an either/or choice of opposing categories. It’s a little like pointing to the ocean and asking, “Is that water or is that blue?” In truth, the answer to “was that God or my imagination?” is frequently yes—not either/or but both/and.

Your imagination provides a stage upon which God acts—a venue for the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16). Your spirit has become one with God’s Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:17). Is it any wonder that telling them apart can be tricky? My point is that it’s never just you. In the context of imagination, God’s Spirit and mine are both engaged, agreeing and conversing. This is not to say that when your spirit becomes one with God’s Spirit you no longer have identity. Your personality and humanity do not dissolve into nothingness in the godhead (as in the eastern religions). You don’t become God or identical to God. Rather, His Spirit fills your spirit. They unite to share the fundamental qualities of truth and goodness. They enter a beautiful love-union of agreement while remaining individuated so that a personal conversation might continue.

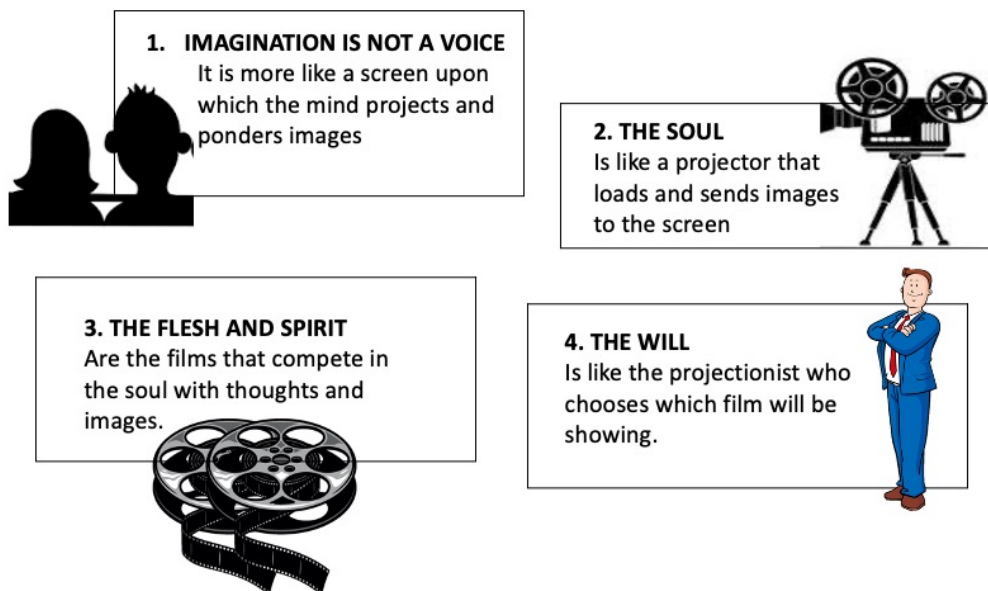
Just God?

Just as I have urged the reader to believe that it’s never “just you,” so now I remind you as prophets that it’s never “just God.” We hear that claim a lot. Prophets are occasionally overwhelmed by the weight of the prophetic anointing, or they hear God’s voice clearly and urgently, or they find the message accompanied with powerful ecstatic manifestations. When this happens, they might believe that they are receiving pure revelation. They may assume that their own faculties are completely suspended and that the Holy Spirit’s word at that point needs no testing--just obeying--and that immediately. They are sometimes even offended if the pastor treats it as any other word that needs testing, or as if it were of no greater importance than the still small voice. Let’s hear the wisdom of A.J. Heschel, in his brilliant work on the prophets: The prophet is a person, not a

microphone. He is endowed with a mission, with the power of a word not his own that accounts for his greatness—but also with temperament, concern, character, and individuality. As there was no resisting the impact of divine inspiration, so at times there was no resisting the vortex of his own temperament. The word of God reverberated in the voice of man. The prophet’s task is to convey a divine view, yet as a person he is a point of view. He speaks from the perspective of God as perceived from the perspective of his own situation.¹ God not only speaks through the grid of your humanity, he is also quite thrilled to do so. He unashamedly clothes his word with your personality, your limitations, and your subjective nature. We should not esteem any word, however powerfully packaged, as being above Paul’s mandate to test all things. Nor should we underestimate the power of a word heard in quietness and spoken gently. We act as prophets some of the time. But we live as people all of the time. Let’s respect that.

