

THE NEW WINE

& the

New Wine Skin

Revival Training and Equipping

Teaching Session Notes taken from January 2023

SHILOH Apostolic Training School

REVIVAL MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

This Manual has been compiled with shorthand notes from each publicly taught session of the SHILOH International Training School, January 2023.

These notes can help as an aid with the CDs or DVDs or USB for each session or they can be used as a guide to study the topics and verses mentioned.

This manual is also invaluable as a teaching aid for you to teach directly from the Scriptures, with the help of these notes. All the sessions from the school are available on You Tube and Spreaker, and can be accessed from RMA website.

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Revival Ministries Australia
An apostolic ministry to the nations**

Our mandate:

- Making disciples, Matt. 28:18-20,
- Training & equipping workers for the harvest,
Matt.9:37–10:40, Lu.10:1-20
- Bringing the church to maturity by fathering sons, Gal.4:10
& 1Cor.4:14-17

This manual is available for use in all churches and Christian ministries

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THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

Grace to make known the mystery

Ephesians 3:3-4

- Paul received a special grace from God to make known the mystery
- It is the mystery of Christ
- This was the 'solar plexis' [core part] of Paul's teaching
- "Mystery" means "hidden wisdom" – the unveiling of that which was not known
- **v.5** - this mystery was not made known in other ages as it has now been made known by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets

Peter got the revelation

Matthew 16:16-18

- Peter got the revelation – "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God"
- Peter had a revelation from the Father in heaven that Jesus was the promised Messiah, God manifesting in the flesh

JESUS reveals Himself as I AM

Matthew 14:23

- After the feeding of the five thousand – Jesus was disappointed that His disciples were not 'getting it', they had not understood (**Mark 6:52**)
- Jesus sent them across the Lake in the night and He came walking on the water in the last watch of the night
- **v.27** - Jesus actually said literally, "Take courage, I AM"
- He did not say, "It is I"
- He was revealing Himself as the great I AM
- **v.28** - Peter realised what He said, and Peter says, "Lord, if You are, command me to come"; Peter believed that if Jesus was the I AM, he could also walk on the water
- **v.32-33** – when they got into the boat, those in the boat came and "worshiped" Jesus; you do not worship a man
- **Matt.4:10** – even Jesus said to worship God, Yahweh, only
- **Rev.19:10** – only worship God
- up until this time the disciples were failing to get the full revelation of who Jesus was – now they "worshiped Him"; they called Him the "Son of God"

To "worship" means to prostrate oneself in homage – in the Old Testament the word for "worship" is a physical act.

Testimony of John the Baptist

- **Isaiah 40:3** is quoted four times in the gospels
- It is referring to the ministry of John the Baptist
- "Prepare the way of YAHWEH" [the LORD]

i. Matthew 3:3

- Speaking of John the Baptist – “Prepare the way of the LORD (YAHWEH)”
- John the Baptist was sent to prepare the way for YAHWEH
- Jesus was YAHWEH in the flesh

ii. Mark 1:3

- “Prepare the way of the LORD (YAHWEH)”

iii. Luke 3:4

- “Prepare the way of the LORD (YAHWEH)”
- YAHWEH is the God who revealed His name to Moses in the burning bush –

Exodus 3:1-14

iv. John 1:23

- “Make straight the way of the LORD (YAHWEH)”

**John the Baptist was sent to prepare the way for Yahweh, God,
to come in the flesh!**

Believe in the Son of God

John 20:30-31

- These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name
- This is why John wrote his gospel

John 9:35-38

- Jesus asked the man who had been born blind, ‘Do you believe in the Son of God?’ - This is the core revelation that Jesus wants us to come to
- **John 1:12-13** – we are to receive Him, the Son of God
- The man answered, ‘Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?’ This man was ready to take a big step of faith to believe in who Jesus is
- Jesus said, ‘You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you’.
- The man replied, ‘Lord, I believe’. And he worshiped Him (Jesus)!
- The man worshiped Jesus because He believed that He was the Son of God, God in the flesh!

The Word was God

- **John 1:1** - In the beginning was the Word
- The Word was with God; The Word was God [Literally ‘God was the Word’]
- **v.2** - The Word was in the beginning
- **v.3** - All things made through Him
- **v.4** - Word is the Life
- **v.10** - Word came into the world
- **v.12** - Word is to be received
- **v.14** - Word became flesh and dwelt among us - this is the Son of God!
- **v.18** – the Son who is in the bosom of the Father, declares the Father

The Mystery of God

Colossians 2:1-2

- Apostle Paul was very concerned about Colossians and Laodiceans to make sure the saints get the revelation of Christ, and understand the mystery of God
- Mystery of God is both of the Father and of Christ
- Most modern versions take the word "Father" out of this verse
- The mystery is of the Father and of Christ
- Do not get put in a box about what you believe about God, it is a mystery, it is of the Father and of Christ

All the fulness of the Godhead dwells in Christ

Colossians 2:9

- For in Christ dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily
- Paul warned us about Greek philosophies, traditions of men etc.
- All the fullness of God is in Christ; All that is God, divine, is in Christ
- **Colossians 1:19** – all the fullness was pleased to dwell in Christ
- **2 Corinthians 5:19** – God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself – all of God, not just a part.

In the doctrine of Christ, we have the Father and the Son

2 John 9-11

- If you do not abide in the doctrine of Christ, you do not have God
- If we abide in the doctrine of Christ, we have the Father and the Son
- We are to believe that Jesus is the Christ
- We have the Father and the Son if we have Christ
- Jesus is found in the bosom of the Father and the Father is found in Christ
- **John 10:30** – The Father and I, One
- The revelation of the Father is in Christ
- **John 14:9** – He who has seen Me has seen the Father – seeing Jesus is seeing the Father

Thomas called Jesus 'My Lord and my God'

John 20:27-28

- Jesus said to Thomas, 'Do not be unbelieving, but believing'
- Thomas answered "My Lord and my God"
- Thomas called Jesus, "God"
- Thomas was only going to believe if he could see with his eyes and touch Jesus with his hands
- Jesus came and gave him that experience

Peter believed in who Jesus was

2 Peter 1:1b

- To those who have obtained like (the same as) precious faith with us
- By the righteousness of our God and Saviour, Jesus Christ
- Jesus Christ is the God and Saviour – this is the faith, the like precious faith of Peter

When we get into the revelation of the Word we stop talking about theologies, denominations but just want to talk about Jesus

Paul knew who Jesus was

Titus 2:13

- Paul had the same faith as Peter – like us
- The great God and Saviour of us, Jesus Christ
- Paul's faith is in the great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ

- Who is the God and Saviour? - **Isaiah 43:3a**
- I am Yahweh your God ... your Saviour
- Yahweh is the God and Saviour
- Jesus Christ is the God and Saviour

Jesus said, 'Before Abraham was, I AM'

John 8:58

- The Jews were arguing with Jesus and getting nasty
- Jesus told them if they were truly the seed of Abraham they would not be against Jesus
- Jesus declared that before Abraham was (existed), I AM
- The Jews went for the rocks and stones to kill Him (**v.59**), because they heard Him say I AM.

The origin of the name "I AM"

Exodus 3:2

- Angel of Yahweh appeared in a flame of fire in the midst of the bush
- "Angel" means "Messenger" - the **Angel of Yahweh** appears
- **v.4 - Yahweh** saw; **God** called
- **v.6 - the God of your fathers** ... of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
- Moses afraid to look upon **God**

- Who is the Angel of Yahweh?
- Who is Yahweh?
- Who is God?

It is all the same person – this is the mystery of God

- **v.13** – Moses asks 'What is Your Name'
- **v.14** - "I AM who I AM"; "I AM has sent me to you"

This is the revelation

- This is where **John 8:58** comes from – Jesus said, "I AM"
- God said to Moses, "I AM who I AM"

- The self-revelation of God – Jesus walks in this revelation
- Jesus called Himself "I AM" twenty times in the book of John alone

I am in the Father and the Father is in Me - John 14:9-10

- Jesus still struggling to give that revelation to His disciples
- He who seen Me, has seen the Father
- I am in the Father, and the Father in Me
- Father dwells in Me

THE LORD YOUR GOD - Deuteronomy 28:58

- Fear this glorious and awesome name
- Yahweh your God (LORD your God)
- The great I AM

There is a revelation of the Son of God in Hebrews chapter one

- This is a description, a revelation and disclosure of who the Son of God is.
- There are 15 descriptions of Jesus, the Son
- **1:2** - God speaks through the Son in the last days

- **1:8** - "But to the Son, He (God) says, "Your Throne O God is forever..."
- The Son is God who has a Throne, a kingdom

- **1:10** - Still speaking to the Son
- "You, Yahweh (LORD), laid the foundations of the earth"
- We are to only believe what the Scriptures say

The Mystery of Godliness

1 Timothy 3:16 - without controversy – argument

- Great is the mystery of Godliness
 - God was manifested in the flesh – the eternal One, God became a man
 - Justified in the Spirit
 - Seen by angels
 - Preached among the Gentiles
 - Believed on in the world
 - Received up in glory!!

