



**WE ARE WHAT WE SPEAK**  
*Retreat/ Group Companion* **WORKBOOK**

WE ARE WHAT WE SPEAK

*Retreat/ Group Companion*

# WORKBOOK

RICHARD T. CASE



*To my wife, Linda, who has always understood and lived out the truth  
that what we speak both reflects our true hearts  
and provides power to our situations and circumstances of our lives.  
She illustrates in her everyday life how we are to live in oneness with Him  
and overcome the struggle of the heart—the flesh vs. the Spirit.  
We are to abide in the Vine, spending time with Him to receive His heart  
which then becomes our heart—which then teaches us what not to speak  
and then what we are to speak. She has learned how we are to speak  
as prophets and exercise God's authority into our circumstances  
and other's circumstances. She reminds us we are to pay attention to what  
we say, and that our words have meaning and power.  
We work together on having the heart of the Spirit and being able to  
speak His words, and His heart in our conversations, dialogues,  
and discussing our circumstances. What a joy to have her live this out  
and keep us in the center of this essential truth of life.  
She always lives in in joy, and thus brings true joy to me  
as we walk with God together.  
An honor to experience this together, honey!*

## Acknowledgments

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### These leaders are:

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Rick & Nancy Hoover

Don & Rachelle Light

Steve & Carolyn Van Ooteghem

Preston & Lynda Pitts

Dan & Kathy Rocconi

Bob & Keri Rockwell

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*WE ARE WHAT WE SPEAK COMPANION WORKBOOK*

ABIDE MINISTRIES

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Castle Rock, CO 80108

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# INTRODUCTION



**"God tells us we are to learn to speak based upon His leading—His opening up doors for us to speak. He further describes that our speech is to be done with grace, seasoned with the flavor of positivity."**

## **Read Colossians 4:2–6:**

### Further Instructions

<sup>2</sup> Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup> At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— <sup>4</sup> that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

<sup>5</sup> Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. <sup>6</sup> Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

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**Write down in your workbook or journal: What are the issues, situations, circumstances, or decisions that you're seeking resolution or favorable outcome?**





# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.



**What is the purpose for which Christ has come? When is this available to us? What does that mean for how we are to live? Why?**

**Read John 10:10:**

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

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**"God's purpose right now is to give you a super-abundant life."**

# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

This is Christ's first public statement of His ministry when He read these verses in the synagogue in Nazareth and stated that He was the fulfillment of this for all of us. What specifically did He say were the things that define the super-abundant life He has come to give us? What do they mean to us, and what we can thus expect?

## Read Isaiah 61:1–4:

The Year of the LORD'S Favor

**61** The Spirit of the LORD GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;<sup>[a]</sup>  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;<sup>[b]</sup>  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD'S favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup> to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.<sup>[c]</sup>  
<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**What do these verses reveal about the nature of Christ and what He has come to do for us? What does this mean to how we are then to live? Why?**

## **Read Colossians 1:12–23:**

<sup>12</sup> giving thanks<sup>[a]</sup> to the Father, who has qualified you<sup>[b]</sup> to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

### The Preeminence of Christ

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by<sup>[c]</sup> him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup> And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, <sup>23</sup> if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation<sup>[d]</sup> under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

In Genesis, God establishes the essence of His Covenant with all of us. What is the Covenant? What does this mean for our lives as believers? Why is this so important for us as we personally encounter life?

## Read Genesis 12:1–3:

The Call of Abram

**12** Now the LORD said<sup>[a]</sup> to Abram, "Go from your country<sup>[b]</sup> and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."<sup>[c]</sup>

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**This describes more specific details of the Covenant life. What is the condition to receive the benefits? What are all the benefits? Why is this so important to how we live?**

## **Read Deuteronomy 28:1–14:**

### Blessings for Obedience

**28** “And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. <sup>2</sup> And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God. <sup>3</sup> Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. <sup>4</sup> Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. <sup>5</sup> Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. <sup>6</sup> Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.

