

The Word of God is Prophetic and Therefore Life Changing. Unsure if or when shared with SCF* Undated.

The Prophetic Word is all that God has planned and purposed from Genesis to Revelation; His written Word, the Bible, contains all that we need to know in order to live the Kingdom Life under the rule of King Jesus.

There are three aspects of God's instructions:

1. **God's Word - the Scriptures.**
2. **God's Word - Jesus Christ - the Word Became Flesh.**
3. **God's Word - The living Word manifested through the true disciples of Jesus Christ.**

There are five stages of Kingdom life that brought about a life that was pleasing to God and fulfilling for His disciples. We shall look at these five stages in more detail and it is important to see that we cannot grow up in Christ without each of the five stages working in our lives. It is part of the Kingdom Manifesto.

1. Revelation - The Unveiling.

Revelation is God revealing His will and purpose to us, His people through His Son, Jesus Christ, beginning in Genesis and ending in the book of Revelation. We need daily revelation if we are to live lives that are in keeping with His ways. Revelation is necessary if we are to have a **vision**.

Proverbs 29 verse 18

Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained, but happy is he who keeps the law.

Unless we have revelation of God's mind and heart, then we shall do our own thing.

Isaiah 55 verse 6-11

Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near.

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7 Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. 10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; 11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Revelation comes from **seeking** after God's way, as we seek so we shall have vision, Holy Spirit given vision. Seekers become finders and finders become keepers of God's way to live.

2. Vision

Both that which the Lord shows us and our eyes seeing where we are going. First the revelation, now the seeing; Jesus opens blind eyes, both physical and spiritual! The prophet Jeremiah sums it up for us.

Jeremiah 31 verse 21

"Set up for yourself roadmarks, place for yourself guideposts; direct your mind to the highway, the way by which you went. Return, O virgin of Israel, return to these your cities.

Here we see the do - it - yourself nature of the Gospel. There are three things to set up: roadmarks, guideposts and our minds.

The **roadmarks** are to be found in the road that Jesus walked, He did only the things that His Father told Him to do.

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We are to realise that there was a **price** paid for us and there were **marks** that Jesus bore on His person for our **salvation**. We should also bear the marks of commitment to Him as an act of **worship** (love) to Him. The **guideposts** are also to be found as we listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

John 14 verse 26

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

John 16 verse 7-15

But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8 And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. 12 I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

Matthew 13 verse 11-17

Jesus answered them, "To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted. 12 For whoever has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him. 13 Therefore I speak to them in parables; because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

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14 In their case the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says, 'YOU WILL KEEP ON HEARING, BUT WILL NOT UNDERSTAND; YOU WILL KEEP ON SEEING, BUT WILL NOT PERCEIVE; 15 FOR THE HEART OF THIS PEOPLE HAS BECOME DULL, WITH THEIR EARS THEY SCARCELY HEAR, AND THEY HAVE CLOSED THEIR EYES, OTHERWISE THEY WOULD SEE WITH THEIR EYES, HEAR WITH THEIR EARS, AND UNDERSTAND WITH THEIR HEART AND RETURN, AND I WOULD HEAL THEM.' 16 But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. 17 For truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

We shall look at this Kingdom that the scriptures talk of later. Our minds are to be directed to the highway, by an act of our will. We need renewed minds that are in line with the ways of the Kingdom of Heaven and as we seek so we shall find the way. We no longer submit to our human feelings but to the mind and heart of God.

3. Strategy - How to Get There.

We are to be **born again**, becoming babes in Christ, Jesus set the scene for us. There is a biblical principal that cannot be changed: that is the **seeing** and **entering** (revelation and vision) which leads to **obedience**. We can only enter into the Kingdom lifestyle if we first have a revelation which is given to us as our hearts and minds are open to God's Word and Spirit, then we can act upon that vision that we have. Strategy is clearly defined in the Word of God and was demonstrated by Jesus for us to follow; the only hindrance is our own will or willingness to to behave as we should. There is nothing hidden from us that the Holy Spirit is unwilling to teach and train us in.

4. Faith - The Vehicle.

We may choose to travel on foot, by bicycle, by bus, train or car or aeroplane. All these means of transport are open to us. However, in the Kingdom everyone travels by faith, whether its on the water, or on the land or in the air, we are to travel by **faith**.

Romans 1 verse 17

For in it (the Gospel) the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous man shall live by faith."

The implication here is that we can only live by faith if we live a life that is pleasing to God.

Romans 10 verse 17

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Hebrews 11 verse 1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

What things are we to hope for? We are to hope and pray for the Kingdom of God to come into our lives in an ever increasing measure. Jesus wants to rule in us and through us. In this way the good news of the Kingdom and His name shall be seen on earth as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6 verse 10

Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Hebrews 11 verse 6

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

We may say that we love God and to prove that love we would want to please Him wouldn't we? Faith is not a passive thing, it is active.

James 2 verse 14-26

14 What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? 17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself. 18 But someone may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

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19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. 20 But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? 22 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," and he was called the friend of God. 24 You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? 26 For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

It is a waste of time to say it and not follow what you say. The use of faith causes it to grow and to not use it is to see it wear out, the opposite of the worlds way. Prayers may be answered if they are accompanied by by faith.

Mark 11 verse 23

Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.

Faith is about taking God at His word without argument, question or debate, also it is acting on what You believe God for.

5. Fruit – the Reward of our Obedience.

A man or woman works in order to receive payment for their labour. When we work at pleasing God, there is going to be fruit from our effort.

John 15 verse 16

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

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We are to be fruitful; fruit comes from having our roots deep and strong in Christ, that is to say that we are living lives that are according to His Word of instruction - scripture and not pleasing ourselves as we used to do before we made Him Lord of our lives. Fruitfulness comes out of being faithful to Jesus only and not having other unfaithful dealings, or being conformed to this world. Jesus spoke frequently about the cost of discipleship.

Matthew 10 verse 34-42

"Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW; 36 and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD. 37 "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. 38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. 39 He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it. 40 "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. 41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. 42 And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."

Matthew 12 verse 46-50

While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him. 47 Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You."

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48 But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" **49** And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers! **50** For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother."

Matthew 19 verse 27-30

Then Peter said to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You; what then will there be for us?" **28** And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. **29** And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or farms for My name's sake, will receive many times as much, and will inherit eternal life. **30** But many who are first will be last; and the last, first.

Luke 9 verse 57- 62

As they were going along the road, someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go." **58** And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." **59** And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Lord, permit me first to go and bury my father." **60** But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God." **61** Another also said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home." **62** But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Many are called, but few are chosen. Jesus had many **followers** but many found the life too hard because they were not willing to pay the price. This is a challenge to us all. Where do you stand?