

# TEACHING MODULES

Studies and Exercises in Faith



## REFLECT ON CHRIST

### LESSON 2

Learning to Ask the Right Questions

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God's Intelligent Design for Christ-Centered Spiritual Transformation® (IDCCST®) Christian curriculum

Intelligent Design for Christ-Centered Spiritual Transformation® in the Soul  
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## Designing Modules for Learning

The aim of this second module in our reflection series is to give you the skills needed to learn how to reflect on Christ. You will often hear from S8W elders that reflection is the very core of your faith because faith is the mechanism of the Spirit whereby you become a partaker of Christ and become a functioning member of His Body. It is as you function with the virtues of Christ that you are assisted by the Holy Spirit, your life coach, to overcome yourself, the world, and the devil.

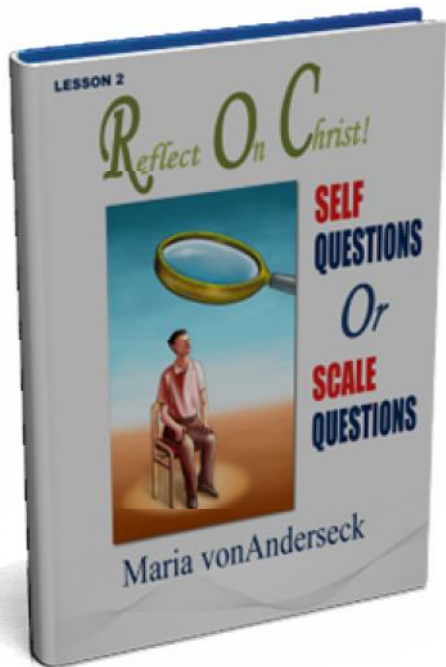
Satan would love to hold the mind captive in the dead zone where the mind continues to idle between 2 kingdoms, not making decisions about the knowledge being presented. Reflection BREAKS the spell and brings your mind out of the dead zone!

This teaching module on reflection will cover the when, where, and how of reflection. We will also talk about the need to discern our thoughts to set order to our thoughts to guard our thoughts and we'll show you how to do this by teaching the difference between Self Questions and Scale Questions.

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## Introduction

Reflecting on Christ is not a new practice. The New Testament believers were well acquainted with the importance of reflection, knowing that the mind function with the knowledge of Christ to reciprocate His likeness.

Faith is a moment-by-moment cognitive application of the knowledge of Christ into your thought processes whereby decisions are made in regard to what you allow your mind to dwell on (mold with) or cast aside.

When Apostle Paul taught, “Neither give place to the devil,” (Ephesians 4:27) he was bringing to the attention of believers that they were to take heed to their thought life, to keep it on track with the virtues (powers) God provides in Jesus Christ for them to reciprocate His likeness.

We are to guard our thoughts that we not remain in the “trance” of death where Satan pulls the strings of the aspiration, principle, and imagination to keep the mind in what I call the “dead zone” where faith is immobile and your thoughts are trapped in a maze.

To guard our thoughts we must first set order to our thoughts to discern which kingdom is manifesting. A believer may be thinking that their faith is tied to the altar of Christ because the doctrine of Christ tells them this is God’s plan. And they may be thinking that Jesus stands at the door of their conscience that the soul reflect Him rather than defilement. They may think they are thus walking in the pure conscience because the doctrine says that this is God’s intention for faith. But unless we are involved with the process and function of faith, we are assuming the virtues of Christ apart from our co-laboring with the Spirit and our conscience would then still be defiled.

Satan would love to hold the mind captive in the dead zone where the mind continues to idle between 2 kingdoms, not making decisions about the knowledge being presented. Reflection BREAKS the spell and brings your mind out of the dead zone!

God is taking you on a new journey of faith and we’re going to show you how to make it practical and how to apply it to everyday living. You will have the opportunity to learn how to discern Satan’s perspective, to see those thoughts for what they really are and how to gain and maintain God’s perspective. What you are going to learn here is the very bedrock of your faith—REFLECTION!

## Setting Order to Our Thoughts

Reflecting on Christ has to do with setting order to our thoughts concerning God’s plan through Jesus Christ to redeem us to Himself. This practice of setting in order the knowledge of Christ is for the purpose of our building faith in the image of Christ to reciprocate to God.

Our redemption is precious. It is sealed in Jesus Christ. We understand that Jesus shed His blood on the cross to reconcile mankind to God by the terms of the Second Covenant and that He was smitten, bruised for our iniquities, and bore upon His body the stripes for our healing (Isaiah 52:14 & 53:5).