The Imagination Screen

But if your imagination is not simply a third, neutral voice, then what is it? How does it work? How are you to use it? What role does it play? What follows is an alternative model of the imagination that directs us towards an older but far superior question to ask God and ourselves when we’re listening. I offer my model of the imagination as a picture that I believe God progressively gave me during listening prayer. I present it for you to weigh for yourself using the tools provided in the previous chapter.



1. The Imagination

The imagination is like a screen upon which the mind projects images.

This model does not see the imagination as a voice at all but rather a screen upon which the soul (or mind) projects and ponders images. My mind “uses my imagination,” as a visual venue for observing that which is coming from, through, or to my mind. The question is not, “Was that just my imagination?” or “just my mind?” Instead, we ask, “What is on my imagination right now? From where or who is it coming?” Again, we test the source, the content, and the fruit of what we see and hear. We ask, “Is it true? Is it good? Shall I engage those thoughts or dismiss them?”

2. The Soul

The soul is like a projector that sends images to the screen.

The soul is our essential self—our sense of “I” (the mind, will, and emotions). With my soul, I think, feel, and choose. Like a projector, the soul is filled with thoughts and images which it projects onto the imagination-screen. As it does, realize also that the soul-projector may have a cracked, dirty, or warped lens that distorts the images we see. The cracks could represent personal wounds or trauma in our lives that affect our inner vision. The dirt represents the defiling effects of the world that cloud our thinking. Warping may signify lies and biases we take for granted. Add to this the cultural, familial, and/or religious filters that we slip over the lens of our minds. The renewal of the mind through the washing of the Word and the ministry of God’s Spirit is necessary in the cleansing, repair, or replacement of that lens.

3. The Flesh and the Spirit

The flesh and the spirit are the films or sources of all onscreen images.

Two sources continually compete for control of the projector: Our spirit (or heart)—in concert with God’s Spirit—struggles against our flesh (or ego)—in cahoots with the world and the devil. The spirit and the flesh each want to fill the soul with their messages and so influence the soul in one direction or another.

According to Paul in Romans 8:5–9, there are no neutral films on the market. The “films” we project onto our imagination screen are either “of the spirit” or “of the flesh.”

Those who live according to the sinful nature [flesh] have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.” (Romans 8:5–9)

The terms “flesh” and “spirit” have some modern equivalents. Paul’s use of “spirit” is very similar to psychologist Carl Jung’s use of “Self” (with a capital S) or pop psychology’s “authentic self.” On the other hand, Paul’s use of “flesh” varies—it can mean our body, our humanity, our selfish desires, or our fallen nature. In the preceding passage, the “flesh” corresponds roughly with modern terms like “ego” or “self” (with a small s), as in “selfish.”

The films of the spirit are in sync with the voice of the Heavenly Father, the Good Shepherd, and the Spirit of God. The films of the flesh will always conform to and promote the lying messages of the world, the fallen nature, and the devil. While the Spirit rolls out the authorized truth, the flesh merely delivers a poorly pirated copy, a deceptive but identifiable counterfeit.

4. The Will

The will is the projectionist that chooses what will be showing.

Please don't mistake my description of the imagination for passivity. It is not as though we are automatons that sit idly and helplessly watching internal movies. The projectionist in this scenario is our will. Our will is the God-given ability of our hearts to choose. We can choose whether or not to use our imaginations: "Shall I turn on the projector?" We can choose what to set our minds on: "What film should I load and watch?" We choose how we maintain our minds: "Does the lens need work?" We choose whether or not our desires become actions: "Having seen what's on the screen, shall I act on it?" We choose whether to accept or decline God's invitations to trust and obey. Ultimately, the will-projectionist chooses whether to use the imagination in the service of the flesh or in submission to the Spirit. We choose which influence to attend and engage, and with which source we will forge an alliance.

The Better Question: Is That the Spirit or the Flesh?

