



# Hear God

# Through Your Dreams

## Are You Wasting $\frac{1}{3}$ of Your Life?

I will bless the Lord  
who has counseled me;  
Indeed, my mind instructs  
me in the night.  
(Ps. 16:7 NAS)

Mark & Patti Virkler

# Hear God Through Your Dreams

by

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This manual is the result of the united efforts of both authors. The concepts and ideas are a culmination of cooperative study and revelation. The experiences described are common to both. The pronoun “I” is used to demonstrate the unity of our thoughts.

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# Contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Part 1 - Biblical Research Concerning Dreams and Visions .....</b> | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>Part 2 - Teacher's Guide and Suggested Answers .....</b>           | <b>47</b> |
| <b>Part 3 - Corresponds with CD and DVD series .....</b>              | <b>77</b> |

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Introduction ..... | ix |
|--------------------|----|

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| <b>Part 1 .....</b> | <b>1</b> |
|---------------------|----------|

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Principles of Christian Dream Interpretation ..... | 3 |
|--|---|

|                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| The Art of Dream Interpretation ..... | 15 |
|---------------------------------------|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| The Student, the Fish, and Agassiz ..... | 16 |
|--|----|

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Biblical Meditation ..... | 18 |
|---------------------------|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Biblical Research Concerning Dreams and Visions ..... | 21 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. God's Covenant with Abram (Genesis 15:1-21) ..... | 21 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 2. Abraham's Treachery Toward Abimelech (Genesis 20:1-18) ..... | 21 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 3. Jacob's Covenant Dream (Genesis 28:10-22) ..... | 21 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 4. Jacob's Dream Concerning Goats (Genesis 31:10-29) ..... | 22 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 5. Joseph's Childhood Dreams (Genesis 37:1-11) ..... | 22 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 6. The Cupbearer's and Baker's Dreams (Genesis 40:1-23) ..... | 23 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 7. Pharaoh's Dream (Genesis 41:1-49) ..... | 23 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 8. Israel Encouraged to Go to Egypt (Genesis 46:1-7) ..... | 24 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 9. God's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Numbers 12:6-8) ..... | 24 |
|---|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 10. Balaam's Prophecy (Numbers 24:1-25) ..... | 24 |
|---|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 11. Laws Concerning Judging Dreams (Deuteronomy 13:1-5) ..... | 25 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 12. Dream Encouraging Gideon (Judges 7:9-18) ..... | 25 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 13. Saul Inquires of the Lord (I Samuel 28:6) ..... | 26 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 14. Solomon's Dream (I Kings 3:5-28) ..... | 26 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 15. Eliphaz Received a Vision of the Night (Job 4:12-21) ..... | 26 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 16. Elihu's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Job 33:14-18) ..... | 27 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 17. Solomon's Proverb Concerning Vision (Proverbs 29:18) ..... | 27 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 18. Isaiah's Visions (Isaiah 1:1; 2:1; 6:1; 13:1; 21:2) ..... | 27 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 19. Jeremiah's Vision (Jeremiah 1:11-19) ..... | 28 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 20. The False Dreamers (Jeremiah 23:25-40) ..... | 28 |
|--|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 21. More about False Dreamers (Jeremiah 27:9-11) ..... | 29 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 22. Ezekiel's Visions (Ezekiel 1:1,3; 8:1-18) ..... | 29 |
|---|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 23. Daniel's Ability to Understand Dreams (Daniel 1:17) ..... | 29 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 24. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream (Daniel 2:1-49) ..... | 30 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 25. Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of a Great Tree (Daniel 4:4-37) ..... | 31 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 26. Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts (Daniel 7:1-28) ..... | 32 |
|--|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 27. Daniel's Vision of the Ram and Goat (Daniel 8:1-27) ..... | 33 |
|---|----|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 28. Daniel's Terrifying Vision (Daniel 10:1 - 12:13) ..... | 33 |
|--|----|

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 29. God's Review of Old Testament History (Hosea 12:9,10) .....       | 34        |
| 30. The Promise of the Spirit (Joel 2:28,29) .....                    | 34        |
| 31. Obadiah's Vision (Obadiah 1) .....                                | 34        |
| 32. Nahum's Vision (Nahum 1:1,2) .....                                | 35        |
| 33. Habakkuk's Vision (Habakkuk 2) .....                              | 35        |
| 34. The Diviners' Lying Visions (Zechariah 10:2) .....                | 35        |
| 35. Prophesying Forth the Vision (Zechariah 13:4) .....               | 36        |
| 36. Joseph's Dream (Matthew 1:20-25) .....                            | 36        |
| 37. Joseph's Second Dream (Matthew 2:3-15) .....                      | 36        |
| 38. Joseph's Third and Fourth Dreams (Matthew 2:19-23) .....          | 37        |
| 39. The Vision on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9) ..... | 37        |
| 40. Prophecy Concerning the Last Days (Acts 2:17) .....               | 38        |
| 41. Saul's Vision on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-9) .....          | 38        |
| 42. Ananias' Vision (Acts 9:10-19) .....                              | 38        |
| 43. Cornelius' and Peter's Visions (Acts 10:1-48) .....               | 39        |
| 44. The Macedonian Vision (Acts 16:6-11) .....                        | 39        |
| 45. Paul's Vision While in Corinth (Acts 18:1-11) .....               | 40        |
| 46. The Visions of John (Book of Revelation) .....                    | 40        |
| 47. For Further Research .....  | 40        |
| The Unchanging God - Dreams Today .....                               | 41        |
| <b>Part 2 .....</b>   | <b>47</b> |
| The Place of a Teacher's Guide .....                                  | 49        |
| Session 1 - Course Overview .....                                     | 50        |
| Session 2 - Suggestions for Interpreting Your Dream .....             | 52        |
| Suggested Format for Sessions 2-9 .....                               | 53        |
| Session 10 .....  | 54        |
| Session 11 .....  | 55        |
| Biblical Research Concerning Dreams and Visions .....                 | 57        |
| 1. God's Covenant with Abram (Genesis 15:1-21) .....                  | 57        |
| 2. Abraham's Treachery Toward Abimelech (Genesis 20:1-18) .....       | 57        |
| 3. Jacob's Covenant Dream (Genesis 28:10-22) .....                    | 57        |
| 4. Jacob's Dream Concerning Goats (Genesis 31:10-29) .....            | 58        |
| 5. Joseph's Childhood Dreams (Genesis 37:1-11) .....                  | 58        |
| 6. The Cupbearer's and Baker's Dreams (Genesis 40:1-23) .....         | 59        |
| 7. Pharoah's Dream (Genesis 41:1-49) .....                            | 59        |
| 8. Israel Encouraged to Go to Egypt (Genesis 46:1-7) .....            | 60        |
| 9. God's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Numbers 12:6-8) .....         | 60        |
| 10. Balaam's Prophecy (Numbers 24:1-25) .....                         | 60        |
| 11. Laws Concerning Judging Dreams (Deuteronomy 13:1-5) .....         | 61        |
| 12. Dream Encouraging Gideon (Judges 7:9-18) .....                    | 61        |
| 13. Saul Inquires of the Lord (I Samuel 28:6) .....                   | 62        |
| 14. Solomon's Dream (I Kings 3:5-28) .....                            | 62        |
| 15. Eliphaz Received a Vision of the Night (Job 4:12-21) .....        | 62        |
| 16. Elihu's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Job 33:14-18) .....        | 63        |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 17. Solomon's Proverb Concerning Vision (Proverbs 29:18) .....                                       | 63        |
| 18. Isaiah's Visions (Isaiah 1:1; 2:1; 6:1; 13:1; 21:2) .....  | 63        |
| 19. Jeremiah's Vision (Jeremiah 1:11-19) .....   | 64        |
| 20. The False Dreamers (Jeremiah 23:25-40) .....   | 64        |
| 21. More about False Dreamers (Jeremiah 27:9-11) .....   | 65        |
| 22. Ezekiel's Visions (Ezekiel 1:1,3; 8:1-18) .....  | 65        |
| 23. Daniel's Ability to Understand Dreams (Daniel 1:17) .....  | 65        |
| 24. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream (Daniel 2:1-49) .....   | 66        |
| 25. Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of a Great Tree (Daniel 4:4-37) .....                                    | 67        |
| 26. Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts (Daniel 7:1-28) .....   | 68        |
| 27. Daniel's Vision of the Ram and Goat (Daniel 8:1-27) .....  | 69        |
| 28. Daniel's Terrifying Vision (Daniel 10:1 - 12:13) .....   | 69        |
| 29. God's Review of Old Testament History (Hosea 12:9,10) .....                                      | 70        |
| 30. The Promise of the Spirit (Joel 2:28,29) .....   | 70        |
| 31. Obadiah's Vision (Obadiah 1) .....   | 70        |
| 32. Nahum's Vision (Nahum 1:1,2) .....   | 71        |
| 33. Habakkuk's Vision (Habakkuk 2) .....   | 71        |
| 34. The Diviners' Lying Visions (Zechariah 10:2) .....   | 71        |
| 35. Prophesying Forth the Vision (Zechariah 13:4) .....  | 72        |
| 36. Joseph's Dream (Matthew 1:20-25) .....   | 72        |
| 37. Joseph's Second Dream (Matthew 2:3-15) .....   | 72        |
| 38. Joseph's Third and Fourth Dreams (Matthew 2:19-23) .....   | 73        |
| 39. The Vision on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9) .....                                | 73        |
| 40. Prophecy Concerning the Last Days (Acts 2:17) .....  | 74        |
| 41. Saul's Vision on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-9) .....   | 74        |
| 42. Ananias' Vision (Acts 9:10-19) .....   | 74        |
| 43. Cornelius' and Peter's Visions (Acts 10:1-48) .....  | 75        |
| 44. The Macedonian Vision (Acts 16:6-11) .....   | 75        |
| 45. Paul's Vision While in Corinth (Acts 18:1-11) .....  | 76        |
| 46. The Visions of John (Book of Revelation) .....   | 76        |
| 47. For Further Research .....   | 76        |
| <b>Part 3 - Corresponds with CD and DVD series .....</b>   | <b>77</b> |
| Teaching Notes, Classroom Activities and Exercises which Promote Ongoing<br>Revelation at Home ..... | 79        |



# Dedicated To

The Dreamer within,  
the Holy Spirit,  
Who grants every individual direct,  
ongoing contact with the living God.

May we learn to hear  
His voice and be directed  
and adjusted by what we hear.

*“Hear my Words; If there is a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known to him in a vision, I speak with him in a dream.” (Num. 12:6)*

Those skilled in dream interpretation, such as Daniel or Joseph, were revered.

Those who understood the revelations God had given them, such as Abraham or Solomon, became great and wise.

Those who were overcome by their inner experience, such as St. Paul or Ezekiel, became great missionaries and prophets.

*“I will bless the Lord who counsels me; He gives me wisdom in the night.  
He tells me what to do.” (Ps. 16:7 LB)*

**Note:** God counsels us nightly through dreams.





# Introduction

## **The Gift of Dreams:**

God graciously brought Rev. Herman Riffel into my life to teach me Christian dream interpretation. This was another area of the Bible I just never took seriously, probably because dreams are outside our culture's scope of rationalism. Therefore, our culture looks down its nose at them and assumes they are leftover, undigested pizza from yesterday. Obviously, this view is nowhere found in Scripture, but the Bible over and over declares unconditionally that it is God Who speaks to us through the dream (Num. 12:6; Acts 2:17) and it is God Who counsels us at night through our dreams (Ps. 16:7).

With such awesome declarations and such a wonderful opportunity to receive God's counsel free of charge on a nightly basis, you would think we would all jump at the opportunity to record our dreams and seek God for the interpretation of them. However, probably not one in 10,000 Christians has ever received any formal training on how to interpret dreams. Absolutely astounding!

Rev. Herman Riffel taught me how to hear God speaking through my dreams. He helped me search Scripture and discover how God handles and interprets the dream, so I could learn how to interpret my own dreams and the dreams of those I counsel. What a blessed gift.

I first met Herman Riffel near Toronto, Ontario. I was doing a weekend Communion with God seminar and Herman was doing a Christian Dream Interpretation seminar in the same city. Since my seminar finished before his, I went over to pick up the end of his seminar and make his acquaintance. From that meeting, a wonderful relationship developed and we were able to invite him to our church-centered Bible school to videotape him teaching twelve hours on the principles of Christian Dream Interpretation. On the videos he actually interviews students and interprets their dreams. Wow! A Daniel in our midst. And we have this statesman on audio and video tape so we can pass on his lifetime knowledge of Christian dream interpretation to the Church. What a blessing to the body of Christ!

Now I can put my journal next to my bed and record my dreams when I awake. Then I can ask God for an interpretation of these dreams. As I quiet myself to hear His voice, I use the same four keys that I had discovered when initially learning to hear God's voice. I become still, picture the dream, tune to spontaneity, and ask God to help me understand the symbols the dream is using to communicate a message to me. Following are a few excellent biblical principles that Herman teaches which assist me greatly in understanding how to view a dream.



# Part 1



# Principles of Christian Dream Interpretation

## Defining Dream and Vision:

1. Dream - "A sequence of images, etc. passing through a sleeping person's mind" (*Webster's Dictionary*)
2. Vision - "A mental image" (*Webster's Dictionary*)
3. "In a dream, a vision of the night..." (Job 33:15)

You will note from this verse the close connection the Hebrews maintained between the dream and the vision. The words are used almost interchangeably.

Both dreams and visions involve the viewing of images on the screen within one's mind. Often we would think of a dream as the flow of these images while sleeping and a vision as the flow of these images while awake.

4. Daydreaming is MAN utilizing the visionary process. This is not encouraged, and may be what is referred to in Ecclesiastes 5:7. It is better to present the eyes of the heart to God and ask Him to fill them with a divine flow of dreams, visions and godly imaginations.

## Some Scientific Observations Concerning Dreams

Sleep laboratories have proven that everyone dreams one to two hours each night during a certain period of sleep known as alpha level, which is light sleep. Every 90-minute cycle of sleep begins with alpha, then goes into deeper sleep which is called theta, and finally deepest sleep which is called delta.

At the close of the first 90-minute cycle each night, the individual returns to alpha level sleep, where he has a short, five-minute dream period. The next time he cycles up to alpha, he has a ten-minute dream period. The third time in alpha, the dream period is about 15 min-

utes, and so on. If one sleeps a full eight hours, the entire last hour is essentially spent in alpha level sleep. Thus, the average person sleeping for eight hours a night will dream about one to two hours of that time.

Alpha level sleep is where one has what is called Rapid Eye Movement (REM). Rapid Eye Movement is exactly what it sounds like: the eyes of the dreamer begin moving rapidly. He is actually watching the scenes in the dream, and thus his eyes are literally moving back and forth, observing the action. By observing the alpha level sleep when Rapid Eye Movement occurs, researchers in sleep laboratories have determined when a person is dreaming and how much time is spent dreaming in an average night.

They have discovered that if they awaken a person every time REM begins, preventing him from dreaming, after about three nights the individual will begin to show signs of having a nervous breakdown. Clearly dreams are an inner release mechanism which helps provide us with emotional balance and maintain our sanity. Dreams can be considered guardians of our mental and emotional well-being.

## Seven Reasons We Should Listen to Our Dreams

1. God declared that He WOULD speak through dreams and visions in the Old Testament.

*And He said, "Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream" (Num. 12:6).*

2. God declared that He DID speak through dreams and visions in the Old Testament.

*"I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets" (Hos. 12:10).*

3. God declares that He WILL communicate through dreams and visions in the New Testament.

*“And it shall come to pass in the last days,” saith God, “I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams” (Acts 2:17).*

4. God declares that He WILL COUNSEL us at night through our dreams.

*I will bless the Lord who has counseled me; Indeed, my mind (inner man) instructs me in the night (Ps. 16:7 NASB).*

5. Rather than our dreams being fatalistic, dreams are calling us to change SO WE WILL NOT PERISH.

*For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed; Then He openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction, That He may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride from man. He keepeth back his soul from the pit, **and his life from perishing** by the sword (Job 33:14-18, emphasis mine).*

6. God does very significant things WITHIN dreams. For example, He established the Abrahamic Covenant in a dream.

*And when the sun was going down, a **deep sleep** fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him....And God said to Abram....In the same day the LORD **made a covenant** with Abram, saying... (Gen. 15:12,13,18, emphasis mine).*

7. God grants supernatural gifts THROUGH dreams.

*In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, “Ask what I shall give thee....”*

*“Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge Thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this Thy so great a people?”*

*“...Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee....” And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream (I Kings 3:5,9,12,15).*

## Summarizing the Importance of Our Dreams

God has chosen to communicate with mankind through dreams. He guides and counsels us through our dreams. He establishes covenants with us through our dreams. He grants us gifts in our dreams. He utilized dreams from Genesis to Revelation, and declared that He would continue to use them in the last days. When you total up all dreams and visions in the Bible, and all the stories and actions which come out of these dreams and visions, you have about one-third of the Bible, which is equal to the size of the New Testament! Dreams are a central way God has chosen to communicate with us, and thus they *must* be given great weight!

## Five Things You Can Do to Help Recall Your Dreams

1. Say to yourself, “I believe dreams contain a valid message.”

This is a signal to your heart that you are taking it seriously and want to hear what it has to tell you. You are giving it permission, and even asking it to awaken you after each dream. Your heart will do exactly that. You see, if you do not awaken within

five minutes of the dream ending, you will not recall it. If, however, you tell your heart that dreams are leftover undigested pizza, then your heart lets you sleep through the dream and doesn't awaken you after it is over, and thus you do not recall it.

2. Ask God to speak to you through dreams as you fall asleep.

God does answer prayers, especially when prayed in accordance to His will!

3. Put your journal beside your bed and immediately record your dreams upon awakening.

You will forget most of your dreams by the morning, so get up and write them down when you awaken.

4. Get eight hours of sleep, as the entire last hour will be dream-time.
5. Awaken naturally, without the use of an alarm clock, as alarms shatter dream recall and blast tidbits of dreams into oblivion where they are never found.

If you will do the above five things, you will recall dreams every week.

### **Seven Foundational Principles for Interpreting Dreams**

1. Most dreams are symbolic (including biblical dreams), so view them the same way you would view a political cartoon. Throw the switch in your brain that says, "Look at this symbolically."

You can learn the art of communicating symbolically by playing the game "Pictionary" or "Bible Pictionary."

2. The symbols will come from the dreamer's life, so ask, "What does this symbol mean to me?" or, if working on another's dream, ask, "What does this symbol mean to you?"

For example, Joseph was a shepherd, and he dreamed of sheaves and sun, moon and stars bowing down (Gen. 37:1-11). These images surround a shepherd boy who lives in the fields. Nebuchadnezzar, a king, dreamed of statues of gold (Dan 2:31 ff), which surround kings who live in palaces.

3. The dream generally speaks of the concerns which your heart is currently facing. So ask, "What issues was I processing the day before I had the dream?"

For example, Paul was wondering where to go next on his missionary journey and had a dream of a Macedonian man motioning for him to come on over (Acts 16:6-11). Nebuchadnezzar was thinking his kingdom would go on forever (Dan. 4:28-33) and he had a dream of a tree being chopped off at the roots (Dan. 4:9-27). Once you know the thoughts that were on the dreamer's heart when he fell asleep, it is much easier to draw out the meaning of the dream.

4. The meaning of the dream must be drawn from the dreamer. Realize you know nothing about the dream, but through dependence upon the Holy Spirit and the skillful use of questions, you can draw the meaning of the dream out from the heart of the dreamer.

*As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams (Dan. 1:17).*

*Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out (Prov. 20:5).*

5. The dreamer's heart will leap and "witness" and say, "Aha!" when it hears the right interpretation, so never accept an interpretation that does not bear witness in the dreamer's heart.



6. Dreams reveal but do not condemn. Their goal is to preserve life, not to destroy it (Job 33:13-18).
7. Never make a major decision in your life based only on a dream without receiving additional confirmation from the other ways that God speaks to us and guides us (peace in our hearts, the counsel of others, illumined Scriptures, God's still small voice, prophecy, anointed reasoning, etc.).

## Discerning Dreams About Yourself

At least 95% of your dreams will be about you – your inner self, your current situation, your relationships. **Your dreams** come from **your heart** and will express the things that are important to your heart. The most common area your spirit will reveal will be your emotional, heart struggles and sanctification issues, expressed symbolically. Body and health issues are also important to your spirit, so they may be revealed, again in a symbolic way. Your relationships to other people are important to your heart, so these may be conveyed in signs and symbols. And the circumstances and events that surround your life, ministry or vocation are also important to your heart, so these may be portrayed symbolically in your dreams.

Because the vast majority of dreams are about your inner self, begin the process of interpreting your dream with the assumption that it probably is about something you are or should be dealing with in your own life right now.

*Isolate the **feeling** of the dream first.* How did you feel upon first awakening? Was your heart pounding in fear? Were you confused, frustrated, angry, rejected, or threatened? Did you feel loved, excited, happy, or content? Did you feel exposed, unprepared, or disappointed? What was the overall emotion that the dream evoked? In what aspect of your life are you also feeling this emotion? If it is not immediately obvious to you, ask the Lord to reveal it to you.