There are many places in scripture where God calls us to stop and consider Him and His plan. The word “Selah” in Psalms, for example means to pause and think about or focus on what is being said. Reflection is all about taking the time to stop and consider, to weigh the knowledge being presented, to stand in the testimony of God. Let’s look at the 5 key definitions for reflection again:

### To reflect means...

1. To **Rehearse** the knowledge of Christ in your mind for the purpose of reciprocation. We first weigh the knowledge you are receiving, whether it is tethered to the kingdom of God or the kingdom of darkness. You’ll want to weigh knowledge on the scale of Jesus Christ and reflection assists you to do this. You’re allowing God, by the anointing, to assist you to build His kingdom, and as you do, He assists you with His gifts to complete the cycle of your growth.
2. To **consider** the knowledge of Christ with the intent of gaining understanding of God’s perspective.
3. To **review** the knowledge of the covenant in your mind to assist your discernment as you contrast the kingdom of God and His building tools to that of the kingdom of darkness to ask questions about the seeds of knowledge you are nurturing, to stand in agreement with God.
4. To **think** on the things of Christ and His covenant to apply the knowledge of Christ to your faith. Faith must first reflect Christ before it can express Him.
5. To **call to mind** the truth of Christ to retain Him in our knowledge. While Satan addresses the psychological struggles of life, God directs faith to express Christ.

#### 5 KEY DEFINITIONS:

1. To Rehearse
2. To Consider
3. To Review
4. To Think On
5. To Call to Mind

*Reflecting on Christ does not mean to think about what the scriptures say about our circumstances or problems.*

*Reflecting on Christ means to reflect on the purpose of God as revealed through Jesus Christ.*

Reflecting on Christ does not mean to think about what the scriptures say about our circumstances or problems, nor does it mean to consider what the scriptures say about us. Reflecting on Christ means to reflect on the purpose of God as revealed through Jesus Christ.

## When to Reflect

You'll be reflecting on Christ when studying the doctrine of Christ, reflecting on the order of knowledge God sanctified for your reciprocation. You'll be reflecting on Christ to offer spiritual sacrifices of prophecy to build yourself up in your most holy faith.

Most importantly, you'll be reflecting on Christ when your cycle of growth moves into resistance. If you want Christ to be your conversation rather than resistance, you'll have to become a builder during this phase of your growth cycle.

Passivity can easily set in when in resistance. It is easier to go with the current and force of the flesh to follow the inclination of man then to stop and reflect on Christ to get out of that current and into the current of grace where you are again building faith.

The time between your resistance and your overcoming is literally the time it takes to start building. If you find you are "in resistance for 3 days" it is because you have not been reflecting on Christ. You might have *thought* you were reflecting on Christ, but reflection *results* in decisions being made. Which kingdom am I in support of? Which testimony do I believe? Which testimony am I setting aside? This is why we encourage you to ask Scale Questions and to compare them with Self Questions which are the questions that arise in the mind that cause you to question yourself.

The time between your resistance and your overcoming is literally the time it takes to start building.

God does not expect you to be in resistance for 3 days. Resistance is designed for your overcoming and your overcoming is designed for your reward. Do you see the progression of faith? Generating Scale Questions through reflection is a way for your faith to function and progress so that Satan does not take you into the dead zone where your thoughts are trapped in a maze and your faith is paralyzed.

## Self Questions

It's liberating to begin to recognize when a Self Question is being asked in the mind. Sometimes it's not even a question, it's a statement that is made as the mind begins to rehearse something you said or did, or something someone else said or did that makes you begin to call these things into question, which is an invitation to begin a journey of self enlightenment, which ultimately leads you to justifying self, which lands your faith in the dead zone. Let's learn a little more about Self Questions.

You may be thinking about what Christ means to you and what the doctrine of Christ says about the value of His tools, the healing of the soul, and the importance of offering spiritual sacrifices of prophecy, but

there is an undercurrent you are not aware of that continues to pull your thoughts back towards yourself to labor in a maze of thoughts that turn over upon themselves:

- Why do I continue to do that?
- Why did he/she say that? What did they mean?
- Why can't I seem to say what I mean and means what I say?
- Why is it so hard to get someone's attention?
- Why do people think of me that way?

Do you see regret, hostility, fear, and confusion in these questions that ponder in the mind about self? Self questions are dangerous because they generate reflection that is not profitable for faith. Self questions bring self into question to then bring God and faith into question. Self questions is the wandering of the desire, which is the wandering scale.

If I say something, for example, I've learned that this person does this or that and now I have this concept of how things work and I want to either confirm it, deny it, figure It out, or undo it. Why do we have this absorbing self interest, this affinity for self? Because we relate to things to find out where we fit in. Much thought is given to this to continue to assess, weigh, and value our own perspective.

