



A Voice in The Wilderness

At The Right Time

Leadership Training:
A Discipleship Program for Pastors

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At the Right Time

Romans 5:6 For while we were still helpless, **at the right time** Christ died for the ungodly.

In a time where many are having a difficult time because of a struggling economy, I wanted to remind you of the importance of your life. You see, you were planned. Take a moment to think about that statement. You were foreordained and you were predestined to be here at this time because your time is the right time. You were not mistakenly placed in a wrong period of time. I have often heard some say, "I should have been born at a different time." No! You are here now because you are meant for this moment in time.



You have been allotted a particular number of days (Exodus 23:26). That number is apportioned to your life. You are completely unaware of what that number is. You don't know if they are many or they are few. One thing is for sure, however, you are meant to be here now and if you are meant to be here now, then you are meant to accomplish something. The things you are meant to accomplish you were made uniquely qualified to do. It is not as if you need nothing else outside yourself to finish your course. You need training; you need equipping.

This is why so many do not fulfill their destiny. Most are not aware of the importance of their life. They just see their life as something to be lived; something to be used to satisfy self. We acquire and strive to get ahead; yet, we are unaware that there is much more—so much more! You are a vital part of your Creator's plans. In fact, your life is actually larger than life! If you look closely, your life is even greater than your ability to live it! You may only have so many days to live your life, but you must ask, "How many days does God have to live my life?"

What possibly could I mean by this? You probably are underestimating the effect your life can have. Consider Jesus. What effect did His short life have on the future? "Yeah," you say, "but He was the Son of God!" True, He was, but He was also the Son of man. What about Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon, Samson, Peter, John, Paul, and so on? Did God live their life beyond their allotted time on earth? Indeed!

God was able to take their obedience and live it well beyond their own lifetime. These men have had an effect for thousands of years. What does this mean for you? It means that you, too, are important. You are called to do something great! I think of Oswald Chambers when considering these things. Chambers died at the young age of 43 of a ruptured appendix. There are more than 30 books that bear his name, yet, he only penned one of them. To one who lived during the time of his death, I am sure they were tempted to say, "What a waste." "That man had such talent." "What a shame that he was taken before his time." "How many books could

he have written if God had allowed him to live?" It must be noted that Oswald Chambers was not a popular man during his lifetime. If someone would have told him the effect he is having today in 2009, I am sure he would have laughed it off. Nevertheless, our Creator is a strategic God. He is able to live our lives well beyond their time on earth.

How then could Oswald write over thirty books if he had only penned one? Oswald had a partner in life. You see, your life alone is much less effective than it is when joined to another. This partner could be a spouse, or another Christian. When you join your gifts to the gifts of another, there is a super-charging of the ability of that joint. In fact, the Bible gives us this insight with regard to the Body of Christ.

***Ephesians 4:15-16** but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.*

What is this passage speaking of? It is speaking of the calling that each person has and the joining of that calling with others which creates a joint. That joint is held together because each individual part is offering their gifts to the joint. This is how the Body of Christ works. The outcome is that the Body is building itself in love. Who then is this partner that Oswald joined with? It happened to be his wife, Bidy.

You see, Bidy was a stenographer who could take dictation at 150 words a minute. She would record all of his lectures that he would give to his class. Little did he know that these recordings would be printed into over thirty books. The impact that Oswald is having on the Church today is tremendous. His work titled, "My Utmost For His Highest" is one of the most popular devotionals today. We have been able to glean from this great teacher well beyond his life. We can even say that he is living beyond his years. The partnership between him and his wife served as an impetus to provide teachings that would outlive both of them. This is what I mean by the importance of your life.

God will use you, too—if you are willing. You must supply the willingness and the effort to harvest the greatest amount of good from your life. If you do nothing, it will not happen. If you decide to put off lessons, you are endangering your purpose. God will not exalt the disobedient. In order to be everything God has created you to be, you must surrender to His work in you and you must follow His instructions for training. Even Jesus did not come out of the womb ready for ministry. He had to study and work at it. God equipped Him and anointed Him because He was willing to be obedient—even if it meant obedience to death upon a cross.

Be encouraged! No matter what your circumstance looks like now, YOU are important in the plans and purposes of God! Most of all, YOU ARE HERE AT THE RIGHT TIME!



Pastor

Is Your Congregation Hungry for Discipleship?

We Can Help You Out!

Finally, a discipleship program that any Church can implement and feel confident that their congregants are receiving solid and meaty training that will transform lives! This program can take a new convert that in three years will be able to defend their faith, witness to the lost, minister to the sick, preach the gospel, and sustain the weary one with a word. Pastors will benefit from the depth of teaching that will bring revelation to their people.



This is not just a basic course. This program is a full featured program that is the result of thirty years of study and research, fifteen years of formatting, and ten years of development and arrangement. We take solid, complicated subjects and bring simplicity of understanding to them. We reach into the Hebraic roots of Christianity to help bring perfect understanding to difficult doctrines. In short, this will make even the most complicated subject clear and concise.