In the above model, the question, "Is that God or just my imagination?" becomes irrelevant, even nonsensical. As I gaze at the imagination screen, I am now equipped with a question that can be answered with a greater degree of confidence: "Is this the voice of the flesh or the voice of the Spirit?"² Even where there is mixture of messages (and there usually is), I can begin an informed, deliberate sifting process that leads me to an understanding of the truth: Spirit or flesh? Shepherd or stranger? Christ assures us: you can and will know (John 10:1–10). He never even considers a neutral third option; there isn't one. So much simpler!

By way of example, consider asking Jesus for a promise and hearing the answer, "I love you and will never leave you nor forsake you." Using the former question, "Was that God or my imagination?" you might conclude that it is impossible to know. Perhaps you just thought it up yourself in order to pat yourself on the back. Or perhaps it really was a message of comfort from the Lord specific to your situation. You just don't know for sure. And if you aren't sure, it's difficult to receive that truth wholeheartedly. But by asking our latter question, "Did that sound like the flesh or the Spirit?" the answer is easy. The message becomes easy to test and confirm, and you are inclined to receive it into your heart with faith. So when you hear what you think is God's voice, is it in your imagination? Of course! Is it in your mind? Absolutely! You can determine with confidence whether the source is the Spirit or the flesh by simply testing what you see or hear on the screen.

Checking the Scriptures

Confirming this model, Paul teaches that neither the imagination nor the mind can produce a single independent, spiritual thought or insight. All revelation is produced by God's Spirit in our spirits—downloaded from the mind of Christ into our minds.

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived [imagined-NASB] what God has prepared for those who love him"—but *God has revealed it to us by his Spirit*. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. *We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.*

This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually *discerned*. The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment: *"For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.* (1 Corinthians 2:9–16)

Using Your Imagination: for Flesh or Spirit?

Based on the imagination-screen model and the flesh/spirit question, let's unpack the uses of the imagination.

In this sense, the imagination is the God-given ability of our hearts to:

- > Paint inner pictures
- > See through inner windows
- > Enter through inner doorways

I. Painting Inner Pictures

We call the heart's ability to paint inner pictures "active" imagination. We use our active imagination to create mental images on the canvas of our heart. We picture things, such as visions or images.

A. Spiritual Pictures

When we walk in the Spirit, we use our active imagination creatively and recreatively, for meditation, and for intercession.

1. Creation

Creativity is a mark of the Creator's image in us. Artists, musicians, writers, dancers, discoverers, and inventors tap into and extend God's ongoing work of creation, whether they recognize him in it or not. While the creative talents can be distorted and misused, their root source is the Divine Artist and Inventor. Far from being a neutral function, human creativity is the imitation of God. Generally the creative process grows and flows rather naturally. But at other times, the "inspiration"—the breath of God—is infused much more conspicuously. This can range all the way from prophetic dance to having a vision that solves a scientific puzzle.

Case in Point: Nicola Tesla

Nicola Tesla (1856–1943) was Yugoslavia's counterpart to the inventors Bell, Edison, and Westinghouse. The son of an Orthodox priest, Tesla was a great industrial scientist and inventor who was the first to patent the "wireless telegraph" (radio) and to discover the principle of the rotating magnetic field. From this foundation, he created many alternating-current devices as well as the Tesla coil.³ Needless to say, his life had a global impact. The utilization of AC (alternating current) power was his "baby." One biographer recounts one of Tesla's moments of creative inspiration.

In 1882, while walking with a companion and reciting poetry in a Budapest park at sunset, Tesla suddenly froze into a rigid trance-like state. To his friend's dismay, Tesla soon began to speak of an inner vision: "Watch me. Watch me reverse it," he said, over and over again, in a voice bubbling with

enthusiasm. The friend thought he was ill; but the great inventor later explained that he was actually “seeing” an alternating-current motor in operation: “I have solved the problem. Can’t you see it right here in front of me, running almost silently?”... Over the next few months, he continued to elaborate upon the detailed blueprints in his mind, where they remained stored for six years until he was able to put them into practical application.

If I had to make an educated guess, I would say that Tesla was seeing a vision from God and repeating the voice of God. Others might write it off as a flash of creative, albeit eccentric, genius. My point is that the two explanations are not at all in conflict. Spiritual epiphanies and human creativity are both examples of an imagination tuned in to the Creator’s wavelength. Spirituality is creative; creativity is spiritual. Imagination provides the venue for both.

