

Freedom Night Handout January 21, 2021 "Getting Traction: A Divine Reset"

Welcome to Freedom Night. Good Fruit Ministries' mission is to join the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in helping people, organizations, cities, and nations conquer the obstacles hindering them from living free, fruitful, and fulfilling lives.

Scripture

For the Lord God helps me, therefore, I am not disgraced; Therefore, <u>I</u> have made My face like flint, and I know that I will not be ashamed. Isaiah 50:7

Distraction and Traction

Most people would say that the <u>opposite of distraction</u> is focus. Is it focus, or is it traction that we are looking for? To get traction means to make progress. Do we want to just focus on something or make progress?

It's the opposite of the metaphor "Spinning your wheels." Imagine you are in your car with your wheels buried in mud. No matter how hard you try, you are not going anywhere by causing your car to work harder. In this case, you need a new strategy.

Most Effective Day

In the mornings, I <u>ask the Lord what the most effective thing is I can do for Him each day</u>. Recently I ask Him, and He responded with the following: **You have a choice each day. Every day you can choose distraction or traction.**

AND within a day of that . . . I was reading Lana Vawser's new book, I Hear the Lord Say "New Era": Be Prepared, Positioned, and Propelled Into God's Prophetic Timeline

In the book, she said: "Guard Your Focus! I am going to say that again, just in case you missed it—guard your focus! In this new era of rapid acceleration, not only will there be a new realm of bold faith for us to walk in, there is and will be a battle over your focus. Deuteronomy 8 challenges our focus to remain on the Lord and not forget Him. Where do you place your focus? **The Lord showed me a demonic spirit with a specific assignment to bring distraction**.

So, you and I, in this new era of acceleration, need to set our faces as flint and be ferocious against distraction. (Isaiah 50:7 - For the Lord GOD helps Me, Therefore, I am not disgraced; Therefore, I have made My face like flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.)

Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance on how to stand against these distractions because the enemy is trying to steal from you (see John 10:10). This demonic spirit bringing distraction has an agenda to keep you from the Word of God and to keep you in a place of confusion over what God is saying in this new era.

Ask the Lord if there are any areas where this distraction has found legal ground and allow the Holy Spirit to reveal any "landing pad." It could be an agreement with a lie; it could be fear." (End of Quote)

Reset

I see God resetting people and realigning people right now. A divine reset. Most of us certainly need a reset, a realigning, and some traction right now. We all know what a reset is. Every time your phone starts acting crazy, we turn it off and back on, and it puts the settings back to where they should be, and all is well. We can understand the principle, but what is God saying to you, to me right now?

During COVID-19 Recovery

During this pandemic, we have probably all contemplated how we would fill our time in isolation. God wanted me to Come out of this time Stronger. Wiser. Prepared. Equipped.

He said to me, "The longer you stay back, the further the launch. Don't hurry to get out there." So, I have hung back. I've thought about what He said about having a choice to choose distraction or traction every day.

Getting Traction

When I thought about what would give me traction, I thought of the Sunday school answer, *Read the Word and pray*. Suddenly, as I said that, something rose in me, and I knew it was not what I was to do. At least not as the first thing. Instantly I knew that if something was serious, the first and most important thing I would do without question was "Pray in the Spirit!" Hands down the most effective thing I know how to do!

- When I pray in the Spirit, my spirit communicates directly to God., bypassing the bottleneck of my mind
- Ask the Lord how you can get traction every day.

Instead of sitting in my "devotions" chair and reading the Word and praying, I first walk (or pace) for 15 -30 min praying in the spirit, and everything has changed! There is traction!

- What God considers foundational is that we learn how to walk and live by the Spirit.
- When we choose to be a follower of Christ, we ask Him to fill us with the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Jesus Christ.
- Not only does the Word talk about being filled but also of being immersed and an overflow of the Spirit.

River Example

It's like the rain filling the river.

It's a whole other thing for the river to be filled and overflow.

Note - If you are not familiar with "praying in the Spirit," I would highly recommend **Overflow of the Spirit** by Mark Virkler and his daughter. He is one of the few academic people I know that is also led by the Spirit.

Breakthrough Question

If you would like a <u>breakthrough in overcoming distractions</u>, write down this question to ask the Lord later. Question: How is the enemy distracting me? How do I stand against that distraction and get traction?

Separated from God

We have separated ourselves from God by trying to get the truth on our own like Adam and Eve. Either intentionally because we are not happy with something God has done or we've been deceived by the enemy.

We are carriers of God's presence, and where His presence is, His gifts are. His presence, His gifts are <u>how others see God</u> in us and are drawn to Him. If we are carriers of God's presence, there is evidence.

Through spending time together with God, Himself, we are infused with His Spirit.

My distraction

I ask the Lord what lie I believe about spending time with Him? I felt there was a barrier, and I didn't know what it was. He responded, "The enemy has been waiting for you at this place. He doesn't want you to move on. He knows the potential."

Lord, what is the enemy doing to interfere with me hearing You? "To doubt that you are the right person for the job and doubt that I love and care for you. He's trying to put distance between us so that you will give up."

Restoring Communion with God and Getting Rid of Doubt

Let's put doubt on the table, expose it, and be rid of it. It's one of the more subtle schemes of the enemy.

In **Deut 28:66**, which says, "So your lives will be <u>hanging in doubt</u> before you, and you will be terrified night and day and have no assurance of your life." The word doubt here means; - <u>to suspend</u> through hesitation; to be uncertain.

In **James 1:5-8**, it says, "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. 7For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."