*Look at the **action** of the dream next.* Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the symbolism of the action. For example, if the symbol in your dream is that your car is going backward, ask, “In what way do I feel that I am

going backward, that I am not moving forward in this area of my life?” If someone else is driving your car in the dream, ask, “In what way is this person driving or controlling my life (e.g., my reactions, attitudes, behaviors) at this time?” or “How is the characteristic that this person symbolizes controlling me?” (See the section below on the symbolism of people in your dreams.) If you are falling, ask “In what way do I feel like I am falling, losing ground, or out of control in my life at this time?” If you are soaring, ask, “In what way or what area of my life do I feel like I am flying, that I am rising above my problems or my abilities?” If you are being chased, ask, “How and why do I feel like I am being pursued or hunted?” If you are naked, ask, “In what way do I feel like I am exposed and vulnerable?” If you dream of dying, ask, “What is dying within me?” (This may be a good thing, for perhaps you are dying to pride, or to self, or to workaholism.)

Remember, actions in the dream are to be viewed symbolically. If your dream wanted to really show you that you were going to die, it would picture that event symbolically. For example, just a few days before his assassination, President Lincoln dreamed of a casket.

Once you have used the feeling and action of the dream to identify the aspect of your life that it is revealing to you, the rest of the symbols will be much easier to identify.

*The **people** in your dreams often represent characteristics within you.* You can determine what facet of yourself they are representing by simply asking, “What is the dominant personality trait of this person, as I know him?” The answer will tell you what aspect of yourself you are dreaming about. For example, your heart may want to show you the entrepreneur, the hospitable host, the administrator, the class clown, the spiritual leader, the laid back one, the workaholic, etc. that is within you by the appearance in your dream of an individual who epitomizes that kind of person to you. Your pastor may be the spiritual part of you; a president or king may symbolize other leadership qualities within you; a policeman, judge, or dictator may be the authority figure in you; people in uniform (nurses, waiters, choir members) may represent your desire to conform.

It is also possible that the person's name may be the point that the dream is trying to bring out, especially if that name is spoken within the dream. Dreaming of a friend named Charity or Joy or Grace or Joshua or David may be your heart's way of calling your attention to the qualities that are seen in the meaning of the name. Or the name may actually sound like the message the dream is trying to convey. For example, dreaming of "Sharon" might be your heart's way of pointing out an area in which you should be "sharing" something you are not, or should not be sharing something you are. One person reported dreaming of a friend named "Anita Cook" and finding the interpretation to be "I need to cook."

It is also possible that the Lord Himself or one of His angels may meet you in the dream.

**Animals** often represent your emotions. Ask, "What emotion might this animal be symbolizing to me?" This will depend on your geographical home, your personal experiences, your knowledge of the Bible, and your own culture. For example, a bull might be anger (an "angry bull"); a fox, craftiness; a cat, curiosity; a dove, peace; an eagle, freedom; a snake, subtlety; a lion, royalty, and so on. Keep in mind that in the Bible, a lion is used to represent both Christ ("the Lion of the tribe of Judah") and satan ("as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour"). Therefore, you must maintain your dependence upon the Holy Spirit to reveal what the animal represents in your specific dream.

When you face the animal representing your emotions in your dream rather than running from it, you may find that the animal changes into a different one. It is good to face your emotions.

**Numbers** in dreams generally represent the identical number in real life. However, the number will probably be linked to something which needs to be interpreted symbolically. For example, when Joseph dreamed of eleven stars, the eleven was literal but the stars were symbolic and actually represented his brothers. Joseph was dreaming about his eleven brothers (Gen. 37:1-11). Likewise, the cupbearer's dream of three branches stood for three days (Gen. 40:12), and for the chief baker, the three baskets represented three days (Gen. 40:18). In Pharaoh's dream, the seven cows were seven years (Gen. 41:26). So expect the number to mean that exact number of something. It will take prayer, discernment and the revelation of the Spirit (confirmed by the leap in your heart) to determine what it means.

Continue to move through the dream, seeking revelation on symbol after symbol, until you sense in your spirit that the interpretation is complete.

Occasionally you may have dreams that relate to more than your personal, inner life. If you have examined the dream carefully, in full reliance upon the Holy Spirit to bring the interpretation, and you cannot see how the symbols of the dream apply to you, seek the input of your spiritual counselors. They may be able to see your blind spots and recognize the message your heart is trying to give you.

If your counselors agree that the dream does not apply to your inner life, you may then consider the possibility that it is a dream for or about others. One indication that this may be a dream for another rather than you is if you are an observer of the action of the dream, rather than a participant.

Following are some biblical dreams that demonstrate this principle:

Gen. 15:1-21 Abraham in interaction with God & sleeps = dream about himself  
Gen. 20:1-18 Abimelech and God in interaction = dream about himself  
Gen. 28:10-22 Jacob being spoken to by God = dream about himself  
Gen. 31:10-29 Jacob and God in interaction = dream about himself  
Gen. 37:1-11 Joseph and brothers in interaction = dream about himself  
Gen. 40:1-23 Cupbearer and Baker = dreams about themselves  
Gen. 41:1-49 Pharaoh's dream of 7 cows = dream for others  
Gen. 46:1-7 Israel in dialogue with God = dream about himself  
Judges 7:9-18 Loaf of bread hitting camp = dream about himself  
1 Kings 3:5-28 God and Solomon interact = dream about himself  
Daniel 2:1-49 Statue hit by stone = dream about others  
Daniel 7:1-28 Four beasts = dream about others  
Daniel 8:1-27 Ram and goat = dream about others  
Daniel 10:1-12:13 Terrifying vision = dream about others  
Matt. 1:20-25 God spoke to Joseph = dream about himself  
Matt. 2:3-15 God spoke to Joseph = dream about himself  
Matt. 2:19-23 God spoke to Joseph = dream about himself

**Summary:** Thirteen (13) dreams about the dreamer; four dreams about others.

Two important observations may be made from the biblical example:

1. The dreams for or about others were prophetic in nature and were **all** given to kings or king's advisors concerning the future of their kingdoms. The principle which may be drawn from this is that dreams (and indeed all revelation from the Holy Spirit) are only given to us that apply to our own area of responsibility. We do not hear from God about people over whom we have no influence, authority or accountability.
2. Dreams about self may be **for the dreamer and** his descendents. Again, the revelation of the dream was not given to any random individual, but to one with authority and influence. Intercessors may be given revelation of others, so they can pray for them.

It is vital to remember this principle: *All kinds* of dreams can contain symbolic language, literal language, or a combination of symbolic and literal language.

When interpreting dreams, look for metaphors, similes, and metonymies of our language. Dreaming about ketchup may be calling you to "catch up" in some area. A fire may be trying to warn you that you are "playing with fire." A dream of being smothered or drowned may indicate that you are feeling "in over your head." A frozen lake, an ice flow, or even ice cubes may be cautioning you that you are only seeing "the tip of the iceberg." Having your glasses broken may be an indication that you are not seeing the situation clearly. One lady reported that a dream of a fire in the kitchen of her house was a warning that she had an inflammation in her digestive tract. Other examples of word plays that may show up in your dreams include: "walking a mile in someone else's shoes;" "being born in a barn;" "being up the creek without a paddle;" "as the crow flies;" "throwing the baby out with the bath water;" "on a level playing field;" "throwing a wrench in the works;" "at the eleventh hour;" or "speaking with a forked tongue." Your heart may use one of these pictures in your dreams, expecting that you will understand the symbolic meaning of the expression.

Think outside the box! Be prepared for unexpected and clever ways for your heart to get its point across to your conscious mind. Be open to plays on words and lateral connections.

*Finally*, always remember that God is big enough and gracious enough to make sure that you understand the message He wants to give you. If your understanding of dream interpretation is different than that given above, He will meet you in the dream according to your expectations.

### **THE SIMPLEST METHOD FOR INTERPRETING A DREAM ABOUT YOURSELF**

The best way to interpret a dream is to start with the first symbol and try to interpret that. Then go on to the next symbol, and so on. Continually ask the question, "In what way am I experiencing this symbol in my life at this time?"

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### **DREAMS ABOUT OTHERS**

Perhaps only 5% of our dreams are about others. This dream is not talking about parts of yourself, but about real outer situations. I have discovered that the more right brain a person is (i.e., visionary and intuitive) the more likely he is to dream further away from home (away from his own self). That means that right brain people may be more likely to have a greater number of dreams about others.

For example, I have noted that three different women who scored very strongly "right-brained" on a Brain Preference Indicator test (the highest scores I have seen) have vivid dreams about others in which they see the murders, rapes, and thefts taking place in their communities that night, and which are indeed reported in the newspaper the following day. These were literal dreams of real life events. Obviously, not all dreams about others show such fearsome pictures. These are just given as examples I am personally aware of.

Dreams about others are shared publicly much more often than dreams about self, which is why the vast ma-

jority of the dreams in the Bible fall into the category of dreams about others.

### **CLUES WHICH MAY INDICATE YOUR DREAM IS ABOUT OTHERS**

1. You are an observer of the action.

If you play an active role in the dream, it is likely a dream about you. If you are only an observer to the activity of the dream, it is likely a dream about others.

2. The dream just does not fit your life.

You should always ask God, "Lord, show me any way the events in this dream are revealing struggles my heart is currently facing." If you cannot see that the dream is talking about an issue you are facing, and your spiritual counselor cannot help you see how this may be something your heart is currently processing, then you may assume that the dream is not about you.

### **Dreams Which Tell of the Future**

In a sense, many dreams are foretelling the future. Some dreams may simply be showing what will happen in the near future if one does not repent and change his ways. Other dreams seem to tell of the very distant future, as some of the Bible dreams appear to do. Perhaps more prophetic people may find that they dream further into the future and further away from themselves, while people who are not prophetic may tend to dream closer to home (i.e., have dreams which deal with issues concerning their own hearts' struggles).

### **Additional Thoughts Concerning Working with Dreams**

1. Dreams are reliable messengers. They reveal the condition of one's heart (Dan. 2:30), as well as the voice of God within one's heart (Acts 2:17). They may from time to time reveal direct attacks of Satan or demons upon the heart. (Job 4:12-21 may be an example of a demon speaking accusation leading toward hopelessness and death - this is the only possible biblical example of a demon

speaking through a dream.) In my own life, I have had only one dream which the Lord has told me to ignore because it was satanic. Thus, because of the biblical evidence and because of my own life's experience, I do not attribute many dreams to satan or demons.

2. In the Bible, when people awakened, they acted upon their dreams. Act on your dreams!
3. Do not pose as an expert on interpreting others' dreams until you have been interpreting your own for five years. You can offer ideas and advice to others concerning their dreams, however you are not to pose as an expert.
4. As with prophecy, the messages and warnings in dreams are conditioned upon man's response (Ezek. 33:13-16). The dream is calling you to act or change so some calamity will not befall you. If you respond appropriately, the calamity will not come.
5. Sexual dreams should be viewed symbolically. Sexual intercourse is a symbol of union, so ask the question, "In what way is there a union or joining taking place within me?" This will probably be a union of previously warring parts of yourself (for example - a merging of the workaholic part of yourself with the laid back part of yourself could appear as a dream of sexual intercourse). Or if you needed to incorporate the gift of hospitality into your being, you may have a dream of sexual intercourse between yourself and a person you know whose chief trait is that of hospitality.
6. Repeated dreams occur because you did not hear and act on the message of the dream when it spoke to you the first time.
7. Nightmares are the scream of an unhealed heart, asking you to apply the prayer ministries of inner healing and deliverance to the areas of need within you. In my own life, a recurring nightmare of 15 years disappeared immediately and completely

when I had a demon cast out which was underlying the fear being portrayed in the nightmare.

8. The most natural interpretation is most likely correct.
9. Successive dreams on the same night are usually dealing with the same issue, presenting various approaches to it and offering the proper solution to the dilemma.
10. The dream calls the dreamer to action.
11. As you approach the dream, recognize that you know nothing about the dream. The dream and the dreamer's heart will need to tell you what it means.
12. Religion tries to get to God through developing theologies, stirring up emotions, and setting one's will. God comes to man through directly encountering his heart and spirit with His voice, prophecy, dream, vision and anointing.
13. Dreams release divine creativity. Many discoveries and inventions have come through dreams. The location of the hook of the sewing machine needle came through a dream. The discovery of the round formation of the Benzene molecular structure came through a dream. These are just two of what I am convinced are thousands of examples.

### **Warnings About Dreams and Visions???**

1. There are no warnings in the Bible to beware of your own dreams, with the possible exception of Ecclesiastes 5:3,7, which is probably best understood as a reference to "daydreams" since all other references in the Bible to "dreams" are positive. When one verse contradicts many others, you need to seek to understand that one verse in light of the volume of references on the other side of the topic.
2. The only biblical caution concerning dreams, then, is when you are *listening to another's* dream.



They may be trying to lead you astray, to go after other gods (Jer. 14:14; 23:16,25-27,32; Ezek. 13:1,7; 12:24 Deut. 13:1-5; Jer. 27:9-11; Zec. 10:2).

### **Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group**

1. Have group members keep journals beside their beds and ask God to give them dreams which they will immediately record upon awakening. Dreams shared in classtime are to be recent ones so that the dreamer knows the setting of the dream, that is, the issues on his heart when he went to bed. Also, it is best in group dream work to be working with shorter dreams rather than longer ones.
2. In a group setting, never go further in interpreting a person's dream than the dreamer is willing to go. As the meaning of the dream is being drawn out, the dreamer may suddenly realize it is speaking about something he or she is not ready to discuss openly in front of the group. The dreamer therefore always reserves the right to say, "That is as far as I want to go in interpreting this dream."

### **A Method for Interpreting Dreams in a Group**

1. With the group leader presiding over the interaction, interpret two or three dreams using the following approach.

#### **The Key Question Approach Leading to Heart Revelation** (guided self-discovery):

- a) Write the dreamer's name on the top right corner of the blackboard so everyone can address him or her by name. Have the dreamer standing or sitting in the front of the room, available to answer questions from the group.
- b) The dreamer reads the dream aloud twice. While the dream is being read, someone writes on a blackboard the key elements and events of the dream, leaving space between each. If

no blackboard is present, each member of the group should create a list on a paper for their own reference.

- c) Ask the dreamer:
    - "What was the key feeling in the dream?"
    - "What was the key action in the dream?"
    - "In what area of your life are you experiencing these?"
    - This will give the dreamer and the group a reference point as to the setting of the dream, and what issue is likely being discussed. The answers to these questions can be listed across the top of the blackboard after the phrases "Key Feeling" and "Key Action."
  - d) Beginning with the first event/element of the dream and continuing to the last one, listeners then ask questions like the following:
    - What is the dominant trait of that person?
    - What emotion does that animal represent to you?
    - In what way are you experiencing (the event described in the dream) in your life at this time?
  - e) If the dreamer cannot come up with an answer to any of the above questions:
    - Remind him to relax and tune to flowing thoughts, rather than analytical thoughts, thus moving from his mind to his heart.
    - Have the group brainstorm ("heart storm"), offering suggestions of what the item in the dream might mean. These are listed on the board.
    - The dreamer then comes to the board and draws a line through the ones that definitely do not ring true in his heart, and circles the ones which his heart leaps to, offering any interpretation God is revealing to him.
2. Break the class into groups of four to six and have them work for two to three hours on dreams of individuals within their groups. Follow the "Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group" given above. Instruct the groups to use "The Key Question Ap-

proach.” If they need help, they should raise their hand to attract the attention of the classroom leader to come and work with their group.

When the seminar/classroom leader is not assisting a specific group, he should rotate from group to group making sure things are progressing well in each.

### Examples of Dream Interpretation

I had two dreams on the night following the day I learned to hear God’s voice, see God’s vision, and journal (write out what God was speaking to me). The simple act of putting my journal next to my bed and asking God to speak brought me several dreams that first night.

#### Dream # 1

I had a new job as caretaker of a house. I was in the house going up a flight of stairs and I was riding a horse. At the top of the stairs I entered the bathroom and took out some cleaning supplies.

#### Interpretation

**Question:** “In what way do I have a new job?”

**Answer:** “Just today, I have begun to hear God’s voice, see vision and journal.”

**Question:** “In what way do I feel like a horse on the stairwell?”

**Answer:** “I feel extremely awkward tuning to the flow of God’s Spirit, seeing vision, and journaling. This way of living is an art I will need to practice until I become comfortable with it. Right now, I feel like a ‘bull in the china closet.’”

**Question:** “In what way will this path take me up a flight of stairs?”

**Answer:** “Hearing God’s voice, seeing God’s vision, and recording them will take me to a higher place in my walk with God.”

**Question:** “In what way will I be getting out some cleaning supplies?”

**Answer:** “Hearing God’s voice will clean up some areas of my life.”

**Dream # 2** - on the same night as the above dream: I had pulled my car into a parking lot and turned off the ignition. However, the engine would not stop; it kept backfiring.

#### Interpretation

**Question:** “What am I trying to turn off that is not turning off?”

**Answer:** “My analytical brain, so I can tune to intuition and thus hear the voice of God.”

So the above two dreams are talking about issues taking place within me and are counseling and encouraging me, saying, “Even though I feel awkward about this new direction in my life (of hearing God’s voice, seeing vision, and journaling), if I will keep with it, it will take me to a higher place in God, and it will clean up some areas in my life. And yes, it is going to be a struggle to shut down the analytical reasoning process in my life which has ruled me and been a god in my life for many years.”

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**A dream by Mike Bastien:** Recently I had the honor of teaching a Communion with God seminar to about 35 pastors who had come for a week of training to the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship. Toward the end of the week, one pastor, Rev. Mike Bastien, voiced some concerns that he was not getting all the information I was unloading on them at breakneck speed. I assured him that he probably wasn’t, but that it was all right since he could take the *4 Keys to Hearing God’s Voice* book and CDs and DVDs home with him to review at his leisure. However, this advice was not heard by all parts within Mike, as he e-mailed me a day or two later with a troubling dream he had had. Following are the e-mails which went back and forth between us over the next few days. Mike has given me permission to share them and his dream.

**The dream as Mike sent it to me:** “Here it goes: The school bus was coming to my home when I was in high school. I was running late and saw the bus coming and was running towards it and I saw my father-in-law (Fred) get on the bus and before I could get on, just before I reached it, it left. I was a bit upset that he didn’t

wait for me. I tried to look to see if it was George driving the bus and thought it was. (George and I talked once in awhile and he was the actual bus driver when I was in high school.)

“But soon after, I saw another school bus coming and knew it was going to the public school in the same town and asked the lady if I could take it and she said yes. So I got on. Don’t remember any of the ride. Next I remember talking to my father-in-law and asking him why George left me and didn’t wait. He gave me a mumbled answer which didn’t make sense and which I can’t remember at all now.

“And that was the dream. One thing that really concerns me is that my father-in-law died this past December of cancer at the age of 61.”

**My first response:** “I’ll be glad to offer a few questions and suggestions for you to consider.

“The symbols in the dream include:

- \* school = place where we are educated and learn
- \* bus = transportation to the place of learning
- \* being left behind = fear of being left behind

“So the question you would ask yourself is, ‘In what sense am I being educated at this time in my life, and am I afraid I am going to be left behind?’

“I suspect the answer is that you are being educated in the area of communion with God, and that there is a part of you that is afraid that you are being left behind (i.e., not going to get it all). You actually expressed exactly that fear in class. I assume it is that fear in your heart which was expressed in your dream.

“However, God showed you in the dream that there was hope. Another bus came along and took you to school. So you do not need to fear missing some parts of the teaching the first time around. There is another way to get it. For example, reading the whole *4 Keys to Hearing God’s Voice* book; taking the three-month Communion with God course with Christian Leadership University and having me as a mentor; purchasing the videos which were made; purchasing the CDs of

me teaching the entire course; purchasing the *4 Keys to Hearing God’s Voice Teacher’s Guide*; getting a couple of spiritual counselors in your church or area who are right-brain and sharing your journaling with them and having them cover it, etc.

“Don’t be concerned that the person in your dream died a year ago. People in our dreams most often are part of ourselves. The way we discover what part is to ask, ‘What is the dominant characteristic of the person?’ Then, it is usually that part of ourselves we are dreaming about. The dream is not about you dying.”

**Mike’s second letter:** “Thank you, Mark, for responding. To be honest, it was not what I expected. It sounds good but I have this big question...why was my father-in-law in this dream and why was it so evident that he was in it? He must have something to do with the dream?”

**My second response:** “When you think of your father-in-law, Fred, what is the most dominant characteristic of him? That is your key. Once you identify that characteristic, you are then talking about that part of yourself. Your heart is drawing pictures (like Bible Pictionary - if you have ever played it), to communicate a message to you.

“Whatever part of you that Fred is representing, that part of you is OK with the message of CWG and is getting along with it and on time (as evidenced by the fact that he got on the bus OK). Some other part of you is struggling with the message of CWG, being afraid you are not getting it all.

“Any chance that Fred is a ‘heart’ kind of a guy as opposed to a ‘head’ kind of a guy?

“My guess is that your heart is fine with the CWG message but your left-hemisphere is afraid that it hasn’t got all the pieces yet (which is true - it hasn’t). However, as I mentioned earlier, your head doesn’t need to get all the pieces in my four mornings of teaching you, because I have provided books and CDs and DVDs which you can take home and study in detail.



“My guess is that your left-hemisphere (your analytical reasoning brain) is uptight, but that your heart (as perhaps represented by an ‘easy going Fred’) is fine with the message of communion with God.

“What do you think?”

**Mike’s final response:** “Mark. Wow. That’s exactly how he was. Easy going. Laid back. Blessings, Mike”

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**Another Example of Dream Interpretation - from a co-worker:** A lady who used to edit my materials and take Bible school classes from me came to me with the following dream.