2. Recreation

Recreation is often seen as unspiritual or sub-spiritual. I suppose we picked this notion up from any of a number of movements that confused “the flesh” as fallen nature with “the flesh” as physical constitution. Assuming both versions of the flesh are evil, the Gnostics, ascetics, and puritans exemplify groups that debased human physicality in various ways. From there, we developed a sacred/secular split whereby all things not directly “spiritual” in the church, worship or ministry sense were relegated to secondary importance. Physical and mental recreation, including imaginative exercises, lost their place in nurturing the soul. Or rather, we dismissed God from his place in those activities, as if he were somehow unconcerned and uninvolved in our recreational life.

However, if we believe that the presence of God is to be experienced in all things, why not in recreation as well? I would argue that the renewal of body, mind, and spirit is literally re-creative. When we use the imagination “recreatively” we mimic God’s restorative processes. Just as God uses the rain to wash pollution and dust from the atmosphere, he uses recreation to cleanse our minds from accumulated emotional and mental smog. Just as God restores the fertility of farmland when we give the soil an occasional “time out,” he uses our recreational recesses to restore our productivity and efficiency. The imagination is a great help in this process. From seeing “checkmate in six moves” to picturing Tolkien’s epic battles, the Spirit can use our imagination as a vehicle with which to refresh us.

3. Meditation

Meditation is an active use of the imagination wherein we picture and ponder spiritual truth. When we purposely use our minds to dwell on some aspect of God, Christ, or his Word, we are meditating. When I picture the Lord during meditation, I am not necessarily *beholding* him in the strict sense of God revealing himself (though it is meant to transition into that). My mind is painting the picture and thinking the thoughts, but this is still a spiritual and Spirit-filled activity. It is not merely a neutral “just me” activity. God is involved. Isaiah 26:3 counsels us that God will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on him, because they trust in him. Oswald Chambers encourages this use of the mind in meditation: “Is your imagination stayed on him or is it starved? It is no use waiting for God to come; you must put your imagination away from the face of idols and deliberately turn your imagination to God... look unto him and be saved.”⁵ As we meditate on God, he is watching and listening, inspiring and responding. His Spirit prods my spirit to initiate the picture painting that sows faith-seeds, which do indeed sprout.

□)) Tuning In • • • • • • • • • •

A classic meditation exercise used by mystics of all creeds is to picture God's light giving you a shower. In the evening, I like to imagine the light of God shining on me, penetrating and cleansing my heart. I actively receive his healing light into my soul. As I picture this, I thank God for washing away shadows of stress or sin. I invite you to use this exercise as a means to embracing this Scriptural truth.

God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 John 1:5-7)

4. Intercession

Intercession takes active meditation a step further by picturing the person we are praying for and presenting that picture to God. When I use my imagination to intercede for friends, I picture myself walking them to Jesus and asking him for mercy. If I see Jesus begin to act upon them in some way, I have again moved from intercession into revelation. I have presented my request in picture form. Then I also see God's answer in picture form. The point is that this method of prayer begins by using the active imagination as a launching pad, and then God brings about the lift off.

The rest of this chapter Brad discusses Fleshly Windows, fantasy, illusions and deceptions, and many other testimonies. See Brad Jersak's ***Can you Hear Me, Tuning into the God who Speaks.***

THE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR LISTENING PRAYER

By Brad Jersak.

From:

https://www.clarion-journal.com/clarion_journal_of_spirit/2011/06/the-biblical-basis-for-listening-prayer-by-brad-jersak.html

We are often asked about the biblical basis for listening prayer. This is largely what *Can You Hear Me?* by Brad Jersak, attempts to share.

Reading that book in its entirety will give readers a fuller sense of the biblical, historical and practical foundations for listening prayer.