- Self measures comfort zones to.....other people. This is a false scale.
- Self measures abilities to.....other people. This is a false scale.
- Self measures prejudice to..... experiences. This is a false scale.
- Self measures knowledge to..... history. This is a false scale.
- Self measures perception to..... tradition. This is a false scale.
- Self measures joy to..... gain. This is a false scale.
- Self measures sorrow to..... loss. This is a false scale.
- Self measures passion to .....love. This is a false scale.
- Self uses the eye of the flesh to .....measure reality. This is a false scale.
- Self uses the eye of the flesh to measure (what is happening to me right now) to..... build concepts. This is a false scale.

We can't be ignorant of Satan's strategy to generate Self Questions to then present them to us as if they are our own thoughts. We *aren't* pretending that the suggestion didn't come to mind, we are making cognitive choices between the suggested perception and weighing these upon the scale of Christ to gain and maintain God's perspective.

It's liberating to begin to recognize when a Self Question is being asked in the mind. . . that makes you begin to call these things into question, which is an invitation to begin a journey of self enlightenment. . .

If we ignore the suggestion, we gain nothing, for ignorance is not faith. The cycles of our growth are necessary for God to not only test the heart for obedience to grace, but to also reveal the corruption in the knowledge He is cleansing us from and to over and over again prove that His grace is superior in power, wisdom, and understanding.

God is also teaching us how to progress with His knowledge to partake of His rewards. He needs us to be aware of the progression of false knowledge from the seed thought that corrupts our perspective when those thoughts are watered... to the troubling of the soul... to the maze constructed by Satan to entrap our thoughts, whereas time is spent trying to think our way out.

God needs us to be able to compare that progression of darkness to the progression of His truth from the seed (knowledge) that brings enlightenment... to the strength of will when truth is watered by grace... to the liberty experienced to have gained and maintained God’s perspective.

The processes of both kingdoms are discerned by placing thoughts upon the scale of Christ. We bring our thoughts before God and weigh their value to take them captive to Christ as Paul wrote, “Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.” (2 Corinthians 10:5)

### Scale Questions

You’ll learn HOW to generate Scale Questions to DISCERN which kingdom a thought is tethered to. To reflect means to weigh knowledge on the scale of Jesus Christ as opposed to weighing knowledge of the scale of our own record.

As we bring out thoughts before God (to bring them into subjection to Christ), we weigh their value by asking Scale Questions. We then see through the eye of grace as we allow the Spirit to show us and assist us in discerning their value; that we should no longer need to find ourselves under the oppression of Satan’s heavy thumb of cluttered and vexing thoughts and distractions, but rather experience the liberating power of the grace of God to set order to our thoughts in every cycle of growth.

Every scale but Christ is a false scale. We can talk about the different kinds of scales that we use to measure our worth, but the bottom line is that the questions that we pose or ponder on is not really about other people or events or circumstances, it is about ourselves. And this is because the inclination of man is to revert to self to set order to our thoughts.

To reflect means to weigh knowledge on the scale of Jesus Christ as opposed to weighing knowledge of the scale of our own record.

A false balance offends God's holiness. "A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight." (Proverbs 11:1) Those who love God use the scale of Christ. He is the value of our souls. God set the value of the soul to Jesus Christ and this is why He is the shekel of the Temple. . .  
"Everything is weighed to Me now!" I'm giving you knowledge to reverse death.

Grace is put within the Spirit! You can't put it within the signature (self). Self questions help the desire wander, testing many scales until it believes it has found rest. God gave us the true scale in Christ to weigh our thoughts upon to gain discernment to choose to reflect the mind of Christ.

God anchored our desire to Christ and makes it possible for us to increase with the increase of His Spirit apart from the prejudice of the flesh. That's a reflection right there. Do you see how grace arrests the imagination and faith puts us in agreement with God?

The Spirit assists your desire for increase. You must believe that and labor with the Spirit in the moment of contradiction for your increase in Him. We are called to increase, to look for the opportunities God sets before us for fruit bearing. The laborer is worthy of the reward and the laborer is the faithful servant who carries the mind of Christ throughout the day, in and out of conflict.

Reflection helps you generate Scale Questions which in turn helps to further generate reflections that build faith in the likeness of Christ.

***Here are examples of Scale Questions:***

1. What kind of opportunities are presented in the hectic moments of our day? What is at hand?
2. What vulnerabilities might we see?
3. Are these merely set aside or overcome through reflection?
4. What am I taking from the world?
5. What am I taking from Christ?
6. Where does the world want to place my confidence at this moment?
7. Where does God place my confidence?
8. What operation of God can I witness taking place in my faith right now?

As I asked these questions and sought the Lord for assistance with His grace I received a vision of a person striking at a piñata and was given the scripture I Corinthians 9:26.

What the Lord brought to mind was wonderful segments of reflections that drew much faith from my heart and then later came back to again enrich my reflections. So let's look at the symbolism God provided for our reflection.