In the dream, she entered her house and smelled smoke. She went upstairs looking for the fire but she couldn’t find it. Then she looked downstairs, but could not find it. She went into the kitchen and the smoke smell was stronger. She opened upper kitchen cabinets and could not find the fire. She opened the lower kitchen cabinets, flames leapt out, and she awoke.

At the time, we could not understand what the dream was saying. Two months later, she went to the doctors with an intestinal ailment which was diagnosed as inflammation of the intestines. It was a stress-related disease, and the doctor put her on medication which took care of the inflammation.

Do you see that her dream was warning us of this physical ailment two months before the doctor diagnosed it?

Her dream said, “In her house there was a fire.” Her house was the place that she lived - her body.

The fire was in the kitchen. The kitchen is the place we eat, and thus symbolized her digestive tract.

The fire was not in the upper cabinets, which would symbolize her upper digestive region, or her stomach.

It was in the lower kitchen cabinets, which would symbolize her lower digestive region - her intestines.

The dream said, “In your intestines, there is a fire,” two months before the doctor diagnosed it.

A year later the dream returned. She realized immediately that if she did not relax, the stress she was experiencing would bring another visit to the doctor’s office. She did relax and was able to offset another attack. Awesome counsel! Worth listening to, and worth acting upon. This is an example of a dream which was talking about things taking place within the individual. It was providing her with God’s counsel, instructing her of calamity to come if she did not mend her ways. WOW!

# The Art of Dream Interpretation

The best way to gain a biblical appreciation of dreams is to examine the 220 references to dreams and visions in the Bible. Many of these references unfold an entire story concerning a dream, with the resulting revelation and action. The following investigation involves researching well over 1,000 verses, as we seek to come to a biblical understanding concerning dreams. We shall go from Genesis to Revelation researching the words: dream, dreamer and vision. By prayerfully reflecting on each dream we can come to a balanced and complete biblical view of dreams.

We will learn how God speaks through dreams. We will also examine the language used in the dream, whether it is symbolic, literal, or both.

The Bible records many dreams which use symbolic language. In some cases, these dreams are followed by an interpretation of these symbols. We will study these interpretations for the purpose of becoming comfortable with the use of symbolism in our own dreams.

Some symbols have a universal interpretation, while other symbols apply only to a specific dream. This is true not only in the biblical accounts but also in present day dreams.

We will discover that “God grants the interpretation;” therefore, we will learn to present our dreams before God and rely upon Him to unlock the meaning of our dreams through communion and journaling.

It is obvious that God spoke through the dream in every era from Genesis to Revelation, with no indication that He would stop doing so. Therefore, it

is time once again for the Church to open Her ears and begin listening to God as He speaks to us through this medium.

As we study, our prayer shall be, “Lord, show us anything You desire concerning dreams and dream interpretation.”

This research manual is designed to be covered in a classroom setting under the guidance of an instructor using the accompanying *Teacher’s Guide* (Part 2).

The following worksheets are designed to provide a solid biblical basis for your understanding and experiences in dreams and visions. As you complete these worksheets, you will discover that dreams and visions were of great significance in the lives of men and women of God, from Genesis through Revelation. Do not simply read the Scripture references in order to answer the questions; ask God for insight and understanding, take time to meditate, and allow God to reveal His truth to you. What God shows you will form the basis for part of our class discussion. Be prepared to share.

As you read, look for **biblical principles** regarding dreams and vision. These will begin to take shape as you read, meditate, and share in discussion.

Not only does God commune with us during our waking hours, but He also counsels us at night through our dreams.

“I will bless the Lord who counsels me; He gives me wisdom in the night. He tells me what to do.” (Ps. 16:7 LB)

# The Student, the Fish, and Agassiz

As you study the assigned Scripture portions in this book consider what the following article, “The Student, the Fish, and Agassiz,” teaches concerning careful and thorough examination of the passages you are to meditate upon.

It was more than fifteen years ago that I entered the laboratory of Professor Agassiz and told him I had enrolled my name in the scientific school as a student of natural history. He asked me a few questions about my object in coming, my antecedents generally, the mode in which I afterwards proposed to use the knowledge I might acquire, and finally, whether I wished to be well-grounded in all departments of zoology, I purposed to devote myself specially to insects.

“When do you want to begin?” he asked.

“Now,” I replied.

This seemed to please him, and with an energetic “Very well,” he reached from a shelf a huge jar of specimens in alcohol.

“Take this fish,” said he, “and look at it; we call it a *Haemulon*; by and by I will ask what you have seen.”

With that he left me, but in a moment returned with explicit instructions as to the care of the object entrusted to me.

“No man is fit to be a naturalist,” said he, “who does not know how to take care of specimens.”

I was to keep the fish before me in a tin tray, and occasionally moisten the surface with alcohol from the jar, always taking care to replace the stopper tightly. Those were not the days of ground glass stoppers and elegantly shaped exhibition jars; all the old students will recall the huge, necklace glass bottles with their leaky, wax-smearred works, half-eaten by insects and begrimed with cellar dust. Entomology was a cleaner science than ichthyology, but the example of the professor who had

unhesitatingly plunged to the bottom of the jar to produce the fish was infectious; and though this alcohol had “a very ancient and fish-like smell,” I really dared not show any aversion within these sacred precincts and treated the alcohol as though it were pure water. Still, I was conscious of a passing feeling of disappointment, for gazing at a fish did not commend itself to an ardent entomologist.

In ten minutes, I had seen all that could be seen in that fish and started in search of the professor, who had, however, left the museum; and when I returned after lingering over some of the odd animals stored in the upper apartment, my specimen was dry all over. I dashed the fluid over the fish as if to resuscitate it from a fainting fit, and looked with anxiety for a return of the normal, sloppy appearance. This little excitement over, nothing was to be done but return to a steadfast gaze at my mute companion. Half an hour passed, an hour, another hour; the fish began to look loathsome. I turned it over and around; looked it in the face — ghastly! I was in despair; at an early hour I concluded that lunch was necessary, so with infinite relief the fish was carefully replaced in the jar, and for an hour I was free.

On my return, I learned that Professor Agassiz had been at the museum but had gone and would not return for several hours. My fellow students were too busy to be disturbed by continued conversation. Slowly I drew that hideous fish out. Instruments of all kinds were interdicted. My two hands, my two eyes and the fish; it seemed a most limited field. I pushed my fingers down its throat to see how sharp its teeth were. I began to count the scales in the different rows until I was convinced that that was nonsense. At last a happy thought struck me — I would draw the fish; and now with surprise I began to discover new features in the creature. Just then the professor returned.

“That is right,” said he; “a pencil is one of the best eyes. I am glad to notice, too, that you keep your specimen wet and your bottle corked.” With these encouraging words, he added, “Well, what is it like?”

He listened attentively to my brief rehearsal of the structure of parts whose names were still unknown to me; the fringed gill-arches and movable operculum; the pores of the head, fleshy lips, and lidless eyes; the lateral line, the spinous fin, and forked tail; the compressed and arched body. When I had finished, he waited as if expecting more, and then, with an air of disappointment: "You have not looked very carefully; why," he continued, more earnestly, "you haven't seen one of the most conspicuous features of the animal, which is as plainly before your eyes as the fish itself. Look again; look again!" and he left me to my misery.

I was piqued; I was mortified. Still more of that wretched fish? But now I set myself to the task with a will, and discovered one new thing after another, until I saw how the professor's criticism had been correct. The afternoon passed quickly, and towards its close the professor inquired,

"Do you see it yet?"

"No," I replied, "I am certain I do not, but I see how little I saw before."

"That is the next best," said he earnestly, "but I won't hear you now; put away your fish and go home; perhaps you will be ready with a better answer in the morning. I will examine you before you look at the fish."

This was disconcerting; not only must I think of my fish all night, studying, without the object before me, what the unknown but most visible feature might be, but also, without reviewing my new discoveries, I must give an exact account of them the next day. I had a bad memory; so I walked home by Charles River in a distracted state, with my two perplexities.

The cordial greeting from the professor the next morning was reassuring; here was a man who seemed to be quite as anxious as I was that I should see for myself what he saw.

"Do you mean perhaps," I asked, "that the fish has symmetrical sides with paired organs?"

His thoroughly pleased "Of course, of course!" repaid the wakeful hours of the previous night. After he had discoursed most happily and enthusiastically - as he always did - upon the importance of this point, I ventured to ask what I should do next.

"Oh, look at your fish!" he said, and left me again to my own devices. In a little more than an hour he returned and heard my new catalogue.

"That is good, that is good!" he repeated, "but that is not all; go on." And so for three long days he placed that fish before my eyes, forbidding me to look at anything else, or to use any artificial aid. "Look, look, look," was his repeated injunction.

This was the best entomological lesson I ever had - a lesson whose influence has extended to the details of every subsequent study; a legacy the professor has left to me, as he left it to many others, a legacy of inestimable value, which we could not buy, with which we cannot part.

A year afterwards some of us were amusing ourselves with chalking outlandish beasts upon the blackboard. We drew prancing star-fishes, frogs in mortal combat; hydra-headed worms; stately drew fishes, standing on their tails, bearing aloft umbrellas; and grotesque fishes, with gaping mouths and staring eyes. The professor came in shortly after, and was as much amused as any at our experiment. He looked at the fishes.

"Haemulons, every one of them," he said. "Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ drew them." True; and to this day, if I attempt a fish, I can draw nothing but haemulons.

The fourth day a second fish of the same group was placed beside the first, and I was bidden to point out the resemblances and differences between the two; another and another followed, until the entire family lay before me, and a whole legion of jars covered the table and surrounding shelves; the odor had become a pleasant perfume; and even now, the sight of an old, six-inch worm-eaten cork brings fragrant memories.

The whole group of Haemulons was thus brought into view; and whether engaged upon the dissection of the internal organs, preparation and examination

of the body framework, or the description of the various parts, Agassiz's training in the method of observing facts and their orderly arrangement was ever accomplished by the urgent exhortation not to be content with them.

"Facts are stupid things," he would say, "until brought into connection with some general law."

At the end of eight months, it was almost with reluctance that I left those friends and turned to insects; but what I gained by this outside experience has been of greater value than years of later investigation in my favorite groups.

(Borrowed - source unknown)

In the space below, list principles from this article that can be applied to your course of study. ***Then apply them. I repeat: then apply them.*** Consciously use these principles until they become a way of life when you meditate on God's Word.

**Biblical Meditation:** The principles that were taught in the above story of "The Student, the Fish, and Agassiz" are the principles which one is to follow when he meditates upon the Bible. Following is a review of the principles of biblical meditation.

## Biblical Meditation

**Resulting in illumination, revelation knowledge, anointed reasoning**

### Do Not Do This:

#### LEFT-BRAIN

#### STUDY/RATIONAL HUMANISM

1. Have unconfessed sin
2. Have a pre-conceived attitude
3. Be independent: "I can..."
4. Read quickly
5. Rely on reason & analysis only
6. Read without specific purpose
7. Take credit for insights

### But Do This:

#### WHOLE-BRAIN/HEART

#### MEDITATION/DIVINE REVELATION

1. Be washed by Jesus' blood
2. Have a teachable attitude
3. Pray: "Lord, show me"
4. Slow down, ponder, muse
5. Combine anointed reason, flowing pictures, music & speech
6. Read with focused purpose
7. Glorify God for insights

## The Seven Steps of Biblical Meditation Explained:

1. **LORD, CLEANSE ME BY YOUR BLOOD:** Since receiving divine revelation is at the heart of biblical meditation, you must prepare yourself to receive from the Holy Spirit by repenting and being cleansed by the blood of the Lamb. You must be obedient to previous revelations

from God (Matt. 7:6), and confess any sin in your life, so you are not cut off from ongoing revelation (Is. 59:1,2; I Jn. 1:9).

2. **LORD, GRANT ME A TEACHABLE ATTITUDE:** Revelation is given to those who maintain an

attitude of humility, and it is withheld from the proud and the arrogant. So keep an open, humble attitude before God, allowing Him the freedom to shed greater light on any ideas you currently hold and to alter them as He sees fit (Jas. 4:6; II Pet. 1:19).

3. **LORD, I WILL NOT USE MY FACULTIES MYSELF:** You can do nothing of your own initiative but only what you hear and see by the Spirit (Jn. 5:19,20,30). You do not have a mind to use, but a mind to present to God so He can use it and fill it with anointed reason and divine vision (Prov. 3:5-7; Rom. 12:1,2). If you use your mind yourself, it is a dead work (Heb. 6:1,2).
4. **LORD, I PRAY THAT THE EYES OF MY HEART MIGHT BE ENLIGHTENED:** Slow down as you read, mulling the text over and over in your heart and mind, praying constantly for God to give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him (Eph. 1:17,18; Ps. 119:18).
5. **LORD, I PRESENT THE ABILITIES TO REASON AND TO IMAGINE TO YOU TO FILL AND FLOW THROUGH BY YOUR SPIRIT:** Meditation involves presenting your faculties to God for Him to fill and use. These include your left-brain reasoning capacities as well as your right-brain visual capacities. Look for the river of God (i.e., "Spirit flow") to guide and fill both hemispheres, granting you anointed reasoning and dream and vision (Jn. 7:37-39). Music can assist you, as can muttering, speaking, and writing as you go through the discovery process (II Kings 3:15).
6. **LORD, SHOW ME THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM I AM FACING:** Focused attention brings additional energies of concentration of heart and mind, which help release revelation. For example, note the difference between a ray of sunlight hitting a piece of paper, and sunlight going through a magnifying glass to hit a piece of paper. The focused energy creates a ray so concentrated that the paper bursts into flames. When you have a hunger to master a new understanding and discipline, that hungry

and searching heart will cause you to see things you would not normally see (Matt. 5:6).

7. **THANK YOU, LORD, FOR WHAT YOU HAVE SHOWN ME:** Realizing that the revelation came from the indwelling Holy Spirit, give all the glory to God for what has been revealed (Eph. 3:21).

## The Hebrew and Greek definitions of meditation

According to *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, there are several Hebrew and Greek words which underlie the words "meditate" and "meditation" in the Old and New Testaments. The *Strong's* numbers for these words in the Old Testament are: 1897, 1900, 1901, 1902, 7878, 7879, 7881. The New Testament numbers are 3191 and 4304.

THE LITERAL MEANINGS OF MEDITATE AND MEDITATION as listed by *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* are:

"To murmur; to converse with oneself, and hence aloud; speak; talk; babbling; communication; mutter; roar; mourn; a murmuring sound; i.e., a musical notation; to study; to ponder; revolve in the mind; imagine; pray; prayer; reflection; devotion."

### LEFT-HEMISPHERE FUNCTIONS LISTED ABOVE INCLUDE:

study, revolve in the mind, murmur, mutter, converse, speak, talk, communication (Note: Reason and speech are left-brain.)

### RIGHT-HEMISPHERE FUNCTIONS LISTED ABOVE INCLUDE:

imagine, a musical notation, mourn, babbling (Note: Tongue speaking has been registered in experiments at Fuller Theological Seminary as taking place in the right hemisphere. Pictures, music and emotion are also right-brain.)

### HEART (OR THIRD-BRAIN) FUNCTIONS LISTED ABOVE INCLUDE:

pray, prayer, devotion, reflection, ponder (i.e., enlightened reasoning by adding Spirit-flow to the reasoning process - Eph. 1:17,18.)



Meditation results in illumined verses every time one reads the Bible and every time he meditates on any subject. Illumination is experienced as insights jumping off the page and hitting you between the eyes.

### **Meditation is a whole-brain and heart process, and study is often left-hemisphere only**

I asked a pastor who scored as extremely left-brain (2.4) on the Brain Preference Indicator Test how he studied the Bible. Did he use pictures a fair amount? He replied, "Never." Then I asked a right-brain pastor (6.7) how he studied the Bible. Did he use pictures much? He said, "Always." He had a constant stream of flowing pictures when he studied. (Note: 5.0 is perfectly balanced.)

Do you see that a left-brain person will tend to study the Bible differently than a right-brain person? We tend to miss this, because we assume that everyone else studies the way we do. This could not be further from the truth. Left-brain people study using primarily logic, reason, and analysis. Right-brain people study (or could we say, meditate) using primarily pictures and flow combined with reason, analysis, speech, and song.

**REPENTING FOR STUDYING:** So, in meditation, the whole brain is being controlled and guided by the indwelling Holy Spirit, whereas in study, primarily the left brain is being used, and it is under the control of self. Wow! What a startling insight, especially when we realize that the Bible (NASB) **never** encourages study, but 20 times does encourage meditation. Look up the Greek in the

three instances that the King James Version uses "study," and you will see that they are all inaccurate translations. So I, a left-brain individual, repented for studying, and purposed in my heart to only meditate from now on when I come to the Word of God or to any topic that God sets before me to explore.

### **Another Great Aid to "Seeing": Writing Out Scripture**

When you write or type out a verse, you discover words which you otherwise might have missed.

The following is the law which God gave for new kings who had just been crowned and were coming to sit upon their throne for the first time:

*"Now it shall come about when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priests" (Deut. 17:18).*

Since we are kings and priests, are we to do any less (I Pet. 2:9)? Let us make the writing out of Scriptures an important part of our lives. Perhaps some of us will discover that writing does for us what muttering did for the Israelites when they meditated. Since many of them did not write, muttering took its place. As one talks about something over and over to himself, he begins to see it more and more clearly. That is exactly what happens when I write. As I write and rewrite, the Word becomes clearer and clearer, until illumination strikes! The revelation is full and complete, and presented before me! Therefore, I am going to suggest that you either mutter or write - or, of course, you might want to do both.

# Biblical Research Concerning Dreams and Visions

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## 1. God's Covenant with Abram (Genesis 15:1-21)

vs. 1        How does this encounter begin? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 12       What does this develop into? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 1-21    What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the essential content of the message? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 2. Abraham's Treachery Toward Abimelech (Genesis 20:1-18)

vs. 3        Who spoke to Abimelech in a dream? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 4-7     What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 8,9     What is the response to the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 17,18   What is the end result? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 3. Jacob's Covenant Dream (Genesis 28:10-22)

vs. 12       What symbols are used? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 13-15   Is the language literal, symbolic or both? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the essential content of the message? \_\_\_\_\_

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vss. 16-22 What is Jacob's response to the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### 4. Jacob's Dream Concerning Goats (Genesis 31:10-29)

vs. 10 Note Jacob's action: \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 10-16 Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 17 What is Jacob's response? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 24 What's happening? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 29 What is Laban's response? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### 5. Joseph's Childhood Dreams (Genesis 37:1-11)

vs. 6 Do you believe Joseph showed indiscretion in sharing his dream? \_\_\_\_\_  
What lesson is in this, concerning sharing our dreams? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 7-9 Note what each of the following items in Joseph's dream represent:

Joseph's sheaf \_\_\_\_\_

Brother's sheaf \_\_\_\_\_

Sun \_\_\_\_\_

Moon \_\_\_\_\_

Bowing down \_\_\_\_\_

Eleven stars \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 8,10,11 What is the response? \_\_\_\_\_

This negative response may be another indicator that Joseph shared his dreams with indiscretion.

Gen. 42:6-9 Note the accuracy of the interpreted dream. \_\_\_\_\_

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 6. The Cupbearer's and Baker's Dreams (Genesis 40:1-23)

vs. 8 What is the problem/need? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the solution? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 9-19 Note what each of the following items in the dreams represent:

Three branches \_\_\_\_\_

Putting the cup into Pharaoh's hand \_\_\_\_\_

Three baskets \_\_\_\_\_

Birds eating food from basket on head \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 20,21 What are the results? \_\_\_\_\_

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 7. Pharaoh's Dream (Genesis 41:1-49)

vs. 8 Note two problems: \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 16 Who interprets dreams? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 25 What are the dreams about? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 26-32 Note what each of the following items in the dream represents:

Seven \_\_\_\_\_

Good cows and good ears \_\_\_\_\_

Lean cows and thin ears \_\_\_\_\_

Repeating dream \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 33-36 What action did Joseph recommend? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 37-49 What was Pharaoh's response? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 8. Israel Encouraged to Go to Egypt (Genesis 46:1-7)

vs. 2 What is a dream also called? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 3 What is the purpose of the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 2-4 Is the language literal, symbolic or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 5-7 What was Israel's response? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 9. God's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Numbers 12:6-8)

vs. 6 How will God reveal Himself to a prophet? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 7,8 How did God speak to Moses? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think God speaks to the Christian in each of these three ways?

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 10. Balaam's Prophecy (Numbers 24:1-25)

vs. 3 How is Balaam described? \_\_\_\_\_

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What do you think it means to be a “man whose eye is opened?” \_\_\_\_\_

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Can this ability be cultivated? \_\_\_\_\_

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 11. Laws Concerning Judging Dreams (Deuteronomy 13:1-5)

vss. 1,2 List characteristics of the dreamer whom you are **not** to heed or follow. \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 3 What is God doing through this situation? \_\_\_\_\_

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What should your response be? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 5 What did the law say should happen to him? \_\_\_\_\_

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 12. Dream Encouraging Gideon (Judges 7:9-18)

vs. 9 What is God doing? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 13,14 Note what each of the following items mean:

Loaf of barley bread \_\_\_\_\_

Struck \_\_\_\_\_

Tent lay flat \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 15 What is Gideon's response? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 13. Saul Inquires of the Lord (1 Samuel 28:6)

vs. 6            What are the three basic ways listed by which God might answer one who seeks Him?