First, while I absolutely believe there is a biblical basis and New Covenant expectation for listening prayer, the Bible itself never demands a biblical template for every kind of ministry God calls us to. Further, in our experience with Christian sceptics, those who demand a biblical proof text seldom satisfied in any case. Having said that, I would point those who are open to what the Bible says about listening prayer in these directions:

1. Check out the many biblical promises that God will *speak* to us. Note those texts that describe conversation with God, especially where they are embedded within the New Covenant promises. i.e. What has been provided for every believer because of Jesus' death, resurrection, ascension and the outpouring of his Spirit. E.g. Jer. 33:1-3, John 10:1-5; John 16:12-16; Rev. 3:20. These passages and scores of others suggest, model and even command us to listen to God's voice and converse with Him.
2. Second, check out the many passages promising and commanding us to *see* God with the eyes of our heart. The Bible actually treats 'beholding the Lord' as a primary means of transformation (2 Cor. 3:16-4:6). I often start with a word study of the terms 'Behold' and 'Lo,' words which most often mean, 'Gaze, on purpose and with love, using the eyes of your heart' and especially 'at the Lord Jesus.' Again, beholding the glory of God in the face of Jesus is an invitation and prescription found in John 14, John 16 (the words 'see'), Eph. 1 (eyes of the heart), Heb. 12:1-2 (fix your eyes on), or Col. 3:1-3 (set your 'minds' on). In Rev. 3:18ff, we are commanded to 'get eye salve so you can see,' and then immediately beckoned to 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock.' In Rev. 4:1-2, John obeys, 'So I looked, and there was a door...' where he is invited to 'behold the throne and the one sitting on it.'
3. Once the Bible convinces us that we are to hear and see the Lord with the eyes and ears of our hearts, the question is 'where?' In our hearts. Within our hearts, we have the privilege of prayer life marked by an ongoing interactive meeting with the Lord Jesus. Our hearts are a context or venue where we can commune with God. We see many examples of this in the Bible: Often, writers welcome us to come before God on his throne, in our hearts: Dan. 7, Col. 3, Eph 1, Heb. 12 and Rev. 3 ... All of these

describe the throne room of God as a meeting place with him, but the encounter is happening within our hearts or minds. Other passages describe us 'seeing' the Lord at the Cross (esp. Zech. 12, and also Heb. 12).

King David's interaction with God through Listening Prayer

In Psalm 23, this type of in-heart interaction is exactly what David does: He meets with the Good Shepherd in contemplative, listening prayer through various contexts: green pastures, quiet waters, paths of righteousness, valley of the shadow of death, banquet table, and the house of the Lord. We can *copy* David's practice by visiting all of the places he describes, but also, we can do better than that: we can *emulate* David's practice and live it by establishing our own heart-places. God reveals places within that are familiar and safe for us, in the same way David experienced them, but tailor-made from our own lives.

Listening Prayer helping heal emotional and spiritual hurts

4. So now we're hearing and seeing the Lord in a context of our hearts.

Question: would he also want to be Lord of the places in my heart that are damaged ... the memories where I store pain, shame, anger, etc. I.e., What does MY 'valley of the shadow of death' look like? When Jesus says, 'Lo, I am with you always,' we learn this:

- a. 'Lo' means look with the eyes of your heart;
 - b. 'Always' means 'always has been and always will be';
 - c. 'Always' includes my painful past;
 - d. I am *commanded* to 'Lo' (look for) Jesus in those places. How? By asking, 'Where were you? Would you show me? What do I need to know there? What do you want to do there?'
5. What is the biblical basis for the what, the why and the how of God's healing work in our painful pasts and hurting memories? I typically look to such messianic passages as Isaiah 53 (forgiveness of sin and removal of sorrow), Isaiah 61 (lifting burdens and giving gifts in their place), speaking truth to our lies (Jesus said, 'the truth will set you free' in John 8:32), and freeing from every kind of bondage (Isaiah 58:6-7). In this last passage and in Luke 4:18-21, we see this as the ministry of Jesus and later hear him commission us: 'As the Father sent me, so I send you' (John 20:21).
 6. I would also add that even without any of the above, we still have the John 14-16 Last Supper promises where Jesus is very clear about the ministry of Christ's disciples (including us): the Holy Spirit would counsel us, guide us, speak to us, and lead us into all truth.