To strike at a piñata you are first of all blindfolded, which speaks to me of being temporarily sightless, which is symbolic of what happen when the Lord presents the scenarios for our overcoming. It speaks of the vulnerability to be sightless. Which at this moment may not make a lot of sense until we put it into the fuller picture as we will do now.

No one would strike at an object with a stick unless there was a promise in it. So you strike with the expectation of hitting the piñata for the prize. Usually this is a child’s game played at a party with friends as a form of entertainment and playful competition.



The prizes are held captive inside a papier-mâché object which is colorfully designed as to attract the eye, but is not seen once the blind fold is put on and therefore only then seen in the mind’s eye. The prize was at one time seen and then kept in the mind’s eye for the imagination to labor with.

Many times in hectic moments the natural man is striking the air. We’re vulnerable to have held something in our mind’s eye that holds a prize and through thoughts or words the natural man wants to strike at the piñata until it bursts, revealing the prize inside.

Blindly hitting at a prize once seen also calls to mind the involvement of the moral code in each scenario. The moral code is that state of guess work, while reflection is our labor with the grace and truth of God where we’re seeking Christ out so we may have a gift to reciprocate to God.

This brings to mind again the importance to labor in the moment of contradiction. Let’s not forget that often times the child is not only blind folded, but spun around in a circle before being released to strike at the piñata. This speaks of the spiritual disorientation that you may feel while transitioning your mind from working with the natural to turning away from that to labor with God’s grace. This turn is what happens when you turn your reflections on.

I was greatly edified by this as the Lord provided through reflection the contrast necessary for faith’s choice. Lack of discernment caused us to behave as children, driven by the things that attract the attention of little children. What is hidden in a piñata is usually not something adults would seek after.

So with this analogy the Lord continues to instruct that the new man in Christ put away the childish behavior of the aspiration. God gives us grace so that we by faith enter into the operation of God where the images once captivated the mind are no longer seen as entertaining to swing at in the hopes of obtaining. Now let’s read the scriptures.

**I Corinthians 9:24-27**

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

If we are to keep our body in subjection we are also to keep our *minds* in subjection. What are we bringing our minds into subjection to? The grace of God that Christ may rule the mind.

So fight I. What are we fighting? The good fight of faith. Not as one that beats the air, in uncertainty for the worthless prizes of this world, but for the eternal riches of that world which is to come. Scale questions generate reflection.

***Let's now turn our attention to the answers to our Scale Questions:***

**1) Usually in a hectic moment what kind of opportunities are presented?** That which was previously hidden as a promise inside a package that looks pleasing to the eye, which God is now challenging to show you it's true value.

**2) What is at hand?** Whatever I set before my face is at hand. I choose to put Christ before me.

**3) What vulnerabilities might I see?** The guess work of the moral code, which is Satan's strategy to keep faith in a neutral state, not laboring, but repeating what is obvious to the eye.

**5) Are these set aside or overcome through reflection?** The guess work of the moral code must be overcome by seeking out Christ by which we cease beating the air for equity.

**6) What am I taking from the world?** I have no confidence in this world, but the imagination likes to play out the scenario by either smiting for justice or smiting for the prize. This God will challenge.

**7) What am I taking from Christ?** God is placing my confidence in Christ. I recall His knowledge to mind for labor.

**8) Where does the world want to place my confidence at this moment?** The guess work of the moral code, swinging at the prize in the mind's eye.

**9) Where does God place my confidence?** In Christ as I labor with His grace I obtain the equity of the Spirit and enter into rest. There is a striving taking place in the moment of contradiction to come into

agreement with God for He is setting order to my thinking. As I’m considering these things, God is giving me understanding.

The driving force of the imagination is to set order to life and this is where our thoughts wander to in our day-to-day activities. If these thoughts are not brought into subjection to Christ there are many things that begin to fester in the imagination.

Digging for these answers helps take away the mist death hides behind. Death would not say these things out rightly. Death speaks in a way that is familiar to you, so that it’s voice is a hazy, unclear, undefined thought we are most inclined to overlook. But it is actually a well defined thought that has led the mind down a well trodden path.

Digging for the answers clearly defines what is being said and we are almost surprised by the truth of it. So this is helpful to pull down the strong holds of Satan in the mind even as the Spirit taught through Paul.

**2 Corinthians 10:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

<sup>5</sup> Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

<sup>6</sup> And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

Jesus came to redeem us, to liberate us from Satan’s strongholds upon the mind. The pathway to freedom is learning to work with the Spirit of God, allowing God to redirect our thoughts.

The strong holds spoken of in verse 4 are the imaginations that generate thought patterns that burden the mind that need to be daily cast down as seen in verse 5, which is done because steps were taken to prepare our minds for labor with the knowledge of God to take captive every thoughts to bring them into submission to Christ (verse 6).