With many mainline Churches abandoning doctrine for worship, there has not been a time in our modern history where there is such a need and a desire for understanding spiritual concepts that define our faith. The sheep are hungry, no, they are starving! Give them the very thing their spirits' are crying out for. The outcome of this training is that everyone who avails themselves of it will be able to bring depth to their ability to read and study their Bibles. It will bring excitement to learning about our God. If our experience is any indication, they will be able to bring their own deep revelation and deliver it from the pulpit to a surprised congregation.



How We Can Help You?

This leadership package is divided up into three packages. Each package contains the material needed for one typical school year of study. Three years worth of training material are needed to complete the discipleship training course.

Each Package Includes:

- Leadership instructions with class sequencing
- Textbooks that are authored by Bishop Mark Shaw of Collegium Bible Institute and are specifically designed for this program. There is only one set of these textbooks in the package which are for the leader's review. All students are required to purchase their own textbooks for the program
- Video versions of the classes being taught
- Lesson instruction sheets on CD in Adobe Acrobat format
- Workbooks for each course with answer keys on CD in Adobe Acrobat format
- Final Exams with answer keys on CD in Adobe Acrobat format

NOTE: Students will have to purchase their own textbooks as well as other reading materials to fulfill their education obligations.

Pastors will hold license to print workbooks and final exams for as many students as necessary and for the duration of their school.

What Part Do You as a Pastor Play?

The part that the Pastor or other leaders will play in this program are:

- Mentoring and counseling your students
- Teaching the class is optional
- Lead class discussion as well as question and answer sessions
- Grading your students' work
- Keeping your students' records

Our learning model is based upon four primary principles.

1. Character development
2. Knowledge
3. Gifting
4. Relationship



Character Development: This is accomplished through the mentoring process. The leader is encouraged to develop the kind of relationship needed to accommodate mentoring. Mentoring will be the vehicle through which loving rebuke is accomplished. As the Apostle Paul modeled for us, leaders are to be spiritual parents to the disciple.

Knowledge: This portion is provided by the package. A well rounded understanding of biblical doctrine is supplied.

Gifting: Gifting is not “taught” or “caught.” It is given by the Spirit of God as He wills. All that is needed for gifting to mature is to guide the student in proper function of the gifts. The leadership will need to provide a safe environment where the student is encouraged to step out and operate in their gifting.

Relationship: A positive relationship with the Creator, the mentor, and their fellow students is maintained by the first three elements being implemented. Yet, it must be monitored by the leadership to make certain that the student is maintaining growth and maturity in their relationships.

When all four elements are focused on, the student will mature in balance. This balance will produce leaders of integrity and stature. It may seem difficult early on, but as you see that maturity develop, you will see the value of maintaining balanced maturity in the student. As a leader, you will know the satisfaction of playing a part in the development of a competent and anointed minister of Christ!

This program **“Leadership Training: A Call to Discipleship”** can be purchased in two ways.

1. One year at a time
2. Three year package

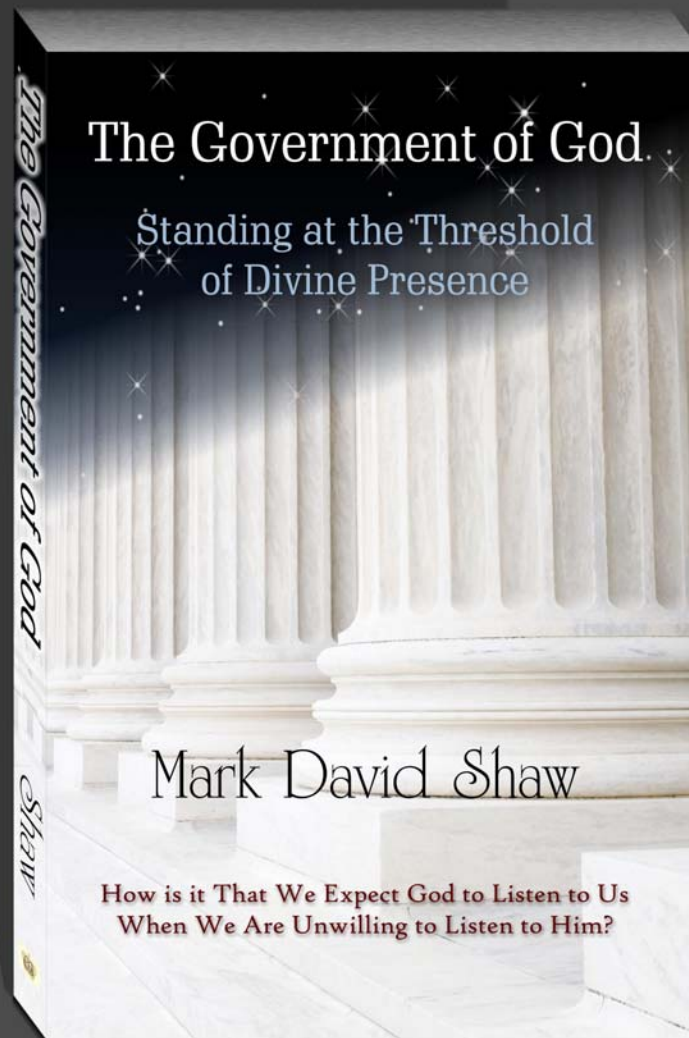
First Year Package will be available September, 2009

For more information you can contact us by email at registrar@collegiumbibleinstitute.com or call us at:

888-808-5455 Ext 1

Please leave a message on extension one with your name and phone number. We will return your call as soon as possible.

