

Prophetic Foundations

Course Description:

“Pursue love, and earnestly desire spiritual gifts, especially that you prophesy...for you can all prophesy” (I Cor. 14:1, 31). All believers are given the promise that if they will earnestly desire and seek after the gift of prophecy, that they will receive it. Unfortunately, abuse has often led to disuse of the gift until you are hard-pressed to find a church that embraces this truth and teaches their people how to enter into this incredible gift. We long to help unbelievers encounter the Lord, yet we neglect the tool that Scripture says will cause them to fall on their face and worship God.

God has been at work reestablishing the gift of prophecy among His people, and our Prophetic Concentration is designed to equip the saints for this work of service. The specific goal of this foundational course is to help bring you into a love-based approach to prophetic ministry and revelation pursuit, that you may pursue love and earnestly desire to prophesy. You will complete activation exercises in every lesson so you can practice and grow in your ability to prophesy.

Prerequisite: REN103 Communion with God

Course Texts:

God Secrets book – Shawn Bolz

God Secrets workbook – Shawn Bolz

Catching the Initiatives of Heaven – Dennis Walker

Course Objectives:

- You will quote each of the following verses in the translation indicated:
 - ✓ 1 Corinthians 14:1 Aramaic Bible in Plain English
 - ✓ Colossians 2:3 NAS
 - ✓ I Corinthians 2:9-13 NAS
 - ✓ I Corinthians 14:24, 25 NAS
 - ✓ Psalm 107:20 NAS

- ✓ John 12:49 God’s Word Translation
- ✓ John 5:19 Good News Translation
- ✓ 1 John 5:4a NAS
- You will discuss the purposes of words of knowledge.
- You will recognize words of knowledge in familiar stories throughout the Scriptures.
- You will discuss the differences between Old Testament and New Testament revelation and prophets.
- You will run after love for the Lord and for people.
- You will practice hearing words of knowledge from the Lord.
- You will be aware of the language you use when you offer prophetic words or words of knowledge, being sure they are clothed in love and relationship.
- You will state four Core Values that are essential for pursuing words of knowledge.
- You will pursue the prophetic to bring God’s love to the world, not just to service others’ needs.
- You will recognize temptations to counterfeit revelation and resist them by God’s grace.
- You will never cheapen the revelation of God through dishonesty or lack of integrity.
- You will daily renew your mind so that you “share headspace” with God more every day.
- You will discuss the three top performance issues with words of knowledge, and avoid them in your own life and ministry.
- You will discuss the kinds of questions you can ask the Lord about the person you are ministering to.
- You will discuss ways to respond well when you make a mistake in offering a word of knowledge.
- You will show God’s love for the world by revealing His secrets through the prophetic.
- You will discuss at least five reasons why God shares His secrets with us.
- You will discuss the meaning and significance of “initiatives from heaven.”

- You will state the five steps Walker gives for walking in Heaven's initiatives and seeing miracles occur.
- You will discuss the three levels of evidence Walker has found that confirm the reality of our experiences with God.
- You will discuss the three main keys or safeguards to discerning between good and evil, right and wrong, truth and error.
- You will state four things you must learn to test and discern.
- You will discuss at least three hindrances or obstacles that dull one's spiritual senses and allow the Lord to reveal any of them in your heart.
- You will discuss the concept that we are bi-dimensional beings and how that is demonstrated in our lives.

Course Requirements:

1. Prayerfully read the entire textbook *God Secrets* as assigned. Complete the discussion and application questions for each chapter that are found here in your Student Notebook.

NOTE: These exercises will be submitted to your instructor for grading. The preferred and best way to do so is as email attachments. If you *must* send hard copies of your work, be sure that you do NOT send your only copy as the postal service may lose it and you would have to do it all again to receive credit.
2. Complete the *God Secrets Workbook* as assigned. The written exercises will also be submitted to your instructor so do NOT do your work in the book. The Quizzes do NOT need to be submitted so they may be done in the workbook.
3. Prayerfully read the entire text *Catching the Initiatives of Heaven* and complete all discussion and application questions as found here in your Student Notebook.
4. Earn at least a B on the midterm and final tests.
5. Submit a paper discussing what you have learned in this course and changes the Lord has brought in your life through it. Include the following sections:

Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, "C" or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least "B" (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a "B".

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, we are training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- "D"
 - Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
 - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- "C"
 - Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
 - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- "B"
 - Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
 - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- "A"
 - Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
 - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

- a. Part I – Briefly describe your knowledge of and experience with the prophetic and words of knowledge up until this time. Have you been in a church culture where they are accepted and encouraged? Have you been the personal recipient of them? Have you given them? If so, in what setting? Why are you taking this course/concentration? Why do you want to be used in this way?
- b. Part II – What are the most important facts or principles from the course that the Lord especially brought to your attention? Did He say anything special to you about how He wants you to apply them personally?
- c. Part III – How did the application exercises in the *God Secrets Workbook* go? Were there any that were especially meaningful and beneficial to you? Were there any that were especially difficult for you?
- d. Part IV – How have you grown through this course? How has the Lord changed or strengthened or encouraged you through what you have read and done? Refer to your answer in Part I for comparison.

This paper is to be a minimum of eight (8) pages and is due in the final lesson.

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Course Schedule

Lesson One

Assignment to be completed:

Write Part I of your Final Paper, as described in Course Requirement 5a above. Please do this now, before you begin the other assignments.

Prayerfully read the Foreword, Introduction and Chapter 1 of *God Secrets* textbook by Shawn Bolz. Complete the discussion and application exercises found here in your Student Notebook.

Prayerfully read and complete Chapter 1 of *God Secrets Workbook*.

- a. Read, highlight and take notes in the Scripture and teaching sections.
- b. Add the Lord's insights for you personally by using two-way journaling to answer the "Questions for Journaling." (These will be submitted.)
- c. Take and grade the Quiz. (The answers are in the back of the book. These will NOT be submitted.)
- d. Do the "Right Now Risk" and document the experience. (Tell who God highlighted, what God told you about them, and any response you received back from them. Did you learn anything from the experience? This will be submitted.)
- e. Do the "Lifestyle Opportunity." Record your reflections. (These will be submitted.)
- f. If you are part of a group, do the "Group Activities" in the group. If you are completing this course alone, write out your answers to

the sharing questions from the first paragraph of instructions. (These will be submitted.)

- g. Answer the "Discussions" questions. (These will be submitted.)
- h. Prayer the Prayer deeply, meaningfully and from your heart.
- i. Enjoy the "Word of Knowledge Testimony."

Memorize 1 Corinthians 14:1 Aramaic Bible in Plain English – "Run after love and be zealous for the gifts of the Spirit, but especially that you may prophesy."

NOTE: No doubt you already know this verse in a more familiar translation. However, for this lesson and this course, you are to memorize the verse in this translation. Using new words will refresh the meaning to your heart. *You will need to use this translation to receive credit on your tests.*

Subjects to be explored:

A Foundation for Words of Knowledge

Related objectives:

- You will quote I Corinthians 14:1 Aramaic Bible in Plain English version.
- You will discuss the purposes of words of knowledge.
- You will begin to recognize words of knowledge in familiar stories throughout the Scriptures.
- You will begin to differentiate between words of knowledge, prophecy, discernment and words of wisdom.