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 14. Solomon's Dream (1 Kings 3:5-28)

vs. 5            What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 6-9        What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 9            What does Solomon request? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 10-14      Note the content: \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 6-14       Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 15           What was Solomon's response to the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 16-28      Illustrate that "the wisdom of God was in him (Solomon) to administer justice."

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 15. Eliphaz Received a Vision of the Night (Job 4:12-21)

vss. 12-15      What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 16           What does Eliphaz do? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 16           What occurs as a result? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 17-21      What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you feel this was a demon or the Holy Spirit? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 16. Elihu's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Job 33:14-18)

- vss. 14,15    How does God speak to men? \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 14        How often might He speak? \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 14        Does man tend to notice? \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 16        What does God do? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 17,18    What is the purpose? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 17. Solomon's Proverb Concerning Vision (Proverbs 29:18)

- vs. 18        Write out this verse. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 18. Isaiah's Visions (Isaiah 1:1; 2:1; 6:1; 13:1; 21:2)

Note how Isaiah's prophecies flow out of visions.

- 1:1            \_\_\_\_\_
- 2:1            \_\_\_\_\_
- 6:1            \_\_\_\_\_
- 13:1          \_\_\_\_\_
- 21:2          \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 19. Jeremiah's Vision (Jeremiah 1:11-19)

Although the entire books of Isaiah and Jeremiah could be studied by one seeking the art of dream interpretation, we will examine only two of Jeremiah's visions. Like Isaiah, it seems that much of Jeremiah's prophecy flowed out of vision.

For example, record Jeremiah 1:11. \_\_\_\_\_

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How are the following symbols interpreted?

vss. 11,12    rod of an almond tree \_\_\_\_\_

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vss. 13,14    boiling pot facing away from the north \_\_\_\_\_

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Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

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### 20. The False Dreamers (Jeremiah 23:25-40)

vss. 25,26    What kind of dreamers are found here? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 27        What does the false dreamer seek to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 32        What is God's attitude toward those who prophesy false dreams? \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 40        What is the end result? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

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## 21. More about False Dreamers (Jeremiah 27:9-11)

- vs. 9        What were the false dreamers saying? \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 11      What was the truth? \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 9        What was their response to be toward the false dreamers? (See also Jeremiah 29:8,9.) \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 22. Ezekiel's Visions (Ezekiel 1:1,3; 8:1-18)

Like Isaiah and Jeremiah, it appears that much of Ezekiel's prophecy flowed out of vision. As an example, record pertinent phrases from 1:1 and 1:3 which show this. \_\_\_\_\_

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Do the same for 8:1-18. \_\_\_\_\_

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Therefore, for one seeking the art of dream interpretation, the entire book of Ezekiel could also be examined. However, since our focus is primarily dreams of the night, we will not study Ezekiel at this time.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 23. Daniel's Ability to Understand Dreams (Daniel 1:17)

- vs. 17        List the abilities Daniel had. \_\_\_\_\_

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 24. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream (Daniel 2:1-49)

vs. 1      What did Nebuchadnezzar experience as a result of his dreams? \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 3      What else did he experience? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 16     What does Daniel do? \_\_\_\_\_

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vss. 17,18   What else does Daniel do? \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 19     What happens? \_\_\_\_\_

Notice how the words **night** and **vision** are connected. What does this suggest concerning the Hebrew's view of the relationship between visions and dreams? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 19-23   What is Daniel's first response to the revelation given by God? \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 24     What is Daniel's second response? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 28     What is Daniel's third response? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 28     Write out the phrase that shows the Hebrew connection between dream and vision. \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 29     Who was the source of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream? \_\_\_\_\_

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What was the dream about? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 30     **Note:** Nebuchadnezzar's dream is also referred to as "the thoughts of [his] heart." This verifies the idea that dreams are our hearts speaking to our minds, which is an incredibly insightful and exciting truth.

vss. 31-45   Note what each of the following items mean:

The statue \_\_\_\_\_

Head of fine gold \_\_\_\_\_

Breast and arms of silver \_\_\_\_\_

Belly and thighs of bronze \_\_\_\_\_

Legs of iron \_\_\_\_\_

Feet partly clay and partly iron \_\_\_\_\_

Stone cut without hands \_\_\_\_\_

Stone struck statue, crushing it \_\_\_\_\_

Stone became a mountain, filling earth \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 46-48 List three results of the interpreted dream.

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 25. Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of a Great Tree (Daniel 4:4-37)

vs. 4 To whom is the dream given? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 5 What is the dream also called? \_\_\_\_\_

What effect did the dream have on Nebuchadnezzar? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 6 What action did Nebuchadnezzar take in response to the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 8 How is Daniel described? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 10 What does the phrase "I was looking" indicate? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 13 Record the truths you find in verse 13. \_\_\_\_\_

Record the interpretation given to the following symbols:

vs. 22 The great tree \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 23 Decree of angelic watcher \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 25 Seven periods of time \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 26 Leaving the stump \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 25 Eating grass \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 16,34 Mind changed from man's to beast's \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 26 What is God trying to get Nebuchadnezzar to realize? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 27 Describe what is happening. \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 29 How much time passed? \_\_\_\_\_

- vs. 30 Had Nebuchadnezzar heeded Daniel's advice? \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 31-33 What happened? \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 34,35 Did Nebuchadnezzar finally learn humility? \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 36 Notice, the rest of the dream is fulfilled.
- vs. 37 Write out this verse: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

The dream has completed its task.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## 26. Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts (Daniel 7:1-28)

- vs. 1 Who is receiving the dream? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the dream also called? \_\_\_\_\_
- What was the first thing Daniel did with his dream? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 2,6,9,13 What was Daniel doing in his vision by night? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 15,16 List Daniel's initial responses to the dream.
- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 16,17 Who gave the interpretation? \_\_\_\_\_
- Record the interpretation given to the following symbols:
- vs. 17 Four great beasts \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 14,18 The Son of Man given dominion, glory and a kingdom \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 23 Fourth beast devouring and trampling \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 24 Ten horns \_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 8,24 Additional later horn pulling out three horns \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Notice that after warfare this king's dominion will be taken away and everlasting dominion given to the saints.

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 27. Daniel's Vision of the Ram and Goat (Daniel 8:1-27)

vs. 1      How much later is this vision than the previous dream recorded in Daniel 7:1? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 2      Notice "I looked in the vision." The element of active looking appears over and over again.

vs. 19      The dreams pertain to what time? \_\_\_\_\_

Record the interpretation given to the following symbols:

vs. 20      Ram with two horns \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 21      Shaggy goat \_\_\_\_\_

Large horn between his eyes \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 22      Broken horn and four horns that arose in its place \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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## 28. Daniel's Terrifying Vision (Daniel 10:1 - 12:13)

vss. 2,3      What was the prelude to the vision? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 4      What was the physical setting in which the vision took place? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 5      What did Daniel do? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 7      Did they all see the vision? \_\_\_\_\_ Their response? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you suppose Daniel saw and the others did not? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 8,9      How does Daniel respond physically? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 10,11      What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_

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vss. 12,13    What is the story? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

vs. 14        To what time period does the vision pertain? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 18        What is happening? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Notice that chapters 11 and 12 record the content of this vision.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### **29. God's Review of Old Testament History (Hosea 12:9,10)**

vs. 10        Note God's review of history. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### **30. The Promise of the Spirit (Joel 2:28,29)**

vs. 28        Write out this promise of God. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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### **31. Obadiah's Vision (Obadiah 1)**

vs. 1        What is the relationship between vision and prophecy demonstrated in this verse?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 32. Nahum's Vision (Nahum 1:1,2)

vss. 1,2

What is the relationship between vision and prophecy demonstrated in these verses?

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 33. Habakkuk's Vision (Habakkuk 2)

vss. 1,2

List how Habakkuk primed himself to receive prophecy from God.

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 34. The Diviners' Lying Visions (Zechariah 10:2)

vs. 2

What is the problem here?

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 35. Prophesying Forth the Vision (Zechariah 13:4)

vs. 4      Record the Scriptural phrase which describes the relationship between vision and prophecy.

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 36. Joseph's Dream (Matthew 1:20-25)

Notice that the background to this dream experience is that Joseph is considering how to resolve a problem in his life.

vs. 20      Who appeared to him in a dream? \_\_\_\_\_

vss. 20-23      What does the angel do? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 24      What is Joseph's response to the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 37. Joseph's Second Dream (Matthew 2:3-15)

vs. 13      What happens to Joseph in the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

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Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 14      What's Joseph's response? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 15      Note that obedience to this dream caused prophecy to be fulfilled.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 38. Joseph's Third and Fourth Dreams (Matthew 2:19-23)

Who appears to Joseph in these dreams? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the response to the dream? \_\_\_\_\_

Notice again prophecy is being fulfilled.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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### 39. The Vision on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9)

vs. 1      What is the location? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 2      What do the disciples see? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 3      What else do they see? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 5      What else happens? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

vs. 6      Note the disciples' response: \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 7      Note Jesus' response: \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 8      What did the disciples see? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 9      What does Jesus call this experience? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### 40. Prophecy Concerning the Last Days (Acts 2:17)

vs. 17      What will be poured out in the last days? \_\_\_\_\_

What will accompany this outpouring? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### 41. Saul's Vision on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-9)

vs. 3      What happens? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 4      What happens? \_\_\_\_\_

22:9      Did the others standing around understand the voice? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 5      What's happening? \_\_\_\_\_

26:19      What does Paul call this entire experience? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### 42. Ananias' Vision (Acts 9:10-19)

vs. 10      Who appears to Ananias in a vision? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 10      What happens? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 12      What is God saying? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 17      What happens? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 18      What was the result? \_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### **43. Cornelius' and Peter's Visions (Acts 10:1-48)**

- vss. 1,2      How is Cornelius characterized? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 3          What happens to him? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 4-6      What does Cornelius do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 7,8      What happens? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 9,17-23    Note the timing of this vision: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 10-16    What happens to Peter? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 11-16    Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 21        What is Peter's response? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vss. 44-48    What is the end result? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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#### **44. The Macedonian Vision (Acts 16:6-11)**

- vss. 6-8      What is the background for this vision? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 9          What happens? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 10        What did they conclude? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- vs. 11        What was Paul's response? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### 45. Paul's Vision While in Corinth (Acts 18:1-11)

vss. 1-8      Note the background for the vision: \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 9            What happened? \_\_\_\_\_

vs. 10          What was the content of the vision? \_\_\_\_\_

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vs. 11          Note Paul's response: \_\_\_\_\_

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

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#### 46. The Visions of John (Book of Revelation)

The entire 22 chapters flow out of vision. You are encouraged to work your way through the Book of Revelation, as you have time and interest, using the same method of investigation used in the preceding questions.

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#### 47. For Further Research

Since dream and vision in the Major Prophets was treated only briefly, you may wish to do a more thorough study of one or more of these books.

You may also desire to do a word study of some of the following words:

|             |            |                |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| vision      | trance     | ecstatic state |
| to see      | revelation | in spirit      |
| to perceive |            |                |

# The Unchanging God - Dreams Today

I am constantly amazed at how God continues to speak to us through dreams. Following are several dreams showing the power of God's voice as it comes through our dreams.

## A Dream Granting Protection

I have been aware of my dreams from a very early age. As young as five years of age, I can recall being fascinated by adventures I would experience during my sleeping hours. Even at this young age, God was affecting my life through my dreams. His hand of protection was already upon me as He kept me from very probable harm and injury by warning me in a dream not to ride my sled down a hill which ran perpendicular to a driveway at the base of the hill.

The day after having this dream, I was playing with my friends and as my turn to go down the hill on my sled came, the Holy Spirit brought the dream back to my remembrance. Instead of getting on the sled, I let it go down by itself. As the sled proceeded to the point where the driveway and the hill met, a car came down the driveway hitting the sled broadside and carrying it several feet before coming to a stop. This dream has never left me and still overwhelms me with a reverent awe for God's communication capacity with us through dreams.

Johanna Thurn

## Dreams Initiating Salvation

At the time she had this dream, Amy was a young, Vietnamese teenager, a devout Buddhist. She had been living for almost a year in a Christian home with her foster parents, and had been attending Full Gospel Tabernacle. She also worked after school at the Day Care at the Tabernacle. This is her dream:

In my dream, I was with my two younger sisters in Vietnam. There was a man chasing us, trying to hurt us. He was trying to cut us and he succeeded in killing my one younger sister. I picked up my other little sister, she was about three years old in the dream, and we tried to escape from this man. There was a whole bunch of little white animals around us: sheep. We were running here and there, but no

matter where we went, this man would find us. And my little sister pointed to Heaven and said, "Go to Heaven, God will save you." I hesitated, but then I said, "No, we'll go." And so my sister and I went to Heaven and **I saw God**, and God saved us, and from that point on, the man, even though he tried to get us, he could not see us and he could not touch us. It was as if we were invisible.

When I told my Mom about the dream, she had me read in my Vietnamese Bible the 10th chapter of John, the parable of the Good Shepherd. I started to cry and cry. I couldn't believe that I had never read this Bible before and yet God gave me a dream from the Bible. I was upset and scared though, because I thought that maybe something had happened to my little sister in Vietnam; maybe she died. But my Mom and Dad tried to comfort me and explained that God gave me the dream because He wanted me to become part of His flock and how much He loved me and wanted to save me and to protect me from the evil one.

My Mom asked me if I wanted to ask Jesus into my heart. I said, "No, I need to think about this." I felt guilty when I thought about forgetting Buddha. I had asked Buddha to get me safely to America and I felt he answered my prayer. My Mom told me to talk to Jesus when I went to bed that night, and ask Him to reveal Himself to me. So I said that I would do that. I told my Mom that when I went to bed I was going to ask Jesus to do something for me, and if He did it, then I would believe in Him. That night when I went to bed, I said, "Jesus, if You are really real, and You really want me to know who You are, then let me have a dream about my boyfriend in Louisiana." And He did. The next day, when my Mom came to drive me to work, I told her, "I did it, I did it! I asked Jesus into my heart." I told her that God had given me a dream, and in the dream my boyfriend came to visit at our home. I was so happy. I went to work and told everybody, "I used to believe in Buddha, but now I have Jesus in my heart. Isn't God wonderful?"

Amy Porter

## Epilogue

One university instructor writes that he finds assigning students to keep a journal of their dreams for six months often causes them to become convinced of a living God seeking to communicate to them through their dreams. This opens up a whole new avenue of evangelism.

Mark Virkler

## A Dream Granting Inner Healing

Over the past several years I have experienced a nightmare which I've never understood and have felt emotional trauma as a result of its continuous reoccurrences. Finally out of frustration I prayed God would help me understand the nightmare and bring healing to my life in this area or stop these awful nightly occurrences. As a result of that prayer, God has brought much healing to my life and helped me to understand the value of dreams and God's desire to bring healing, guidance, wholeness and balance to my life.

### The Nightmare

I am riding in a van down the street I live on, and young children are playing near the edge of the road. The van swerves hitting the children. I can see the children bruised and bleeding as they are thrown to the grassy lawns near the road. I turn to the driver begging and pleading with him to stop and let me help the children, but the van goes faster down the road. No matter what I say or do the driver will not stop.

### The Healing Dream

This dream began with the same beginning as the nightmare. This time after begging and pleading with the driver to stop, I turned and said, "I will not allow this to happen anymore," and I jumped from the van and rolled onto the grassy lawn. It hurt: my knees were bruised, my hands were skinned, and my forehead was bleeding. But I jumped to my feet, searching for the injured children, frantically praying they were not dead. I finally found one of the children. I scooped him into my arms, crying over the pain I knew he must be in. He was so dirty and bruised; his face appeared deformed. But I felt instant love in my heart for him. I carried him to a nearby pond. I washed both of us off, sewed him clothes and covered his little body. Drawing him to

my breast, I fed this little baby and prayed that he would live. As I nursed and cared for him, he began to grow at an amazing rate. Before my eyes, in only a matter of a day, he went from crawling in the grass to running and trying to catch butterflies, to a young boy fishing in the pond, and then to a grown young man. He was so very handsome, and I knew he was a fine person, gentle and caring. My heart welled up with love for him and pride for the strong, healthy young man he had become. I knew the nurturing I had so freely given had brought his growth and maturity.

The young man now turned to me, held out his hand and invited me to walk with him. We walked toward a lovely wooded area, then into an open grassy field with beautiful flowers growing everywhere. There in the midst was a crystal clear stream gently flowing and rippling over the rocks.

The young man walked me into the water, deeper and deeper. What an exhilarating feeling! It felt as though the waters were flowing through me. We then stepped out of the waters onto the banks and there laid garments of long, white, flowing robes for each of us. We put them on and walked toward a blanket spread on the ground. On the blanket was a bowl of fruit and plate of cheese and crackers. After we ate we stood to walk for awhile. I found myself wondering who this young man was — so kind and caring, who had grown from the young child I had held in my arms such a short time ago. And what had become of the other young children I hadn't been able to find? Where were they? Were they all right?

It soon became cool and the sun was setting. The young man and I lay down to rest. When I awoke I found a pen and book beside me and I began to record the events that had been happening to me. As I wrote, I felt God saying to me, "I will be with you always." And as I recorded God's words to me, the young man stood and walked toward me. His whole being blended into me. I suddenly realized he was the part of me, the Christ within, that I had not been nurturing and caring for.

From a distance I heard sounds, as I looked up, I saw a lamb, a farm, and young lion cub. I walked toward them and they frolicked away. I continued to

follow them when I suddenly realized I was no longer in the lovely lighted forest, but in a very dense, dark, ugly place. From the darkness sprang a huge three-headed monster. He lunged for me. This monster surrounded me with his gangly arms. I struggled, fought, and desperately tried to flee, but I could not get away. This monster was far too strong for me.

Just as my strength was gone and I felt I could no longer fight, the young man stepped from me to appear in a form of his own. He was still dressed in white but had on a helmet, breast plate, and shoes, and carried a sword. He raised his sword against the monster, and this ugly three-headed monster fled deep into the dark forest. I collapsed in exhaustion onto the ground.

The young man turned, picked me up and carried me from the dark forest to the lighted garden. He carried me back to the river and into the deep crystal clear swirling waters. I felt refreshed and at peace again. We walked out of the river to the bank; there on the bank were spread dry clothes. I dried off and put on the long white robe. I turned to say thank you to the young man. I felt a cold chill — but the young man had anticipated my need, for he held a long velvet deep purple robe, and he placed it around my shoulders. He then touched my hair and it was instantly dry, and a tiara of diamonds and gold appeared on my head.

He led me to the blanket spread on the grass and invited me to sit beside him. As I sat down my eyes fell upon several gifts, all made of silver. He said each of these belonged to me. I gazed upward to the grassy field, and my heart leaped with joy as I saw the young children playing ever so happily in the garden place. One of the young children walked toward me, picked up one of the gifts and handed it to me. The gift was a silver charm bracelet. As I touched the silver charm, it turned into a fine crafted wooden clarinet. I began to play it. The children danced around the field, except for the child who had handed me the gift. That child walked closer and closer toward me until we blended as one.

Then a second child showed me there was another silver charm on the bracelet; it was a piano. As I touched the charm it turned into a grand piano. I sat down to play the piano, and the children danced and waved lovely streamers in the air. The young child who gave this gift to me walked toward me and he also blended with me and I became one with the child.

Another child stepped forward to give the gift of a lovely music box. As the child wound the music box it played beautiful music, and I sang. Each of the children sang with me, lifting their hands and praising the heavenly Father. And now this lovely child blended into me to become one with me.

The fourth child knelt to hand me a silver paint brush. As I touched the brush, it became a regular paint brush, and an easel and drawing paper appeared before me. I began to paint and was enjoying it very much when I was suddenly startled by someone behind me; it was the young man. I tried to hide the painting from him. He asked why I wanted to hide this painting from him. I answered and said I was sure he would find it of no interest. But as he peered over my shoulder he was truly delighted with the swirls of colors I had placed on the paper.

I had drawn a rainbow, white stars, a yellow moon and brightly colored flowers in a green grassy field. Each item I knew had a very special meaning to me, and suddenly it no longer mattered if no one liked it, because it made me feel very good to swirl these colors into a lovely design that pleased me. And so this child, too, blended with me to become one.

The young man invited me to rest with him for awhile. He handed me my pen and book and I began to record all that I had seen and felt. I then realized the young man was also a part of me that desired so much to care for me, to love me, and to teach me to become whole.

I glanced up and saw a dear friend walking toward me. He had a long white robe on and a book and pen under his arm. He knelt to pick up the last gift. It was a long-stemmed silver rose, but as he touched the rose it turned to the most lovely shade of pink. I knew I was really becoming the rose of beauty he told me I would be.



As I awoke I pulled from my Bible a paper given to me by my friend. These are the words I read:

“All of life is revealed in a rose. It begins as a little bulb, very small and closed. As it grows it becomes larger, more beautiful. So shall your life be. You shall grow and as you do your beauty and splendor shall continue to unfold until you are at full bloom for all to see your breath-taking beauty.”

### **Interpretation of the Dream**

The first part of this dream had been most frustrating to me for several years. I often awoke feeling totally helpless and desperate. I think the children being hit by the van spoke to me first of the inner child within me that had not been properly nurtured and cared for. It also spoke of the ministry God has placed me in to nurture and care for children that they might grow in their walk with God. The van signified the powerful overwhelming destruction that Satan tries to pass on us.