**Can we properly preach and teach the mystery of Christ
– and make it known?**

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

We need to come to know the Kingdom

- We need to know the kingdom,
 - to preach the kingdom,
 - to see the kingdom of God come on earth,
 - to experience the kingdom of God more and more.
- Holy Spirit reveal the kingdom of God to us and enable us to enter more fully into it today.

Kingdom has to do with 'Government'

- **Isa.9:6-7** - The name of the Son of God will be called 'Wonderful' – He is the One who will show us the way we should go
- He is the Councillor
- He is the Mighty God – El Gibor – the champion.
- He is the Everlasting Father
- He is the Prince of Peace
- And of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end.
- 'The Government' – kingdom has to do with government, it has to do with dominion.
- The Gospel of the kingdom is the good news that His government has no end, it is expanding throughout the whole earth.

- The Gospel is to get you to be obedient to the King
- You can live by a whole new government, no longer under the sway of the devil. You are in a new kingdom, with a whole new government

Created to have dominion

Genesis 1:27 – God created man and woman in His own image.

- To have the character and nature of God
- **v.28** – 'have dominion over the earth' – God created man to have dominion. To exercise rulership over the earth
- God's rulership will come in the earth through the man whom God created
- We were created to have dominion
- So that the earth becomes what God created it to be

We are in the days of the increase of His government.

Daniel 2:34-35 – God is a God who reveals mysteries and secrets

- 'the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth'
- Jesus is the stone, and His kingdom will fill the whole earth

In the New Testament – the kingdom is here, we can access the reality of it, the kingdom of God is at hand.

Luke 1:32-33 – the angel told Mary that Jesus would have a throne, that He will reign, and His kingdom will be forever, there will be no end; Jesus will always be KING

Understanding the Kingdom

1. Preaching the Kingdom

Luke 4:17-19 – Jesus quoted from the **book of Isaiah**

- Jesus anointed to preach; heal; proclaim; recovery of sight; set at liberty
- Jesus is looking for a people who are convinced that this Scripture is for us today
- The reading was a proclamation – there is an anointing on each one of us, the same anointing that Jesus had
- The presence and power of the Holy Spirit will enable us to do what Jesus would have us to do
- We need that anointing to empower us to help people be set free
- **v.21** Jesus said 'Today, this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing!'
- Prophecy comes to pass – the word becomes flesh and gets established in the earth.
- Some would think 'how arrogant!' – we could be accused of this
- We need to believe the word of God and to speak it – as it is written
- **v.28** – many became angry

Luke 4:42-43 – Jesus said 'I must preach the kingdom of God'

- We are to preach the kingdom of God
- When we preach the kingdom of God, the kingdom of God begins to manifest

Luke 8:1 – to preach the gospel of the kingdom, is to proclaim that there is a King, who is ruling now.

- Jesus is the One who owns the land, all the people and the land belong to God – we must proclaim the truth
- It is time for people to repent, change their mind and turn to God and receive the kingdom
- Jesus went through the cities and villages preaching the kingdom
The good news of the kingdom – the King has good things for you

Luke 9:1-2 – Jesus was raising up others

- He gave them power and authority over all demons
- We have been given the same power and authority today

2. The signs of the kingdom:

- To preach the kingdom and cast out demons.
- To heal the sick

Luke 9:11 – ‘healed those who had need of healing’ – preach the kingdom and heal the sick – we are to rise up in faith

- One of the main signs of the kingdom was to heal the sick
- **Luke 10:9** – Jesus said ‘heal the sick ... say the kingdom of God has come near to you’
- This is our commission also – to preach the kingdom and to heal the sick
- Wherever we are, we can be a representative of the kingdom of God
- This is walking in the dominion that we have been given

3. The inheritance of the kingdom

Luke 6:20 – the kingdom of God belongs to the poor – knowing that we need Jesus, and we need Him to take rulership in our lives

- When you receive Jesus, you receive the King
- The one with all authority is living in you

Luke 12:32 – ‘it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom’

- It is our Father’s good pleasure, to give you a place of rulership
- The Kingdom can be given

Luke 18:16-17 – receive the kingdom of God as a little child

- Take hold of it, it is a gift from our Father

4. The fulfillment of the Kingdom

Hebrews 12:28 - We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken

- we are to represent the Kingdom of God.
- The way that the kingdom comes, is to send you into the situation.
- You are the representative of the King in the situation that He is sending you into.
- Do not give in to fear. Jesus is the King and He never changes.
- Call on His name and the kingdom will come.

Luke 16:16 ‘the law and the prophets was **until** John’ – but now the Kingdom has come

- The faith that we have is accessing the kingdom, the kingdom is here whether we see it or not, because it has come
- The realities of the kingdom are in us by faith – the King is in us
- As people receive you, they receive the King and the kingdom
- Now the kingdom is God has been proclaimed, and everyone is pressing into it!
- Peter was given the keys of the kingdom
- The first key is the preaching of the kingdom, because Jesus has all authority over sickness and disease
- The preaching opens the eyes of the blind to see who Jesus is

5. Seeing the Kingdom

Luke 9:27 – what does the kingdom of God look like?

- **v.28-31** – the transfiguration of Jesus – the kingdom looked like seeing Jesus in all of His glory
- You need to be born again to see the kingdom of God (**John 3:3**)

Luke 17:20-21 – Don't look to the world for the kingdom of God

- The kingdom of God is within you, or in your midst
- Jesus was in the midst; we need to recognise the King in the midst
- Christ is now in us, the King is in us.

**The kingdom of God is here right now.
We are representatives of that kingdom.**

THE CALL

1) To be saved

- **Mark 1:15** – The kingdom of God is at hand, repent and believe in the gospel

→ How do we get saved?

a) By being born again

- **John 1:12-13** – you are not born again because your parents are born again (not of blood), not because others around you want you to be born again (not of the will of the flesh) – but by being **born of God**
- If we receive Jesus, the Word, we will be born of God
- We receive Him once we have “believed” in Him
- It is by believing and receiving Jesus that you are born of God

b) Baptism

- **Mark 16:15-16** - He who believes and is baptised will be saved
- **Matthew 28:19** - Jesus commanded - make disciples of all nations, baptising them into the name

❖ The call of God brings us from being unbelievers to being saved, including baptism

c) Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit

- **Acts 2:38** – repent, believe, be baptised, and receive the Holy Spirit
- This is coming into full salvation.
- **Acts 1:8** When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will receive power to be a witness

2) Discipleship and Training

- When Jesus was baptised, the heavens opened, the Spirit of God came upon Him, and the voice declared Him to be the Son of God
- His growing up years was His discipleship, overseen by God
- Jesus was finished His discipleship at the age of 30 – He was discipled by God
- At 30 Jesus received the inheritance as a Son
- Jesus was tempted by Satan for forty days and nights
- Jesus then came out of the wilderness filled with the power of the Holy Spirit (**Luke 4:14**)
- Jesus then began to preach the kingdom of God and minister in power

Three important questions to lead someone to Jesus

- a) Do you believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God?
- b) Do you believe Jesus Christ died on the Cross to take away your sins?
- c) Will you receive Jesus into your life now?