Although I am thankful for God's written word, Jesus' promises in the New Covenant never mention the Bible's guidance or instruction. It is *Jesus'* guidance through the ministry and voice of the Spirit to the Church. The Bible says a lot about inner healing ministry, but that is not where we learned it. The Holy Spirit showed us as we stepped

out and followed the living Jesus into it. How do we know that it was the Holy Spirit? Jesus again gives us a biblical basis for knowing:

Listening Prayer - Look for the fruits

7. We know by the *fruits* that come from listening prayer ministry (John 7:16-21). I would look to this and other texts where we are told to judge ministries by their fruit. As listening prayer is practiced, are people being healed and delivered and transformed? Are they listening more attentively to Christ and growing in character, obedience, faith and love for God. If so, then it is a work of God. This has been our very consistent experience over the last couple of decades, such that we believe God has called us to both do and to share and to train others in this ministry. If you sense a similar call, please look further into ours and others' resources on listening prayer.

The Meeting Place: Facilitating Encounters

Brad Jersak

The Meeting Place is a meditative exercise in the tradition of the Psalmist and Ignatian spirituality. I learned it through the writings of the Spanish mystics, St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross. We began practicing it in the context of inner healing ministry in the 1990s with dramatic effects, especially in the case of severe trauma, such as childhood molestation and sexual assault. Later, we realized that it served just as well as a contemplative exercise for Christians interested in more Christ-centered meditation. At some point, we discovered that it worked well as a pathway to encounter for those who had not yet chosen the Jesus Way. For example, in step 11 of 12-step recovery (e.g. AA, NA, SAA), the program says, “Through prayer and meditation, we sought to improve our conscious contact with the God of our understanding, praying only for the knowledge of his will and the power to carry it out.” The Meeting Place exercise has empowered many addicts to do exactly that, prior to any Christian commitment. In Christ’s relentless pursuit of humanity, “seeking to save that which was lost,” we have seen how this simple meditation can open the door to a first meeting with God and the healing that frequently accompanies face-to-face meetings. So too, it can become an ongoing and fruitful practice of one’s regular prayer life.

Where would you meet God?

If you could meet God anywhere at all for a one-on-one meeting—a place where you felt completely safe—where would that be?

Would it be outside in nature, somewhere like a forest trail or mountain vista? Would it be on the shore of a lake or a seaside beach? How about a mountain top?

Or maybe you’d chose somewhere inside. A favorite room or chair in your own home? It could be in a cozy cabin or cafe, or some place more ornate and majestic, such as a palace, fortress or temple. It could also be a biblical venue, such as Psalm 23, the Cross, the empty tomb, the throne of grace... or any one of Jesus’ many face-to-face meetings during his ministry. What feels perfect to you?

Is this a place from your past, present or future? How old do you seem to be? Some folks feel it is very much “now,” while others discover they show up there as their child-self, from a time when they were completely innocent or first broken. The important thing is that this is a safe place where you feel comfortable.

Allow yourself to picture your Meeting Place vividly. Think of the colors, textures, smells and sounds. Understand that this venue, whether a material place you’ve actually visited or a scene constructed by your imagination, is also a place in your heart. Where are you at this moment? You are in a secure place within your own heart. Don’t just view it as you would a movie screen. Step into it with all five senses. As best you can, don’t just watch yourself there—BE yourself there.

Are you sitting, standing or walking? Maybe you’re lounging in a hammock or soaring through the sky. The heart is also where we dream, so don’t feel restricted by the limitations of your waking life.

How would God come to you there?

Locating and entering the Meeting Place of your heart is not really the point. Anyone can construct an imaginary “happy place” and hide there in denial of their circumstances or in isolation from others. That’s not authentic inner peace. The purpose of this exercise is to open ourselves to encounter the living God of Triune Love. Christ promised that his Father would make his home in us, that the Spirit would dwell in us and that he, Jesus, would “show himself” to those willing to behold him with the eyes of their heart.

Some are paranoid that this is “New Age” visualization. This is not that. Opening the eyes of our heart to gaze on the Lord Jesus Christ is what the Bible calls (and repeatedly commands) “beholding.” We may happily imagine aspects of our Meeting Place, as David did in Psalm 23—green pastures, quiet streams, prepared tables, etc. But “we beheld the Lord with unveiled faces,” we are beholding the glory of God’s immanent Reality.

We can know and must test whether the Lord we behold is the Real Deal. First, we can expect to behold the One True God because Christ promised: if you ask the Father for good gifts, God will hear, answer and give us the Holy Spirit—not a snake, stone or demon. Second, we can know we’ve met the Real Deal by this simple test: does the God we meet bear the fruit of Truth and Love. It’s not complex because God has chosen to be entirely accessible to those who desire to meet Triune Love in person.