The young boy child that grew into such a fine young man seemed to be the Christ within me that desires to guide me, protect me, and lead me into a life of wholeness. I am reminded of Philippians 2:12 & 13, where we are encouraged “to work out our salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in us.” Because of my willingness to pay attention to Him, He in turn could grow and lead me into the fullness of God’s rich blessings. I am reminded of verse 7 in Psalm 16 that says, “I will bless the Lord who has counseled me; Indeed my mind instructs me in the night.”

The three-headed monster that lurked in the forest represents three areas of my life that God is dealing with. The monster seems to be so large to me because these areas seem impossible to overcome. But because of the dream and words I saw in my journal and the young man who stepped out to fight the battle for me, I feel more confident that God will win, has won the battle and He is always there to protect and guide me in every situation.

I felt assured that the Holy Spirit is always there to refresh us and heal our battle wounds.

I knew that each gift of silver was a part of me that I had set aside and no longer allowed to have any place in my life. As I had neglected these gifts from God, they had become abused parts of me needing much healing. Each had been put aside because I had been made to feel these parts were useless, no good, or not good enough to meet someone else’s expectations. The gift of the clarinet was something I had done for eight years, but felt I was never good enough, so I set it aside.

As this dream unfolded and I saw more and more of its meaning, I was blessed to see that my God cares for me, that He not only speaks to me throughout the day in prayer time and journaling, but continues to bring healing and edification to my spirit even as I sleep.

I believe the rivers of water in the dream showed me the need in my life to more frequently allow the Holy Spirit to refresh me, comfort me, and bring peace to my troubled spirit. The white garments were significant of my purity in Christ as I stepped from the waters of the Holy Spirit. The food set before us reminded me of the nourishment I need daily in God’s Word.

When the young man handed me a pen and book, I realized this was the healing blessing of journaling which I had set aside in my life because of outside pressure. I had allowed circumstances to rob me of this blessing. This was God gently nudging me that I needed journaling to be a part of my life, that my journal could let Christ be the best friend I so desperately needed in my life.

The piano was something I so enjoyed but again set aside because I felt I wasn’t good enough. Singing was the one area I had nurtured the most, but being overly-sensitive, even that had been laid down. The paint brush was the artistic part of me that I’ve not allowed to develop. This particular part of the dream was especially precious to me because I now feel the freedom to enjoy doing something that pleases me, regardless of the response of others.

As I’ve pondered these things in my heart, I’ve seen that each of these areas of my life are gifts God has given me to express His creativeness in me. As a result of being able to understand this, I’ve felt great

freedom in allowing these parts of me to grow. I no longer fear criticism, judgment or rejection, but instead I choose to bless God back with the gifts He has so graciously given me.

This dream has brought much healing in my life. Learning to accept things in my life that I've rejected and put aside has released me of the stress of the feelings of rejection that I never realized were coming so much from deep within me.

As a pastor's wife, a Christian for 15 years, involved in full-time ministry in the Christian Education Department at our church, I'm truly excited to see that there is so much more God desires to do in my life. I've personally found that learning to heed my dreams; pay attention to them and act upon that which God has shown me through them, has brought healing, guidance and direction, and tremendous growth and wholeness in my life.  
Cheryl Spiller



## Part 2



# The Place of a Teacher's Guide

A teacher's guide is never to be the focus of a teaching session. It may be studied ahead of time and referred to occasionally during the teaching session, but that is all. The living truth among those present is the focus; and don't forget that the Holy Spirit is One of those present. Don't be concerned if every last detail is not covered; simply ensure coverage of the major concepts.

The subject must be living within the instructor. Throughout the course, he cooperates with the Holy Spirit to cause the subject to live within the students. The classroom is a place for corporate sharing of this living truth.

You cannot teach and impart life above or beyond that which you are living. Classroom time is devoted entirely to the corporate sharing of life. According to Jesus, truth is very personal.

From my journal:

"Have not I spoken that 'I am truth'? Go and be thou likewise."

In preparation for class, seek God concerning what He wants to speak to His people. Speak out of that which He says.

One's knowledge of his subject must be vast and extensive so the right piece can be fit into the right spot during the classroom interaction, and so that grace may be ministered to those who hear. Therefore one must be deeply experienced and learned in his subject if life is going to be ministered out through him.

One cannot impart life in an area in which he does not live. In honor we prefer one another, placing teachers in the areas in which they are learned and experienced and in which they live.

The classroom is a place for conveying prophetic truth. Prophetic truth is that truth which interacts between the heart of God, the teacher and the students. Prophetic truth is the living Word for the moment in which we are living. It is that which is alive within us. It is that which we are experiencing. It is not simply that truth found in a text. It is that truth which is found "fleshed out" in our lives. Therefore, class time is not primarily a focus on texts; it is a focus on the experiences we are living, in light of the truths presented in the texts set before us. Therefore, **never focus primarily on the text** during class. Use the text as a springboard for classroom interaction concerning our experiences with God and life as they touch on the truths mentioned in our texts. The discussion of life is fully equal in weight and importance to the discussion of the printed word. Wisdom and maturity are found in the effective integration of these two.

The focus is not merely on covering the material, but most importantly, on interacting with the basic concepts produced in the material so that it becomes life. Therefore, the detailed information given in this guide may not necessarily be covered in its totality.

# Session 1 - Course Overview

For additional information note the “Suggested Format for Sessions 2-9,” beginning on page 51.

## **Purposes:**

1. To provide an overview of the course, granting perspective and focus.
2. To establish the basic premise that dreams are a language to be taken seriously.

## **A. Introduction**

1. Worship
2. Prayer
3. Attendance and personal introductions

## **B. Course Overview**

1. Cover course syllabus.
2. Cover Table of Contents of required texts.
3. Possibly share a personal dream and its interpretation.
4. Define:  
DREAM - the counsel of the Lord or the instruction of my heart during sleep.  
VISION - a dream we have while semi-conscious or awake.
5. Copy the “Brainwave Activity Levels” chart on the following page; hand it out and go over it.

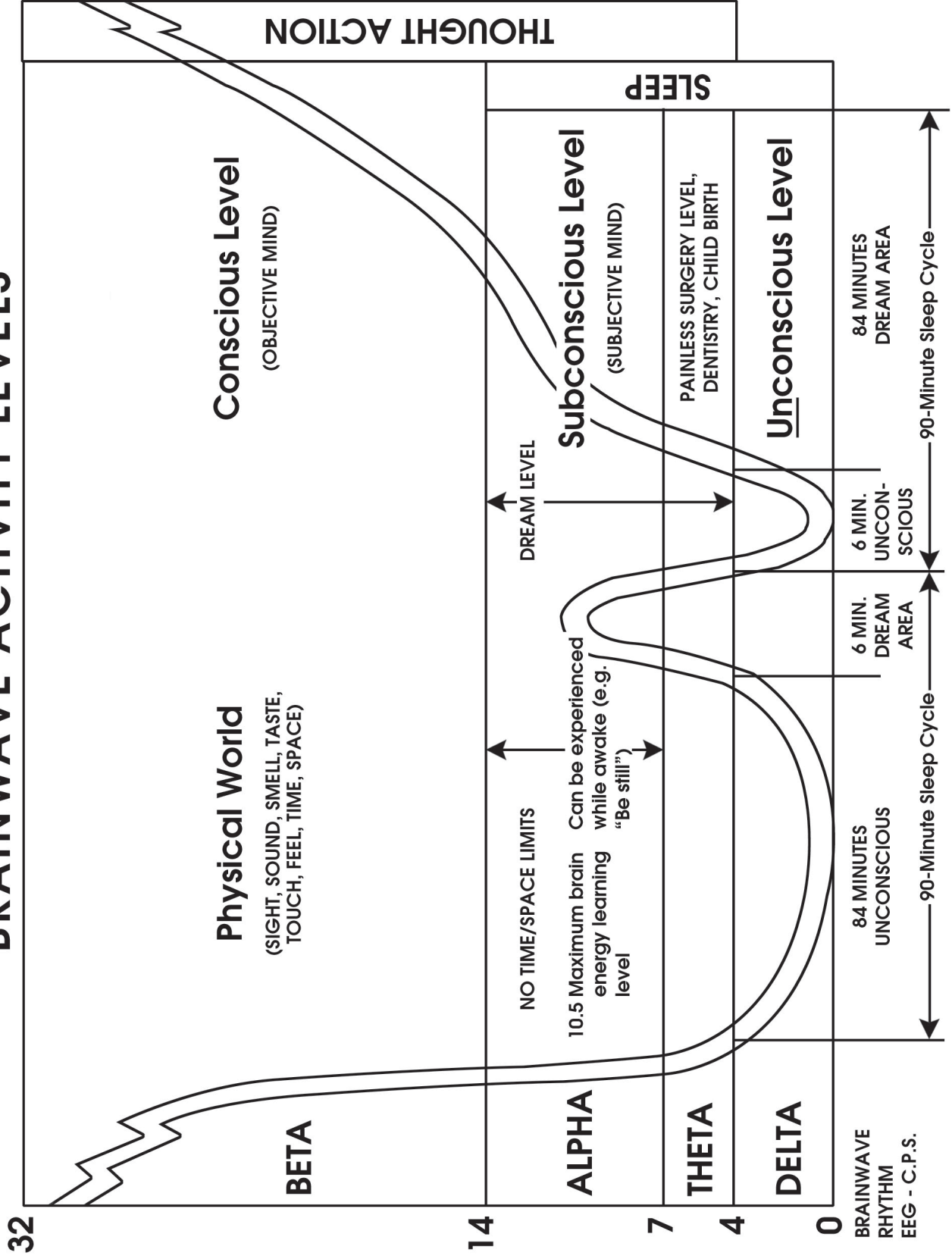
## **C. Biblical Overview - God speaks through the dream.**

1. Numbers 12:6 - “Hear my words: If there is a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known to him in a vision, I speak with him in a dream.”
2. I Samuel 28:6 - Dreams: one of the ways God uses to communicate with man.
3. Genesis to Revelation (i.e., Gen. 15:12 through the entire Book of Revelation)
4. Job 33:12-18 - Compensatory nature of dreams may easily be God calling one to balance.
5. Daniel 2:27-30 - “Know the thoughts of your mind (i.e., the heart).” This offers a biblical basis for the Jungian belief that dreams are often the voice of the unconscious speaking to the conscious.

Westerners have decided that a man can find God through rational thinking, or group experience, or education, or formal worship - everywhere except in his own soul, which is in fact the fountainhead of religious experience. Dreams allow us an avenue of direct contact with the living God.

## **D. Break time**

# BRAINWAVE ACTIVITY LEVELS





# Session 2 -

## Suggestions for Interpreting Your Dream

### Purpose

To give the students a basic foundation out of which they may begin recording and interpreting their dreams (through covering Chapter 7 of *Adventure Inward* by Morton Kelsey).

### A. Introduction

1. People dream an average of 1-1/2 hours per night (about 6 or 7 different dreams).

“When deprived of sleep for five nights, some will try to dream as many as thirty times during eight hours sleep. Also, they begin showing signs of mental breakdown.”

Dr. Dement concluded his talk to the American Psychiatric Association in 1960 with the following words: “We believe that if anybody were deprived of dreams long enough, it might result in some sort of catastrophic breakdown.”

Freud said, “Dreams are the guardians of sleep.”

Dr. Dement’s data would suggest that they are the “very guardians of sanity.”

Taken from *Dreams: God’s Forgotten Language*, John Sanford, p. 121.

2. Dreams are the attempts of our inner man to communicate with us.

### B. Seventeen Suggestions for Interpreting Your Dreams

Since part of the course requirement is to record your dreams and God’s interpretations, we will sketch out some basic principles of dream interpretation.

Cover Chapter 7, pages 105-122 of *Adventure Inward* by Morton Kelsey.

### C. Corporate Application

Share a recent dream you have had and discuss its interpretation, or better still, have someone in the class share a recent dream he has had and help him explore possible interpretations of it.

### D. Personal Application (20 minutes)

If time permits, break into small groups of three and allow students a chance to get acquainted by sharing with one another a bit of their dream experiences.

# Suggested Format for Sessions 2-9

1. On the following pages you will find suggested answers for the exercises in Part 1. A good percentage of class time is to be devoted to working through these verses as a group.
2. Instruct students to work ahead of you each week in filling in the guided self-discovery research sheets. They are to come to class prepared to share their discoveries and insights.
3. Students are also to be instructed to come to class prepared to share insights from their readings. This will assist in promoting classroom interaction.
4. You, as the teacher, should come prepared to share your own insights and thoughts on the textbook reading and be prepared to ask a couple of discussion questions.
5. Make every attempt to moderate the discussion time rather than monopolize it. Work to get the students to direct discussion toward each other. Encourage students to share from the truth that lies within them. (Where class size allows, arranging chairs in a circle or semi-circle will encourage this.)
6. Each week incorporate small-group discussion of dreams. Have the class break into groups of three. Have each group choose a group moderator who is responsible:
  - a. to see that each person in the group gets a chance to share any dreams and interpretations God has given them in the last week.
  - b. to see that help in interpreting dreams is *offered* to individuals, and *not pushed* upon them.
  - c. to see that the group selects something to be shared from the small group with the entire class and selects someone to share it. (More than one person may share.) You may share dreams that are interpreted or dreams which yet need an interpretation.
7. After a short while in small groups, open the discussion of dreams to the full class. Ask students for suggested interpretations. Discuss these. Help them understand that learning to interpret dreams and visions necessitates **practice**.
8. A suggested format for the class period:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| a. Discussion of assigned Scripture readings | 45 minutes |
| b. Discussion of assigned text readings      | 30 minutes |
| c. Small-group sharing of dreams/visions     | 15 minutes |
| d. Large-group sharing of dreams/visions     | 30 minutes |

# Session 10

Plan ahead of time to spend this class time in a chapel or place conducive to prayer. Lead the students into a visionary experience as described in *Adventure Inward*, Chapter 9, pages 141-154. Read this now.

Start the evening with a good time of worship and prayer. Then describe the value of getting to know the parts of yourself better, so you are not driven first by one drive within you and then by another, as so often happens. It is very valuable to become acquainted with these various forces within you, to see them functioning effectively in relationship with each other and with Christ.

The tool we will use to assist you in this encounter will be vision. Simply relax, picture yourself in a log cabin, near the lakeshore, on a cold rainy night, with a warm fire going in the fireplace and you relaxing in front of it in a rocking chair.

You hear a knock on the door and you go to open it. Standing there is an individual who wants to come in. As you invite him in, you realize he represents one of the forces or drives or parts of you. He sits down at the table, and you begin to talk. Shortly you hear another knock on the door and in comes another individual who represents another part of your being. Eventually several people will have entered, including Jesus, and they will be dialoging together in the room. This is the creative and healing aspect of this visionary encounter. One has clearly identified the various forces within him and has gotten them to dialogue together in the presence of Christ. Jesus will speak to them, helping them settle their squabbles, and find their proper places. Encourage the students to journal this entire episode through. Give them 45 minutes or so, and if possible allow them the opportunity to move to different rooms. Instruct them that this is to be a spontaneous encounter, not a contrived one. You are to allow to bubble up from your heart that which is there and is seeking expression.

You, as the instructor, are to successfully complete this visionary experience first so you can encourage your students by sharing your own experience before they begin. You will be amazed at how faithful God is to meet each one in this way. It will probably be the greatest experience of the entire semester. I have done this several times in my own life, very successfully, finding great healing and balancing coming from it each time.

In a recent time, the first to walk into the room was a well-dressed, overfed, somewhat pushy, businessman. When he entered the room I found two other people already there (I'm not sure how they got there - they were just there). One was a family man. The other, a man of prayer. The family man was quite well-fed and content but was shoved around a bit by the businessman. The man of prayer, was emaciated and scrawny, and was shoved around quite a bit by the overfed, pushy businessman.

The Lord spoke to me and told me to take half the time that was currently being given to the businessman and give it to the man of prayer. He was showing me the imbalance between the work side of me and the prayer side of me and directing me to balance. Needless to say, **acting** on a vision such as this brings real healing into our lives and is tremendously worthwhile.

After the students have spent 45 minutes in vision and journaling take a fellowship break with coffee and refreshments. Have the entire class come together after that and have two or three share what God has revealed to them. Close in worship and prayer.

# Session 11

Seat yourself in a large circle with your students and spend the evening going around the circle, allowing each the opportunity to share what God ministered to them the week before. This can be a time of deep joy and excitement; however, it requires the atmosphere of “family” and hospitality in order for students to feel secure to share openly. Create that atmosphere through what you say and do.

If there is time left, go around the circle a second time, having students share concepts from their final reports. Specifically, what principles have they formulated concerning the place, role, and value of dreams and visions in our lives today?

During break time and at the close of class have students show you their completed textbooks and turn in their final reports.

## **Dream Lab**

My students requested that this course be followed up by a “dream lab” course where instead of teaching we would spend the entire semester gaining skill in interpreting dreams and visions by doing the kind of thing we did over the last two weeks for an entire semester, as well as sharing dreams together and the interpretations God has given us. In this way they could become more established and confident in this field of dream interpretation which they had just begun. You, too, may want to offer a dream lab course.



# Biblical Research Concerning Dreams and Visions

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## 1. God's Covenant with Abram (Genesis 15:1-21)

vs. 1        How does this encounter begin? With a vision

vs. 12       What does this develop into? a dream

vss. 1-21    What is happening? Abraham and God are in dialogue

What is the essential content of the message? A covenant is established

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

This dream is not only a foundational experience in Abram's life, it establishes the entire Old Covenant. It shows us how important dreams can be. It shows us one can dialogue with God in his dreams.

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## 2. Abraham's Treachery Toward Abimelech (Genesis 20:1-18)

vs. 3        Who spoke to Abimelech in a dream? God

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

vss. 4-7     What is happening? dialogue with God in a dream

vss. 8,9     What is the response to the dream? Abimelech acts on the dream

vss. 17,18   What is the end result? Healing is brought to all

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God dialogued with man in a dream. Warned him of danger. The man acted on the warning and averted harm to many people.

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## 3. Jacob's Covenant Dream (Genesis 28:10-22)

vs. 12       What symbols are used? A ladder with angels ascending and descending.

vss. 13-15   Is the language literal, symbolic or both? both

What is the essential content of the message? The covenant is reaffirmed.

---

vss. 16-22 What is Jacob's response to the dream? Jacob responded with reverence.

He established a monument and renamed the place.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

Dreams involved symbols and direct speech. God speaks through the dream.

Again, this shows the great significance dreams can play.

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#### 4. Jacob's Dream Concerning Goats (Genesis 31:10-29)

vs. 10 Note Jacob's action: He lifted up his eyes; he saw a dream.

vss. 10-16 Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

vs. 17 What is Jacob's response? He acted on the dream.

vs. 24 What's happening? God is warning Laban not to harm Jacob.

vs. 29 What is Laban's response? He honors God's warning in the dream.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

We should lift up our eyes and watch our dreams. We should act on our dreams. God speaks through the dream. Through the dream, God can influence our enemies not to harm us. God gives interconnecting dreams to a variety of people with perfect timing, to fulfill His will.

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#### 5. Joseph's Childhood Dreams (Genesis 37:1-11)

vs. 6 Do you believe Joseph showed indiscretion in sharing his dream? Yes, I believe so.

What lesson is in this, concerning sharing our dreams? We should be sensitive to the proper people and time when we share our dreams.

vss. 7-9 Note what each of the following items in Joseph's dream represent:

Joseph's sheaf Joseph

Brother's sheaf brothers

Sun father

Moon mother

Bowing down bowing down

Eleven stars 11 brothers

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? mostly symbolic

vss. 8,10,11 What is the response? Hatred, rebuke, and jealousy comes from the brothers. His father, however, kept the sayings in mind.

This negative response may be another indicator that Joseph shared his dreams with indiscretion.

Gen. 42:6-9 Note the accuracy of the interpreted dream. Years later his brothers actually

did bow down before him.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God spoke Through dream, using mostly symbolism mixed with a bit of  
literality. Discretion should be exercised when sharing dreams. IT may  
Take years before dreams are fulfilled.

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## 6. The Cupbearer's and Baker's Dreams (Genesis 40:1-23)

- vs. 8      What is the problem/need? There must be one who is able to interpret.  
What is the solution? God can interpret dreams.
- vss. 9-19      Note what each of the following items in the dreams represent:  
Three branches Three days  
Putting the cup into Pharaoh's hand The cupbearer's reinstatement, or restoration to his office.  
Three baskets Three days  
Birds eating food from basket on head The baker will be hung on a tree and  
The birds will eat his flesh.  
Is the language literal, symbolic or both? both
- vss. 20,21      What are the results? All of Joseph's interpretations came to pass.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

These dreams speak of the immediate future. The wisdom to interpret  
them is clearly attributed to God. They are essentially in symbolic  
language except that three stands for three. Often a number in a  
dream stands for that same literal number in the outer world.