New believers need to be disciplined

- discipleship is to establish the believer on the right foundations
- **Hebrews 6:1-2** – learn and understand the six foundations that establish us in Christ, being taught the elementary principles

Disciplined in the Word and in the Spirit

- **John 5:39** – if you search the Scriptures with the right heart you will find Jesus
- The church is a bunch of believers gathering together to worship, to sing, to touch Jesus in the Spirit, to hear His word, manifest gifts
- We need a hunger for the Word of God
- Be taught how to study the Word using a concordance

The Example of Paul in Acts 19

- Church life and gospel life is full of fun, challenge, wrestling, exposing false doctrine and false practice

Setting foundations in order

- **v.1** – Paul came to Ephesus, found some disciples
- **v.2-3** - these disciples had not heard of the Holy Spirit (**Acts 16:6** – Paul was forbidden at that time to preach the word in Asia – Ephesus)
- some years later Paul is in Asia, Ephesus, now to share the gospel
- Paul found some disciples that were not “Christian” disciples
- They had not received nor heard of the Holy Spirit
- “Into what then were you baptised?” – they were baptised into John’s baptism – today is a bit like a denominational baptism
- **v.4** - Paul shared that they were to believe in Jesus Christ
- **v.5** - when they heard this, they were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus
- the apostolic minister is bringing a vital correction to these disciples’ foundations
- **v.6** - When Paul laid hands on them, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues and prophesied
- what happened here was a “re-baptism” or the real baptism now based upon true faith in Jesus the Messiah
- “laying on of hands” = foundation number 4 (**Heb.6:1-2**)
- **v.7** - there were 12 disciples – foundational number for the church to be established in Ephesus (needed to be 12 in **Acts 1-2**)

Discipleship

- **v.8-10** - Paul went to the Synagogue and spoke boldly for three months about the kingdom of God
- being a good disciple can cause problems in the church; can cause a division
- when problems arose, Paul withdrew the disciples and opened a discipleship school to reason daily in the School of Tyrannus; the disciples continued with Paul!
- Paul was ‘reasoning daily’ in the School of Tyrannus; and probably met in the houses during the evening

- the result of the discipleship school was that the whole region of Asia (a province of the Roman Empire of which Ephesus was capital) heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks
- Paul remained in Ephesus while disciples were going out to take the word around the province; going out, and coming back for further training.

The power of the Holy Spirit was manifest

- **Acts 19:11-12** - tremendous evidence of the power of the Holy Spirit at work even handkerchiefs that were prayed over caused healing and deliverance from evil spirits.
- revival is attested to by "unusual miracles", unusual works of power
- **v.13-14** - there were a category of people called "exorcists" – to get demons out they saw what Paul did and tried to do the same – "in the name of Jesus whom Paul preaches"
- they were not born again, they did not know Jesus, they did not know His power and authority
- we all need to personally come to know our authority in Jesus
- **v.15** - the demon said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are you?"
- you cannot copy others, you need to know Jesus and His authority for yourself
- evil spirits caused a lot of trouble
- **v.16-17** - the man in whom was the demon beat the men up
- then fear came upon everyone and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified; [**Acts 3:6** – if you know the Lord Jesus Christ you have authority to trample on serpents and scorpions – **Luke 10:19**]
- **v.19** - those who practiced magic came and burnt their books, charms and objects (all their occult items – fetishes, idols etc..) which was worth a lot of money
- this is revival
- **v.20** - the word of the Lord "grew mightily and prevailed"

Ministries and churches need to cater for new believers

- Many do not talk about baptism, being filled with the Holy Spirit, getting right foundations
- Do not be governed by a "church" that is not given to following the Word of God as it is written
- Lead new believers to full foundations in Christ Jesus
- Goal of discipleship is to raise trained workers for the harvest, able to be sent out to do the work of ministry
- There needs to be training and equipping
- Mostly people who want to minister have to go Bible School for 3 to 6 years, pay lots of school fees and get degrees of theology – but they very often do not actually know the Word of God

Discipleship includes training and equipping

- We have sought to make disciples
- We do this by teaching the Word of God – but it is more than this
- We offer training and equipping
- Disciples need practical experience in 'how to'
 - how to do the teaching,
 - how to function,
 - how to minister in gifts
 - how to put into practice what they have been taught

**Jesus said to make disciples, teaching them to observe
Matthew 28:20**

SALVATION

A journey to know the Father

The gospel is not a gospel of "re-location" (to heaven) but of "revelation" (of the Father)
We are to enter into this salvation now, not to imagine what it will be like later

The Father is 'above all' - Ephesians 4:6

- There is One God and Father of all, who is above all, through all and in you all
- This letter is written to believers
- The Father is above all – He has everything in His hand, all authority
- The Father is through all
- you can see Him through His creation, His mark is on it all
- The Father is in you all – knowing our Father in salvation is like a sun dawning, there is a growing revelation of this taking place in our lives, it causes us to walk as sons of God

Only one way to come to the Father - John 14:6

- Jesus said, I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me
- Salvation is a journey to know your Father
- Jesus is the Way to know the Father
- Jesus, the Son, is a revelation of the Father
- As you see the Son, you see the Father

Jesus, the Son, makes the Father known - John 1:18

- No one has seen God at any time
- The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him
- The Son is in the bosom of the Father – the most intimate and close place
- From that place Jesus was sent into the world to declare the Father, to make Him known, to take the veil off

Jesus is the revelation of the Father - John 8:42

- Jesus proceeded forth and came from God
- If God is your Father you will love Jesus – because Jesus is a revelation of the Father
- Do not put God into a box of your own understanding
- Jesus said He did not come of Himself – not separately,
- He was in the bosom of the Father, He 'proceeded forth and came from God'
- Father and Jesus are One (**John 10:30**)

We can come to know the Father - 1 John 2:12-14

- This Scripture speaks of spiritual stages, levels of maturity in a family
- Little children, young men, and fathers
- In the family of God when you are born again you are a babe in Christ
- Little children – know their sins are forgiven, **know the Father**
- Fathers – **know Him who is from the beginning**
- Young men – overcome the wicked one
- Even from a little child we know we have a Father in heaven and we are to grow in knowing Him
- We are to nurture ourselves in the relationship with our Father – security, identity and purpose are found there

If you know Jesus; you can know the Father - John 14:7

- If you had known Jesus you would know the Father
- You know Him and have seen Him
- **v.8** - Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."
- there is a growing expectation to know the Father
- **v.9** - we may have been with Jesus for so long but have we come to know Him
- Philip believed in Jesus, but He still did not really understand who He was
- Jesus said to Philip, 'He who has seen Me has seen the Father'!!
- Jesus and the Father are not separate – Look at Jesus and you see the Father
- Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me?

Eternal Life is being with the Father - 1 John 1:1-4

- Fathers know Him who is from the beginning (**1Jn.2:13-14**)
- "That which was from the beginning" - the Word of Life
- The Life was manifested
- We have seen and bear witness and declare that eternal life that was with the Father - Eternal Life is being with the Father!
- We were created to walk with Him and be with Him
- Jesus came to show that eternal life
- Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ
- Joy comes from this fellowship – this is a joy that world cannot give and cannot take away
- The fruit of this fellowship is joy

"I go to the Father" - John 16:16-24

- Jesus was going to the cross, death, then to rise and ascend to the Father
- They would not see Him for a little while and then they will see Him again
- The world would rejoice at Jesus being crucified
- The sorrow of the disciples will be turned to joy, like a pregnant mother giving birth
- Jesus said, "I will see you again"
- Something being birthed, you will rejoice
- The joy no one will take from you – the joy of knowing the Father and the Son
- In that day of coming to know your Father – Jesus said you will not ask Him but you can talk directly with the Father

We can talk to the Father – John 16:26-27

- He is our Father, our God
- Jesus will not pray to the Father for us, but we can talk to the Father
- Father Himself loves us because we love Jesus
- we have the love of the Father
- Jesus said we will enter a relationship where we see the Father in the Son and talk to the Father ourself

The Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit - 1 John 5:7

- There are three that bear witness in heaven
- Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit
- These three are one
- The Father reveals Himself in the Word (**1 John 1:1-3**)
- We will receive the Holy Spirit from the Father in the name of Jesus
- We need the Spirit of His Son poured out in our hearts

The Spirit causes us to cry out “Abba, Father” - Galatians 4:4-7

- We were redeemed to receive the adoption (the placement) as sons
- We receive the Spirit of His Son into our hearts to cry, “Abba, Father”
- The journey of knowing the Father is like a rising sun, dawning – it grows
- It is a deep cry – the depths of the riches of wisdom and knowledge of God
- We enter a fellowship where there is so much joy in our heart

Come to know your Father!
There is more! We are to walk in the more!

REVIVAL IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

- **The whole book of Acts is a book of revival!**

Signs, wonders, miracles accompany Revival

The healing of the lame man – Acts chapter 3

- **v.5** - the man expected to receive something from Peter and John
- **v.6** - Peter said '**what I have I give you**' – he knew what/who was inside of him
- Peter was aware of the Holy Spirit inside of him
- Peter proclaims, '**In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk**'
- God uses the signs and wonders to bring about **revival**.
- Peter operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit was able to release healing, he had that confidence to know something would happen!