Everyone wants to walk in the new man in Christ, to put Him on. Everyone wants to walk in the liberty God has for us in Jesus. While we might want to believe to it is as simple as “staying at the altar” or “taking the altar with you” or “trusting God “ or “expressing the likeness of Christ”, there is an operation by which we learn to co-labor with the Spirit to discern those thought patterns that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God, to then bring them into subjection to Christ.

INTREPID is a word of knowledge the Lord ministered to me in regard to the skills He is teaching the church in reflection. The definition of intrepid: characterized by resolute fearlessness, fortitude, and endurance ([www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary))

Intrepid speaks of a readiness in faith by a heart that is being prepared in grace, groomed by the Spirit. Reflection on Christ does this. There are many thought patterns God will address for healing. God is not

making us feel bad or vexed. The knowledge of this world vexes the soul. God is wanting us to be aware of a vulnerability Satan will attempt to exploit if allowed.

Satan wants to put a voice to the vexation you're experiencing so as to lead your thoughts, which begins as a tap on the shoulder and ends with you finding yourself in the middle of the mental maze wondering how you got there.

Our warfare is according to the grace of God. The struggle is to stay single minded with grace. For although we know that there are many duties that beset us, our purpose is not to these things, but to be about our Father's business, which is what we do through reflection.

The Spirit enters into our labor with the knowledge of Christ to exhort, comfort, and edify. Herein we can see the anointing taking place to progress our understanding and to bring the clarity of God to bear upon the mind. God's presence is experienced and His peace abided in. Praise God!

## Reflection Reverses the Power of Death

There is great power in the imagination that captivates the mind, to allure through promise. The imagination is the door through which fear enters. If you let it, fear will control your life. The imagination is the door through which sadness enters. If you let it, sadness will control your life. The imagination is the door through which regret enters. If you let it, regret will control your life.

Regret, sadness, and fear are powers by which Satan hopes to manipulate your perception of reality. Jesus is God's promise for deliverance. We are not to be ignorant of Satan's devices. Mankind is still a novice at deception while Satan has bent human perception for thousands of years.

### Hebrews 2:15-17

14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the POWER of DEATH, that is, the devil;

15 And DELIVER them who through FEAR of DEATH were *all their lifetime subject to bondage*.

16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.

17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are *tempted*.

In verse 14 God wants us to make the connection between the devil and the power of death. In verse 15 we see that fear is associated with that power. All our lifetime we were subject to the bondage of these thoughts patterns that sympathized with the way we felt, the way we thought things should be, the drive of the God-Code to set order to our world, the drive of our signature to find uniqueness in ourselves, and

the drive of the moral code to express purity and beauty. We are vulnerable to the onslaught of life’s issues that demand attention and in turn paralyze with emotional thinking.

Why does God use the word “*tempted*” in verse 18? The temptation is to believe death’s testimony, which we had said we would cast aside to accept God’s testimony of Jesus Christ. Every thought that the devil presents is a power that we are tempted to work with to build with to find our own equity by increasing self. We fight to set order to our thoughts in a way that helps us define our past, present, and future.

But, be aware that this is a 2-man game. You are not alone in this. The devil is very good at manipulating how you digest information to control and exploit you by creating illusions for your mind. Not only is he feeding your thoughts, he is also manipulating your thoughts. And what you take away are the impressions you accepted as truth and further labor with.

The Deceiver’s goal is to mislead and misdirect. The devil understands your deepest desires and he knows what your expectations are. He can skillfully manipulate your assumptions with great precision. He works to both distract and focus your attention while shaping your perception by exploiting the natural processes of the inclination of man he has been grooming.

The devil wants you to accept false information based on your assumptions. He will repeatedly bring you back to a particular thought pattern to show you the truth behind it based on your own expectations.

But God is saying that He has proven to us that the thought patterns the devil introduces is void of life and holds no power of His virtue, which God set in Christ. God’s will is to deliver us from powerful thought patterns that used to be upsetting and keep you bound up.

God wants to and NEEDS to challenge these bad habits of the mind that we may walk in our deliverance of them. The old thought patterns are the old habits that are hard to break. And making decisions based on reflection of the covenant of Christ in each scenario God sets for our testing is the new habit of faith we are to learn.

So, think about what you want to get out of your spiritual workouts. Set goals for yourself. For example, when my growth cycle moves into the resistance phase I want to reflect on Christ and build with His knowledge, I’m going to ask Scale Questions and function with the anointing to follow the process of building by the Spirit.

**Remember:** You get out of the cycle what you put into it.

The devil is very good at manipulating how you digest information to creating illusions for your mind to control and exploit you.