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## 7. Pharaoh's Dream (Genesis 41:1-49)

- vs. 8      Note two problems: Pharaoh's spirit is troubled as a result of the dream,  
and he can find no interpreter.
- vs. 16      Who interprets dreams? God
- vs. 25      What are the dreams about? What God is about to do.
- vss. 26-32      Note what each of the following items in the dream represents:  
Seven seven years  
Good cows and good ears years of plenty  
Lean cows and thin ears years of famine  
Repeating dream The matter is determined by God, and God will bring it about quickly.  
Is the language literal, symbolic or both? largely symbolic



- vss. 33-36 What action did Joseph recommend? That Pharaoh appoint overseers and apportion one-fifth of the crops for storage.
- vss. 37-49 What was Pharaoh's response? He elevated Joseph to the position of ruler.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God spoke to an evil king in a dream concerning what He was about to do.  
God emphasizes the point through repetition. The righteous who is filled with the wisdom of God is likely to be elevated to a high position as his wisdom is effectively demonstrated. We see that dreams are to be acted on.

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## 8. Israel Encouraged to Go to Egypt (Genesis 46:1-7)

- vs. 2 What is a dream also called? vision of the night
- vs. 3 What is the purpose of the dream? To alleviate Israel's fear
- vss. 2-4 Is the language literal, symbolic or both? literal
- vss. 5-7 What was Israel's response? He arose and departed for Egypt

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

A "dream" may also be called a "vision of the night." God gives dreams to heal our fears. Dreams are to be acted on.

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## 9. God's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Numbers 12:6-8)

- vs. 6 How will God reveal Himself to a prophet? He will give him a vision, or He will speak with him in a dream.
- vss. 7,8 How did God speak to Moses? "mouth to mouth"

Do you think God speaks to the Christian in each of these three ways?

yes

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God's intent is to speak to His prophets through dreams and visions.  
To some he will also speak mouth to mouth, not in dark sayings.

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## 10. Balaam's Prophecy (Numbers 24:1-25)

- vs. 3 How is Balaam described? The man whose eye is open, who hears

The words of God, who sees The vision of The Almighty.  
What do you think it means to be a "man whose eye is opened?" Such a man has learned  
To look using vision and is able To see into The spirit world.  
Can this ability be cultivated? I believe so. The Bible says To desire earnestly  
To prophesy (1 Cor. 14:1).  
What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?  
We must learn To open our eyes so we, Too, can see. We must learn To  
become seers.

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### 11. Laws Concerning Judging Dreams (Deuteronomy 13:1-5)

- vss. 1,2 List characteristics of the dreamer whom you are **not** to heed or follow. He gives a  
sign or wonder That comes True, saying, "Let us go after other gods."  
vs. 3 What is God doing through this situation? Testing To see if you love The  
Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.  
What should your response be? Refuse To listen To him.  
vs. 5 What did the law say should happen to him? He should be put To death.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?  
Dreams are To be judged against The Bible. Discrimination is To be used.

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### 12. Dream Encouraging Gideon (Judges 7:9-18)

- vs. 9 What is God doing? Positioning Gideon To hear The dream.  
vss. 13,14 Note what each of the following items mean:  
Loaf of barley bread Sword of Gideon  
Struck struck  
Tent lay flat Tents destroyed  
Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? both  
vs. 15 What is Gideon's response? He worshipped; Then went To war.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?  
God may use rhema as a means of properly positioning one To hear The  
dream He has for his ears. God speaks Through The dream - even of The  
wicked. God mixes literalism and symbolism in The same dream. Dreams  
are To be acted on.

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### 13. Saul Inquires of the Lord (1 Samuel 28:6)

vs. 6 What are the three basic ways listed by which God might answer one who seeks Him?

Dreams, urim, or prophets who themselves often hear through dreams.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

Dreams were considered one of the standard ways in which God spoke to man.

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### 14. Solomon's Dream (1 Kings 3:5-28)

vs. 5 What is happening? God appears and says, "Ask what you wish...."

vss. 6-9 What is happening? Solomon is speaking to God in a dream.

vs. 9 What does Solomon request? "An understanding heart to judge Thy people."

vss. 10-14 Note the content: God's pleasant response.

vss. 6-14 Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

vs. 15 What was Solomon's response to the dream? reverence, worship and celebration

vss. 16-28 Illustrate that "the wisdom of God was in him (Solomon) to administer justice."

Wise solution concerning babies resulted in fame.

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

One can have direct, literal, verbal interchange with God in a dream and receive imparted gifts through it.

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### 15. Eliphaz Received a Vision of the Night (Job 4:12-21)

vss. 12-15 What is happening? A spirit is preparing to speak to Eliphaz.

vs. 16 What does Eliphaz do? Eliphaz stills himself, seeking to discern its appearance.

vs. 16 What occurs as a result? There was a silence, then he heard a voice.

vss. 17-21 What is happening? The spirit is speaking.

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

Do you feel this was a demon or the Holy Spirit? Why? Demon. The tone is accusative; verse 18 may contain a lie; what is said leads toward hopelessness and death.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

It appears that even in one's sleep, one can quiet himself to hear the prophetic word. One must be careful to examine all that one hears. God

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was displeased with what Eliphaz had spoken (Job 42:7).

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### 16. Elihu's Declaration Concerning Dreams (Job 33:14-18)

- vss. 14,15 How does God speak to men? in dreams, visions of The night  
vs. 14 How often might He speak? once or Twice  
vs. 14 Does man tend to notice? no  
vs. 16 What does God do? He opens Their ears and seals Their instruction.

vss. 17,18 What is the purpose? To Turn man aside from his conduct and keep man from pride and keep his soul from The pit.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God opens The ears of our heart at night, and speaks To us Trying To alert us. We need To be sure To listen To our dreams.

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### 17. Solomon's Proverb Concerning Vision (Proverbs 29:18)

- vs. 18 Write out this verse. Where There is no vision (or revelation) The people are unrestrained.
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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

The dreams and visions of a leader can be THAT which makes a group cohesive, flowing in God's direction as a unit.

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### 18. Isaiah's Visions (Isaiah 1:1; 2:1; 6:1; 13:1; 21:2)

Note how Isaiah's prophecies flow out of visions.

- 1:1 The vision of Isaiah  
2:1 The word which Isaiah ... saw concerning Judah.  
6:1 "In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting...."  
13:1 "The oracle concerning Babylon which Isaiah ... saw."  
21:2 "A harsh vision has been shown to me."
-

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

Considering vision and dream as essentially the same inner experience,  
Isaiah's prophecies appear to come to him from this inner level. The  
prophecies appear to be formed in and spoken out of a vision.

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### 19. Jeremiah's Vision (Jeremiah 1:11-19)

Although the entire books of Isaiah and Jeremiah could be studied by one seeking the art of dream interpretation, we will examine only two of Jeremiah's visions. Like Isaiah, it seems that much of Jeremiah's prophecy flowed out of vision.

For example, record Jeremiah 1:11. "And the word of the Lord came to me saying,  
"What do you see, Jeremiah?"

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How are the following symbols interpreted?

vss. 11,12 rod of an almond tree Emblem of alertness and activity, blossoming in  
late winter - symbolizes God watching over His word to perform it.

vss. 13,14 boiling pot facing away from the north evil pouring out of the north on  
all the inhabitants of the land.

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Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? both

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

Much of the prophet's message appears to have been received in the  
context of a vision. The language of visions may be symbolic, but God will  
interpret it for the prophet.

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### 20. The False Dreamers (Jeremiah 23:25-40)

vss. 25,26 What kind of dreamers are found here? false ones

vs. 27 What does the false dreamer seek to do? Make God's people forget  
God's name through wrong uses of dreams.

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vs. 32 What is God's attitude toward those who prophesy false dreams? He is against those  
who prophesy false dreams and lead His people astray by their falsehoods and reckless boasting.

vs. 40 What is the end result? They will experience everlasting humiliation.

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What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

For every truth there is a counterfeit, and an abuse. This principle applies  
to dreams and dream interpretation as well.

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## 21. More about False Dreamers (Jeremiah 27:9-11)

- vs. 9      What were the false dreamers saying? They should NOT serve The King of Babylon.
- vs. 11     What was the truth? They **should** serve The King of Babylon.
- vs. 9      What was their response to be toward the false dreamers? (See also Jeremiah 29:8,9.)  
They were NOT To listen To Them.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

We are NOT To listen To a false dreamer.

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## 22. Ezekiel's Visions (Ezekiel 1:1,3; 8:1-18)

Like Isaiah and Jeremiah, it appears that much of Ezekiel's prophecy flowed out of vision. As an example, record pertinent phrases from 1:1 and 1:3 which show this.

"...The heavens were opened and I saw visions of God.... "

"The word of The Lord came expressly To Ezekiel.... "

Do the same for 8:1-18. "...I looked and beheld... " "...brought me in The  
visions of God... " "...do you see... " (used many Times) and "see... "  
"...I looked... "

Therefore, for one seeking the art of dream interpretation, the entire book of Ezekiel could also be examined. However, since our focus is primarily dreams of the night, we will not study Ezekiel at this time.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God speaks To His prophets Through visions, which The prophets Then speak  
forth To The people as prophecy. (See Ezekiel 11:25.)

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## 23. Daniel's Ability to Understand Dreams (Daniel 1:17)

- vs. 17      List the abilities Daniel had. He had knowledge and intelligence in  
every branch of literature and wisdom and understood all kinds  
of visions and dreams.
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- 
-

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

A learned background can serve as a benefit in a skillful dream  
interpretation.

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## 24. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream (Daniel 2:1-49)

vs. 1      What did Nebuchadnezzar experience as a result of his dreams? His spirit was  
Troubled and his sleep left him.

vs. 3      What else did he experience? His spirit was anxious To understand The dream.

vs. 16      What does Daniel do? He requests That The king give him Time in  
order That he might declare The interpretation To The king.

vss. 17,18      What else does Daniel do? He asks his friends To request  
compassion from God.

vs. 19      What happens? The mystery is revealed To Daniel in a night dream.

Notice how the words **night** and **vision** are connected. What does this suggest concerning the Hebrew's view of the relationship between visions and dreams? They are essentially  
synonymous.

vss. 19-23      What is Daniel's first response to the revelation given by God? Worship

vs. 24      What is Daniel's second response? Action

vs. 28      What is Daniel's third response? To give The glory To God.

vs. 28      Write out the phrase that shows the Hebrew connection between dream and vision. "This  
was your dream and The visions in your mind while on your bed."

vs. 29      Who was the source of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream? God

What was the dream about? A revelation of what would Take place  
in The future.

vs. 30      **Note:** Nebuchadnezzar's dream is also referred to as "the thoughts of [his] heart." This verifies the idea that dreams are our hearts speaking to our minds, which is an incredibly insightful and exciting truth.

vss. 31-45      Note what each of the following items mean:

The statue four kingdoms

Head of fine gold King Nebuchadnezzar

Breast and arms of silver The second kingdom - inferior - Mede-Persia

Belly and thighs of bronze The Third kingdom - Greece

Legs of iron The fourth kingdom - Rome

Feet partly clay and partly iron partially strong, partially brittle

Stone cut without hands God is setting up a Kingdom



Stone struck statue, crushing it His Kingdom will crush other kingdoms.

Stone became a mountain, filling earth IT will endure forever.

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? mostly symbolic, except for "crush"

vss. 46-48 List three results of the interpreted dream.

a. The king worships Daniel.

b. The king worships Daniel's God.

c. The king promotes Daniel.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?

Are there additional insights?

God can speak to wicked kings through the interpreted dream. God will use Christians skilled in dream interpretation, if they are prepared and available. The interpretation of the dream saved the wise men's lives. The one who can interpret dreams is likely to be highly esteemed and honored. Dreams can foretell the future hundreds of years in advance.

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## 25. Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of a Great Tree (Daniel 4:4-37)

vs. 4 To whom is the dream given? King Nebuchadnezzar

vs. 5 What is the dream also called? fantasies, visions of the mind

What effect did the dream have on Nebuchadnezzar? IT kept alarming him.

vs. 6 What action did Nebuchadnezzar take in response to the dream? He called for the wise men, that they might make known the interpretation.

vs. 8 How is Daniel described? One in whom is a spirit of the holy gods.

vs. 10 What does the phrase "I was looking" indicate? He was passive, in that he was being moved upon; he was active in that he was looking.

vs. 13 Record the truths you find in verse 13. In his vision, he was looking; the visions were being seen in his mind. He saw an angelic watcher, a holy one, descend from heaven, speaking. Therefore, the visions of angels descending and speaking are seen within.

Record the interpretation given to the following symbols:

vs. 22 The great tree King Nebuchadnezzar

vs. 23 Decree of angelic watcher The decree of the Most High

vs. 25 Seven periods of time seven years

vs. 26 Leaving the stump your kingdom will be assured to you

vs. 25 Eating grass eating grass

vss. 16,34 Mind changed from man's to beast's mind changed from man's to beast's

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? both

vs. 26 What is God trying to get Nebuchadnezzar to realize? That it is heaven that rules.

vs. 27 Describe what is happening. Daniel is advising Nebuchadnezzar to change so that the predicted calamity will not occur.

vs. 29 How much time passed? 12 months



- vs. 30 Had Nebuchadnezzar heeded Daniel's advice? no
- vss. 31-33 What happened? The punishment fell upon him.
- vss. 34,35 Did Nebuchadnezzar finally learn humility? yes
- vs. 36 Notice, the rest of the dream is fulfilled.
- vs. 37 Write out this verse: "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt, and honor The King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to humble those who walk in pride."

The dream has completed its task.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God can and does speak to evil kings. The vision of God speaking was seen within the mind. If one responds to the warning given in a dream, one can avert the coming calamity. If the warning goes unheeded, the calamity will come.

## 26. Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts (Daniel 7:1-28)

- vs. 1 Who is receiving the dream? Daniel
- What is the dream also called? visions in his head
- What was the first thing Daniel did with his dream? He wrote it down in summary form.
- vss. 2,6,9,13 What was Daniel doing in his vision by night? looking
- vss. 15,16 List Daniel's initial responses to the dream.
- His spirit was distressed.
  - Visions kept alarming him.
  - Daniel approached one in his dream and asked for its exact meaning.
- vss. 16,17 Who gave the interpretation? The one in his dream.

Record the interpretation given to the following symbols:

- vs. 17 Four great beasts four kings who will arise
- vss. 14,18 The Son of Man given dominion, glory and a kingdom The saints of the Highest One will receive the Kingdom and possess it forever.
- vs. 23 Fourth beast devouring and trampling a king who will destroy
- vs. 24 Ten horns 10 kings rising
- vss. 8,24 Additional later horn pulling out three horns a later king who will subdue three other kings

Notice that after warfare this king's dominion will be taken away and everlasting dominion given to the saints.

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? both

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

Again, angelic visitations are seen in one's head. One should write down his dreams. One can ask for a being in the dream to interpret the dream. Dreams are not intended to be obscure, but to communicate a message symbolically. Dreams often combine literal and symbolic language.

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## 27. Daniel's Vision of the Ram and Goat (Daniel 8:1-27)

vs. 1 How much later is this vision than the previous dream recorded in Daniel 7:1? \_\_\_\_\_

Two years

vs. 2 Notice "I looked in the vision." The element of active looking appears over and over again.

vs. 19 The dreams pertain to what time? The Time of The end

Record the interpretation given to the following symbols:

vs. 20 Ram with two horns The kings of Media and Persia

vs. 21 Shaggy goat The kingdom of Greece

Large horn between his eyes The first king

vs. 22 Broken horn and four horns that arose in its place four kingdoms which will arise from his nation, although not with his power

Is the language literal, symbolic or both? both

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

Again one comes to explain the interpretation. Thus Daniel says, "It is God who gives the interpretation." Dreams can refer to many years in the future. Dreams can combine both literal and symbolic language.

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## 28. Daniel's Terrifying Vision (Daniel 10:1 - 12:13)

vss. 2,3 What was the prelude to the vision? a three-week partial fast

vs. 4 What was the physical setting in which the vision took place? by the bank of the river Tigris

vs. 5 What did Daniel do? lifted up his eyes and looked

vs. 7 Did they all see the vision? no Their response? dread and fear

Why do you suppose Daniel saw and the others did not? Daniel was prepared (fasted) and was looking

vss. 8,9 How does Daniel respond physically? His strength left him, and he fell into a deep sleep with his face to the ground.

vss. 10,11 What is happening? An angel touched him and spoke, and Daniel stood up.

- vss. 12,13 What is the story? An angel had been sent with The message immediately upon request and had been detained 21 days by a demonic prince, The prince of The kingdom of Persia, until The angel was helped by Michael, one of The chief princes.
- vs. 14 To what time period does the vision pertain? The future
- vs. 18 What is happening? Daniel was strengthened by a touch from The one in his vision.

Notice that chapters 11 and 12 record the content of this vision.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

Proper preparation of holiness, fasting and looking can enable one person to see visions while others standing by only vaguely sense that something is happening in The spiritual world. One can experience a loss and a gain of physical strength through experiencing various aspects of vision.

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### 29. God's Review of Old Testament History (Hosca 12:9,10)

- vs. 10 Note God's review of history. "I have also spoken to The prophets, and I gave numerous visions."  
Insights: God was true to speak to His people through visions.

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### 30. The Promise of the Spirit (Joel 2:28,29)

- vs. 28 Write out this promise of God. "And it will come about after this, that I will pour out My spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions."

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### 31. Obadiah's Vision (Obadiah 1)

- vs. 1 What is the relationship between vision and prophecy demonstrated in this verse?  
Prophecy flows out of vision.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

It seems to be a principle that very often prophecy flows out of vision.

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### 32. Nahum's Vision (Nahum 1:1,2)

vss. 1,2

What is the relationship between vision and prophecy demonstrated in these verses?

Prophecy flows out of vision.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

It seems to be a principle that very often prophecy flows out of vision.

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### 33. Habakkuk's Vision (Habakkuk 2)

vss. 1,2

List how Habakkuk primed himself to receive prophecy from God. He sought a quiet place; he looked for visions. (Note that he wrote down what he received.)

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

Those who desire to receive prophecy from God can facilitate this by finding a quiet place to wait on God and by looking for (expecting to see) a vision.

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### 34. The Diviners' Lying Visions (Zechariah 10:2)

vs. 2

What is the problem here? The diviners see lying visions and tell false dreams.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

Those who speak falsely in The name of The Lord will be severely dealt  
with by God.

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### 35. Prophesying Forth the Vision (Zechariah 13:4)

vs. 4      Record the Scriptural phrase which describes the relationship between vision and prophecy.  
"his vision when he prophesies"

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

This is another of The many Scriptural passages which clearly indicate  
That prophecy frequently results directly from vision.

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### 36. Joseph's Dream (Matthew 1:20-25)

Notice that the background to this dream experience is that Joseph is considering how to resolve a problem in his life.

vs. 20      Who appeared to him in a dream? an angel of The Lord

vss. 20-23      What does the angel do? delivers a message To him

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

vs. 24      What is Joseph's response to the dream? He got up and did what The  
angel of The Lord commanded.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

An angel can speak To us in our dreams and give us instruction for solving  
life's problems. We are To act upon The instruction.

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### 37. Joseph's Second Dream (Matthew 2:3-15)

vs. 13      What happens to Joseph in the dream? An angel of The Lord appears To  
him and speaks To him.

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

vs. 14      What's Joseph's response? instant obedience

vs. 15      Note that obedience to this dream caused prophecy to be fulfilled.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

An angel can speak to us in our dreams and give us warning which, when heeded, can provide deliverance. (See also Matthew 2:12.)

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### 38. Joseph's Third and Fourth Dreams (Matthew 2:19-23)

Who appears to Joseph in these dreams? an angel of The Lord

Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? literal

What is the response to the dream? Joseph acted on his dreams.

Notice again prophecy is being fulfilled.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

An angel may speak into your dream, which when acted upon, ushers in God's guidance and provision.

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### 39. The Vision on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9)

vs. 1      What is the location? on a high mountain

vs. 2      What do the disciples see? Jesus Transfigured before Them

vs. 3      What else do they see? Moses and Elijah Talking To Jesus

vs. 5      What else happens? The disciples are overshadowed by a bright cloud and The voice of God speaks out of The cloud

vs. 6      Note the disciples' response: They fell on Their faces with fear

vs. 7      Note Jesus' response: He Touched Them and comforted Them.

vs. 8      What did the disciples see? no one except Jesus

vs. 9      What does Jesus call this experience? a vision

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

(Draw your own conclusions. Also consider Hebrews 12:18-24, especially verse 23.) These passages could at least allow tolerance toward the belief of communion with the saints, as exemplified in verse 4 of Wesley's song, "The Church's One Foundation."

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#### 40. Prophecy Concerning the Last Days (Acts 2:17)

- vs. 17      What will be poured out in the last days? God's Spirit  
              What will accompany this outpouring? prophecy, dreams, and visions

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God said He would speak using dreams and visions during The Old Testament, and He did. Then, after 400 years of silence, He says He will again speak using dream and vision. The remainder of The New Testament records The initial fulfillment of This prophecy.

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#### 41. Saul's Vision on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-9)

- vs. 3      What happens? A light from heaven flashes around Saul.  
vs. 4      What happens? He fell on The ground and heard a voice.  
22:9      Did the others standing around understand the voice? no  
vs. 5      What's happening? Saul is dialoguing with The voice he hears.  
26:19      What does Paul call this entire experience? a heavenly vision

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

One can encounter God Through a visionary experience, and dialogue with God in it. Others standing by may not Totally sense what is going on.

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#### 42. Ananias' Vision (Acts 9:10-19)

- vs. 10      Who appears to Ananias in a vision? The Lord  
vs. 10      What happens? They begin a dialogue.  
vs. 12      What is God saying? That He (God) has also given Saul a vision  
              That will dovetail with This vision.  
vs. 17      What happens? Ananias acts on This vision.  
vs. 18      What was the result? A miracle of healing and salvation.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God can and does grant interlocking visions with incredible Timing in order To accomplish His purpose. One can dialogue with God in a vision. We are To act on These visions.

