

- I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. MEDITATION

A. Review your class notes from Tuesday.

- Take some time to think about the main ideas of the lesson. If you want to add details to your notes, you'll find the audio message on our website under the Resources tab. (www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com).
- Which of the scriptures referenced were particularly meaningful to you? Write out those verses below and spend some time studying them this week.

- B. Rewrite your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

III. PRINCIPLES

Use the principles found in these Scriptures to help you understand and cultivate a new way of thinking. This process will transform you to become more and more like Christ:

A. CONTAIN

- As new creations in Christ, our hearts already contain the love of God: Rom 5:5--The love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
- God's intent is for intimate relationship, He desires that we choose to welcome and receive His love. He longs to see passion and intentionality in us: Song 2:8-13 TPT—(Bride) Listen! I hear my lover's voice. I know it's him coming to me—leaping with joy over the mountains, skipping in love over the hills that separate us, to come to me. Let me describe him: He is graceful as a gazelle—swift as a wild stag. Now he comes closer, even to the places where I hide. He gazes into my soul, peering through the portal as he blossoms within my heart. The one I love calls to me. (Bridegroom) Arise, my dearest. Hurry, my darling. Come along with me! I have come as you have asked to draw you to my heart and lead you out. For now is the time, my beautiful one. The season has changed, the bondage of your barren winter has ended, and the season of hiding is over and gone. The rains have soaked the earth and left it bright with blossoming flowers. The season for singing and pruning the vines has arrived. I hear the cooing of doves in our land, filling the air with songs to awaken you and guide you forth. Can you not discern this new day of destiny breaking forth around you? The early signs of my purposes and plans are bursting forth. The budding vines of new life are not blooming everywhere. The fragrance of their flowers whispers: "There is change in the air." Arise, my love, my beautiful companion, and run with me to the higher place. For now is the time to arise and come away with me.
- Continue to enter into the truth of God's love for you, letting it transform the way you think about your identity, reality, and destiny. Listen again to the resources we used in our meditation time:
 - "Inheritance (Live)" Jonathan David Helsner, YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuIEHkRF-wU>
 - "Song of Solomon," Martin Smith, Official Lyric Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zyIR4N5EFt8>
 - Song of Songs, the Passion Translation: <https://www.amazon.com/Song-Songs-Romance-Passion-Translation/dp/1424549574>
- Insights:

A. REMAIN

- As we are learning by experience how much God loves us, we must train our minds to become consistently fixed on that love: Jn 15:13 NLT-- I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love.
- Love is the antidote to fear: 1 Jn 4:18 NLT-- Perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.
- Fear and faith are considered opposites. However, they are similar in that they are both powered by our focus: 1 Corinthians 16:13--Keep alert, stand firm in your faith

- Think thoughts that elevate your focus and enable you to RISE above your fears: Phil 4:8 AMP-- Whatever is true, whatever is honorable *and* worthy of respect, whatever is right *and* confirmed by God's word, whatever is pure *and* wholesome, whatever is lovely *and* brings peace, whatever is admirable *and* of good repute; if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think *continually* on these things [center your mind on them, and implant them in your heart].
- The word for "think" in Philippians 4:8 = "make it your habit of thought"
- As we keep our minds fixed on the Greater Reality of God's perfect love for us, we become more solidly rooted and grounded in our intimate relationship with Him.
- Our connection with God can be undermined by wrong focus. Adam and Eve are a perfect example: Gen 2:16-17 NLT--But the Lord God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- Make it your habit of thought to concentrate on what God has given you vs. what you lack.
- When fear or anxiety is present, it can be our signal to realign our thoughts with the MOC.
- Focus on intimate connection with God when you are anxious or worried: Phil 4:6-7 MSG--Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.

Insights:

B. DETAIN

- Don't be surprised when things happen to disrupt the intimate connection you enjoy with God: Song 2:15 TPT—You must catch the troubling foxes, those sly little foxes that hinder our relationship. For they raid our budding vineyard of love to ruin what I've planted within you. Will you catch them and remove them for me? We will do it together.
 1. Infiltrate
 - Remember the continuum from Ephesians 3: Greater Intimacy → Greater Capacity → Greater Power. We can work backwards to find out what is hindering our intimacy.
 - The Axe Head: 2 Kings 6:1-7-- Now the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "Behold now, the place before you where we are living is too limited for us. Please let us go to the Jordan and each of us take from there a beam, and let us make a place there for ourselves where we may live." So he said, "Go." Then one said, "Please be willing to go with your servants." And he answered, "I shall go." So he went with them; and when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees. But as one was felling a beam, the axe head fell into the water; and he cried out and said, "Alas, my master! For it was borrowed." Then the man of God said, "Where did it fall?" And when he showed him the place, he cut off a stick and threw it in there, and made the iron float. He said, "Take it up for yourself." So he put out his hand and took it.
 - The axe head represents the power that we borrow from the Holy Spirit for living God's Will God's Way. The stick thrown into the water symbolizes the Cross. Elisha's role is like that of Christ, prodding us to go back to the place where the power was lost.