Finally, a book that makes sense of Church government
and the role of each minister in Ephesians 4:11-12!
Get a picture of what God has in mind for His people!



Now Available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Where are the Fat Christians?

By Susan Snelling

We are supposed to be filled with the Holy Spirit. The effect is the same as being filled with the Word of God. When we are brimming with the Word of God we are enlarged to be filled with the Holy Spirit and this produces power in the believer. Getting into the Word of God is important so that He has something to bring to our remembrance. If we are not in the Word we are at a disadvantage and limiting God. **Colossians 3:16** says, *“Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom, teaching, and admonishing one another with songs, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”*

One of the effects of being filled with the Holy Spirit is that it makes you want to express something (**Luke 1:41** *“Being filled with the Spirit she cried out”*, **Luke 1:61** *“Being filled with the Spirit he prophesied”*, **Acts 2:4** *“They spoke in other tongues”*, **Acts 4:31** *“They spoke the Word of God boldly”*). It also makes it possible for us to be who God created us to be by filling us with certain qualities. It gives us the “can do” quality. There are no more excuses for not being able to do what God has called us to do. We cannot claim to not have enough talent, gifts, or abilities. If we are filled with the Holy Spirit



we have all the qualities we need to walk in our calling.

Applying this background to the topic of healing we see that it involves us being empowered by the Holy Spirit to tell someone to rise up and walk in the name of

Jesus. It is not about us, but Christ. We must never let pride get in the way but walk humbly with God and with each other. God will exalt us at the proper time. Our relationship with the Holy Spirit is interdependent and pride stops an anointing in its tracks. It obliterates it.

This is not about us but about Christ and attempting to do things our way takes us out from submission to God. God will let us go on our own way but what a price to pay. Where there is pride, God is not present. We must watch over ourselves every day to make certain we are walking in humility. **James 4:6** states, *“God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.”* We should want the grace and reject pride.

What is grace? Bishop Shaw states, *“Grace is the divine enablement to do what God called me to do.”* We cannot do a thing without God. He gives us the grace, power, anointing, and gifts to do what He calls us to do. When God steps out of the way because we are

attempting to take His glory for ourselves, He will make certain that others see that it was Him and not us who did the healing. Humility is crucial. In the area of healing it is important to give the glory to God. When sick people are healed by our laying on of hands word gets out and the infirmed are then brought to us for prayer.