The healing made way for the gospel to be preached

- **Acts 3:11-26** – Peter begins to preach in the context of the healing of the lame man; he had a platform and was able to speak
- The gifts make way for the gospel to be proclaimed
- Peter had been well trained by Jesus – he knew what to do
- **John 17:18** Jesus said that the disciples were ready to be sent
- The disciples had been trained by Jesus and were ready to be sent
- We need the training so we can be sent
- The miracle brought about more **revival** (**Acts 4:4**)

Revival brings refreshing and restoration

- **Acts 3:19** – 'Times of refreshing' – refreshing is revival, to have breath again, to be revived
- We are in the times of refreshing. God is releasing revival among us again
- We have received the word, foundations have been laid, we are being trained
- It is time for a refreshing, to breath on what we have been taught, so that we know what to share
- Revival is in the context of preparing us for the coming of the Lord (**v.20**)
- Jesus will come in the midst of great **revival**
- People are free, in love with Jesus, experiencing His presence
- **Revival** brings restoration (**v.21**)
- Revival is being involved in whatever God is doing – Jesus said 'I only do what I see My Father do'

Empowered by the Holy Spirit

- **Acts 1:4-5** – Jesus promised the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- We need to be empowered by the Holy Spirit
- Empowered to be witnesses by the supernatural power of God (**v.8**)
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit will be released
- God is helping us to seek His face to release revival

The coming of the Holy Spirit released boldness

- **Acts 2:1** – all in one accord in one place – suddenly ...
- When the Holy Spirit came, everything changed for those in the upper room
- **v.3-4** – **‘they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues’**
- Filled with joy – what **Joel** spoke of was happening! They were part of history being made – we can be part of history being made in our day!
- God is the same yesterday, today and forever!
- The coming of the Holy Spirit with signs on the Day of Pentecost, again provided a platform for the gospel to be shared

Peter knew what to do

- **Acts 2:36** – Peter preaching, after showing from the Old Testament Scriptures proving who Jesus was, then said **“God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ”**
- Peter knew what to do, he knew what to answer when he was asked **‘what shall we do’ v.37.**
- Repent – change your mind; be baptised in the name of Jesus the Christ; you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit

People were ‘revived’

- **v.41** – 3000 people responded on that day, they were affected greatly by the anointing and obeyed the preaching Peter
- **v.42** – they continued steadfastly ... [the first works of the church]
- stay in the anointing by doing the first works: apostles’ doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayers
- **v.44** – all were together, and had all things in common
- it is a **daily revival**, this revival is house to house,

There will be opposition

- **Acts 4:1** – not everyone loves revival – the religious police came on the scene!
- It is the same today the religious ones will want to stop the revival
- They did not see the miracle that had happened, they were just concerned about the words that the disciples were preaching
- God wants to release life in us. To preach the resurrection
- **v.4** – however there were many who believed. Whatever happens don’t get intimidated
- **v.8** – Peter gets filled again with the Holy Spirit – he remained in the revival; there is a boldness that comes with the Holy Spirit
- Peter spoke the truth of the gospel – he lifted up the name of Jesus
- Proclaim the name of Jesus publicly, declaring who He is
- It brings victory over fear, stay in the boldness of the Holy Spirit

Pray for boldness

- **v.23** – they went to their own companions – learn to stay in the fellowship; be part of the fellowship with the saints/brethren
- **v.24** – they raised their voice to God – it releases the anointing,

- being led by the Spirit in their prayers, praying from the Old Testament Scriptures that were quickened to them; named those who were coming against them
- **v.29-30** – the more that the evil comes against us, we ask for boldness – speak the truth of the word and to see signs and miracles happening
- God answered and filled them with the Holy Spirit again
- they spoke with boldness – **Greek** '*parrhesia*' means 'with outspokenness; with freedom of speech; opposite of timidity or fear, a clear explanation of the gospel'
- this boldness is the result of being filled with the Holy Spirit
- **v.32** - the result was that the multitude of believers were of one heart and one mind: all of one accord again
- **v.33** – great power and great grace: **revival brings power and grace**

Chapter five – brings a warning

- **Acts 5:3** – do not lie to the Holy Spirit
- Revival can be dangerous, when the glory of God is manifest in the midst, there is holiness, light, evil is exposed
- Judgement is swift; the judgement produced fear on those who heard (**v.11**)

The result was that signs of revival increased among them

- **v.12-13** – signs and wonders were done through the hands of the apostles
- **v.14** – believers were increasing – this is **revival**
- **v.15-16** – people were being healed even by Peter's shadow
- the Holy Spirit overshadows, and the kingdom of heaven is being revealed on the earth

Revival breaks through mindsets and culture

- **Acts 10** – one man who believes in Jesus, and gives himself to prayer and fasting; a supernatural thing happens – an angel appeared
- when the move of God is happening there is angelic activity
- expect that a messenger of God may come
- the messenger gives instructions to Cornelius
- Peter was prepared by the Holy Spirit to go to the house of Cornelius
- Peter obeys and goes to the house
- **Revival** breaks through mindsets, culture
- Peter has the platform to preach – he preaches Jesus
- The Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the preaching
- The gift of the Holy Spirit was for the Gentiles also – the Jews were amazed
- Peter then commanded baptism; they invited him to stay more days with them
- **This is revival**, it broke through Peter's plans and mindsets, and brought change

We want to be in the way of the first apostles, obeying the Holy Spirit

Be prepared to go where the Holy Spirit sends you
Stay in revival, be involved in whatever God is doing
Be trained so that you can be used by God

DO NOT SAY, 'A CONSPIRACY'

Many are chasing after conspiracies!

- This is a current, relevant word for us today!
- Many are chasing after conspiracies, there are many conspiracy theories going around that take people away from the word of God
- People need to research the word of God, rather than looking into the conspiracy theories
- In general there is very little knowledge of the word of God
- People will say that they know Jesus, but they have so little knowledge of the word of God

There is a lack of true 'shepherds'

- **Jer.3:15** – those who will feed His people with knowledge and understanding
- Faith is shallow, but God wants people who are established in the word of God
- **Matthew 9:36** – Jesus saw the multitudes – these were religious people
- They were weary, scattered like people having no shepherd

DISCIPLESHIP IS THE KEY

- The message of discipleship needs to be preached everywhere!
- Whole of life discipleship – to fit in with Jesus' mission
- What are His priorities?
- Put God in front of everything, and fit our life in with that
- **Matt.28:18-20** – Jesus gave the commission to '**go and make disciples**'
- Teaching them to observe – demonstrate; show how to put in to practice
- Do not be trapped into trying to 'build a church'
- Discipleship equips us to know and speak the word of God

A disciple hears the voice and God and knows how to speak

- **Isa.50:4** – '**The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of the learned**'
- '*learned*' means '*disciple*'
- Yahweh has given me the tongue of a disciple – so we will know how to speak
- The word is in you to deliver to anyone
- The life of a disciple is learning to hear the voice of God
- Morning by morning He awakens my ear – what has my Father got to say to me.
- 'to hear as the disciple'

A disciple needs to be taught

- **Isa.1:17** - '**learn to do good**'
- '*learn*' is the Hebrew word '*lamad*' meaning 'to goad, to teach with a rod. To teach by prodding'
- Discipleship is to teach by prodding
- Be taught to do good, be disciplined by doing good

We will be taught by Yahweh

- **Isa.2:3-4** – He will teach us His ways, we will walk in His paths
- That is discipleship
- The Law – is the instruction
- They shall not **learn** war anymore – same word as for disciple.
- Not be discipled to make war anymore – discipleship can change the whole world

Discipleship is a lifestyle

- **Isa.29:24** - learn doctrine
- Be discipled in the doctrine, be taught doctrine
- That is what will save those who have complained
- Discipleship is a lifestyle
- People can be drawn to us when they see our way of life
- Read His word, so that you can hear from God, this is a daily practice

Come out of this perverse generation

- **Acts 2:40** – Peter said 'be saved from this perverse generation'
- Come out from among this generation and be part of this chosen generation
- **v.47** – The Lord added to those who were being saved
- Discipleship establishes you in the vision
- The word for 'fellowship' (**Acts 2:46**) *koinonia* – means 'sharing, unity close association, partnership, a society'
- We are part of a whole new society
- A society of disciples – who have the mind of Christ together
- The way in is to repent, be baptised, receive the Holy Spirit

Beware of the pitfalls and distractions

- There has been a rise of conspiracy theories.
- Don't get caught in areas that have no life
- There is an error of thinking that this is the truth
- You can have all the facts, but still not have the truth
- **The truth is a person – Jesus**
- The right wing of politics is not Christian – do not get confused
- If it is not coming from God, it is not eternal and it will not last
- Not everything that looks good is of God
- People feed on information rather than on the word of God
- So they 'warn' their brothers and sisters – the information they share is full of fear, and brings a demonic revelation
- A true prophetic word comes from God; is when you hear from God
- Do not be deceived, be led by the Spirit of God
- He will keep us from falling into traps or pitfalls
- When you have a heart for God, He leads you, even if you are not aware of it.