<sup>7</sup> “The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways. <sup>8</sup> The LORD will command the blessing on you in your barns and in all that you undertake. And he will bless you in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>9</sup> The LORD will establish you as a people holy to himself, as he has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. <sup>10</sup> And all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you. <sup>11</sup> And the LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your womb and in the fruit of your livestock and in the fruit of your ground, within the land that the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. <sup>12</sup> The LORD will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. <sup>13</sup> And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you shall only go up and not down, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them, <sup>14</sup> and if you do not turn aside from any of the words that I command you today, to the right hand or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

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**Christ has given us a promise for the super-abundant life. However, we have an enemy, the thief. What is his nature, and what has he come to do? Why is that problematic for us?**

**Read John 10:10:**

<sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

As we deal with an enemy, principalities, and powers, how does the enemy work against us? How does this impact our receiving the super-abundant life that Christ has come to give us?

## Read Ephesians 6:1–13:

### Children and Parents

**6** Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup>“Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), <sup>3</sup>“that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” <sup>4</sup>Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

### Bondservants and Masters

<sup>5</sup> Bondservants,<sup>[a]</sup> obey your earthly masters<sup>[b]</sup> with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, <sup>6</sup> not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, <sup>7</sup> rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, <sup>8</sup> knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. <sup>9</sup> Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master<sup>[c]</sup> and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

### The Whole Armor of God

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

The enemy is portrayed as a lion in these verses from Peter. What are these characteristics? How does that impact our ability to receive the super-abundant life?

**Read 1 Peter 5:8:**

<sup>8</sup> Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

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What does Jesus say about what we will experience in this world? Why will all of us experience this? How does this impact how we live the super-abundant life? What are we to understand then about the conflicts and difficulties that we will encounter?

**Jesus reinforces this in John 16:33:**

<sup>33</sup> I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**What is the essence of the enemy's wiles and schemes for tempting us? Why do we fail with these temptations? What does this mean then to what is important for how we live?**

**Read James 1:12–18:**

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. <sup>13</sup> Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. <sup>14</sup> But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. <sup>15</sup> Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

<sup>16</sup> Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. <sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>18</sup> Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**What does it mean to be in friendship with the world? What are the consequences of us being in friendship with the world? Why is this so important for how we then are going to live the super-abundant life?**

## **Read James 4:1–4:**

### Warning Against Worldliness

**4** What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions<sup>[a]</sup> are at war within you?<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>2</sup> You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup> You adulterous people!<sup>[c]</sup> Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**What is a further consequence of being self-centered? Why?**

**Read Proverbs 18:1–2:**

**18** Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire;  
he breaks out against all sound judgment.

<sup>2</sup> A fool takes no pleasure in understanding,  
but only in expressing his opinion.

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**Principles of Learning How to Speak in the Life of God:**

**As we learn how to receive, live, and speak the life of God, what is important for us to understand about the nature and purpose of God? What then does this mean for how we approach everyday life with troubles and an enemy that is attempting to thwart our super-abundant life? Why?**

**Read Psalm 111:1–10:**

Great Are the LORD'S Works

**111** <sup>[a]</sup> Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup> Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.

<sup>3</sup> Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

- <sup>4</sup> He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.
- <sup>5</sup> He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.
- <sup>6</sup> He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.
- <sup>7</sup> The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy;
- <sup>8</sup> they are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- <sup>9</sup> He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name!
- <sup>10</sup> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever!

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

What is necessary for God to command blessing into our lives? What does this mean for us? Why?

## Read Psalm 133:

When Brothers Dwell in Unity

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

**133** Behold, how good and pleasant it is  
when brothers dwell in unity!<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>2</sup> It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down on the collar of his robes!

<sup>3</sup> It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion!

For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,  
life forevermore.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

From the following three verses: As we are learning the principles of how we are to live and how we are to speak, what is important to understand about what our speaking is really about? Why is this so important for us to know?

## Read Proverbs 23:7:

<sup>7</sup> for he is like one who is inwardly calculating.<sup>[a]</sup>  
“Eat and drink!” he says to you,  
but his heart is not with you.