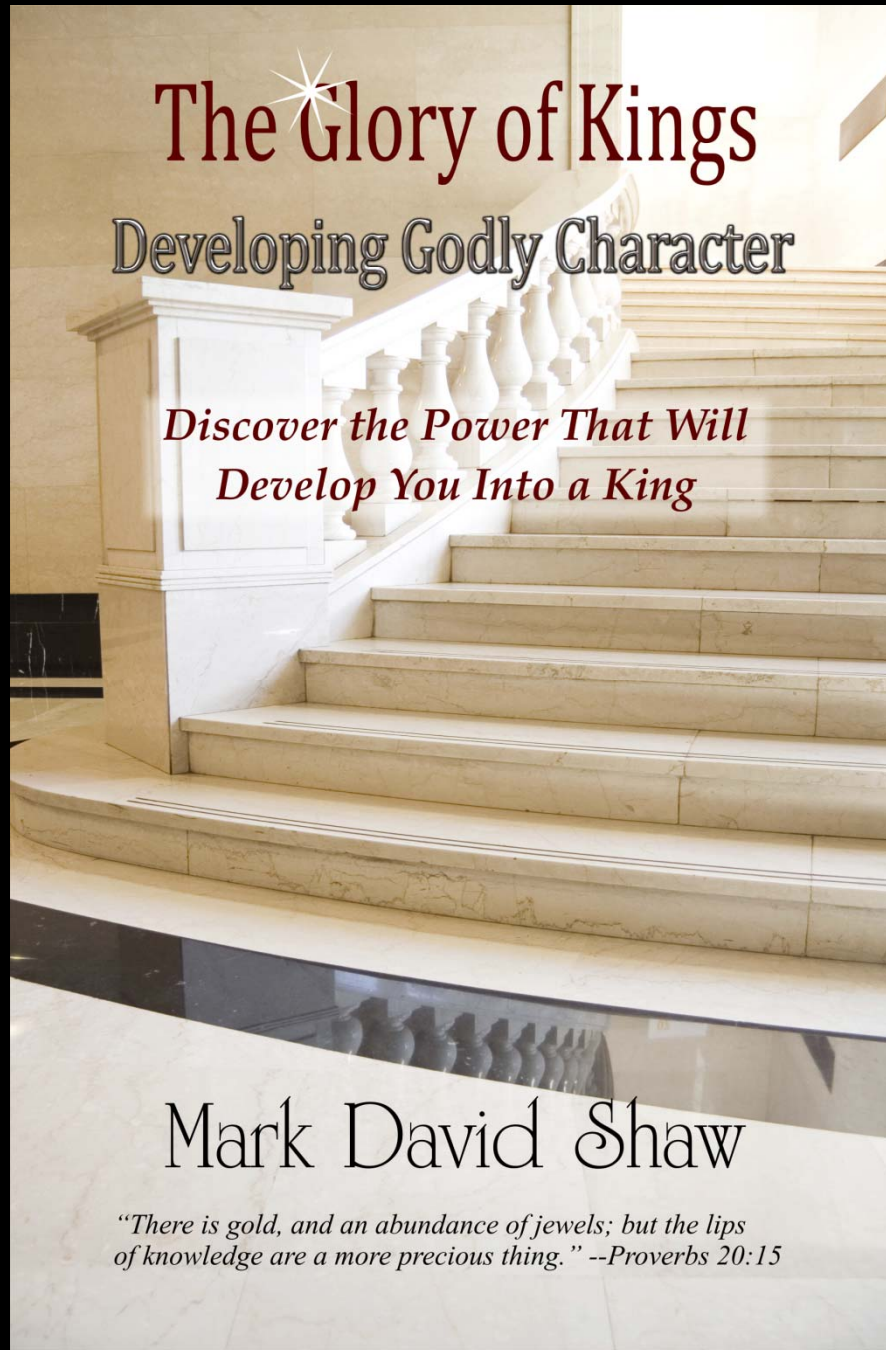
We must “steward” humility. We must also take our eyes off from our own issues and do the work of ministers by praying for the sick that they may recover. God created our inner parts with an environment where He can dwell and empower us. God created our “inner sanctuary”. We must put our own problems aside and let the Holy Spirit minister to someone through us. We must be willing and available.

God endowed us to accomplish a work for Him. This gift enables us to walk in our call. We are the image of God to people so they will see a light in the darkness and give glory to God. We should ask the Lord what He endowed each one of us with. What is our purpose and destiny? He will let us know. As Bishop Shaw states, the Lord “embedded” himself in us; He “smeared” us with the power to do. We are representatives of God in the earth and endowed to do a work for Him. We are empowered to demonstrate to others the power of God. In the context of the topic of healing we have been given the authority and power to heal the sick. This demonstrates the power of God to the world. I might add it also demonstrates His love for people.

The Word of God is important for the believer. As stated previously, being filled with the Holy Spirit and filled with the Word produce the same effect. They are interdependent on one another. If someone is filled with the Holy Spirit but not in the Word they can develop, or fall prey to bad doctrines which will produce a negative effect on their ministry. It also will keep them from being as filled as they could be. I know from personal experience how important the Word is and how we can suffer needlessly through neglecting this important piece. Without knowledge of the Word we cannot have faith.

I found that the Word shores me up and buttresses me. It makes me fat on the inside. It is good to be lean in body, but fat internally through the Word of God. We do not need lean Christians. They are weak and tossed to and fro. They are easily buffeted. They are also ineffective in ministry. Fat Christians (inside) are powerful warriors for God. They can appropriate what Christ has done for them through His atonement and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit to heal the sick, raise the dead, and cast out demons.

*“God has Endowed Man With the Ability
To Discover the Beauty of His Ways and
it is This Discovery That Has the
Power to Develop You Into a King”*



The Glory of Kings

Developing Godly Character

*Discover the Power That Will
Develop You Into a King*

Mark David Shaw

*“There is gold, and an abundance of jewels; but the lips
of knowledge are a more precious thing.” --Proverbs 20:15*

Available Now on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

What's New at Five Fold?

4 Ways to Access Our Training Program

1

Collegium Bible Institute

We are a biblical institute affiliated with Biblical Life College & Seminary (BLCS). This is an ordination program that allows us to offer our students the option of acquiring a four year degree from an accredited institution. All of our course material was reviewed and approved by BLCS as well as weighted for semester credit hours.

This change reflects our continuing desire to provide quality education and discipleship to the Body of Christ. This institute is only available to our on campus students. Our classes start every March and go through November. We are located about 30 minutes south of the Twin Cities on highway 52 in Cannon Falls, Minnesota.

<http://www.collegiumbibleinstitute.com>



2

On-line School

**FFMTA E-Learning Center
Ordination Program**

Be a part of our Leadership Network!

Through the FFMTA E-Learning Center, you can improve your biblical training in the comfort of your own home! We offer five levels of training that are sure to enhance your biblical knowledge. By joining the FFMTA E-Learning Center Ordination Program you will become a part of the Five Fold Leadership Network.