The Image of the Invisible God

I believe that Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God. So, that’s who I look for in my Meeting Place. But for those not prepared or able to meet God in the vision of a Jewish male, remember that God has also come as Father, Son and Spirit. He may come as shepherd, king, friend or sibling. He has shown up as light, fire, wind and water. God may arrive symbolically as a lion, lamb, eagle or dove. And that is just a narrow sampling of the biblical images. God may appear in our hearts in whatever form we need.

It may be impossible for those whose dads or husbands were abusive to view God as Father or Bridegroom. He may need to arrive initially as a black momma, as in *The Shack*. Is your God big enough for that? After 25 years of visiting the most broken people, I can confidently testify, God will not be confined to any of our tiny boxes.

So, let me ask: as you survey the Meeting Place of your heart, how does God come to you? Where is God? What is God doing? Draw as near to God as you are able and welcome God to draw near to you.

The Touch of God

From both the Bible and from experience, we know that God’s loving touch can heal and transform our hearts and lives. Many times, Christ would place a hand of blessing or of healing on those whom he met. Many women in the Gospels—one with a hunched back and another with an issue of blood—found that Jesus’ touch was not only safe; his touch conveyed healing power.

In your Meeting Place, what would the touch of God or Christ be like? Would he lay a hand of blessing on your head or heart? Would he lay healing hands on your infirmities? How about an affectionate arm around your shoulder? Perhaps you’d find yourself melting into a generous hug. Or would you initiate the touch? Would you take his hand or arm and

go for a stroll? Or throw your arms around his neck and squeeze? When I am weary, I usually need to lay my head on his lap.

Through touch, somehow we begin to feel the resources of Christ's heart. I ask, "In that touch, what do you feel?" Invariably, we will begin to feel peace flowing from God into us— possibly for the first time. There will be an emotional connection that opens a channel for us to release our life-draining burdens in exchange for God's wellspring of life and strength. When God touches you, what do you feel? Comfort? Solace? Belonging? Drink it up!

The Face of God

If you could gaze upon Jesus' face, what expression would you see? You don't need a literal picture to experience this, although it does help if you can picture the face of Christ. But even hypothetically, you can just know his face intuitively. God's primary orientation toward you is love and affection. Is that what you see? Is he radiant with delight at meeting with you? Do you see his concern and care because he knows your life is hard? Do you see God's self-confidence and assurance that your life is in God's competent hands? Remember, we test the authenticity of the One we behold according to Jesus' promise to come as Truth and Love. You will know the mind of Christ by the expression on his face. It will always be within the range of the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy or peace, great-heartedness, kindness, generosity and gentleness. That's how the Christlike God approaches us in the safe place of our hearts.

In addition to a general expression, I find it beneficial to ask, "What are God's eyes saying to you?" You know that eyes can communicate. If you could put the look in those eyes into words, what's the message being communicated? It will normally be the gospel tailor-made to your deepest needs.

The Voice of God

When we speak of "the voice of God," you needn't expect an audible voice amplified with reverb echoing from the sky or bouncing around your skull. Think in terms of those thoughts of truth and love that come to you when you pay attention to God's indwelling Spirit. Is that God? Is it you? Or might it be Christ-in-you, the wonderful Counselor and good Shepherd? The voice of God might feel like an aha! moment of clarity or a still, small voice of insight. Surely, in a first encounter, it ought to be Good News.

I find that I hear better to someone who is in the room with me and when I can look them in the face, see the light of their eyes and follow their lips as they speak. This exercise is meant to help us hear better. It is meant to remind us that Christ is alive and lives within the temple of our hearts, longing to pour his love to our hungry souls.

Do you think that gift is reserved for the super-spiritual? No way! For 25 years as of the publication of this article, Eden and I have witnessed countless encounters between Christ and the most broken and messy people you can imagine! Those who need him most seem to experience Christ most profoundly. I'll introduce you to such a person shortly.

But we also know that this same God lives in you now and is happy to meet over coffee under normal circumstances on a daily basis. Consider this exercise as one such approach. Imagine: prayer as a real conversation with a living friend! Why not?