The truth of the word will give us hope

- **Rom.15:4** – things written are for our learning ... that we might have hope
- They are for our hope
- Those who follow conspiracy theories do not preach hope, they promote fear

- We are called to preach the kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ
- The apostles in the New Testament preached Christ, they preached the good news of the gospel
- Don't get stuck in Babylon!
- We are meant to be strengthening the souls of the disciples
- We are from a different kingdom.

Conspiracies promote fear

- **Isa.8:11** – Isaiah living in a time where there were many 'scary' things happening
- A strong word from God, He 'instructed me not to walk in the way of this people'!
- **v.12** – do not say a conspiracy! Stop being fearful, and stop promoting fear, instead promote faith in Jesus Christ
- We have Jesus Christ – He is in us the hope of glory
- Jesus is ruling and reigning today, He is the Head over all things
- Do not get caught in sharing conspiracies
- **v.13** – let Yahweh be your fear, let Him be your dread
- Do not fear the evil, but hallow His awesome power and authority

Put your trust in God – fear Him

- **Matt.10:26-28** – get your priorities right – fear God
- We are to live the kingdom way
- Learn the way of life that is in the kingdom – can even be in prison
- No matter where we are we can speak for Jesus

Come to Jesus

- **Rev.2:24** – letter to the church in Thyatira
- The false prophetess shared the 'depths of satan' – only promotes fear
- Listen to the conspiracies and you can't see Jesus anymore
- The spirit of Jezebel draws you away from Jesus, this spirit deceives people, the focus comes on to the devil rather than Jesus
- The key is to bring people to Jesus – He is the one who will deliver
- He is the one who will heal
- We need to come to Jesus, the Holy Spirit will reveal when things need to be dealt with

We need to be disciples

- **Isa.8:14** – Yahweh is the stone of stumbling and rock of offense – in the New Testament it is Jesus (**1Pet.2:6-7**)
- Jesus is the living Stone; we need to be built on Him
- **v.16** – bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples
- Give yourself to discipleship – make more disciples
- Fear Yahweh of Hosts; wait on Yahweh, listen to Him
- Our hope is in Him

**v.18 - we are for signs and wonders!
Do not say a conspiracy – get into discipleship!**

DISCOVERING JESUS, THE I AM

- For centuries this mystery has been hidden
- There are actually 23 mentions of Jesus as the "I AM" in John's gospel
- There are seven wonderful signs in John's gospel that are revealing who Jesus is
- Our view of Jesus is to be magnified

Jesus the I AM, in the Book of John

1. John 8:58 – Before Abraham was, I AM

- This is the primary "I AM" statement of Jesus in John's the gospel
- It is not the first mention but is the primary confession of Jesus
- This one can definitely not be hidden
- "Before Abraham was, I AM" - the people wanted to stone Him – (v.59)
- Jesus openly proclaimed His Godhead - Jesus was saying, I AM God
- This was blaspheme to the religious leaders; so they took up stones to kill Him
- They knew Jesus was saying that He was the same One who appeared to Moses in the burning bush (**Exodus 3:14**)
- The name – What is the name of the One who sends me (Moses was asking)
- Not enough to say the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – what is His name?
- The name is not "Father, Son and Holy Spirit" – the Godhead is fully revealed in the name of JESUS – we need to know His Name! (**Phil.2:9-11**)
- 'I AM' translates into the revealed name in the OLD Testament, YHWH, Yahweh
- His name is I AM
- Jesus is the Eternal ONE; what Jesus is saying in **John 8:58** is "He is without beginning, the ever-present One" – this is confirmed in **Micah 5:2**
- The Great RULER in Israel would be born in Bethlehem but would come from the days of eternity!!!!

2. John 8:12 - I AM the light of the world

- In the context of **John 8** this is the first one leading up to **John 8:58**

NOTE - In the Greek New Testament the words for "I AM" is "Ego Eimi"

"Ego" = I; "Eimi" = I am

In normal use "Eimi" refers to "I am", but when written "Ego Eimi" it is more emphatic

- The in **John 8:12** reference is "Ego Eimi" the Light of the World
- This profession of Jesus was in the context of the woman caught in adultery – all the darkness of the lives of the men who were accusing her was exposed by the LIGHT
- Jesus did not condemn her but told her to go and sin no more – she was forgiven

- This is the result of Jesus being the I AM who is the Light of the World – sin is exposed.
- **John 1:4-5** – In Him was Life...the Light of men...the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not comprehend it

3. John 8:18 – I AM one who bears witness of Myself

- “Ego Eimi” the One who bears witness of Myself
- Jesus spoke the word – not what Scribes and scholars said
- Because He is the I AM he can speak the Word and bear witness of Himself
- We all need to come to the place where the Word of God comes out of yourself
- The truth of His word comes out of you and is seen

4. John 8:24 – believe that I AM

- “If you do not believe that I AM (*he*) you will die in your sins”
- the “He” was added by English translators
- Jesus did not say “I AM *He*” - Jesus said, “I AM”
- you will die in your sins if you do not believe that Jesus is the I AM, that He is the Eternal One, The Ever-Present One, God
- Jesus, the I AM, is the only One who can save us
- We are saved by believing in Jesus Christ, the I AM

5. John 8:28 – when you lift up the Son of Man then you will know that I AM

- **v.29** – He who sent you is with Me – The Father was with Jesus, not separate
- On the Cross is what is implied by “lifted up”
- when Jesus is lifted up on the cross you will know that Jesus is the I AM
- There is no separation between Jesus and the Father
- there is only One God – He sent Jesus, was in Jesus, one with Jesus
- when you get the revelation that Jesus is the I AM you will get the revelation of the Father
- **John 8:37-45** – Jesus exposes the devil, the father of lies

6. John 4:25-26 – the first mention in John’s Gospel of Jesus the I AM

- Jesus speaking to the woman at the well in Samaria; He told her that He could give her living water
- Jesus showed that He knew all things – **v.17-19**
- **v.21** – not worship the Father on this mountain or in Jerusalem
- **v.25** – Messiah is coming, who is called Christ – this conversation has led this woman to start thinking and talking about Messiah
- this woman had some faith – she is despised because of her many husbands, despised by the Jews because she is a Samaritan – but she has some faith
- Messiah will tell us all things – all knowledge
- **v.26** – Jesus now speaks back to her as the Christ
- He says, “**I AM, the One speaking to you**” – this is what the literal says
- Jesus is the Christ, the I AM
- Messiah would be God in the flesh – the I AM

7. John 6:20 – 'take courage, I AM'

- This is in the context of Jesus walking on the water; He came at 2am or 3am
- disciples are in the boat in the middle of the sea, Jesus came walking on the sea
- Jesus said, "I AM, do not be afraid" – not "It is I"
- In **Matthew 14:27** – it reads "*It is I*" but in the margin of the New Spirit Filled Life Bible, it says it is literally "**I AM**".
- Jesus was revealing Himself to the disciples, that they would realise He is the I AM,
- Peter says literally, "If You are, command me to come" – Peter was saying, "If you are the I AM, then command me to come" – Peter believed at that moment that Jesus was the I AM
- **Matthew 14:33** – then those who were in the boat **worshiped** Him, saying, "**Truly You are the Son of God**" – meaning He was God in the flesh!!
- Messiah, I AM, Son of God; the Son of God is the I AM - this is who Jesus is
- In the Hebrew understanding, the Son is equal and the same as the Father
- **Mark 6:50** – Jesus said, "I AM..."

8. John 6:35 - I AM the Bread of Life

- **v.37** - promise of security in Christ, He will never cast us out
- **v.38** - Jesus came from heaven, God coming by the Spirit to be born in the earth as a human being
- **v.40** - everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him will have everlasting life – this is the will of God who sent Him – and He will raise them up at the last day
- come to Jesus and you will be satisfied

9. John 6:41 – I AM the Bread which came down from heaven

- they complained about Him because Jesus said, "**I AM the Bread which came down from heaven**"
- again this is "Ego Eimi..."
- how could He have come down from heaven they thought?