Having said that, I also want you to remember that you are relying on the power of the Holy Spirit, not your own power. The Holy Spirit is your teacher, much like a fencing instructor. You'll learn as you follow the guidance of the Spirit and allow the Spirit to coach you. You have to remain patient in your training and you'll increase in the likeness of Christ in His joy and strength as you gain His perspective.

### ***How to RETAIN God in Your Knowledge***

Reflection is a means to retain God in your knowledge. Another good habit of faith is to ask yourself each night, "What have I learned today?" and in the morning, "What do I want to remember?" This goes back to Ephesians 4:20-24

20 But ye have not so *learned* Christ;

21 If so be that ye have *heard* him, and have been *taught* by him, as the truth is in Jesus:

22 That ye *put off* concerning the former conversation the OLD MAN, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24 And that ye *put on* the NEW MAN, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Having received doctrinal cleansing through the instruction of apostles who set the foundation of truth in your heart and taught the purpose and use of the tools of Christ and how to offer sacrifices of knowledge at the altar of Christ to build the Body, you are ready for spiritual cleansing.

The Holy Spirit begins to go through the many caverns of your soul to begin to heal the soul of the scars inflicted by Satan. This is where your one-on-one relationship with God flourishes. But remember to remain joined to stewardship for the oversight and direction of your faith.

To retain God in your knowledge you can go back to a word of knowledge jotted down in your reflection book, a dream symbolism through which God ministered His work in the soul, a note from an assembly teaching, a spiritual sacrifice shared. What did God teach you and how was that understanding applied to the scenario God set for your overcoming? Each day God is seeking to break the spell of false knowledge, to bring you out of the "trance" of death whereby the devil desires to keep you numb to God and deaf to His voice.

Satan wants to be the voice you hear.

Satan wants to be the history your mind goes back to, to resolve conflict.

Satan wants to be the memorial you set before your face for the honor of the flesh.

Satan wants to develop your thought patterns to revert to self so that your soul will be void of the substance of God.

Does the word “overcoming” now have new meaning for you? God will set scenarios to challenge these walls that the devil helped the mind to build as barriers to grace. God will set scenarios to challenge the shields the Deceiver helped the mind to generate to hide behind and carry as a banner to self.

God wants to teach and train you to observe the Oath (Jesus Christ) of His plan to build new habits that will assist you to put off the old man and put on the new man. This training involves the Lord teaching you to REFLECT to compare the 2 kingdoms that are manifesting and warring to gain your attention. Reflection assists you to gain and maintain God’s perspective to retain the knowledge of Christ.

To help you, I’m going to share some of the reflections I jotted down in my Reflection Book that I’ve labeled as “having learned” and “wanting to remember”.

1. I learned that in the moment of contradiction when God presents the scenario for my overcoming, I have an opportunity to follow the path of self prophecy with self questions. But allowing God to challenge that old habit of the mind results in progressing in faith, allowing the new man to be formed as I put these thoughts upon the scale of Christ to weigh them to cast off the yoke of bondage to walk in the liberty of Christ.
2. The anointing always gives evidence to Christ in the progression of knowledge. . . to understanding gained. . . to strength of will gained. . . to fruit bearing gained.
3. I learned that self questions do not produce substance for the soul, but rather leave the soul empty of the virtue of Christ and produces evidence to build upon self, which is the perspective Satan will confirm by many false witnesses conjured by the mind. When this old thinking pattern is set aside to instead reflect on Christ, Scale Questions results in labor with the knowledge of Christ that gives substance to the soul and silences the voice of death.
4. I learned that I gain as a I choose which kingdom I am going to build by the application of my thoughts to the knowledge I choose. I either gain the wisdom of the world that vexes the soul or I gain the wisdom of God evidenced in the rest I enter into.
5. I learned to recognize the scenarios God set to challenge Satan’s perspective as opportunities for fruit bearing. Choosing to labor with the knowledge from above, the anointing unfolds Christ in my understanding to give evidence of Christ’s work within.
6. I want to remember that I am the one who God has called to “put off” and “put on”. No one can do this for me. This “putting off” and “putting on” takes place in my mind as I co-labor with the Spirit to exercise my will to consider the distinctions God is asking me to make.
7. I want to remember the necessity God places upon me to review the knowledge of the covenant in my mind to assist my discernment and overcoming. God calls us to reflection that we may stand confident to mold our expectation with His plan that we take on His perspective.
8. I want to remember that Satan’s desire is to hold the mind captive in the dead zone where faith is immobilized for lack of reflection that leads to right decision making.

9. I want to remember that the imagination is the poor man's token for it only allows you to barter in this world to gain Satan's perspective while denying grace by which the perspective of God is cast aside.
10. I want to remember that reflection is beneficial to my faith because grace is necessary to strengthen my will and to give me spiritual eyes to see Christ.