For more information go to:
<http://www.5fold.org/ffmta.html>

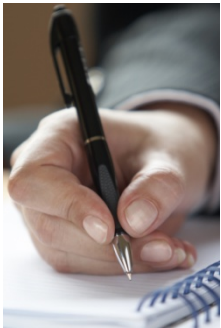
Follow the registration instructions. Registration is free. If you have any questions please use the email address provided.

We have now added video to enhance your learning experience. That means that you will have three methods of learning available to you! Printed lessons, MP3 audio files, and Video.

3

Correspondence Course

Our Correspondence Course is a three year program that can be purchased one year at a time. You will receive all of the material to complete one year of training. Included will be the textbooks, workbooks, and DVD Videos of the classes. You can study at your own pace around your schedule. There are instructors that will be available to you if you get stuck on any subject.



You can either study for ordination or for your own personal Bible study. Either way, you will begin to develop skills that will increase your ability to study the Bible on a deeper level. As you increase in the knowledge of God, you will find that boldness and courage to speak about the things of God begins to develop as well. This is a natural result of learning and deepening your faith.

Our lessons are filled with original words and their definitions. We also look at the Hebraic culture when interpreting important fundamental doctrine. This brings a special understanding to your faith. Your faith will begin to make sense and you will be able to give answers to questions you would never have attempted before.

For more information or to receive a registration form, contact us at ffmta@5fold.org or at:

Five Fold Ministries
410 Dakota Street W
Cannon Falls, MN 55009

4

Your Local Church



Ask your Pastor to bring this discipleship program into your church! **Leadership Training; A Call to Discipleship** is a program that any church can implement and feel confident that their congregants are receiving solid and meaty training that will transform lives!

This is a three year program that will allow your church to start their own school right out of the box. This program will be available September, 2009.

Each Package Includes:

- Leadership instructions with class sequencing
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Have your Pastor or leader call at:

888-808-5455 Ext. 1

Yes, I am Called

By Kamen Makuer from Sudan

The question, “Are you Called?” sounds like a simple question, but it is not an easy one to answer. Many people may know that they are called and some may think that they are not, but we are all called. The question is, “*By whom are we called and for what are we called?*”

We are all called by God, to be sent to the world to make disciples of every nation. Jesus spoke to the disciples saying, “*All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth, go therefore and make disciples of all nations.*” (**Matthew 28:18-19**). This is evidence God gave authority to his son Jesus to call everyone of us on-duty to be sent to the world after we are well-equipped and mature. God will never stop calling us so we need to humble and submit our self to Him and say, “*God, speak, your servant is listening and willing to go where you send me and do whatever you desire me to do.*”



Jonah was called and sent by God to save the people of the great town of Nineveh, but he did not accept his calling. He tried to hide himself from the eyes and presence of God. He believed that God would change His mind and send someone else because he thought he was not the right person to save them. He thought the people of Nineveh did not deserve to be saved by someone like him, but God never changed His mind. Jonah’s purpose was to save the people of Nineveh and that is what God called him to do. God always sends good people to save bad people and also **repentant sinners** to save the nations.

Moses the prophet was a killer, but God used him to deliver His message to the Egyptian king in order to free God’s people. No one is perfect, we all sin against God and we are saved by His grace. Saul was one of the people who worked very hard to stop the apostles, men who were chosen and sent by the Lord Himself to go and make disciples of all nations. Paul did everything he could to keep them silent from spreading the good news of salvation. He even witnessed the execution of Stephen and jailed many disciples. He did a great sin against God, but God never looked down to his sins. He

never changed His mind and chose someone with no sins. God called Saul and sent him to save those who have sins and turn them back to Him. **(Acts 9:1)**.

It is good to know that our God is not a dictator. He is a jealous God, “...*visiting the iniquity of the father and the children, on the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me...*” **(Exodus 20: 4-5)**. We can understand that God wants everything He created to know that He is the creator and it is not necessary for mankind to worship His creation. He wants us to believe and worship only Him.

Believing in Darwinism and Naturalism is just like worshipping idols; because it rejects the existence of God Himself and devalues the purpose of everything that was created by Him. There is no doubt that everything created by God has a purpose and value, but man has more value than anything else even though we devalue our self. God never devalues our life. One thing I have discovered is the purpose and value of my life for which I was created by God. I was created by God and for His purpose. He did not create each one of us by accident and He did not create each one of us without purpose.

We are members of God’s household and He wanted each one of us **to go for His missions**. God doesn’t call some of His household to serve; He calls every one of us. If you don’t know that God is calling you, then you need to have a minister guide you in the right direction - just like Samuel. God called Samuel three times but he didn’t realize it was God who was calling him; not until his minister Eli discerned that the Lord was calling the boy. **(I Samuel 3:1-10)**.

Ministers are called by God and gifted to direct everyone that is being called so that we all may know our calling, who is calling us, and what for. Yes, I am called and you are called for the duty of God. If God called Saul, the man who did great sins against Christianity, then you are also called. Your sins are not more than Saul’s sins. Don’t let your sins keep you away from the grace of God. You will be saved only if you confess your sins and do what is right in the eyes of God. You were not created by God to be a slave to sins and you don’t have to hide yourself because you are a sinner. You need to accept the truth and you shall be set free!