10. John 6:48 – again Jesus says "I AM the Bread of Life"

- if you eat of this bread you will eat and never die
- greater than the manna the fathers had in the wilderness

11. John 6:51 - "I AM the living Bread"

- we can eat of the living bread - it is His flesh which He gave for the life of the world
- we are to eat the flesh and drink the blood and we will have eternal life
- people started to get cranky at Jesus saying these things
- this is deep understanding

12. John 10:7 - "I AM the Door of the sheep"

13. John 10:9 - I AM the Door

- If you go through the Door, Jesus, you will be saved
- you have to go through that Door – no other doors into salvation
- Jesus warns us of robbers and thieves that will try to lead you some other way
- Jesus proclaims Himself twice to be the Door

14. John 10:11 - "I AM the Good Shepherd,

- the good shepherd gives His life for the sheep"

15. John 10:14 – again Jesus says 'I AM the Good Shepherd'

- He is the One who is willing to lay down His life for the sheep
- many are taught that the sheep should lay down their life for the Shepherd
- there are other sheep that will hear His voice (**v.16**)
- do not follow strange voices – religious voices – follow the voice of the Shepherd
- do not get into "have to" do things – His voice brings peace (**v.27**)
- Jesus the Good Shepherd brings us to the revelation of the Father and Jesus being One – **John 10:30 – "I and Father are one"**
- Jesus the Good Shepherd ministering in your life is the Father speaking to you through Jesus
- after this the Jews took up stones to stone Jesus again (**v.31**) – they did not want this Shepherd

16. John 11:25 - I AM the Resurrection and the Life

- if you can go to a funeral service knowing the person has gone to be with Jesus – there is a sense of resurrection.
- We are to believe in the I AM, in Jesus
- if we believe in Jesus while on the earth, you are in Life, in resurrection
- Jesus really wants you in heaven, wants you in resurrection life
- Jesus does not want you in hell, being tormented and suffering for eternity
- we will not see death if we believe in Jesus, the I AM
- Martha said she believed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God who was to come into the world (**v.27**) – Jesus declaring Himself to be the I AM was linked to Martha getting the revelation that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God
- The Christ would be God coming into the world
- Martha responded in faith

17. John 13:19 - you may believe that "I AM"

- Context is Jesus at the last supper
- we are being sent with the revelation of who Jesus (**v.20**)
- revelation comes when we receive the one who was sent

18. John 14:6 - I AM the Way, the Truth and the Life

- If you want to know the Father, Jesus is the Way to know Him
- He is the Truth of the Father and the Life of the Father

19. John 15:1 - I AM the True Vine

- Jesus identifies Himself as the vine
- The Father is the vinedresser.
-

20. John 15:5 - I AM the Vine, you are the branches

- hook into Jesus, and you will hook into the Father and He will fill you with the Holy Spirit and you will bear fruit

21. John 18:5 – Jesus said 'I AM'

- they came to arrest Jesus; He asked 'Whom are you seeking'; they answered "Jesus of Nazareth"; Jesus answered them, "I AM". Again the *'he'* is in italics, so it is not in the original text
- they drew back and fell to the ground
- Jesus at His weakest moment declared Himself to be the I AM

The notes at the bottom of the page in the SFLB for John 18:5,6 state:

This I AM also reveals Jesus as God. This explains the impact of His words on the troops, who are involuntarily smitten by this momentary unleashing of His inherent power as God.

22. John 18:6 – the result of Jesus proclaiming "I AM"

- those who heard "drew back and fell to the ground"
- Why? Because they had heard Jesus say 'I AM'

23. John 18:8 - I have told you that "I AM"

- repeated 3 times in this passage of **John 18:5-8**, that Jesus is the I AM
- we need to receive this revelation
- Here Jesus is God, the Eternal I AM, allowing Himself to be arrested
- The eternal plan of God is being outworked.

We need to come to the revelation of Jesus as I AM

THE EXCELLENCIES OF EPHESIANS

- **The Book of Ephesians** is written by apostle Paul, it is full of mysteries; it is full of deep and wonderful things. It was written by Paul when he was in prison. There are a number of different themes in the book of Ephesians, and in this study we are going to follow some themes.

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ

- **Ephesians 1:1** – Paul is an apostle by the will of God
- An apostle of Jesus Christ – the Sent one
- He is writing to the saints in Ephesus, the believers in a locality
- Saints are holy ones, those who are set apart to God; ones who are faithful
- **v.2** – Paul ministers **Grace and Peace** to them: 'grace and peace from God, Father of us and Lord Jesus Christ'

Spiritual Blessings - verses 3-8 list some of the wonderful spiritual blessings.

- **v.3** - Then Paul starts to write about the Spiritual Blessings
- God has **blessed us with every spiritual blessing** in the heavenlies.
- We can say 'I am blessed with every spiritual blessing'
- Then he starts to unfold some of the spiritual blessings

- **v.4 - Chosen in Christ** from before the foundation of the world
- to be holy and blameless before Him in love
- this is how God sees us. Holy is a heart condition – we have decided to follow Jesus. To be blameless is to sort out anything we need to, and we become blameless

- **v.5** – we are **predestined to the adoption as sons**
- adoption means to be placed as a mature son in the family to receive the inheritance
- when you receive Jesus, you are born again, and you are part of His family
- You are born of God, by His Spirit
- but we are destined to grow up to be placed as a son at the age of maturity to receive the inheritance
- this is according to the good pleasure of His will – it pleases God to do this

- **v.6 – to the praise of the glory of His grace** - it is all a work of grace
- we have been made **accepted in the Beloved**
- we no longer need to feel rejected – we have been accepted in the Beloved one
[**Matt.3:16-17**]
- we are in the Beloved one now, through our baptism

- **v.7** – we have **redemption through His blood** – we have been bought at a price
- I am redeemed – we belong to God
- we have the **forgiveness of sins**, no longer under guilt or condemnation
- according to the riches of His grace – we need to get to know this grace
- **v.8** – **riches have been made to abound to us** in all wisdom and prudence

The excellencies of His grace

- Grace can be experienced – it comes to help us when we are weak and need help
- Grace softens us, we know we don't deserve it, but God is there to help us because He wants to
- Grace causes a transformation in our heart, we want to love more, no longer angry
- Grace is real, tangible

Graced with grace

- **Eph.1:6** – as we learn to walk as sons, it is to praise of the glory of His grace
- We have been graced with grace [accepted] in the Beloved
- Accepted is literally 'graced with grace'
- **John 1:16** – of His fulness we have all received grace for grace; or grace upon grace
- **Eph.1:7** – according to the riches of His grace
- God showing His kindness towards us

By grace we have been saved

- **Eph.2:4-5** – God is rich in mercy and He loves us
- By grace you have been saved, we have been raised up together with Christ. God's grace caused this to happen (**v.6**)
- How do we access that grace?
- **v.8** – by grace we have been saved through faith – it is a gift of God
- **v.9** – not of works, so we cannot boast – it is by Grace
- **v.10** – we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, for good works, that God has prepared for us to walk in
- We are His poetry, His masterpiece!
- Jesus has said 'I will make you' (**Matt.4:19**) – it is His work in us
- **v.7** – in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace
- We are being shown forth as trophies to show the exceeding riches of His grace – we are trophies of His grace!

There is a dispensation of grace to minister

- **Eph.3:1-2** - 'have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God'
- A stewardship of grace to make know the mystery
- Revelation comes forth by grace, ministry comes through grace
- **v.7** – we become ministers by the grace
- **v.8** – grace was given to each one of us through the gift of Christ

Grace is a gift from God

- **Eph.4:7** – grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift
- **v.11** – the five ministry gifts are all gifts of grace

- To bring the body to maturity – all the gifts needed
- **Eph.4:29** – impart grace to the hearers – through your words you can impart grace. Grace builds people up

The Holy Spirit in Ephesians

Sealed with the Holy Spirit - Eph.1:13-14

- In Him we trusted, and we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise
- The Holy Spirit is the guarantee

The Spirit of wisdom and revelation - Eph.1:17

- Holy Spirit is the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Jesus Christ

Access to the Father by the Spirit - Eph.2:18

- Through Christ, we both have access through one Spirit to the Father
- In the spirit we are able to access our Father

Built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit - Eph.2:22

'Strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man' - Eph.3:14-16

- Our Father brings things out of the riches of His grace
- **v.17** – causes Christ to dwell in our hearts through faith
- **v.19** – filled with all the fullness of God

We are to keep the unity of the Spirit - Eph.4:3

- to be one with the Spirit of God
- Endeavour to stay at peace with the Holy Spirit
- **v.4** ... there is one Spirit. If all are in step with the one Spirit, we will be in unity
- **v.4-6** – the 'seven ones' – speaks of the fullness, makes up the complete picture of Christ and His body
- The Father is in us, if the Holy Spirit is in you – because they are one

The Mysteries of Ephesians

The mystery of God's dwelling place – Eph.2:19-22

- One of the mysteries is to receive the ministries [the five-fold]
- We are members of the household of God
- Built on the foundation of apostles and prophets
- Jesus Christ the cornerstone
- Built together to be dwelling place of God in the Spirit
- We are living stones [**1Pet.2:4-5**]
- This is the house of God – a holy temple being fitted together so God can indwell us – so ministry can flow, as God flows through each one

The Mystery of the Body – Eph.4

- **v.11-13** - the ministry gifts are to equip the saints, to do the work of the ministry, to build up the body of Christ
- **v.13-16** – gives a picture of the mature church