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## Read Matthew 12:33–37:

### A Tree Is Known by Its Fruit

<sup>33</sup> “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup> The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. <sup>36</sup> I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, <sup>37</sup> for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**Read Luke 6:43–45:**

**A Tree and Its Fruit**

<sup>43</sup>“For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, <sup>44</sup>for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. <sup>45</sup>The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

How do these verses describe the basis of how we speak? What does that mean? Why is this so important then to how we learn to speak the life of God?

## Read 2 Corinthians 4:11–15:

<sup>11</sup> For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup> So death is at work in us, but life in you.

<sup>13</sup> Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, <sup>14</sup> knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup> For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**With a heart to grow in our belief (faith), what is our fundamental problem?  
How does this impact our receiving the super-abundant life? Why?**

## **Read Romans 7:13–24:**

<sup>13</sup> Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. <sup>14</sup> For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup> For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. <sup>17</sup> So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup> So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup> For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>23</sup> but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup> Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

If we continue to live with the problem that Paul describes in Romans 7, what are the consequences? What do these mean then to our ability to receive the super-abundant life? Why?

**Read Romans 8:5–8:**

<sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup> Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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# LESSON 1: GOD'S PURPOSE—LIVE IN ONENESS WITH HIM; OUR SPEAKING REFLECTS OUR HEART, WHICH IS IN A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT.

**What is really at the center of our problem of the flesh? What is important to understand about this and why?**

## **Read Matthew 16:13–23:**

### Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" <sup>14</sup> And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup> He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock<sup>[a]</sup> I will build my church, and the gates of hell<sup>[b]</sup> shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed<sup>[c]</sup> in heaven." <sup>20</sup> Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

### Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

<sup>21</sup> From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord!<sup>[d]</sup> This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance<sup>[e]</sup> to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.



**“What we say matters, and since our words reflect our heart and our beliefs, we need to learn how to follow God and receive His heart so that what we speak reflects His nature and not the self.”**

**How does Micaiah respond to the king who asks him to speak certain things? What does that mean for us? Why are we to follow this in our lives?**

**Read 1 Kings 22:13–14:**

Micaiah Prophesies Against Ahab  
<sup>13</sup> And the messenger who went to summon Micaiah said to him, “Behold, the words of the prophets with one accord are favorable to the king. Let your word be like the word of one of them, and speak favorably.” <sup>14</sup> But Micaiah said, “As the Lord lives, what the Lord says to me, that I will speak.”

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**What does God say to Jeremiah regarding how he is to speak the things of God? What does that mean then for how we live the super-abundant life God is giving us? Why?**

## **Read Jeremiah 1:4–10:**

The Call of Jeremiah

<sup>4</sup> Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

<sup>5</sup> “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

<sup>6</sup> Then I said, “Ah, LORD GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.”<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

<sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the LORD.”

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me,

“Behold, I have put my words in your mouth.

<sup>10</sup> See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

Regardless of our circumstances, what are we to believe about how we approach this? What does God promise us, and how does this change how we speak? Why?

**Read Matthew 10:19–20:**

<sup>19</sup> When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup> For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**How did Christ relate to the Father? What did that mean for Christ's carrying out the life of God? Why is this the way we are also to relate to the Father? Why?**

**Read John 8:26–30:**

<sup>26</sup> I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." <sup>27</sup> They did not understand that he had been speaking to them about the Father. <sup>28</sup> So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. <sup>29</sup> And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him." <sup>30</sup> As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**How does Christ describe the words that He speaks to us? What is the difference between these words and the flesh? What is then important for us to understand about receiving Christ's words for us?**

**Read John 6:63:**

<sup>63</sup> It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**Instead of thinking of the spiritual life as a periodic Bible study, what is important for us to understand regarding our everyday relationship with God? What does this mean to us and why?**

**God says He is going to give us words. What is the essence of these words, and what does that mean? How then are we to approach life with trouble and difficulty? Why?**

## **Read Jeremiah 11:1–6:**

The Broken Covenant

**11** The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: <sup>2</sup>“Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>You shall say to them, Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Cursed be the man who does not hear the words of this covenant <sup>4</sup>that I commanded your fathers when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Listen to my voice, and do all that I command you. So shall you be my people, and I will be your God, <sup>5</sup>that I may confirm the oath that I swore to your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as at this day.” Then I answered, “So be it, LORD.”