**Here are further Scale Questions that you may use to generate reflection:**

1. How does reflection help me in times of testing?
2. Why choose?
3. How is God assisting my choices of faith?
4. Which kingdom is manifesting itself in this experience of fretfulness?
5. Why do I need to pay attention to God's plan?
6. How am I to avoid Satan's plan?
7. Do you see where the flesh is hiding?
8. Can I see why grace is necessary?
  - It strengthens the will
  - It gives us eyes to see Christ
9. Is the conscience being appeased by the wisdom of this world or is Christ being confirmed?
10. Some claim logic to prove they have a sound mind, but do you see how God uses grace to prove faith? This gives us a sound mind.
11. As the heart of the tares cannot remain silent, so doubt also does not remain silent. Do you hear Doubt's voice?
12. Do you see how Christ is being confirmed?
13. Can you see how Satan is being restricted?
14. Can you see how God is exposing the shields Satan created for you to hide behind, showing you how he created them of your fears?
15. Can you see how faith is your shield?
16. Do you see how reflection is the most important choice in times of conflict?
17. Can you see God's focus?
18. Can you see how grace and charity work together?
19. Can you see how God comforts the soul?
20. Can you see the difference between...
21. Can you see how the conflict of the mind is overcome?
22. Can you see, how that through reflection we judge God as faithful –
  - He will complete each cycle of growth with grace
  - He will give life to my understanding
  - He judges me on the worthiness of Christ
  - He will increase my fruit as I labor
23. What is the Spirit bringing to my attention?
24. Do you see how false knowledge can become your eyes instead of faith?



## Reflection Prepares Your Heart for Reciprocation

Faith (reflection) is not simply drawing upon the goodness of God to consider how God will be good to you, but drawing upon the plan of God to prepare the heart for reciprocation. Reflection is focused and deliberate. We know that faith pleases God and we know that God desires that we retain Him in our knowledge. So then, our reflection is first of all a response to our desire to please God by using the knowledge of the covenant that we might retain Him in our thoughts.

God wants us to know that His plan for us is to increase our understanding and to increase the fruits of righteousness and increase the Body of Christ through edification. To do this we are to reciprocate God's knowledge. That means to give it back to Him.

God wants to make you aware that there are 2 kingdoms at war for your soul and 2 kinds of knowledge available to the mind for labor, and 2 directions the knowledge can be taken (for aspiration (self) or for faith (God)). That means that knowledge can be used to project (with the imagination to reach for the aspiration) or to reflect (for faith to please God).

God also wants us to know that knowledge is prejudiced by the kingdom it is tethered to. He wants us to know that He provided us a priesthood and altar in Christ to defend ourselves (our mind) as we build God's kingdom.

**Did you know. . .** The knowledge we labor with in the mind, produces fruit in the soul? Did you know that you can tell when that fruit manifests itself: anger, frustration, resentment, fear, suspicion, worry, etc. If the fruit is there, the knowledge is there. That means that your mind is laboring with the knowledge of the kingdom of darkness. Your mind is working with the wrong knowledge and Satan is using your imagination to struggle with your circumstances to enter into rest (this is what God calls aspiration). God wants you to use the knowledge of Christ to enter into rest.

**Know This. . .** That God sets judgments against the aspiration of man. This is what God calls chastening. The correction is to assist you to restrict your imagination, that you not use it for a tool of rest. This chastening is for our profit that we might be partakers of His holiness.

Furthermore, God wants us to know that Satan will work your mind over and beat you up if you give him the chance to do it. Have you ever heard that expression, "Don't beat yourself up over it?" Here we are talking about doubt, confusion, feelings of unworthiness, guilt, and condemnation.

Well, it is not really you that is beating yourself, it is the devil. He sees the mind that is empty of God's knowledge and empty of faith as an easy target for condemnation and guilt. How do you know when this is happening to you? Sometimes it is quite obvious—you feel guilty! But at other times we find our worthiness by subtly deflecting, arguing, coming into conflict with others. These are signs that your mind is laboring with (false) knowledge projecting for your worthiness in the flesh.

That kind of oppression goes on all the time in the mind. Your mind is not a vegetable. It is a gift God gave you to fellowship with Him, to use His knowledge to know Him. Your mind is always thinking. If

you are not thinking you are dead. Animals don't study books, monkey's don't go to school to make something of themselves. It is only man that God blessed with knowledge.

## We Labor for What we Want

We labor for what we want. We see this clearly in everyday life. We labor for food, to have a roof over our heads, for the welfare of our children, for a job/career, and we labor for understanding. So, we have established that the mind does labor for what it wants.

God created you for Himself, so your soul will naturally desire Him and work (labor) to have contact with Him for fellowship. But when Adam sinned and God cast Him out of the garden, we were born into a state of separation from God. Do you see how the mind labors for worthiness in God's absence? Your soul not only desires a relationship with God, but also desires to be accepted of God, to share in His holiness and gain His approval.