Hitting the Mark

By Dean Gallups



When you sin you miss the mark. I think no Christian wants to miss the mark. Even the great Apostle Paul struggled with sin. Adam and Eve were in perfection until they ate of the tree of knowledge. All of a sudden, because they disobeyed God's will, they brought sin into a sinless world. This affected all of creation, not just them. They had no concept of good and evil until eating of the forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge. Man, did they ever open up a can of worms!

In **Deuteronomy 1:39** we see that children have no knowledge of good or evil, but as they grow up God gives them that knowledge. *"Moreover, your little ones who you said would become a prey, and your sons, who this day have no knowledge of good or evil, shall enter there, and I will give it to them and they shall possess it."*

This passage was a response to the nation of Israel for believing the bad report the ten spies brought back instead of the good report from the two spies that God said that He would give them the land. The nation of Israel would wander in the wilderness for forty years until the generation who did not believe the good report was dead; then their children would possess the Promised Land. What this passage shows however, is that children are without the knowledge of good and evil.

We can draw some parallels with the Garden of Eden experience. Adam and Eve had no shame of nakedness until they acquired the knowledge of good and evil. Children have no shame in nakedness until they reach a certain age. What must be learned from this is that our conscious is where this intuitive knowledge dwells. This is also another evidence that shows us that when a child dies before they are old enough to have this knowledge, they surely go to heaven.

In **Matthew 18:3** Jesus says, *"Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like little children, you will not enter into the kingdom of heaven."* This is showing me that being converted by believing on Him and being baptized is equivalent to becoming like little children. God makes us just as innocent as the children who have no knowledge of good and evil. In this we see that God restores us to the state of Adam and Eve before they disobeyed God. **We can't do it, only God can do it.** What a revelation this is! **Hebrews 10:22** says, *"Let us draw near with a sincere heart full of assurance of faith, having our hearts cleaned from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."* An evil conscience is one that is defiled by sin. This means you have been made aware of sin through the Law and with this knowledge it produced a conscience saying you are evil. Fear not! This evil conscience is done away with through faith in

the knowledge of God which says all of your sins have been punished in Christ Jesus. Now the voice of your conscience has been put to rest even though it has the knowledge of good and evil. Praise the Lord! Be at peace knowing the ultimate victory we have in Jesus Christ.

The word states that we walk by faith. Our day-by-day walk is by faith, so let us walk as a people free from sin. Even when we succumb to a weakness remember we walk by faith. God has delivered us from sin. By our faith we can live like we do not sin by offering our members as members of righteousness. Through grace we look to God as if we have been completely obedient to the Law our whole lives; even knowing we were and are a law breaker. In God's grace we are made righteous so we can again have a relationship with Him. Christ has fulfilled the Law in us so we can be used in service to God.

In Christ we are free; we are called into freedom. We are God's very own children. If God is holy, then so are His children. God calls us His sons and daughters. **2 Corinthians 3:17-18** says, *"Now the Lord is the spirit, and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into that same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord the spirit."* Now that we are made holy by Jesus we should show it in our lives every day. What a wonderful life God has provided to us and by believing in it we can walk in it. We walk by faith.

