

## True North

### Deuteronomy 8:3 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of the LORD.

- Inside every believer there is a compass
- An internal force placed by God
- “True North” is something that needs adjustment

The way God speaks to us and leads us is through our spirits

- We have to be spirit-conscious to receive His direction

### 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole **spirit, soul, and body** be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## DISCERNING GOD’S WILL

We need to follow peace in our decisions, not make a decision and then pray for peace over it

- God will see things we don’t see
- Things we may not see with our natural eyes
- When we ignore His promptings, sooner or later we will regret it
- Listen to that “check” in your spirit

### Hebrews 13:17 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

- You shouldn't be the smartest person you know
- God puts people in our life for our own good and safety

### WHO'S YOUR MENTOR?

It is so important to have the right, life-long relationships in our life to help us clearly discern the voice of the Lord

- Finding the right people is an important part of determining God's will for your life

### PROPER PLACEMENT

#### Acts 17:26 (NKJV)

<sup>26</sup> And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

Being in the right place at the right time is an important key to finding and staying on course with God's will for your life

- God has a proper placement for you
  - Where you worship, live or work
- It is the place where you will thrive

#### 1 Corinthians 12:18 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.

## GET THE RIGHT PLAN FROM GOD

Perhaps today you need a miracle for you or your family

- When you ask for a miracle, quite often God will give you a set of instructions – A Plan
- He rarely releases a miracle without a plan

Joshua needed a miracle

### Joshua 6:3–5 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> You shall march around the city, all *you* men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. <sup>4</sup> And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. <sup>5</sup> It shall come to pass, when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, *and* when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him.”

- They obeyed God
- On the seventh day they marched seven times, blew the rams horns seven times, and shouted
- The walls fell
- God's plan brought victory

When **Naaman** needed a miracle for healing from leprosy

- God told him to wash in the Jordan seven times
  - When he obeyed the plan, he received the miracle
- 2 Kings 5:10, 14

The Plan may not be what you would expect

### 2 Kings 5:12 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage.

Before Samson was born God appeared to his mother with a specific set of instructions

### Judges 13:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.”

When Jesus’ mother Mary needed a miracle at a wedding Jesus gave her a plan

### John 2:5–8 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do *it*.” <sup>6</sup> Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> And He said to them, “Draw *some* out now, and take *it* to the master of the feast.” And they took *it*.

- Whatever he says to you, do it
- He made the water into wine
- It was better than the first that was served

God has a specific plan for each and every one of us

- Regardless of our upbringing or background

### Jeremiah 1:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

### Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

- When you were created God encoded you for an assignment
- He gave you the power to get it done
- The enemy is dedicated to pulling you out of that divine assignment

*Destiny is reached by discerning those transitional moments as God is leading you to your purpose*

### 1 Corinthians 2:9–10 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” <sup>10</sup> But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

- God has a marvelous plan for your life
- Pray for divine insight into those plans

## The Story of Esther

King Ahasuerus was hungry for power

He threw a party to “wine” and “dine” his warlords in order to gain their favor

- At the end of the seven-day party he ordered the best-looking women in his harem to come and dance
  - Ensuring his warlords would follow him into battle anywhere
- The custom was then to bring his queen out to dance
- Queen Vashti refuses
- Embarrassed, the King gets rid of her

The command goes out throughout the kingdom that the king is looking for a new queen

- He decides to have a beauty contest
- 127 women are chosen
- Esther, a young orphan girl was chosen as one of the participants
  - She wins the contest

Vashti’s actions set the stage for the higher purpose of God

Sometimes when things happen that you can’t explain, remember who is really in charge

- Things don’t happen by chance
- God has a plan for our lives
- When we’re busy living ordinary lives, God is planning extraordinary things for our lives

## Romans 8:28 (NKJV)

<sup>28</sup> And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

- Don't let anyone tell you can't reach for the stars
- Even if you don't get there today, you possess the possibility that tomorrow you will make it!

God was at work throughout Esther's childhood preparing her for this special time

An uncle named Mordecai groomed her, physiologically and spiritually to become great

We all need a mentor alongside to give insight, wisdom, and direction

- Esther had Mordecai
- Ruth had Naomi
- Mary had Elizabeth
- Timothy had the faith of his grandmother as well as the Apostle Paul

## 2 Timothy 1:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

- Faith is something that is passed on
- As parents it's our responsibility to mentor our children
- Speak into their lives today
- Prepare them for the things of God tomorrow

God had a higher purpose for Esther than winning a contest

- Before she was selected she didn't know proper protocol
- She hadn't been taught proper etiquette and table manors
- She didn't know the right clothes to wear
- She didn't know how royalty was supposed to behave

The king didn't choose Esther because she was Jewish or because he had a spiritual revelation

- He was just using his senses
- All the while God was guiding his decisions
- Did you know that God will sometimes use people who aren't spiritual?
- Sometimes people just want to help you
- When you are in the perfect will of God you walk in divine favor!

**Proverbs 16:7 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> When a man's ways please the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

**Psalms 5:12 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as *with* a shield.

- When you know who you are in Christ
- When you're submitted to God's divine plan
- You walk in divine favor
- Many times, it can't be explained
- It just works out for your good!



## THE PROCESS FOR PROMOTION

### Esther 2:12 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Each young woman's turn came to go in to King Ahasuerus after she had completed twelve months' preparation, according to the regulations for the women, for thus were the days of their preparation apportioned: six months with oil of myrrh, and six months with perfumes and preparations for beautifying women.

## OIL

In scripture oil represents the Holy Spirit

- She had to soak in oil to smooth her skin, her toes, her feet
- She was a simple “country girl” living in the hills and mountains
- Before God can use you, He has to soak you in the Holy Spirit
- It will smooth out the rough places in your life

Esther was going to determine the fate of her nation

She had to be anointed

- After soaking for six months Esther is a picture of someone who is attuned to the Holy Spirit
- Remember you not only have a mind and body
- You are a spirit

### Titus 3:5 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

## PERFUME

In the Bible, incense represents the praises of God and the prayers of His people

Just like perfume makes you smell good, gets people's attention and draws them to you a life of praise and prayer gets people's attention and draws them to you

- It also rises to heaven before the throne of God!

### Hebrews 13:15 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

When we praise God verbally it is liking spraying perfume or cologne that goes up to heaven and gets God's attention

Esther's scent reached the king before she did

- When you praise Him, you invite the presence of God
  - The calm of God
  - The serenity of God
- With praise you get a sense of your purpose and direction

### Esther 4:14 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for *such* a time as this?"