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD said to me, “Proclaim all these words in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem: Hear the words of this covenant and do them.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

Since we are to speak the words of the Covenant, what exactly is the Covenant? What does this mean then for how we approach all our circumstances of life, including those that are difficult and cause us trouble? Why?

## Read Genesis 12:1-3:

The Call of Abram

**12** Now the LORD said<sup>[a]</sup> to Abram, "Go from your country<sup>[b]</sup> and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."<sup>[c]</sup>

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

Since we are to receive and speak the Covenant, what is the good news regarding how we are able to fulfill this every day? What does that mean then for how we live this way? Why?

## Read Jeremiah 31:31-34:

### The New Covenant

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

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**Because of the trouble of the world, we often experience ruin and loss. What does God promise about this? What are the details of what we can expect? What is our role in the process? Why?**

## **Read Zechariah 8:11–13; 16–17:**

<sup>11</sup> But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days, declares the Lord of hosts. <sup>12</sup> For there shall be a sowing of peace. The vine shall give its fruit, and the ground shall give its produce, and the heavens shall give their dew. And I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things. <sup>13</sup> And as you have been a byword of cursing among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so will I save you, and you shall be a blessing. Fear not, but let your hands be strong.”

<sup>16</sup> These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another; render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace; <sup>17</sup> do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath, for all these things I hate, declares the LORD.”

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

When we find ourselves in difficult circumstances, what are we to believe and understand? What does that mean then for how we approach these troubling things? Why?

**Read Matthew 10:19–20:**

<sup>19</sup> When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup> For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**Why is not having the demonic speak so significant to us? How does God use this for our benefit? Why?**

**Read Mark 1:32-34:**

<sup>32</sup> That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city was gathered together at the door. <sup>34</sup> And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**What is important for us to learn as we are desiring to speak what God wants us to speak? What does that mean to us and why?**

**Read Psalm 145:17–21:**

- <sup>17</sup> The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works.
- <sup>18</sup> The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.
- <sup>19</sup> He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.
- <sup>20</sup> The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.
- <sup>21</sup> My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

Reading through these verses, what does it mean to fear the Lord? How does this impact how we approach the things of our lives? Why is this so important to how we walk through this?

## Read Psalm 19:7-11:

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect,<sup>[a]</sup>  
reviving the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure,  
making wise the simple;  
<sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is pure,  
enlightening the eyes;  
<sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is clean,  
enduring forever;  
the rules<sup>[b]</sup> of the LORD are true,  
and righteous altogether.  
<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey  
and drippings of the honeycomb.  
<sup>11</sup> Moreover, by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**What are the benefits of fearing the Lord? What does that mean for how we then live it out? Why?**

**Read Psalm 25:12–15:**

- <sup>12</sup> Who is the man who fears the LORD?  
Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.
- <sup>13</sup> His soul shall abide in well-being,  
and his offspring shall inherit the land.
- <sup>14</sup> The friendship<sup>[a]</sup> of the LORD is for those who fear him,  
and he makes known to them his covenant.
- <sup>15</sup> My eyes are ever toward the LORD,  
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

When we are learning to receive God's direction in our lives, what is important for us to keep asking for? What does God promise when we ask for this? Why is this so important for us to understand as we walk this way?

**Read James 1:5-8:**

<sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

As we live out the Covenant, what are we to speak? What does that mean then to how we live things out? Why is this so important?

## Read Proverbs 22:17-21:

Words of the Wise

<sup>17</sup> Incline your ear, and hear the words of the wise,  
and apply your heart to my knowledge,

<sup>18</sup> for it will be pleasant if you keep them within you,  
if all of them are ready on your lips.

<sup>19</sup> That your trust may be in the LORD,  
I have made them known to you today, even to you.

