



FINDING YOUR DOMINION



A GUIDED JOURNAL
by Steve Grossman

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.”

– 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Write down one positive attribute you possess (something you would want others to know about you):

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Welcome to Finding Your Dominion, a 10-session, self-led deep dive into identity, purpose, and the application of God’s Word. Thank you for choosing this as an investment in your future. Since this is a video-led program, I will guide you along each step of the way as we go through the material. Here are a few items to address to ensure you get the most out of your time.

1. **Participant Manual:** Your participant manual is writable. If you explore the area next to or below a question with your cursor you’ll see a box appear where you can type your answers. I’m honestly old school and believe in the value of handwriting so I invite you to consider printing your manual either in whole or in parts as you go along. That is entirely up to you though and you’ll get results either way
2. **Using Your Participant Manual:** With the exception of video module one, you will do the work in this participant manual before you watch each video. My intent is that you do the work of reading, thinking, praying, and answering first. What I add in the videos is exactly that: additional information, thoughts, and prompts. Please stop any video at anytime to capture additional thoughts you have into your manual or other places.
3. **The Resource Guide:** Most videos have additional material that is found in the Resource Guide at the back of this manual.
4. **Trust the Process:** I know some of you will look ahead and that’s fine. On the other hand, the material has been organized in a progressive way so I encourage you to trust the process and work through everything as it comes along in the workbook/journal and videos.
5. **Work at Your Own Pace:** There is no rush but don’t take forever either. You will get the best results at a steady and thorough pace. Find a pace that keeps you involved with the participant manual most days while allowing you time to think through and fully explore your responses and even rethink them before moving on.

The key to success with this program is to treat it like you are studying identity, purpose, and the application of God’s Word for a lifetime. Or said another way, treat it like you are studying you with the help of God and His Word.

Course Objectives and Goals

- Gain a solid, Biblical perspective of identity and Kingdom purpose
- Develop a comprehensive, actionable plan for your life
- See both the theological and practical application of Scriptures
- Develop the skills and disciplines to utilize God’s Word for a lifetime
- Grow your desire for God and His Word
- Live fully alive and accomplish Kingdom Work



INTRODUCTION

Finding Your Dominion

Introduction and Program Overview

You're about to be led through Scriptures that reveal God's heart for you.

You'll see and study and explore passages about His thoughts and plans regarding the creation of human beings. You'll explore the reasons behind His love, support, and favor towards His faithful servants. You'll also explore His heart and intentions for your individual design, interests, and circumstances.

Through it all you'll be asked theological and practical questions.

The theological questions will ensure you have an understanding of the context and purposes behind the Scriptures. Do not skip these questions. Without a correct understanding of God's heart in these matters the rest of your answers will be "off".

*"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."
- Proverbs 139:14*

Don't be intimidated by these questions either. You have been given the Holy Spirit and He promises to give you revelation about and through God's Word (see John 14:26). Be open and expectant to His leading and your prayerful answers will be correct.

The practical questions will give you insight into God's heart for you in two ways:

1. You will learn what God meant when He meant you. Because you have been "fearfully and wonderfully made" you can know that you are an intentional creation of God.

2. You will learn how to live as God meant you to live. You'll move beyond generalities to specifics about your identity and purpose.

In the end, you'll have plans, action steps, and objectives to focus your energies and yield proper results: God's Kingdom results.

Getting the Most Out of This Course

Do the reading and the thinking prayerfully. Your objective is to uncover the wisdom, insights, and guidance God has for you.

Work at your own pace so you can be as detailed and descriptive with your answers as possible.

Read each set of questions through before answering each individual question.

If you run out of room to write your answers in this workbook use as much extra paper as necessary.

Read, review, and edit your responses several times within each chapter's work. Time away often brings different and/or additional thoughts to mind.

Enjoy this process of discovery, growth, and invitation towards God and His ways.

Hold onto this process and the findings loosely. God retains the right to lead us in new and unexpected directions – and as a living God, He often exercises that right. The most important outcome from these activities will be increased sensitivity and responsiveness to His leading voice.

*"Blessed are those who hunger and
thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled."
– Matthew 5:6*

Rewrite the one positive attribute you wrote a few moments ago or another if it is more on your mind.

Why do you believe this about yourself?

How has this positive attribute helped you live your life?

*“For we are God’s handiwork,
created in Christ Jesus to do
good works, which God
prepared in advance for us to do.”
– Ephesians 2:10*

Write down at least four more positive attributes you possess:

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 3. | 4. |
| 5. | 6. |
| 7. | 8. |

A Note About Dominion

According to Webster's Dictionary dominion means the right to govern or rule a specific territory. It carries the expectation to possess, wield force, and have authority, influence and power over that territory. Similar words are jurisdiction, control and command.