- A body is being formed that is receiving the gifts that is coming to maturity, to the measure of the stature of Christ
- The is work to be done to bring this body to maturity
- **v.16.** – knit together, every joint supplies – all the ministries are supplying
- Everyone doing their part, this brings growth of the body
- Edifying itself in love

The mystery of the Bride church – Eph.5:26-32

- **v.25** – Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her
- **v.26** – He is sanctifying and cleansing her with the word
- **v.27** - To present to Himself a glorious church, holy and without blemish
- **v.30** - we are members of His body
- **v.32** – this is a mystery – speaking of Christ and the church – it is as a husband as to a wife

Christ exalted, a victorious church

God's Plan - Eph.1:20-23

- Christ has risen from the dead and is seated in the heavenlies
- Jesus has all the power now, He is King, He is reigning
- He is seated far above all principalities and powers; He is ruling NOW
- He has complete victory over all powers
- All things are under His feet, He is head over all things
- He has been given to the church
- The church is His body, the fullness of Him – this is who we are
- God is filling everything through His body, which is the church

We have been raised up – Eph.2:6

- and made to sit together in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus.
- This is our position - we are together with Him

Making known the manifold wisdom of God - Eph.3:8-11

- we are to preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ
- This brings us into a fellowship of the mystery
- All things created through Jesus Christ
- To the intent that now the manifold wisdom of Christ might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenlies
- This is the purpose of the church – to make known this mystery
- Preaching the everlasting gospel, putting on the armour of **Ephesians 6:14-18**

**God's purpose is unfolding for all to see
May we join in the fellowship of the mystery**

WHY WE NEED A NEW WINE SKIN

→ We need a new container for what God wants to put inside

Prophecies

- The prophecies spoke in a language that was very descriptive and spoke of abundance – new wine, grain, honey, milk
- They spoke of a time when a day would come when a river would begin to flow again; this river needed a new container – a new wineskin

Jacob's prophetic blessing over Judah

- In **Genesis 49** Jacob was blessing each of his sons
- The first positive blessing was for Judah - **verses 9-12**
- He would be as a lion.
- obedience will be to SHILOH, the One whose right it is to rule
- binding his donkey to the vine – the grape vines would be so thick that you could tie your donkey to it
- He washed his garments in wine – there would be so much wine at this time that you did not have to use water - this is the prophetic picture
- his eyes are darker than wine; his teeth are whiter than milk

Moses' final blessing on the tribes of Israel - Deuteronomy 33

- Moses speaking blessings over the tribes of Israel
- there is abundance that can have a physical outworking, but the spiritual reality is greater.
- **v.24-25** - while blessing Asher he speaks of oil
- **v.28** – grain and new wine
- When God speaks of bread in the Old Testament He is most often speaking of spiritual food and sustenance
- Wine is speaking of spiritual drink that gives us incredible joy, the joy of the Spirit

THE PROMISE OF ABUNDANCE

- **Deuteronomy 8:7** - God bringing us into a good land and brooks of water, fountains and springs that flow out of hills
- there is this promise in the Old Testament of a day when something would begin to flow bringing abundance

Oil, grain/bread, wine

- **Psalms 104:14-15** - wine that makes glad the heart of man
- oil to make our faces to shine
- Bread to strengthen man's heart
- **Isaiah 62:8-9** - Grain not given for enemies
- Shall drink new wine in the Holy courts
- Increasing prophecies of a coming day

An invitation to come and eat and drink

- **Isaiah 55:1-2** - all who thirst come to the waters
- Come buy and eat – even if you have no money – it is free
- Come buy wine and milk without money
- At this time it was prophesying the future

New wine found in a cluster

- **Isaiah 65:8** - new wine is found in the cluster – there is a blessing in it
- God will bring forth descendants from Jacob and Judah
- You do not make wine from one or two grapes, but from the cluster
- There needs to be a Body, a lot of grapes to get the wine
- There is a blessing in the new wine

An abundance of wheat, new wine and oil

- **Joel 2:18-19,23-24** - Yahweh will be zealous for His land
- He will send grain, new wine and oil
- Bread, Wine, Oil
- Former and latter rain will come in the first month
- Vat overflowing with wine and oil, threshing floor full of wheat
- One day something amazing will take place that will change everything forever

Mountains will drip ... hills will flow ...

- **Joel 3:18** - In that day it will come to pass
- Mountains shall drip with new wine – so much new wine that it will be dripping from the mountains – a prophetic picture
- The hills will be flowing with milk – abundance of milk
- All the brooks of Judah will be flooded with water – spiritual life
- A Fountain shall flow from the house of Yahweh – in that day
- The prophets were getting excited about “that day”

- **Hosea 14:5-7** - God will be like the dew to Israel
- Israel’s branches will spread – He will grow (speaking of the people of God)
- Revived like grain; Grow like a vine
- Their scent shall be like the wine of Lebanon – sweet smelling aroma
- Our fruit is found in Yahweh

- **Amos 9:13-15** – the plowman shall overtake the reaper – the reaper is in the way of the new crop coming – there is so much harvest, things are growing so quickly
- Mountains shall drip with sweet wine; all the hills shall flow
- God will plant His people in the land; that day was still coming

Like a well-watered garden

- **Jeremiah 31:12** - singing in the height of Zion
- Streaming to the goodness of Yahweh – it is the new wine, the oil, the living water, the daily bread, the goodness of God bringing joy
- New wine and oil, wheat
- Souls like a well-watered garden – bringing forth abundantly

- No more sorrow
- This was their hope - when the Messiah would come something amazing would take place
- **v.14** - God will satiate the souls of the priests – so much that it is oozing out of us
- God’s people will be satisfied with His goodness – no longer looking to the world for entertainment and comfort

What sort of wineskin was needed to contain this abundant life?

A warning

- **Mark 2:22** - you do not put new wine into old wineskins
- You put new wine into new wineskins
- This new wine would come because a new wineskin was available
- The prophets saw this but did not experience it

The old had failed to bring forth fruit

- **Isaiah 5:1-2** - A song of my Beloved regarding His Vineyard
- There should have been wine, life coming forth from Israel
- God did everything necessary to bring forth good grapes
- But it brought forth wild grapes
- God did everything He could for Israel to bring forth new wine
- God said He would take away the hedge
- The vineyard was the house of Israel but it failed to produce what God wanted
- Men of Judah were His pleasant plant
- But there was coming a day when things would radically change

When the day began!

- **Mark 1:14-15** - Jesus came preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God
- “The time is fulfilled...”
- The day had come – Yahweh was planting a new vine in the earth
- All the wonderful prophecies of the coming of a river of new wine, oil had come
- The Kingdom of God is at hand...

Jesus is the Vine!

- **John 15:1** - Jesus said, “I AM the Vine...”
- Israel is not the Vine anymore – Jesus is the Vine, Father is the Vinedresser

Living water flowed from Jesus

- **Mark 3:1-6** – a man with a withered hand in the Synagogue
- Jews watched closely to see what Jesus would do, whether He would heal on the Sabbath
- Jesus told the man to step forward ... the man’s hand was healed
- Pharisees wanted to kill Jesus
- Living water, grace flowed from Jesus, healing the man
- All the Scribes and Pharisees could do was plot to kill Jesus
- New wine needed a new wineskin

Do not speak against the 'living water'

- **Mark 3:28-30** - Jesus said if you speak against this living water, the Holy Spirit, then there is no forgiveness
- The religious leaders said Jesus had an unclean spirit
- They did not receive the new wine – it could not fit in their wineskin

The One who can forgive sins

- **Mark 2:5-7** – the story of the paralytic who was brought to Jesus by his friends
- Jesus saw the faith of the men and said to the paralytic 'Your sins are forgiven'
- "Who can forgive sins except God alone?"
- Jesus showed His authority – living water and new wine flowed bringing healing and forgiveness
- Pharisees could only think that Jesus was a blasphemer – they did not want the new wine – there had to be a new wineskin

Jesus represented the 'new temple', the 'new wineskin'

- **John 2:19-21** Jesus was getting rid of all the rubbish from the house of God
 - The Jews asked "What sign do you do to show us your authority?"
 - Jesus speaking of a different temple (**v.19**), He was speaking of His body
 - The glory of God was not in that physical building; but standing right next to that place was the true temple, the true sanctuary, standing in front of them
 - That old Temple had the priesthood of Aaron but it was empty of the life of God
 - The new temple was the Vine, it would grow and spread and give new wine over all the earth
 - Jesus was the seed about to die and be planted in the earth to bring forth the new Vine!
- **If a new wineskin – what will it look like and be like?**
- It would be earth changing, earth restoring