<sup>20</sup> Have I not written for you thirty sayings  
of counsel and knowledge,

<sup>21</sup> to make you know what is right and true,  
that you may give a true answer to those who sent you?

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**What is important about our heart and our intentions regarding how we live and speak? What does that mean for us? What are the consequences if we follow our own way? Why?**

**Read Proverbs 12:2; 5-6; 10; 13:**

<sup>2</sup> A good man obtains favor from the LORD,  
but a man of evil devices he condemns.

<sup>5</sup> The thoughts of the righteous are just;  
the counsels of the wicked are deceitful.

<sup>6</sup> The words of the wicked lie in wait for blood,  
but the mouth of the upright delivers them.

<sup>10</sup> Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast,  
but the mercy of the wicked is cruel.

<sup>13</sup> An evil man is ensnared by the transgression of his lips,<sup>[a]</sup>  
but the righteous escapes from trouble.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

What is the impact of not telling the truth? What causes us not to tell the truth? When we fail to tell the truth, what do we bring upon ourselves? Why?

## Read Mark 14:66–72:

### Peter Denies Jesus

<sup>66</sup> And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, <sup>67</sup> and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus.” <sup>68</sup> But he denied it, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you mean.” And he went out into the gateway<sup>[a]</sup> and the rooster crowed.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>69</sup> And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” <sup>70</sup> But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” <sup>71</sup> But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know this man of whom you speak.” <sup>72</sup> And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.<sup>[c]</sup>

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**What do our words reveal? What does this mean for how we are to live and speak? Why?**

**Read Matthew 12:33–37:**

**A Tree Is Known by Its Fruit**

<sup>33</sup>“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup>You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup>The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. <sup>36</sup>I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, <sup>37</sup>for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**What does Christ tell us about being hypocritical? What does being hypocritical mean? Why is this so important to how we live?**

## **Read Luke 6:37–45:**

### Judging Others

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

<sup>39</sup> He also told them a parable: “Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? <sup>40</sup> A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. <sup>41</sup> Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? <sup>42</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

### A Tree and Its Fruit

<sup>43</sup> “For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, <sup>44</sup> for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. <sup>45</sup> The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**As we learn to live His life, what are we to avoid? How do we tend to engage in these versus avoiding these? What are the consequences of not avoiding these, and what are the benefits of avoiding these? Why?**

**Read Titus 3:9–11:**

<sup>9</sup> But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. <sup>10</sup> As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, <sup>11</sup> knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**When the disciples were told to stop talking about the life of God, what was their response? Why did they respond this way? What was God telling them regarding how to talk about the life of God? Why?**

**Read Acts 4:13–20:**

<sup>13</sup> Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus. <sup>14</sup> But seeing the man who was healed standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. <sup>15</sup> But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, <sup>16</sup> saying, “What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. <sup>17</sup> But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.” <sup>18</sup> So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup> But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, <sup>20</sup> for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**As God does supernatural things, especially overcoming the trouble that comes into our lives, what are we to do? How does that work? Why is this so important for our role in God's Kingdom?**

## **Read Acts 5:17–20:**

The Apostles Arrested and Freed

<sup>17</sup> But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy <sup>18</sup> they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. <sup>19</sup> But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, <sup>20</sup> "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

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**When are we to speak, and when are we not to speak? What does this mean for how we know when to do either? Why?**

## **Read Ecclesiastes 3:7:**

<sup>7</sup> a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

When we are called to speak, what are we to speak? What exactly is this, and what is important for us to be able to speak this? Why?

## Read Proverbs 8:1–9:

The Blessings of Wisdom

**8** Does not wisdom call?

Does not understanding raise her voice?

<sup>2</sup> On the heights beside the way,

at the crossroads she takes her stand;

<sup>3</sup> beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:

<sup>4</sup> "To you, O men, I call,

and my cry is to the children of man.

<sup>5</sup> O simple ones, learn prudence;

O fools, learn sense.

