

# Leadership Development Program

## Module 2 – Personal Revelation



**Matthew 16:13-19** *When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”*

### The revelation of Jesus

In the preceding passage, Jesus emphasized the importance of revelation in building the kingdom of God. In particular, the first revelation that a leader needs is a revelation of who Jesus is. Jesus is the cornerstone of the church and builds the church on people who have a revelation of who He is. When we have a revelation of who Jesus is, we also get a revelation of who we are, as we are in Him. Spiritual leaders should be leading from that place of revelation so that they are also helping others to have an increasing revelation of who He is. Paul adds other arenas of revelation as he writes to the Ephesian church.

**Ephesians 1:17-19** *“the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power.”*

### Four other arenas of revelation

In the preceding Scripture, Paul first prayed that we would have a **revelation of the knowledge of Him**, which we have already covered.

The second revelation he prayed for was that we would have an **enlightened understanding**. A leader needs to be able to have spiritual insight. They should be able to see what God is doing in their own lives as well as in the lives of the people they are leading. They need spiritual insight to do that.

The third revelation we need is to know **the hope of our calling**. Leaders know that God has specific assignments for them and for those they lead. They need to know what to do and what to leave for others to do. A leader should help others to follow their calling and resist using others to fulfil their own calling.

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They also need to know that their calling is a reason for great hope, that God has uniquely wired them to make a difference in the world that no-one else can make.

The fourth revelation that a leader needs is to know ***His inheritance***. They need to know the extent of what Jesus has given them as children of God. A leader needs to know what spiritual blessings they have with all the saints so they can live in that knowledge as well as helping other people to receive that revelation as well.

The fifth revelation that a leader needs is to know ***how great the power of God is***. A leader needs to experience the various manifestations of the presence of God. They should also be able to lead others into those places of power.

### Action Points

***Write down your recent revelations from the Lord under the following headings***

- ***The knowledge of Him***
- ***Enlightened understanding***
- ***The hope of your calling***
- ***Knowing His inheritance***
- ***How great the power of God is***

***Review these five areas and decide what revelation(s) you would like to grow in***

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### Gaining revelation

Since we know what sort of revelation we need, we ought to understand how we pursue personal revelation and as a leader, how we help the people that we lead to gain revelation. There are several ways that we can consider in our pursuits

#### 1. Ask

**Luke 11:13** *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"*

Since we know the type of revelation that the Lord wants for us, then we should ask Him for that. If we want to know more about our calling, then we should first of all inquire. If we leading others, then we should also pray that they receive revelation as Paul prayed for the Ephesians church.

#### 2. Engage spiritually

**Acts 13:2** *"As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said....."*

Our ability to receive spiritual information is dependent on positioning ourselves to receive from the Lord. Our spiritual senses are honed through our relationship with God so when the Lord speaks to us, we are better positioned to discern what He is saying. He can and often does bring revelation to us unexpectedly as we worship, pray or fellowship with Him.

#### 3. Quieten our soul

**Psalms 46: 10** *"Be still, and know that I am God"*

Our soul (intellect, emotions, mindsets and will) is continuously processing information – our thoughts, rationale, reasonings, emotional reactions and other operations of our soul. If we can quieten these sources of information, then the spiritual information (revelation) that the Lord is giving to us will be louder in comparison than the information from our soul. Some people find stillness through light exercise like walking our gardening, others through meditation and yet others through creative expression. In whatever way works for us, we ought to find places of stillness, so our spiritual senses becoming relatively stronger.

**Romans 8:5** *"For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit."*

The preceding Scripture reminds us that we have a choice to make as to what we focus on. If we focus on spiritual things, then we will live life with spiritual orientation.

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### 4. Obedience

**Acts 5:32** *"And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."*

The Lord doesn't give us revelation just for us to know more. Its purpose is to transform our beliefs, mindsets and actions. He won't keep on giving us new revelation if the last revelation has not had its full effect. The reason He gave us the last revelation was to change the most important thing He wants to change. If it hasn't done so, then He probably won't change the subject. When we are in a period when we do not feel like we are receiving revelation from the Lord, then it may be because we haven't acted on or allowed the previous revelation to achieve its purpose.

**Hebrews 5:14** *"But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."*

When we obey God with whatever we have, including with revelation, He gives us more. Also, according to the preceding Scripture, when we use our spiritual senses they become increasingly honed to understand more of what we are receiving.

### 5. Receive impartations

**Deuteronomy 34:9** *"Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him"*

Moses had spent a lifetime relating to the Lord and building wisdom. Joshua then received the spiritual benefit of Moses' life journey. Likewise, we can also receive revelation from spiritual impartations from others.

The anointing of wisdom that Joshua received was not because Moses prayed for him once by the laying on of hands. The terms "laid hands on him" in Deuteronomy is talking about the fact that Moses took Joshua "under his wing" and coached, mentored and disciplined him. This transferring of anointing occurred in the context of serving him. Similarly, the significant impartations of revelation we receive often come from serving and spending time with anointed people.

### 6. Revelatory teachers

**1 Corinthians 14: 6** *"what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching?"*

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Paul said in the preceding Scripture that there are four types of communication in preaching. There is:

- *“Teaching” - which is instruction or doctrine, the “what to do” and “how to do”*
- *“Prophesying” - which is foretelling*
- *“Knowledge” or “science” - which is to “know absolutely, in a wide variety of applications and with many implications”*
- *“Revelation” - which is “to take off the cover”*

There is value in all four types of communication, however, some people are particularly gifted in bringing revelation, helping us to understand who we are and what we have in Christ. We can listen to these people’s messages, read their writings and gain the revelations that they have received from the Lord.

### Action Points

***Consider the six sources of revelation that we have just covered and develop a plan to increase in revelation***

- ***Ask***
- ***Engage spiritually***
- ***Quieten your soul***
- ***Obedience***
- ***Receive impartations***
- ***Revelatory teachers***

### Leading others to revelation

Apart from helping others to do the things we have already talked about, here are some practical tips to lead others into places of revelation.

1. *Pray for them. Paul prayed for revelation for the Ephesians and Jesus prayed for Peter’s faith. Revelation comes by the Spirit, so we ought to pray for the Spirit of revelation for the people that we are leading.*
2. *Encourage people to make it a priority as well as share what they receive with others.*
3. *Make the pursuit of revelation a focus of our gatherings.*
4. *Have acting on our revelation as the guiding influence on our personal leadership*
5. *Share our personal revelation through discussions, one-on-one meetings, emails and blogs. As we show passion for revelation, those that we are leading will catch that passion.*

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6. *Ask people questions that cause them to view Scripture, personal revelation and life from a different perspective.*
7. *Recommend books and other resources on revelation*
8. *Limit telling people what to think and ask them to explore what the Lord is telling them.*
9. *Teach people how to receive personal revelation and its importance to our journey.*
10. *Include the language of revelation in our worship*
11. *Create corporate meetings where we invite the Spirit to bring revelation and have those who carry a strong anointing for revelation to impart that anointing to others.*
12. *Help people to find places where they find it easy to receive revelation. Many prefer nature (as Jesus did) to commune with His Father.*

### Action Point

*Consider the practical points listed above and decide what you can do to help those you lead into places of greater revelation.*