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#### 43. Cornelius' and Peter's Visions (Acts 10:1-48)

- vss. 1,2      How is Cornelius characterized? A centurion - a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms and prayed to God continually.
- vs. 3          What happens to him? At 3:00 in the afternoon he sees a clear vision of an angel of God coming to him.
- vss. 4-6      What does Cornelius do? He fixes his eyes upon the angel and they begin to dialogue.
- vss. 7,8      What happens? Cornelius acts on his dream.
- vss. 9,17-23   Note the timing of this vision: Noon the following day - at the exact time Cornelius' servants appear seeking him.
- vss. 10-16    What happens to Peter? He falls into a trance. Peter sees a vision and hears a voice which he interprets as the Lord's voice.
- vss. 11-16    Is the language literal, symbolic, or both? symbolic
- vs. 21        What is Peter's response? He acted on his vision.
- vss. 44-48    What is the end result? The Holy Spirit was poured out upon the Gentiles.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

Significant directional moves in ministry can flow out of vision. God speaks through interconnecting dreams and visions. It is facilitative to fix your eyes on what is taking place in the dream.

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#### 44. The Macedonian Vision (Acts 16:6-11)

- vss. 6-8      What is the background for this vision? Paul was pressing to go in certain directions, and the Holy Spirit was forbidding him.
- vs. 9          What happens? Paul sees a vision of the night of a man of Macedonia saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."
- vs. 10        What did they conclude? That God had called them to preach the gospel in Macedonia.
- vs. 11        What was Paul's response? To act on his dream by setting sail immediately.



What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God speaks Through visions of The night. We are To listen To Them and  
act on Them.

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#### 45. Paul's Vision While in Corinth (Acts 18:1-11)

vss. 1-8 Note the background for the vision: Paul was in a new city, a large  
city, and was being resisted by The Jews.

vs. 9 What happened? God spoke To Paul at night.

vs. 10 What was the content of the vision? Encouragement - not To fear,  
speak in faith, assurance of God's protection.

vs. 11 Note Paul's response: He settled There a year and six months,  
Teaching The word of God among Them.

What truths concerning dreams and visions have you discovered from the answers you have given?  
Are there additional insights?

God will grant us encouragement Through dreams of The night.

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#### 46. The Visions of John (Book of Revelation)

The entire 22 chapters flow out of vision. You are encouraged to work your way through the Book of Revelation, as you have time and interest, using the same method of investigation used in the preceding questions.

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#### 47. For Further Research

Since dream and vision in the Major Prophets was treated only briefly, you may wish to do a more thorough study of one or more of these books.

You may also desire to do a word study of some of the following words:

|             |            |                |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| vision      | trance     | ecstatic state |
| to see      | revelation | in spirit      |
| to perceive |            |                |

# **Part 3**

**Corresponds with the CD and DVD series**



# Christian Dream Interpretation

## Teaching Notes, Classroom Activities and Exercises which Promote Ongoing Revelation at Home

The psalmist declared that God counsels us at night through our dreams (Ps. 16:7). The dreams in the Bible illustrate this principle, and all of us can learn to hear from God during the two hours of dream life we have each night. In this course, we will examine dreams in the Bible, seeing how God interprets the symbolism and speaks to His children through their dreams (Num. 12:6; Acts 2:17).

### Additional materials highly recommended which deepen this training experience:

- *Hear God Through Your Dreams* CD and DVD series by Mark and Patti Virkler available at: [www.CWGMinistries.org](http://www.CWGMinistries.org) or 716-681-4896.
- Personal Spiritual Trainer available at: [www.CWGMinistries.org](http://www.CWGMinistries.org)
- Distance learning college course available at: [www.CLUOnline.com](http://www.CLUOnline.com)

### Session #1 – The Significance of Dreams

#### Introduction – Some Scientific Observations Concerning Dreams

Sleep laboratories have proven that everyone dreams one to two hours each night during a certain period of sleep known as alpha level, which is light sleep. Every 90-minute cycle of sleep begins with alpha, then goes into deeper sleep which is called theta, and finally deepest sleep which is called delta.

At the close of the first 90-minute cycle each night, the individual returns to alpha level sleep, where he has a short, five-minute dream period. The next time he cycles up to alpha, he has a ten-minute dream period. The third time in alpha, the dream period is about 15 minutes, and so on. The average person sleeping for eight hours a night will dream about one to two hours of that time.

Alpha level sleep is where one has what is called Rapid Eye Movement (REM). Rapid Eye Movement is exactly what it sounds like: the eyes of the dreamer

begin moving rapidly. It is believed that he is actually watching the scenes in the dream, and thus his eyes are literally moving back and forth, observing the action. By observing the alpha level sleep when Rapid Eye Movement occurs, researchers in sleep laboratories have determined when a person is dreaming and how much time is spent dreaming in an average night.

They have discovered that if they awaken a person every time REM begins, preventing him from dreaming, after about three nights the individual will begin to show signs of having a nervous breakdown. Clearly dreams are an inner release mechanism which helps provide us with emotional balance and maintain our sanity. Dreams can be considered guardians of our mental and emotional well-being.

#### A. Seven Reasons We Should Listen to Our Dreams

1. God declared that He **would** speak through dreams and visions in the Old Testament.

*And He said, "Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will*

*make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream” (Num. 12:6).*

2. God declared that He **did** speak through dreams and visions in the Old Testament.

*“I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets” (Hos. 12:10).*

3. God declares that He **will** communicate through dreams and visions in the New Testament.

*“And it shall come to pass in the last days,” saith God, “I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams” (Acts 2:17). We find that at the end of the New Testament, God is still giving visions (Rev. 1-22)*

4. God declares that He **will counsel** us at night through our dreams.

*I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me (Ps. 16:7 NIV).*

5. Rather than our dreams being fatalistic, dreams are calling us to change **so we will not perish.**

*For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed; Then He openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction, That He may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride from man. He keepeth back his soul from the pit, **and his life from perishing** by the sword (Job 33:14-18, emphasis added).*

6. God does very significant things **within** dreams. For example, He established the Abrahamic Covenant in a dream.

And when the sun was going down, a **deep sleep** fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him....And God said to Abram....In the same day the LORD **made a covenant** with Abram, saying... (Gen. 15:12,13,18, emphasis added).

7. God grants supernatural gifts **through** dreams.

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, “Ask what I shall give thee....”

“Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge Thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this Thy so great a people?”

“...Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee....” And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream (I Kings 3:5,9,12,15).

## **B. Summarizing the Importance of Our Dreams**

God has chosen to communicate with mankind through dreams. He guides and counsels us through our dreams. He establishes covenants with us through our dreams. He grants us gifts in our dreams. He utilized dreams from Genesis to Revelation, and declared that He would continue to use them in the last days. When you total up all dreams and visions in the Bible, and all the stories and actions which come out of these dreams and visions, you have about one-third of the Bible, which is equal to the size of the New Testament! Dreams are a central way God has chosen to communicate with us, and thus they must be given great weight!

### C. Five Things You Can Do to Help Recall Your Dreams

1. Say to yourself, "I believe dreams contain a valid message."

*This is a signal to your heart that you are taking it seriously and want to hear what it has to tell you. You are giving it permission, and even asking it to awaken you after each dream. Your heart will do exactly that. You see, you must awaken within five minutes of the dream ending in order to recall it. If, however, you tell your heart that dreams are leftover undigested pizza, then your heart lets you sleep through the dream and doesn't awaken you after it is over, and thus you do not recall it.*

2. Ask God to speak to you through dreams as you fall asleep.

*God does answer prayers, especially when prayed in accordance to His will!*

3. Put your journal beside your bed and immediately record your dreams upon awakening.

*You will forget most of your dreams by the morning, so get up and write them down when you awaken.*

4. Get eight hours of sleep, as the entire last hour will be dream-time.
5. Awaken naturally without the use of an alarm clock, as alarms shatter dream recall and blast tidbits of dreams into oblivion where they are never found.

If you will do the above five things, you will recall dreams every week.

### D. Classroom Activities (after the DVD session, including dream testimony, has been viewed):

1. Confess together the following statements:
  - REM means Rapid Eye Movement. REM sleep is when one is dreaming, and his eyes are watching the scenes of the dream.
  - God has declared that He is speaking to me through dreams. I repent for not honoring my dreams in the past. I will honor my dreams from now on. God, please give me a dream tonight, I pray.
2. Discuss the principles and process of Christian dream interpretation that you learned from watching Dr. Virkler interpret this first dream.
3. If you feel God has given you a message through a dream, share it with the group.
4. Discuss any questions or comments concerning the teaching just viewed.

### E. Exercises to promote ongoing revelation at home:

1. Memorize the following: *I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me (Ps. 16:7 NIV).*

**(A tip on Bible memorization:** Write the verse on a 3x5 card and carry it with you throughout the day, speaking it over and over. Visualize it. Journal and ask God what He wants to speak to you concerning the verse and its application to your life. Come to class prepared to share your verse from memory as well as the specific insights God has given to you concerning its application to your life.)

2. Memorize the five things you can do to help you recall your dreams more frequently and more accurately: (1) Say to yourself, "I believe dreams contain a valid message." 2) Ask God to speak to you through your dreams as you fall asleep. 3) Upon waking, immediately record your dreams in a journal kept beside your bed. 4) Get eight hours of sleep. 5) Awaken naturally.

3. **Journaling:** Put paper and pencil next to your bed at night, and as you lie down, say, “God, please give me a dream tonight.” When you awaken, immediately record any dreams you have received. Bring your dreams to class next week so we can work on interpreting them.

## Session #2 – Principles for Interpreting Dreams

### A. Seven Foundational Principles for Interpreting Dreams

1. Most dreams are symbolic (including biblical dreams), so view them the same way you would view a political cartoon. Throw the switch in your brain that says, “Look at this symbolically.”

*You can learn the art of communicating symbolically by playing a game like “Pictionary” or “Bible Pictionary.”*

2. The symbols will come from the dreamer’s life, so ask, “What does this symbol mean to me?” or, if working on another’s dream, ask, “What does this symbol mean to you?”

*For example, Joseph was a shepherd, and he dreamed of sheaves and sun, moon and stars bowing down (Gen. 37:1-11). These images surround a shepherd boy who lives in the fields. Nebuchadnezzar, a king, dreamed of statues of gold (Dan. 2:31ff), which surround kings who live in palaces.*

3. The dream generally speaks of the concerns which your heart is currently facing. So ask, “What issues was I processing the day before I had the dream?”

*For example, Paul was wondering where to go next on his missionary journey and had a dream of a Macedonian man motioning for him to come on over (Acts 16:6-11). Nebuchadnezzar was thinking his*

*kingdom would go on forever (Dan. 4:28-33) and he had a dream of a tree being chopped off at the roots (Dan. 4:9-27). Once you know the thoughts that were on the dreamer’s heart when he fell asleep, it is much easier to draw out the meaning of the dream.*

4. The meaning of the dream must be drawn from the dreamer. Realize you know nothing about the dream, but through dependence upon the Holy Spirit and the skillful use of questions, you can draw the meaning of the dream out from the heart of the dreamer.

*As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams (Dan. 1:17).*

*Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out (Prov. 20:5).*

5. The dreamer’s heart will leap and “witness” and say, “Aha!” when it hears the right interpretation, so never accept an interpretation that does not bear witness in the dreamer’s heart.
6. Dreams reveal but do not condemn. Their goal is to preserve life, not to destroy it (Job 33:13-18).
7. Never make a major decision in your life based only on a dream without receiving additional confirmation from the other ways that God speaks to us and guides us (peace in our hearts, the counsel of others, illumined Scriptures, God’s still small voice, prophecy, anointed reasoning, etc.).

### B. Classroom Activities (after the DVD session, including dream testimony, has been viewed):

1. Discuss how Dr. Virkler followed the principles of dream interpretation in his demonstration on the DVD. Be as specific as possible.



2. **Ask for a volunteer to share a dream.**  
Requirements are: It must be from within the last week. It must be a short dream (only 1-2 paragraphs long). It must be written down. You must be willing to come to the front and read it and let us work on it together as a group. The person reads the dream twice, and then beginning with the first symbol, classmates can offer suggestions as to what the symbols might mean, working through the dream symbol by symbol. When done, ask the dreamer what they sense the dream was about, and if they have experienced an “aha” moment, which confirms that the right interpretation has come forth. If not, that is fine, simply have them journal about the dream during the following week, asking God for additional revelation.
3. Discuss any questions or comments concerning the teaching just viewed.
4. If you have time to repeat the above process with a second person, do so.

### C. Exercises to promote ongoing revelation at home:

1. **Memorize the following:** Seven principles for interpreting dreams: 1) Most dreams are symbolic. 2) The symbols of the dream come from the dreamer’s own life. 3) The dream generally speaks to the concerns your heart is currently facing. Context is vital to understanding. 4) It is through skillful questioning and dependence on the Holy Spirit that the meaning of a dream can be drawn from the dreamer. 5) Never accept an interpretation that does not bear witness in the dreamer’s heart. 6) Dreams reveal but do not condemn. 7) Never make a major decision based solely on the interpretation of a dream. Always receive confirmation from other ways God speaks.
2. **Journaling:** Put paper and pencil next to your bed at night, and as you lie down, say,

“God, please give me a dream tonight.” When you awaken, immediately record any dreams you have received. Bring your dreams to class next week so we can work on interpreting them.

## Session #3 – Discerning Dreams about Yourself

At least 95% of your dreams will be about you – your inner self, your current situation, your relationships.

**Your dreams** come from **your heart** and will express the things that are important to your heart. The most common area your spirit will reveal will be your emotional, heart struggles and sanctification issues, expressed symbolically. Body and health issues are also important to your spirit, so they may be revealed, again in a symbolic way. Your relationships to other people are important to your heart, so these may be conveyed in signs and symbols. And the circumstances and events that surround your life, ministry or vocation are also important to your heart, so these may be portrayed symbolically in your dreams.

Because the vast majority of dreams are about your inner self, begin the process of interpreting your dream with the assumption that it probably is about something you are or should be dealing with in your own life right now.

### A. Interpreting Dreams about Yourself

1. *Isolate the **feeling** of the dream first.*
  - a) How did you feel upon first awakening? Was your heart pounding in fear? Were you confused, frustrated, angry, rejected, or threatened? Did you feel loved, excited, happy, or content? Did you feel exposed, unprepared, or disappointed? What was the overall emotion that the dream evoked?
  - b) In what aspect of your life are you also feeling this emotion? If it is not immediately obvious to you, ask the Lord to reveal it to you.



2. Look at the **action** of the dream next.

- a) Ask the Holy Spirit to show you the symbolism of the action. For example, if the symbol in your dream is that your car is going backward, ask, “In what way do I feel that I am going backward, that I am not moving forward in this area of my life?” If someone else is driving your car in the dream, ask, “In what way is this person driving or controlling my life (e.g., my reactions, attitudes, behaviors) at this time?” or “How is the characteristic that this person symbolizes controlling me?” (See the section below on the symbolism of people in your dreams.) If you are falling, ask “In what way do I feel like I am falling, losing ground, or out of control in my life at this time?” If you are soaring, ask, “In what way or what area of my life do I feel like I am flying, that I am rising above my problems or my abilities?” If you are being chased, ask, “How and why do I feel like I am being pursued or hunted?” If you are naked, ask, “In what way do I feel like I am exposed and vulnerable?” If you dream of dying, ask, “What is dying within me?” (This may be a good thing, for perhaps you are dying to pride, or to self, or to workaholism.) Consider the meaning of the key action in the dream in Judges 7:9-18.
- b) Remember, actions in the dream are to be viewed symbolically. If your dream wanted to really show you that you were going to die, it would picture that event symbolically. For example, just a few days before his assassination, President Lincoln dreamed of a casket.
- c) Once you have used the feeling and action of the dream to identify the aspect of your life that it is revealing to you, the rest of the symbols will be much easier to identify.

3. The **people** in your dreams often represent characteristics within you.

- a) You can determine what facet of yourself they are representing by simply asking, “What is the dominant personality trait of this person, as I know him?” The answer will tell you what aspect of yourself you are dreaming about. For example, your heart may want to show you the entrepreneur, the hospitable host, the administrator, the class clown, the spiritual leader, the laid back one, the workaholic, etc. that is within you by the appearance in your dream of an individual who epitomizes that kind of person to you. Your pastor may be the spiritual part of you; a president or king may symbolize other leadership qualities within you; a policeman, judge, or dictator may be the authority figure in you; people in uniform (nurses, waiters, choir members) may represent your desire to conform.
- b) It is also possible that the person’s name may be the point that the dream is trying to bring out, especially if that name is spoken within the dream. Dreaming of a friend named Charity or Joy or Grace or Joshua or David may be your heart’s way of calling your attention to the qualities that are seen in the meaning of the name. Or the name may actually sound like the message the dream is trying to convey. For example, dreaming of “Sharon” might be your heart’s way of pointing out an area in which you should be “sharing” something you are not, or should not be sharing something you are. One person reported dreaming of a friend named “Anita Cook” and finding the interpretation to be “I need to cook.”
- c) It is also possible that the Lord Himself or one of His angels may meet you in the dream.

4. *Animals often represent your emotions.*

- a) Ask, "What emotion might this animal be symbolizing to me?" This will depend on your geographical home, your personal experiences, your knowledge of the Bible, and your own culture. For example, a bull might be anger (an "angry bull"); a fox, craftiness; a cat, curiosity; a dove, peace; an eagle, freedom; a snake, subtlety; a lion, royalty, and so on.
- b) Keep in mind that in the Bible, a lion is used to represent both Christ ("the Lion of the Tribe of Judah") and Satan ("as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour"). Therefore, you must maintain your dependence upon the Holy Spirit to reveal what the animal represents in your specific dream.
- c) When you face the animal representing your emotions in your dream rather than running from it, you may find that the animal changes into a different one. It is good to face your emotions.

5. *Numbers in dreams generally represent the identical number in real life.*

- a) However, the number will probably be linked to something which needs to be interpreted symbolically. For example, when Joseph dreamed of eleven stars, the eleven was literal but the stars were symbolic and actually represented his brothers. Joseph was dreaming about his eleven brothers (Gen. 37:1-11). Likewise, the cupbearer's dream of three branches stood for three days (Gen. 40:8-12), and for the chief baker, the three baskets represented three days (Gen. 40:18). In Pharaoh's dream, the seven cows were seven years (Gen. 41:26). So expect the number to mean that exact number of something.
- b) It will take prayer, discernment and the revelation of the Spirit (confirmed by the leap in your heart) to determine what it means.

6. Continue to move through the dream, seeking revelation on symbol after symbol, until you sense in your spirit that the interpretation is complete.

**B. Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group**

1. Keep a journal beside your bed and ask God to give you dreams which you immediately record upon awakening. Dreams shared in classtime are to be recent ones (within 1-2 weeks) so that the dreamer knows the setting of the dream, that is, the issues on his heart when he went to bed. Also, it is best in group dream work to be working with shorter dreams (1-3 paragraphs long) rather than longer ones.
2. In a group setting, never go further in interpreting a person's dream than the dreamer is willing to go. As the meaning of the dream is being drawn out, the dreamer may suddenly realize it is speaking about something he or she is not ready to discuss openly in front of the group. The dreamer therefore always reserves the right to say, "That is as far as I want to go in interpreting this dream."

**C. A Method for Interpreting Dreams in a Group** (Adjust and apply to interpret your own dreams, as well.)  
With the group leader presiding over the interaction, interpret two or three dreams using the following approach.

**The Key Question Approach Leading to Heart Revelation** (guided self-discovery):

1. Write the dreamer's name on the top right corner of the blackboard so everyone can address him or her by name. Have the dreamer standing or sitting in the front of the room, available to answer questions from the group.
2. The dreamer reads the dream aloud twice. While the dream is being read, someone writes on a blackboard the key elements and

events of the dream, leaving space between each. If no blackboard is present, each member of the group should create a list on a paper for their own reference.

3. Ask the dreamer:
  - a) "What was the key feeling in the dream?"
  - b) "What was the key action in the dream?"
  - c) "In what area of your life are you experiencing these?"

This will give the dreamer and the group a reference point as to the setting of the dream, and what issue is likely being discussed. The answers to these questions can be listed across the top of the blackboard after the phrases "Key Feeling" and "Key Action."

4. Beginning with the first event/element of the dream and continuing to the last one, participants then ask questions like the following:
  - a) What is the dominant trait of that person?
  - b) What emotion does that animal represent to you?
  - c) In what way are you experiencing (the event described in the dream) in your life at this time?
5. If the dreamer cannot come up with an answer to any of the above questions:
  - a) Remind him to relax and tune to flowing thoughts, rather than analytical thoughts, thus moving from his mind to his heart.
  - b) Have the group brainstorm ("heart storm"), offering suggestions of what the item in the dream might mean. These are listed on the board.
  - c) The dreamer then comes to the board and draws a line through the ones that definitely do not ring true in his heart, and circles the ones which his heart leaps to, offering any interpretation God is revealing to him.

**D. In future weeks you may also break the class into groups of four to six and have them work for one to two hours on dreams of individuals within their groups.** Follow the "Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group" given above. Instruct the groups to use "The Key Question Approach." If they need help, they should raise their hand to attract the attention of the classroom leader to come and work with their group.