The word doubt here means – hesitation because of lack of faith, negatively "over-judging" (going too far, vacillating, to be at variance with oneself, hesitate, doubt

"Great Faith"

How is an unhesitating faith to be gained? How can we have great faith that Jesus spoke about in Matthew 8:10 - "When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith."

I find that a lack of faith comes when we believe lies about ourselves, God, or others. Remove the lies and ask God for truth.

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith, it is impossible to please Him. For it behooves the one drawing near to God to believe that He exists and that <u>He becomes a rewarder to those earnestly seeking Him out</u>. (Berean Literal Bible)

Doubt - Merriam Webster - to call into question the truth of: to be uncertain or in doubt about, to lack confidence in: DISTRUST, to consider unlikely.

Yoke

Yoke – In Mathew 11:29, Jesus says, "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and You will <u>find rest</u> for your souls." I always thought of a yoke as something heavy and like slavery.

If you look at the original Greek word "yoke" in Matthew 11:29, it says (a Jewish idea) of a heavy burden, used of any burden or bondage: as that of slavery. But Jesus does not refer to it as a heavy taskmaster putting a burden on us. The word here means "unites two elements to work as one unit." The rest of the scripture says, "for I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest."

Inbirthing of Faith

1 John 5:4 says, "For everyone having been born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory having overcome the world: **our faith**."

The original word here for **Faith** (4102) says it is always a *gift from God*, and *never* something that can be produced by people. In short, faith for the believer is "God's *divine persuasion*" – and therefore distinct from human belief (confidence), yet involving it. The Lord continuously *births faith* in the <u>yielded</u> believer so they can know what He prefers, i.e., the *persuasion of His will* (1 John 5:4). (Used 243 times in N.T.)

Let's pray and remove doubt and receive great faith!

Freedom from Doubt

Heavenly Father, I confess that I have lived my life trying to get the truth on my own like Adam and Eve instead of living out of communion with You. I have separated myself from You.

I confess the sin and the consequences of the sin of my ancestors and my sin of doubting my assignment and my ability to carry it out. Forgive us for coming into agreement with doubt. I forgive them and myself. I ask You to forgive us for coming into agreement with the enemy's strategy of doubt.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by His blood, I renounce all evil that has given power to this sin. I break all <u>evil</u> generational ties from the beginning of time to the current generation. All that evil leave now and go to the feet of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

Deliverance from Doubt

Father in the name of Jesus, I renounce doubt. Forgive us for agreeing with spirits and thoughts of confusion, disbelief, misgiving, uncertainty, reluctance, hesitation, distrust, skepticism, procrastination, suspicion, faithlessness, indecision, and double-mindedness. Doubt I cast you out in the name of Jesus. We come out of agreement with you. Doubt you are out.

I stand on the Word of God no matter what I see. I am steadfast, unmovable, and unshakable in Jesus' name. Father, fill us with a fresh inbirthing of faith.

I desire to be yoked to You - to live in life-union with You as my source. To abide in You and You in me. I want my life to yield abundant fruit. I want to be a mature disciple who glorifies You.

Lord, give me an inbirthing of faith today for what you have for me. Give me strength, hope, love, and joy on the journey. I give you all the thanks for every good thing in my life. I want You as my home. I ask all this in Jesus' name. Amen!

Good Questions:

- 1. Deuteronomy 8 challenges our focus to remain on the Lord and not forget Him. Where do you place your focus? Lord, where am I placing my focus? What do You want me to know?
- 2. Lord, how is the enemy distracting me? Lord, how do I stand against that distraction and get traction?

- 3. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance on how to stand against the things that are distractions because the enemy is trying to steal from you (see John 10:10).
- 4. What lie do I believe about spending time with the Lord? What's the truth?

Resources

- 1. Book: <u>I Hear the Lord Say "New Era": Be Prepared, Positioned, and Propelled into God's Prophetic</u> Timeline
- 2. Book: Overflow of the Spirit (How to Release His Gifts in Every Area of Your Life) by Mark Virkler and Charity Virkler Kayembe
- 3. YouTube Deliverance from Doubt: Self-Deliverance Prayers
- 4. YouTube Deliverance from the Spirit of Unbelief | Self-Deliverance Prayers
- 5. YouTube Deliverance from the Spirit of Fear | Self-Deliverance Prayers

Announcements: Coming . . .

- 1. New course "Intentional Transformation" 12 weeks. Dates to be announced.
- 2. How to Hear God course
- 3. How to Prophecy course
- 4. Setting Others Free

(If you would like to be on the interest list for any of these, go to GoodFruitMinistries.com and send a request in the Contact Us area.)

Opportunities & Resources

- Freedom Nights for 2021 For dates, directions, donations, appointments, etc. GoodFruitMinistries.com
- Facebook Good Fruit Ministries

Investing in Good Fruit Ministries

You can invest in GFM online through PayPal, Credit or Debit card at GoodFruitMinistries.com. Also, cash or checks payable to Good Fruit Ministries. If you would like to invest by being an intercessor, please let us know.

Prophetic

A personal prophetic word has the potential to be a great blessing to you. It can help encourage, strengthen and comfort you (1 Corinthians 14:3). It can reveal to you that God knows you *personally* and remind you that He has a great purpose for your life. May the words you receive bring you closer to Him. Pick up the handout at the resource table on how to receive a prophetic word.

Thank you for choosing to spend your evening with us. We are honored to be a part of your journey. The Team and I thank you for coming. May the Lord bless you tonight! May God set you free from all that hinders you from fully living life with Him!

Esther McMichael

President and Founder of Good Fruit Ministries, Inc.