**Did you Know.** . . Knowledge is the tool of bartering for anything we want. The problem is that Satan has made himself available to you as the librarian of the world's knowledge. He is ready to direct you in his library of false knowledge about God about Jesus about the world, and about yourself. He wants you to barter with his knowledge in his kingdom.

Satan's knowledge is like funny money. Let's say, for example, that you are struggling with self worth or self esteem issues, Satan will give you knowledge to help you weigh your worthiness against a lot of things to feel better about yourself. That is bartering. Your soul is using knowledge to gain.

However, Satan's funny money won't work in God's kingdom. In God's kingdom you can only barter with His knowledge to increase your soul with eternal substance (God calls this charity because it is Christ-like). This is why the knowledge of the covenant is so important to learn. God is giving you the currency of His kingdom.

Like all bartering systems, there is an exchange going on—goods or services are exchanged for currency. We have to ask ourselves what is happening when we barter with Satan's knowledge in his kingdom. What does Satan reciprocate? What is the payoff? We have to also ask what happens when we barter with God's knowledge in His kingdom. What does God reciprocate? How do we benefit?

If you desire to enter into God's rest, to find your completion in Christ, to increase by His substance in the soul, if you desire the divine nature, if you desire God to provide you with knowledge for the edification for the Body..... then you must barter (labor) with the God's holy knowledge.



Knowledge is the tool of bartering for anything we want. The problem is that Satan has made himself available to you as the librarian of the world's knowledge.



## Striving Against Sin

Remember that sin is a system. It is Satan's kingdom. To strive against sin means the rival Satan's kingdom. When we refuse to reciprocate (to barter with his knowledge) we stand against him by another kingdom and suffer the shame (loss) of the aspiration, which dies when it is not being fed.

Even though we are in the flesh we are not subject to Satan and we carry the evidence of that in our conscience. When we barter with God's knowledge we stand justified rather than condemned, we experience the worthiness of Christ rather than strive for it, we measure our faith against Christ rather than sin. Life stands in place of death, joy in place of sorrow, increase in place of decrease, temperance in place of concupiscence, and charity in place of pride.

Even as John wrote, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith," (1 John 5:4)

## Stop to Reflect

The 3 "r's" of our priesthood are: Reflect, Rehearse, and Reciprocate. As you grow to understand the priesthood of the believer and how to offer spiritual sacrifices to God you are gaining experience with what it means to reflect on the value of Christ in the knowledge, to rehearse God's testimony in the knowledge, and to reciprocate by using the knowledge to barter in God's kingdom. Offer back to God what He gave you in understanding.

Offering spiritual sacrifices is not a sprint through the temple, stopping to heave the sacrifice on the altar and then running out the back door with your mind busy with the burdens of the day. We often heard it said that we ought to take time in God's presence. That is true for a covenant saint, but becomes a romantic notion for those who are not in covenant with God. For them, quality time takes on the value of the world where we attempt to value something by giving it a priority.

God wants us to spend time in His presence within the context of the priesthood, with His knowledge, reflecting, rehearsing, and reciprocating. Do you see how that when the knowledge of God is not placed in the correct environment (priesthood) the aspiration can come and take it for a ride?

## New Journey


This new journey of faith may seem strange at first because it is different than the journey you were accustomed to, where you were led to find the mind of Christ with your aspiration instead of finding the mind of Christ by mixing truth with grace to follow after the Spirit.

God makes your faith practical by showing you how to mix truth with grace for your reflection. Two testimonies will always emerge for your reflection depending on the knowledge you are using. Either the testimony of Christ (mixing truth and grace) or the testimony of Satan (mixing truth with aspiration).

God puts us in a situation of challenge for the choice of will. I'll say that again, God allows a challenge to the will. But we read in the Bible that God cannot be tempted with evil, neither does He tempt any with evil. (James 1:13)

**From the S8W eBook Are You in Conflict?:** The scenario or situation or circumstance God designs for this conflict to arise is not to tempt you to do evil, but an opportunity for you to choose faith. God allows a challenge to the will to help you exercise it with the knowledge of the covenant and then He will reciprocate (reward) your choice of will to increase you by His power.

When in conflict for growth, God allows Satan to present the options for the choice of will. This is when the conflict is beneficial for you. As Satan presents to you the options for your will, you will be able to discern why the knowledge he gives you is false, where he hides his promises to you (lies), how he speaks to your imagination, what happens when you follow the shadow of his leading, and what happens when you stand in the revelation of the Spirit. God is also teaching you the difference between how Satan leads you to resolve conflict and how God leads you to resolve conflict. [end of quote]



When in conflict for growth, God allows Satan to present the options for the choice of will.