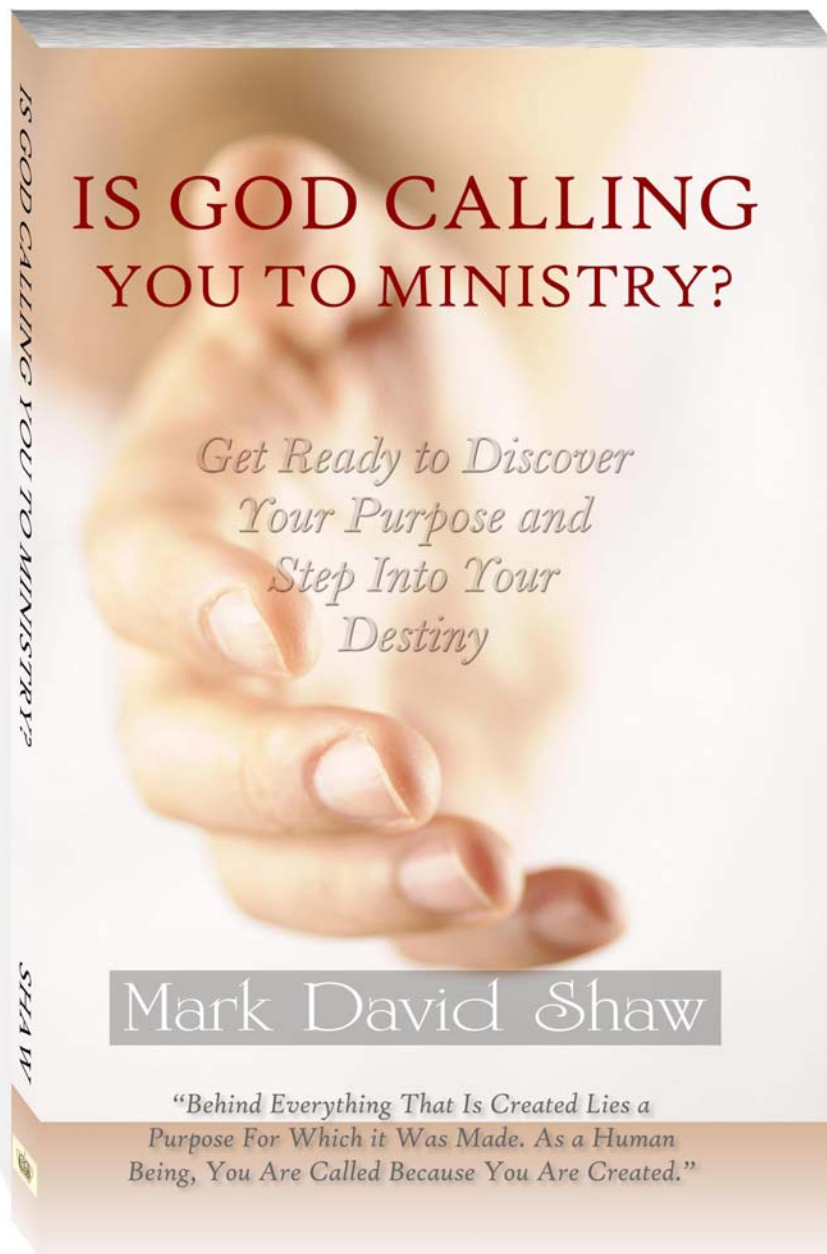
This shows me the power we have in the faith of our Savoir. It causes me to want to read the Bible more, pray more, and witness more. It makes me experience a greater freedom for doing the work of God. Remember, we are made holy, clean, and righteous. Let it show in the way we live. Let us produce good fruits for the world to see. Amen!!!

Excerpt taken from "The Government of God"

"We must understand that God's dealings with us are with a view far beyond our vapor of life. Yes, we have a lifespan that is composed of a certain number of days, but the effect of my life can go well beyond my time on earth. Therefore, God deals with us as it concerns the whole of the future and the impact that our life can have upon it."

The Principal Objective in Life is to Answer the Weighty Question, “Who am I?”

Without answering that question, destiny cannot be achieved. This book will give you the tools that make answering that question and many more possible.



Available online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

The Lord Poured Out His Blessing

In the last week of June we received a call from Pastor Kathryn's dad who lives a couple hours further north from where we live. He had inadvertently hit a button on his remote and was unable to get his TV picture back to normal. We undertook this project and left for up north. About thirty minutes on the road, we were traveling through the town of Cannon Falls. My wife Kathryn was expressing her feelings about how bad we needed a church building of our own. Just then, she looked to the right and there was a church for sale. We both thought, "Yeah, right...its probably another 500 thousand to a million like all of the other buildings we looked at.

Having her computer, Kathryn looked up the building and we were shocked to see it at 189 thousand. Then we thought, "The building must be in terrible shape." We looked at the exterior portion and it looked fine. It will need a new roof but other than that, it looks solid. We made an appointment to look at the inside. When we walked in the front door, we were speechless. It was move in ready. There would be some work to do, but this will do nicely.

We entered into negotiations and we were able to close on the building in August. What a blessing! All because of a button on a remote control. ☺



The same day we closed on the building, we went to work on it to get it ready for class and church. I want to thank all of



those who came out to help. We had a full crew of workers to help. The first project would be to ready the stage.

We removed the paneling that was behind the stage hoping that the builders had at least drywalled before putting the paneling up. They had indeed. We would need to mud and sand but at least the drywall was up.



Everyone donated their time and tools to complete this project. Would we complete the work in time for the dedication ceremony already scheduled?



Well the time had arrived for our dedication ceremony. Our speaker Prophet John Kolb and his wife Judy arrived. We are completely exhausted, and feverishly working to finish.



We made it! John and Judy Kolb ministered to us and we had a wonderful time. After the dedication, we went outside the church and had a Minnesota BBQ!



Thank you Lord Jesus for Your provision, Your love, Your care, and especially for Your people. We love every one of you and thank you for all of the hard work that you put into this ministry. Blessings to those who donated the building fund! Now, let's go build the Assembly of our God!!

The Prophet's Corner

Destiny or Train Wreck?

By Susan Snelling

God is both kindness and severity. While ruminating on the concept of both kindness and severity as part of the nature of God, I recalled something that occurred one day while having an enjoyable time singing, praying, and worshiping. The Lord showed me a train. People who do not get on the train are left behind in the dust; most likely existing with mediocre Christian lives.