<sup>6</sup> Hear, for I will speak noble things,

and from my lips will come what is right,

<sup>7</sup> for my mouth will utter truth;

wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

<sup>8</sup> All the words of my mouth are righteous;

there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.

<sup>9</sup> They are all straight to him who understands,

and right to those who find knowledge.

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# LESSON 2: ABIDING, SPENDING TIME WITH HIM TO RECEIVE HIS HEART THAT BECOMES OUR HEART; WHAT NOT TO SPEAK AND WHAT WE ARE TO SPEAK.

**What does it mean to turn from evil? How do we do this? What then does it mean to pursue peace (shalom)? How do we do this? Why are these two elements so important for how we live and thus how we speak?**

**Read Psalm 34:11–14:**

- <sup>11</sup> Come, O children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- <sup>12</sup> What man is there who desires life  
and loves many days, that he may see good?
- <sup>13</sup> Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from speaking deceit.
- <sup>14</sup> Turn away from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.



**In what ways are we called to speak to others? What does this mean? How do we handle those who are considered weaker? What does it mean that they are weaker? Why is this so important for how we live and speak?**

**Read Romans 12:9–12; 16; 15:1–7:**

Marks of the True Christian

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit,<sup>[a]</sup> serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly.<sup>[a]</sup> Never be wise in your own sight.

The Example of Christ

**15** We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. <sup>2</sup> Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. <sup>3</sup> For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." <sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**"The words we speak reflect what is in our heart, so what we speak tells the story of what we believe and what we have experienced."**

# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

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**In what way are we to serve the body of Christ? For what purpose? How are we to carry this out in our Christian circles? Why is this so important?**

### **Read 1 Corinthians 12:5-11:**

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

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**What is the difference between speaking like a child and speaking with maturity? How do we then live and speak with maturity? Why is this so significant for how we live and speak?**

## **Read 2 Corinthians 13:11–14:**

### Final Greetings

<sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another,<sup>[b]</sup> agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. <sup>13</sup> All the saints greet you.

<sup>14</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

As we are called to build each other up, what are we called to do? What does this mean? How do we approach this when others do not have the same view we do? Why is this so important for our role in the body of Christ?

## Read 2 Corinthians 13:11–14:

### Final Greetings

<sup>11</sup> Finally, brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another,<sup>[b]</sup> agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. <sup>13</sup> All the saints greet you.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

We are called to bear each other's burdens. What does that mean? How are we to speak in these situations? Why is this important for our role of helping each other?

## Read Galatians 6:1-6:

### Bear One Another's Burdens

**6** Brothers,<sup>[a]</sup> if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. <sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup> But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. <sup>5</sup> For each will have to bear his own load.

<sup>6</sup> Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**As we are called to hear, receive, and follow God's will, how are we to assist others in the same for their lives? On what basis can we be assured we will reach understanding of God's will? Why is this so important regarding how we process and speak?**

## **Read Ephesians 4:1–6:**

Unity in the Body of Christ

**4** I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,<sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,<sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.<sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—<sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism,<sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**As we are in process seeking God's will together, what is critical for us to understand about what we speak? What does that mean? Why is this such an important part of the process?**

**Read Ephesians 4:25-26:**

<sup>25</sup> Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. <sup>26</sup> Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

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**As we continue to learn the process, describe what we are to do and what God is doing. What then does that mean is our new definition of prayer? How does this work, and how does this benefit us? Why is this so important for us in seeking and speaking His will?**

## **Read Malachi 3:16–18:**

The Book of Remembrance

<sup>16</sup> Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. <sup>17</sup> "They shall be mine," says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. <sup>18</sup> Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**What are the definitions of prophetic? How are we to engage in this gifting?  
What are the qualities of prophetic? Why is this so critical in our helping each other hear, receive, and follow God's will?**

## **Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-3:**

Prophecy and Tongues

**14** Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. <sup>2</sup> For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. <sup>3</sup> On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**From the following two sets of verses: As we go deeper into the prophetic, what is the role of a watchman? How does it work? What is important for us to understand about this role—the consequences of following or deciding not to follow? What, then, is crucial for us to be able to carry out the assignment?**

## **Read Ezekiel 2:1–8:**

### Ezekiel's Call

**2** And he said to me, "Son of man,<sup>[a]</sup> stand on your feet, and I will speak with you."<sup>2</sup> And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day.<sup>4</sup> The descendants also are impudent and stubborn: I send you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD GOD.'<sup>5</sup> And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them.<sup>6</sup> And you, son of man, be not afraid of them, nor be afraid of their words, though briars and thorns are with you and you sit on scorpions.<sup>[b]</sup> Be not afraid of their words, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.<sup>7</sup> And you shall speak my words to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house.