When the seminar/classroom leader is not assisting a specific group, he should rotate from group to group making sure things are progressing well in each.

**E. Classroom Activities** (after the DVD session, including dream testimony, has been viewed):

1. Discuss any questions or comments concerning the teaching just viewed.
2. Select volunteer(s) from the class who wish to come forward to have their dreams interpreted by the group. Interpret dreams from 1-3 people as time permits, following all the rules stated above in the sections "Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group," and "A Method for Interpreting Dreams in a Group."

**F. Exercises to promote ongoing revelation at home:**

1. **Journaling:** Put paper and pencil next to your bed at night, and as you lie down, say, "God, please give me a dream tonight." When you awaken, immediately record any dreams you have received. Seek the interpretation following the principles you have learned or bring your dreams to class next week so we can work on interpreting them.
2. Memorize the following principles:
  - a. The four most common areas which your dreams will be about: (1) your emotional, heart struggles; 2) your sanctification

issues; 3) your body and health issues; 4) your relationships to other people)

- b. Begin the interpretation process by asking  
(a) What was the overall emotion that the dream evoked? (b) In what aspect of my waking life am I also feeling this emotion? If the answers to these questions are not immediately obvious, ask the Lord to reveal them to you, tune to flow and record what He says.
  - c. Then ask what the key action of the dream is. In what way does that action represent something you are facing in your waking life?
3. Internalize and use all principles for interpreting dreams that were taught in this week's lesson.

## Session #4 – Dreams about Others

### A. Note whether you are an *observer* or a *participant* in the action of the dream.

1. Occasionally you may have dreams that relate to more than your personal, inner life. If you have examined the dream carefully, in full reliance upon the Holy Spirit to bring the interpretation, and you cannot see how the symbols of the dream apply to you, seek the input of your spiritual counselors. They may be able to see your blind spots and recognize the message your heart is trying to give you.
2. If your counselors agree that the dream does not apply to your inner life, you may then consider the possibility that it is a dream for or about others. One indication that this may be a dream for another rather than you is if you are an observer of the action of the dream, rather than a participant.

Following are some biblical dreams that demonstrate this principle:

Gen. 15:1-21 Abraham in interaction with God & sleeps = dream about himself  
Gen. 20:1-18 Abimelech and God in interaction = dream about himself  
Gen. 28:10-22 Jacob being spoken to by God = dream about himself  
Gen. 31:10-29 Jacob and God in interaction = dream about himself  
Gen. 37:1-11 Joseph and brothers in interaction = dream about himself  
Gen. 40:1-23 Cupbearer and Baker = dreams about themselves  
Gen. 41:1-49 Pharaoh's dream of 7 cows = dream for others  
Gen. 46:1-7 Israel in dialogue with God = dream about himself  
Judges 7:9-18 Loaf of bread hitting camp = dream about himself  
1 Kings 3:5-28 God and Solomon interact = dream about himself  
Daniel 2:1-49 Statue hit by stone = dream about others  
Daniel 7:1-28 Four beasts = dream about others  
Daniel 8:1-27 Ram and goat = dream about others  
Daniel 10:1- 12:13 Terrifying vision = dream about others  
Matt. 1:20-25 God spoke to Joseph = dream about himself  
Matt. 2:3-15 God spoke to Joseph = dream about himself  
Matt. 2:19-23 God spoke to Joseph = dream about himself

**Summary:** Thirteen (13) dreams about the dreamer; four dreams about others.

Two important observations may be made from these biblical examples:

- The dreams for or about others were prophetic in nature and were **all** given to kings or kings' advisors concerning the future of their kingdoms. The principle which may be drawn from this is that dreams (and indeed all revelation from the Holy Spirit) are only given to us that apply to our own area of responsibility. We do not hear from God about people over whom we have no influence, authority or accountability.
- Dreams about self may be **for the dreamer and** his descendants. Again, the revelation of the dream was not given to any random individual, but to one with authority and influence.

Intercessors may be given revelation of others, so they can pray for them.

## **B. Clues Which May Indicate Your Dream Is About Others**

1. You are an observer of the action.

If you play an active role in the dream, it is likely a dream about you. If you are only an observer to the activity of the dream, it is likely a dream about others.

2. Intense emotional relationship.

You are intensely emotionally related to the person or the thing in the dream at the point in time that you have the dream.

3. The dream just does not fit your life.

You should always ask God, "Lord, show me any way the events in this dream are revealing struggles my heart is currently facing." If you cannot see that the dream is talking about an

issue you are facing, and your spiritual counselor cannot help you see how this may be something your heart is currently processing, then you may assume that the dream is not about you.

## **C. Dreams Which Tell of the Future**

In a sense, many dreams are foretelling the future. Some dreams may simply be showing what will happen in the near future if one does not repent and change his ways. Other dreams seem to tell of the very distant future, as some of the Bible dreams appear to do. Perhaps more prophetic people may find that they dream further into the future and further away from themselves, while people who are not as prophetic may tend to dream closer to home (i.e., have dreams which deal with issues concerning their own hearts' struggles).

## **D. Dreams about others**

1. Perhaps only 5% of our dreams are about others (exception being extremely right-brain people). Such dreams are not talking about parts of yourself, but about real outer situations. I have discovered that the more right-brain a person is (i.e., visionary and intuitive) the more likely he is to dream further away from home (away from his own self). That means that right brain people may be more likely to have a greater number of dreams about others.

2. For example, I have noted that three different women who scored 7.7 on a "Brain Preference Indicator" test (the highest score I have seen) have vivid dreams about others in which they see the murders, rapes, and thefts taking place in their communities that night, and which are indeed reported in the newspaper the following day. These were literal dreams of real life events. Obviously, not all dreams about others show such fearsome pictures. These are just given as examples I am personally aware of.



3. Dreams about others are shared publicly much more often than dreams about self, which is why we may get the impression most dreams are about others.

#### **E. Getting the feel for symbolism**

1. It is vital to remember this principle: *All kinds* of dreams can contain symbolic language, literal language, or a combination of symbolic and literal language.
2. When interpreting dreams, look for metaphors, similes, idioms and metonymies of our language. Dreaming about ketchup may be calling you to “catch up” in some area. A fire may be trying to warn you that you are “playing with fire.” A dream of being smothered or drowned may indicate that you are feeling “in over your head.” A frozen lake, an ice flow, or even ice cubes may be cautioning you that you are only seeing “the tip of the iceberg.” Having your glasses broken may be an indication that you are not seeing the situation clearly. One lady reported that a dream of a fire in the kitchen of her house was a warning that she had an inflammation in her digestive tract. Other examples of word plays or idioms that may show up in your dreams include: “walking a mile in someone else’s shoes;” “being born in a barn;” “being up the creek without a paddle;” “as the crow flies;” “throwing the baby out with the bath water;” “on a level playing field;” “throwing a wrench in the works;” “at the eleventh hour;” or “speaking with a forked tongue.” Your heart may use one of these pictures in your dreams, expecting that you will understand the symbolic meaning of the expression.
3. Think outside the box! Be prepared for unexpected and clever ways for your heart to get its point across to your conscious mind. Be open to plays on words and lateral connections.

4. One simple way to interpret dreams: Start with the first symbol and try to interpret that. Then go on to the next symbol, and so on. Continually ask the question, “In what way am I experiencing this symbol in my life at this time?”

5. *Finally*, always remember that God is big enough and gracious enough to make sure that you understand the message He wants to give you. If your understanding of dream interpretation is different than that given above, He will meet you in the dream according to your expectations.

#### **F. Additional Thoughts Concerning Working with Dreams**

1. Dreams are reliable messengers. They reveal the condition of one’s heart (Dan. 2:30), as well as the voice of God within one’s heart (Acts 2:17). They may from time to time reveal direct attacks of satan or demons upon the heart. (Job 4:12-21 may be an example of a demon speaking accusation leading toward hopelessness and death – this is the only possible biblical example of a demon speaking through a dream.)
2. Repeated dreams occur because you did not hear and act on the message of the dream when it spoke to you the first time.
3. Nightmares are the scream of an unhealed heart, asking you to apply the prayer ministries of inner healing and deliverance to the areas of need within you. In my own life, a recurring nightmare of 15 years disappeared immediately and completely when I had a demon cast out which was underlying the fear being portrayed in the nightmare.
4. The most natural interpretation is most likely correct.

5. Successive dreams on the same night are usually dealing with the same issue, presenting various approaches to it and offering the proper solution to the dilemma.
6. The dream calls the dreamer to action.
7. As you approach the dream of another, recognize that you know nothing about the dream. The dream and the dreamer's heart will need to tell you what it means.
8. Dreams release divine creativity. Many discoveries and inventions have come through dreams. The location of the hook of the sewing machine needle came through a dream. The discovery of the round formation of the Benzene molecular structure came through a dream. These are just two of what I am convinced are thousands of examples.
9. Do not pose as an expert on interpreting others' dreams until you have been interpreting your own for five years. You can offer ideas and advice to others concerning their dreams, however you are not to present yourself as an expert.
10. As with prophecy, the messages and warnings in dreams are conditioned upon man's response (Ezek. 33:13-16). The dream is calling you to act or change so some calamity will not befall you. If you respond appropriately, the calamity will not come.
11. Sexual dreams could be revealing that your body is experiencing sexual tension or, if you are harboring lust, a sexual dream could be showing you the evil in your heart which needs to be repented of and replaced with purity. On the other hand, remember, most sexual dreams should be viewed symbolically. Sexual intercourse is a symbol of union, so ask the question, "In what way is there a union or joining taking place within me?" This will

probably be a union of previously warring parts of yourself (for example – a merging of the workaholic part of yourself with the laid back part of yourself could appear as a dream of sexual intercourse). Or if you needed to incorporate the gift of hospitality into your being, you may have a dream of sexual intercourse between yourself and a person you know whose chief trait is that of hospitality.

#### **G. Warnings about Dreams and Visions???**

1. The only biblical caution concerning dreams is when you are listening to another's dream. They may be trying to lead you astray, to go after other gods (Jer. 14:14; 23:16,25-27,32; Ezek. 13:1,7; 12:24 Deut. 13:1-5; Jer. 27:9-11; Zech. 10:2).
2. There are no warnings in the Bible to beware of your own dreams, with the possible exception of Ecclesiastes 5:3,7, which is probably best understood as a reference to "daydreams" since all other references in the Bible to "dreams" are positive. When one verse contradicts many others, you need to seek to understand that one verse in light of the volume of references on the other side of the topic.

#### **H. Classroom Activities (after the DVD session, including dream testimony, has been viewed):**

1. Discuss any questions or comments concerning the teaching just viewed.
2. Select volunteer(s) from the class who wish to come forward to have their dreams interpreted by the group. Interpret dreams from 1-3 people as time permits, following all the rules stated above in the sections "Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group," and "A Method for Interpreting Dreams in a Group." You may want to break into groups of 4 or so and have each group interpret a dream or two using all these rules.

## **I. Exercises to promote ongoing revelation at home:**

- 1. Journaling:** Put paper and pencil next to your bed at night, and as you lie down, say, "God, please give me a dream tonight." When you awaken, immediately record any dreams you have received. Practice interpreting them yourself, using the principles you have been taught. Journal about your dreams, asking God to reveal to you the counsel your heart is offering you. Bring some of your dreams to class next week so we can work on interpreting them.
- 2. Internalize the principles of Christian dream interpretation.** Review the principles in this section several times and begin practicing them with your dreams until they become natural and spontaneous to you.

## **Session #5 – Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group**

### **A. Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group**

1. Keep a journal beside your bed and ask God to give you dreams which you immediately record upon awakening. Dreams shared in classtime are to be recent ones (within 1-2 weeks) so that the dreamer knows the setting of the dream, that is, the issues on his heart when he went to bed. Also, it is best in group dream work to be working with shorter dreams rather than longer ones (1-3 paragraphs long).
2. In a group setting, never go further in interpreting a person's dream than the dreamer is willing to go. As the meaning of the dream is being drawn out, the dreamer may suddenly realize it is speaking about something he or she is not ready to discuss openly in front of the group. The dreamer therefore always reserves the right to say, "That is as far as I want to go in interpreting this dream."

### **B. A Method for Interpreting Dreams in a Group** (Adjust and apply for interpreting your own dreams as well.)

With the group leader presiding over the interaction, interpret two or three dreams using the following approach.

#### **The Key Question Approach Leading to Heart Revelation** (guided self-discovery):

- 1) Write the dreamer's name on the top right corner of the blackboard so everyone can address him or her by name. Have the dreamer standing or sitting in the front of the room, available to answer questions from the group.
- 2) The dreamer reads the dream aloud twice. While the dream is being read, someone writes on a blackboard the key elements and events of the dream, leaving space between each. If no blackboard is present, each member of the group should create a list on a paper for their own reference.
- 3) Ask the dreamer:
  - "What was the key feeling in the dream?"
  - "What was the key action in the dream?"
  - "In what area of your life are you experiencing these?"This will give the dreamer and the group a reference point as to the setting of the dream, and what issue is likely being discussed. The answers to these questions can be listed across the top of the blackboard after the phrases "Key Feeling" and "Key Action."
- 4) Beginning with the first event/element of the dream and continuing to the last one, listeners then ask questions like the following:
  - What is the dominant trait of that person?
  - What emotion does that animal represent to you?
  - In what way are you experiencing (the event described in the dream) in your life at this time?



- 5) If the dreamer cannot come up with an answer to any of the above questions:
- Remind him to relax and tune to flowing thoughts, rather than analytical thoughts, thus moving from his mind to his heart.
  - Have the group brainstorm (“heart storm”), offering suggestions of what the item in the dream might mean. These are listed on the board.
  - The dreamer then comes to the board and draws a line through the ones that definitely do not ring true in his heart, and circles the ones which his heart leaps to, offering any interpretation God is revealing to him.

- C. Classroom Activities** (after the DVD session, including dream testimony, has been viewed):
- a. Discuss any questions or comments concerning the teaching just viewed.
  - b. Select volunteer(s) from the class who wish to come forward to have their dreams interpreted by the group. Interpret dreams from 1-3 people as time permits, following all the rules stated above in the sections “Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group,” and “A Method for Interpreting Dreams in a Group.” You may want to break into groups of 4 or so and have each group interpret a dream or two using all these rules.

**D. Exercises to promote ongoing revelation at home:**

**Journaling:** Put paper and pencil next to your bed at night, and as you lie down, say, “God, please give me a dream tonight.” When you awaken, immediately record any dreams you have received. Practice interpreting them yourself, using the principles you have been taught. Journal about your dreams, asking God to reveal to you the counsel your heart is offering you. Bring some of your dreams to class next week so we can work on interpreting them.

**Internalize the principles of Christian dream interpretation.** Review the principles in this section several times and begin practicing them with your dreams until they become natural and spontaneous to you.

- E. Take the next six weeks to simply come together and do a “Dreams Practicum Workshop” where you practice interpreting dreams.** Interpret one dream together as a large group each week and then break the class into groups of four to six and work for an hour or two on interpreting dreams and praying for healing for any needs revealed. Follow the “Rules for Interpreting Dreams in a Group” given above. Use “The Key Question Approach.” If any group needs assistance, the classroom leader will come and work with their group. When the seminar/classroom leader is not assisting a specific group, he should rotate from group to group making sure things are progressing well in each.

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Ideal for personal and small group use! The DVDs bring an anointed teacher to your group, while the books and workbooks ensure you internalize the new skills being learned and are completely transformed by them. The CDs allow you to review while driving, working or exercising, and you can even hire a Personal Spiritual Trainer to coach you through the entire training process for \$1 a day. Or take it one step further and become a distance learning college student with our instructors!

Available at: [www.CWGMinistries.org](http://www.CWGMinistries.org)  
Phone: 1-800-466-6961 or 716-681-4896

## 4 Keys to Hearing God's Voice – 10 sessions

Wouldn't it be wonderful to clearly hear God's voice every single day for the rest of your life? Did you know that God is always speaking to you? Do you know what His voice sounds like? You can receive daily counsel from the Wonderful Counselor Who teaches you how to live in faith, hope and love and Who guides you in cultivating great relationships with family and friends. Discover divine patterns for approaching God and four vital keys that will allow you to clearly hear His voice every day. Intimacy with God will be enhanced as you learn how to discern His voice from other voices which clamor for your attention and to record what God reveals to you using two-way journaling as you confirm it through a variety of methods. You WILL experience Jesus' promise that, "My sheep hear My voice" (Jn. 10: 27). Your life will be transformed!

## Prayers That Heal the Heart – 13 sessions

Are you tired of ineffective prayers for healing? Learn how you can experience complete healing of the wounds in your heart by applying specific prayers to each heart wound. These seven supernatural prayers will allow you to use the language of the heart to break generational sins and curses, sever ungodly soul ties, replace negative beliefs with God's promises, renounce inner vows, receive divine visions, break word curses spoken over you, and cast out every demonic stronghold that has connected itself to these inner wounds. We will teach you how to stay healed by guiding you in an intensive Bible meditation experience where you receive revelation knowledge from God, which closes the door so the adversary cannot return.

## Hear God Through Your Dreams

– 5 sessions plus follow-up practice sessions

Wouldn't it be nice if you could receive counsel from God every night of your life, even while you sleep? You can, because the Bible declares that God counsels us at night through our dreams (Ps. 16:7)! We will examine the dreams in the Bible to see how they illustrate this principle, and how God speaks to His children through their night visions (Num. 12:6; Acts 2:17). We will explore our own dreams, learning the symbolic language of our hearts in order to discern the divine wisdom they are revealing to us. Let the Holy Spirit be your Teacher as you learn to interpret His messages to you through your dreams!

## Spirit-Anointed Teaching – 3 sessions

Discover how you can be a Spirit-led communicator. As a parent, a co-worker or a friend, you want the skill of sensing another's heart and communicating directly, heart to heart. This training is for everyone! When you teach, you are to make classtime a time of experiencing God and sensing the transmission of the life flow of the precious Holy Spirit among the participants. Learning is to be much more than a study about God. It is to be an experience *with* God. This training will teach you how to make every learning experience or class a time of encounter with the Lord, where each one receives an impartation of the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

## Five Fold Team Ministry: Make Winning Teams! – 1 session

You will become much more successful by learning to surround yourself with fivefold teams. The Bible declares that in the multitude of counselors there is safety (Prov. 11:14). Discover a practical way to create teams who advise you in every area of your life and to ensure that these people together manifest the five heart motivations of Ephesians 4:11 (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher). When you draw out the input from everyone on your team, you receive a variety of perspectives and a much better overall revelation of how to move forward effectively in whatever area you are pursuing.



### **Counseled by God – Emotional Wholeness Through Hearing God's Voice**

You do not have to hurt forever. There is an end to the pain. A genuine word from the Lord heals the broken-hearted. All the "how to" books can never do what a *rhema* word from God can do for the inner man. We will let God speak to our hearts and counsel us about the basic emotional pressures of life. These include anger, doubt, depression, condemnation and inferiority. We will learn to let God replace these with His opposites, as His voice releases His grace within our hearts. Those whom the Son sets free are free indeed.

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13 sessions – Average length: 30 Minutes

### **Naturally Supernatural – Releasing Christ Continuously, Easily, Powerfully**

How do we naturally let Jesus live through us? How do we "abide in Christ" (or "let go and let God")? How do we move from "self-consciousness" to "Christ-consciousness"? In this series you will discover how to return to God's original design for mankind as was demonstrated by Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Four key truths are discussed in the three sessions, and two journaling times are included in the training experience.

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3 sessions – Average length: 35 Minutes

### **How to Speak in Tongues – It's Easier than Most People Make It!**

Mark Virkler shares what God taught him that released the gift of speaking in tongues in his life and leads you into receiving this gift as well.

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1 session – Length: 26 Minutes

### **Divine Healing Toolbox – Make Healing Prayer More Effective**

Discover a host of practical suggestions for how to make prayer for physical healing more effectual. This DVD assumes you believe in divine healing and are interested in learning about specific prayer approaches and tips which have been found to increase the healing anointing.

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1 session – Length: 26 Minutes

### **How to Walk by the Spirit – Defining Spirit Sensations So We Can Walk in the Spirit**

It is only as we minister in the anointing of the Holy Spirit that we can effectively touch the hearts of others. This practical course trains you how to sense the Holy Spirit Who lives within you, how to get to know Him as a Person, and how to release His power to heal a hurting people.

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9 sessions – Average length: 50 Minutes

### **The Life of Christ**

Explore in depth the greatest life ever lived, that of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Learn what He taught. See how He lived. Walk with Him along the Sea of Galilee. Let Him speak directly into your heart as you journey with Him. As the disciples on the Emmaus road walked with Jesus they said to one another, "*Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?*" Likewise, the Holy Spirit can explain the Scriptures to us today, and grant us insight and revelation (Eph. 1:17, 18) as we meditate through the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. May we learn to radiate Christ! (Note: Being developed 2011-2012.)

**Purchase CDs, DVDs, Workbooks and Small Group Curriculum from  
[www.CWGMministries.org](http://www.CWGMministries.org)**

**Order Line: 1-800-466-6961 (716-681-4896 outside USA)**

Check back regularly to discover new DVD series as they become available, or sign up for our FREE monthly email newsletter to hear about new products as they are released!

**Session titles and lengths listed at: [www.CWGMministries.org](http://www.CWGMministries.org) (Small Group Curriculum)**

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4 Keys to Hearing God's Voice

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