Making it more personal, the Lord showed me I was on that train and it was going to be taking off. It was like one of those bullet trains, sleek and with purpose shooting forward quickly – almost like a rocket. God told me once that train started it was not going to stop and that if I tried to get off He said, “I will take you out!” Whoa! God actually said that?! Yes, he did! He also said that if I stay on that train it would take me to everything I ever wanted – basically, my destiny.

What came to mind immediately after this train scenario was Jesus’ parable of the vine and branches and how He is



the vine and we are the branches. Branches that do not bear fruit are cut off. **John 15:1-2** states, “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.” The cutting off is death. There is nothing figurative about this death. It is a literal, physical death. There is no use for believers who are not producing fruit.

We can do damage to the Kingdom of God as fruitless Christians. This is what I realized in light of the train analogy. If you step off the train you quit bearing fruit and are then worthless to the Kingdom of God. Looking for a different explanation than the one I was originally gleaning, I asked God why He would take us out if we get off.

I was halfway expecting or hoping for something fluffy and gentle, such as to protect us from the regret we would suffer when we realize what we had given up or some other such comforting reason, but instead He said we would be worthless to the Kingdom. A more warm, soft, and feel good explanation was not to be had.

God loves us and we would still experience eternity with Him, but we are worthless for all practical purposes on this earth. I thought how this experience was an example of the kindness and severity of God. When God told this to me He was serious! It sounded stern, but it did not feel hateful or any such thing.

The entire episode was in love. His talk to me about what lies ahead by remaining on the train and reaching my destiny was spoken with love, joy, kindness, and gladness, yet there is the severity in that there are consequences for turning away from it. It would be best to have never gotten on the train than try to get off once it has started. It would be better if we were one of those who never even realized we had a calling or embarked on the journey, than willingly, as mature Christians, step out of the train that is taking us to our destiny, to our calling.

Getting on our train is not something to take lightly. **1 Corinthians 9:24**, *“Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.”* We commit to the discipleship

process with fervency and purpose; disciplining ourselves like an athlete when preparing to run a race. We realize that we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses and conduct ourselves accordingly. **Hebrews 12:1**, *“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”*

As serious disciples we understand the danger of distractions and ploys of the enemy to derail our journey. The last thing the devil wants is for us to walk in our callings. We understand that God is both kindness and severity; that there are serious consequences for stepping out of our calling and the process God has us in to get us there. Real disciples ride the train of destiny with their eyes focused straight ahead on Jesus.

Can you see that train? Are you on it? Are you flirting with getting off? Are you looking to the right or left or straight ahead on the prize? Is there a singleness of purpose and determination to run the race? Are you willing to go all the way – to take it to its completion? Do you desire to walk in your calling and reach your destiny? This is serious business with God, but the rewards are ever so great. The price for turning aside from our callings is too large to pay – not just for ourselves, but for others. What is it for you? Destiny or train wreck?

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Cannon Falls Minnesota

410 Dakota Street West

Called to the office of Prophet, Kathryn Colton Shaw serves the Body of Christ in awakening the call in individuals through the prophetic gifting to right them on the path to their destiny. She serves as a watchman to warn the Body of trouble and she gives strategic insight into Church operation, direction, and vision. Her love for justice gives her the temperament to take on causes that God has laid upon her heart as well as a passionate oversight of each student's life to protect the investment God placed in them.



Bishop Mark Shaw, author, apostle and teacher is available for speaking engagements from mid April through mid October. Shaw will provoke a spirit of discipleship in your Church. His vision will attract members to plug into their destiny which will bring a sense of loyalty and devotion to the local Church. This will also provide opportunity to the leadership to fulfill the great commission to make disciples in every nation.

Streaming Church Service 11-21-09 "Identity vs Individualism"

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Office Hours: Tues.—Sat. 10am to 6pm

Directions: From Rochester, take 52 north to the first traffic light in Cannon Falls, turn right. Go through town. After you cross the bridge look to your right as you go up the hill and you will see our sign and the church.

If you are coming from the Twin Cities, take 52 south. Take a left at the first traffic light. Make a left at the stop sign. Go through town. After you cross the bridge look to your right as you go up the hill and you will see our sign and the church.

Psalm 111:1-2 (NASB95)

*Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord
with all my heart, In the company of the
upright and in the assembly. Great are the
works of the Lord; They are studied by all
who delight in them.*

simplifying IT



Program Profile

- **CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT**
Necessary for ministry integrity as well as an environment for good relationships
- **GIFTING DEVELOPMENT**
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- **KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT**
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Discipleship That Simplifies the Complicated

Join us as we begin a new school year! Are you wondering why you are here? Are you curious about who you really are? Are you aware you are called but are not sure what to do next? We have a program that will assist you in answering all of those questions and more. We are serious about developing leaders that will impact the world for the glory of God! Our program is uniquely qualified to put you on the path to your created purpose.

The result will be a man or woman of God that will be able to do deep study and delivery of biblical material to any crowd. This program will provide the catalyst that you need to advance to spiritual levels beyond your imagination. MARCH 2010 starts our next school year. We hope to see you there. Registration begins in January. For more information please visit our website: www.collegiumbibleinstitute.com

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