<sup>8</sup> "But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you."

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

## Read Ezekiel 3:16–27:

A Watchman for Israel

<sup>16</sup> And at the end of seven days, the word of the Lord came to me: <sup>17</sup> "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>18</sup> If I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, in order to save his life, that wicked person shall die for<sup>[a]</sup> his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>19</sup> But if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, or from his wicked way, he shall die for his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. <sup>20</sup> Again, if a righteous person turns from his righteousness and commits injustice, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die. Because you have not warned him, he shall die for his sin, and his righteous deeds that he has done shall not be remembered, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>21</sup> But if you warn the righteous person not to sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live, because he took warning, and you will have delivered your soul."

<sup>22</sup> And the hand of the LORD was upon me there. And he said to me, "Arise, go out into the valley,<sup>[b]</sup> and there I will speak with you." <sup>23</sup> So I arose and went out into the valley, and behold, the glory of the LORD stood there, like the glory that I had seen by the Chebar canal, and I fell on my face. <sup>24</sup> But the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and he spoke with me and said to me, "Go, shut yourself within your house. <sup>25</sup> And you, O son of man, behold, cords will be placed upon you, and you shall be bound with them, so that you cannot go out among the people. <sup>26</sup> And I will make your tongue cling to the roof of your mouth, so that you shall be mute and unable to reprove them, for they are a rebellious house. <sup>27</sup> But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD.' He who will hear, let him hear; and he who will refuse to hear, let him refuse, for they are a rebellious house."

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

If we are abiding as Christ has revealed to us, how are we to pray and thus speak? What does this mean regarding the process of abiding and then praying? Why is this so important to our receiving the promises of God through our prayer life?

**Read John 15:7-8:**

<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**As we learned about abiding, if we pray according to His will, what does that mean God must do? In addition, what must we do? Why is speaking so critical to the process? What then can we expect as we follow this process?**

**Read 1 John 5:14–15:**

<sup>14</sup> And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

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**As we are learning how to hear, receive, and follow God's will, what privilege does God give us to confirm and know His will? How then does this work practically for us? What power does this bring to us in our situations? Why?**

**Read Matthew 18:18–20:**

<sup>18</sup> Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed<sup>[a]</sup> in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**As we grow in our prayer life through abiding and understanding God's will, what are we called to speak to? What does that mean? How does this work practically for us? What is also important regarding the issue of unforgiveness? Why?**

## **Read Mark 11:20–25:**

The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree

<sup>20</sup> As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. <sup>21</sup> And Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." <sup>22</sup> And Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup> Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received<sup>[a]</sup> it, and it will be yours. <sup>25</sup> And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."<sup>[b]</sup>

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# LESSON 3: HOW WE ARE TO LEARN TO SPEAK AS PROPHETS AND EXERCISE GOD'S AUTHORITY INTO OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTO OTHER'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

**As we are called to teach others what we are learning, what does it mean that we are God's fragrance? What does that mean? How will others react to us being God's fragrance, and how should we respond to these reactions? Why is this so important in our role of serving the body?**

## **Read 2 Corinthians 2:14–3:6:**

<sup>14</sup> But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. <sup>15</sup> For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, <sup>16</sup> to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? <sup>17</sup> For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

### Ministers of the New Covenant

**3** Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you? <sup>2</sup> You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our<sup>[a]</sup> hearts, to be known and read by all. <sup>3</sup> And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. <sup>5</sup> Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, <sup>6</sup> who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

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