- Notice that there was no condemnation for losing the axe head. The purpose of returning to the point of disconnection was so that restoration could happen.
- Sometimes we knowingly turn away from God to our own will and way: Eph 4:30 MSG-- Don't grieve God. Don't break his heart. His Holy Spirit, moving and breathing in you, is the most intimate part of your life, making you fit for himself. Don't take such a gift for granted.
- Sometimes we attempt to move in power in a place where God is not calling us to go. For example, we are not responsible to wear the burdens of others. The Helper will show you how He wants you to help: Gal 6:2, 5 NAS--Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ 5 For each one will bear his own load.
- When you sense powerlessness, stop and ask the Lord to reveal the cause:
 - Where did the axe head fall? (When and where did HS power disappear?)
 - What was I thinking?
 - Please forgive me for _____ (unbelief, believing a lie, etc.)
 - Thank You for restoring intimate connection between us. I receive your love, forgiveness, and the power of Your Spirit.

Insights:

2. Interrogate

- The enemy raises arguments against God's love: 2 Cor 10:5a NIV—We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God
- God is never the sponsor of fearful or condemning thoughts: Rom 8:31ff MSG-- So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing himself to the worst by sending his own Son, is there anything else he wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us.
- Satan hates us being rooted intimately in God's love! He will argue using many tactics including calling into question our identity, worthiness, and God's character. He will pull out his arrows of rejection, regret, fear, doubt, guilt, shame, and condemnation.
- Arguments are intended to rob us of our inheritance in Christ: Jn 10:10 NLT--The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.
- Take time with the Lord to interrogate the thoughts that are sent to destroy:
 - Where did that thought come from?
 - Where is that line of thinking going?
 - Is there a particular aspect of your destiny or call being targeted by the enemy?
 - What thought/mindset is holding you back from a call, vision, dream, or promise of God?

Insights:

3. Incarcerate

- Defeat the enemy by taking hold of “the habit of thought” that has been holding you back.
- Take authority over these thoughts and take them captive: 2 Cor 10:5b TPT—We capture, like prisoners of war, every thought and insist that it bow in obedience to the Anointed One.
- Bind thoughts of darkness and take hold of Kingdom truths: Mt 16:19 AMP-- I will give you the keys (authority) of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind [forbid, declare to be improper and unlawful] on earth will have [already] been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose [permit, declare lawful] on earth will have [already] been loosed in heaven.
- Harness the power of God’s love to do damage to the messages from hell:
 - 1 Cor 13:8—Love never fails.
 - Rom 8:37 NLT-- Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 - Ps 52:8 TV-- But my life is *abundant*—like a lush olive tree *cared for* at the house of the *one* True God. I put my trust in His kind love forever and ever; *it will never fail*.
 - Ps 103:3-5 TV-- Despite all your *many* offenses, He forgives *and releases you*. *More than any doctor*, He heals your diseases. He reaches *deep* into the pit to deliver you from death. He crowns you with unfailing love and compassion *like a king*. *When your soul is famished and withering*, He fills you with good *and beautiful* things, satisfying you as long as you live. He makes you *strong* like an eagle, restoring your youth.
- His love is so far beyond human love that it is can be hard to believe. Let’s make this incredible Good News our habit of thought in order to find liberty from lies and fear.

Insights:

Continue to apply the principles from our previous teaching on the Mind of Christ:

- Set your intentions daily: cultivating the Mind of Christ, head to heart processing, commitment to God’s will God’s way, R.I.S.E. above your circumstances, and practice.
- Interact with God from the place of His intentionality toward you: Truth in the Inmost Being, Intimate Knowing, Love and Kindness, Trustworthiness
- Pay attention so that you don’t aimlessly drift due to immaturity, insecurity, or impurity.
- Cultivate heart knowledge by meditating on God’s word vs. skimming the surface.
- Meet God’s intention for intimacy with your time, vulnerability, and submission to the relationship.
- Remember that your identity is not based on your background or behavior. You are a Child of God. He has opened the door for you to become Friend of God and Bride of Christ.
- Tools & Techniques: Elevation and Articulation (I Feel), Listening to God, Liberation, Understanding Forgiveness, Personal Inventory, and Spiritual Blessings (promises)

Keep a written record of how God ministers to you this week. If you don’t have one, start a spiritual journal. Come back ready to share what you’ve experienced.