Jesus was the beginning of the new wineskin

- **A new King had appeared**
 - **A new kingdom had come**
 - **It was the beginning of a new order of priest – Melchizedek**
 - **A new temple had come – He is that new temple**
- Now the Old Testament prophecies are being fulfilled
 - A fountain was beginning to flow from the house of Yahweh – Jesus

The new wineskin is One Body

- **Ephesians 2:14-18** - Christ Himself is our peace – made Jews and Gentiles One, no longer divided on race or nationality
- Abolished the religious ordinances
- Created One New Man; The new wineskin is "One New Man"
- One Body is the new wineskin
- Jesus as the planted Vine and those who believe and are baptised will be grafted in and become part of this new Vine
- The blessing is in the cluster – in the Body

The new wineskin is the household of God

- **Ephesians 2:19-22** – the true household of God is the new wineskin
- It is being built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets – new wineskin had to be built on this foundation, the right way, so as to contain the new wine
- Noah's ark had to be built the right way to go through the flood
- Moses had to build the Tabernacle the right way for the glory to come
- Solomon had to build the Temple the right way for the glory to come
- The Body, the Church needs to be built the right way to contain the new wine that the prophets spoke of
- Christ Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone of this holy temple
- We are being built together for a dwelling place in the Spirit – the Spirit is the new wine, the oil
- To contain the new wine we need to be built the way Jesus has said

The new wineskin is being filled with all the fulness of God!

- **Ephesians 3:14-19** - Strengthened with might by the Spirit in our inner man
- Christ dwelling in our hearts through faith
- In the cluster, with all the saints, comprehending the love of God together
- Being filled with all the fullness of God – the new wine
- Nearly all revivals came to an end finally because the new wine could not be contained in the wineskin that men made

The wineskin must be perfect for God to pour out His abundance

- **Ephesians 4:11-16** – the five ministry gifts accepted and recognised
- Equipping, building up the body
- The wineskin must be perfect for God to fully pour out His abundance
- Coming to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ
- Then the living water will flow in a way we have never seen before

The new wineskin releases healing

- **Mark 5:28** - the woman knew if she could just touch Jesus' garment she would be healed; the river was flowing, the new wine was there in Jesus, she knew that she just needed to touch him
- **Mark 16:18** - Jesus said that believers would "lay hands on the sick and they will recover" – it does not say that they prayed for them, they just could lay their hands on the sick
- We are the wineskin, and we are the dispenser of the new wine, and we must be built in the right way; according to the pattern
- God's heart is for a perfect Man, like Jesus

The best wine will be poured out in the 'latter days'

- **John 2:1-10** - Jesus' first miracle – first sign, at the wedding in Cana of Galilee
- They ran out of wine – this was shocking for the host of the wedding
- Jesus told the men to fill the waterpots with water
- Draw it out and take it to the master of the feast (he would have been so embarrassed)

- The water had become wine – it was better wine than the good wine that they began with – “You kept the good wine till last”
- **The good wine, the best wine, the sweet wine, was going to poured out in the latter days**
- Ever since Jesus came and died and rose again, we have been living in these latter days; We are living in the fulfilment of what the prophets spoke of
- The new wine is being poured out!
- The fulfilment of the prophetic word that the mountains will drip with new wine, an abundance of oil and grain and living water
- It has started flowing; Jesus said in **John 7:37-39** – ‘out of your belly will flow rivers of living water’.

New wine has started to flow since then!

**There is a great abundance to come if we build the wineskin
the way Jesus wants us to build!**

FAITH THAT OVERCOMES

THE WORLD

We need the faith that overcomes the world.

- We have received much throughout this school.
- We have a greater expectation of breakthrough.
- We have authority to do the things that Jesus did!

The Story of Abraham is a story of faith

- **Romans 4:16-20** - Abraham was called out of his family, he was told by God to 'come out'. Abraham heard the voice, and he went on an adventure to a place that he did not know. He decided to follow Yahweh! (**Genesis 12:1-3**)

Abraham believed the promises of God – Genesis 17:4-6

- He believed in Yahweh, and it was accounted to him as righteousness (**Rom.4:22**)
- We are to walk in the same faith as our father Abraham
- We are to inherit the nations
- Abraham believed the promise that he would inherit nations – this is happening, even in this school, we represent many nations.
- Faith is not 'seen' – sometimes like Abraham we do not see the outcome of the promises given (**Rom.4:20**) – this is the faith that overcomes the world

Abraham became the father of many nations (Romans 4:17-18)

- Today we have the vision of many nations – believe the word of God and obey it as it is written
- Abraham believed God, and obeyed – he saw the fulfillment of the promise of a son
- All the promises of God are 'yes and amen'
- In you and in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed – this was God's promise to Abraham (see **Galatians 3:16 & 29**)
- There is another realm of believing God for us to enter into.

Abraham believed that God was even able to raise the dead - Heb.11:17-19

- **Mark 16:17-18** – these signs will follow those who believe
- We are to be believers – signs will follow believers

We are to believe that Jesus is the Christ

- **1 John 5:1** – believe that Jesus is the Christ – believe this and you are born of God; this is a confession of faith
- **v.4** – *"whatever is born of God, overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith".*
- we are to keep our heart and mind in the word of God
- Our faith is what overcomes the world

Word Meaning

- Faith - '*pistis*' means *persuasion* – we are to be on the front foot, speak out of your persuasion; it means '*moral conviction, reliance upon Christ, constancy in profession*'
- Be consistent in what you believe – don't change your mind no matter what is going on. This is faith
- We need great faith in these days, and we are to grow in faith

THE EXAMPLE OF HABAKKUK

- In **Chapter one**, Habakkuk is asking God a lot of questions.
- He is asking God 'how can you be allowing what is happening'.
- In **Chap.2:2** he puts himself in a position to hear from God, he even expects that God may correct him

God will fulfill His word

- **Hab.2:2** God answers – write the message – the vision, it will come to pass
- The message comes first, we are to run with the message; this is faith
- **v.3** – wait for it "***the vision is yet for an appointed time***"
- **v.4** – then God tells Habakkuk '***the just will live by his faith***' [this is quoted x3 in New Testament]. The proud will not believe it
- **v.14** – the promise of Yahweh '***the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH, as the waters cover the sea***'
- God will surely bring it to pass
- We might think 'How can this happen?' Are we going to live by faith?
- We walk by faith, not by sight
- Faith is not what we can see – it believes the word of God, no matter what outwardly things look like.
- We are told to preach the gospel – it takes faith to do that, and to stand in that

HABAKKUK WAS A MAN OF FAITH

Rejoice no matter what happens

- **Hab.3:17-19** – Habakkuk was able to rejoice no matter what things looked like around him - he became a man of faith
- Even if we don't see what God has promised – I will still rejoice
- The fields are white for harvest – that is the land God has given us

Faith never gives up

- faith sees the impossible happening
- 'What do you see' – do you see the promises of God?
- There is a decision of faith – even though physical eyes don't see it, faith sees it – and we can rejoice
- He will make my feet like deer's

Make the decision of faith

- If you don't see things happening, you can get discouraged
- But we are to make the decision of faith – we are going to run with the word – get back up, walk on the high hills

Faith comes by hearing the word of God

- Faith comes – you can't make faith happen; it comes by hearing the word of God (**Romans 10:17**)
- When you hear, it quickens faith
- It happens when we keep in fellowship, we need to be in the fellowship

Faith speaks – 2 Cor.4:13 – there is a 'spirit of faith'

- Speak out of what you believe; that has a lot of power
- Faith is real!

Faith is the substance of things hoped for - Hebrews 11:1

- Substance = *confidence, assurance, conviction, substance, reality*
- Wait on God until faith comes. The faith is the reality, it is the evidence of what we don't see
- We may not see – but have we received the reality of it?
- e.g., the vision of **Eph.4:12-16** – the church coming to maturity
- we speak out of faith, this is the faith that overcomes the world
- evidence of things not seen

Noah was a man of faith – Hebrews 11:7

- by faith Noah ...
- God warned him of what was coming, something never seen before
- He was moved with Godly fear – that is faith

Faith causes you to act/do something

- Believing what God said caused Noah to act, - you believe and then you act
- Noah believed because he had a word from God
- We have a promise that Jesus is coming – judgement is coming
- We have not seen it yet, but we have been told to 'go and make disciples' – go preach the gospel to every creature
- We have the promise of **Eph.4:11-12** – ministries given to bring the church to maturity. Are we going to believe it?
- We are not to try and build the church according to our own way
- We need to look at the promise and build according to the pattern of the word of God, in the Scripture

We need to live in the word of Faith we have received.