The Biblical concept of dominion is best illustrated in the history of Israel.

The Dominion of Israel

Beginning in Genesis 12, when God first called Abram, God's plan was for His people to occupy the land of Canaan. And hundred's of years later, they did.

Sort of...

If you read the book of Joshua and the other books of history and the prophets that follow, you'll learn two interconnected truths about dominion:

First, the Israelites never fully occupied the Promised Land. The most comically tragic example is found in Joshua 19:47, where it says, "(But the Danites had difficulty taking possession of their territory; so they went up and attacked Leshem, took it, put it to the sword and occupied it. They settled in Leshem and named it Dan after their forefather.)" – parenthesis NOT added.

So let's get this straight: the Danites decided that obeying God was too difficult. So they chose a less powerful city to defeat and occupy. Then they named it after their forefather as if that would make everything okay. Is it any wonder that this verse appears in parenthesis in the Bible?

This wasn't the only case though. There were other instances of the Israelites either not occupying where they were told to occupy or occupying where they were not told. And even in areas where they fully occupied the land, they often followed the native idols, traditions, and religions that they failed to remove from the land.

Second, every enemy attack against Israel came through an area of miss-occupation. By not fully exerting its dominion over God's prescribed promised land, Israel left itself vulnerable to attacks from without and attacks from within: attacks that kept Israel from their intended influence and ultimately led to their downfall.

So dominion matters.



Map of the Land Of Promise 1854.
Made by G. F. Cruchley, London.

From Genesis to Revelation

The concept of dominion is found throughout Scripture. It's first found in Genesis 1:26 where God says, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion..."

Israel never fully
occupied the Promised
Land...

It's also at the very end of the Bible in Revelation 5:10 where we're told Christ has made all believers "to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign upon the earth." The word "reign" means: rule, reign, to reign over, to reign as king, and, to exercise dominion. It's the same word used in Luke 1:32-33 when the angel speaks to Mary about Jesus – "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

Now, before I go on, a word of caution: This does NOT mean there is one single and perfect path for you to find.

It does not mean you run the risk of blowing your life if you miss the path or take a wrong turn along the way. "But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it (Matthew 7:14)" refers to salvation and spiritual disciplines, not what job you should take or which house you should buy.

You can, however, follow His leading voice to learn and know God's will for your life in the day-to-day, month-to-month, and year-to-year. You can know where you excel and where you do not, where you can and should be used and where you should not, and how to best utilize your unique set of gifts, talents, and desires. You can confidently say yes to some things while being equally as confident in your no (and no is a good, good word).

You can *know your dominion*.

Dominion Matters

It matters that we understand what it is God wants us to be and do and possess and that we then actually be and do and possess what He wants. Our willingness and obedience has ramifications for our lives and the world in which we live.

"God doesn't always make His will clear because He values our being transformed more than our being informed."
– Jon Bloom

Read Genesis 1:1

In this first verse in the Bible, God tells us He is creative. Why do you think God chose to reveal His creativity to us before any other attribute?

In what ways do you see God's creativity?

Since you are made in His image, in what ways are you creative (and yes, we are all creative)?

Read Genesis 2:19-20

Why do you think the first job of man required creativity and imagination (just like God in creation)? What is God revealing to us?

Think About It:

- Naming the animals is the first job assigned to man and it is a creative task (can you imagine having to name all the animals?).
- Scripture tells us that God wanted "to see what he would name them."

What is God showing us by the fact that man's creativity and imagination immediately contributed to God's creation (and note that Adam had to speak the names)?

Read Genesis 1:26-28 and Genesis 2:15

What do you believe God means by, "let them rule over" and "subdue the earth" (note that both of these verses come before the evils and challenges of mankind's fall in Genesis 3)?

What do you think it means that God starts the Bible with creativity and man's role in ruling and subduing the earth?

What do you believe this means for Christian's living now, in our specific time in human history?

What do you believe this might mean for you specifically – your personal call to rule and subdue?

*“The highest heavens belong to the Lord, but the earth He has given to man.”
– Psalm 115:16*

God designed human beings with creativity and other abilities to be used for important purposes on His earth.

Read Genesis 2:11-12

What has gold been used for throughout human history?

Why would God tell us that gold is good (This is the eighth declaration of “good” in the Bible)?

What are the many parts of a proper financial transaction (things like people, trust, hope, etc.)? List as many as you can.

What are the many outcomes of a proper financial transaction? List as many as you can.

What are we to learn about God's hopes and dreams for humans from these passages?

God has always intended man to use his creativity to serve his fellow man and receive compensation in return.