

**The Word – Interacting w/us!**  
*Finding Light in the Darkness, Session 6*  
*Slide Notations – Cere Muscarella*

**Remember...** this is an experiment in trying to communicate experience! The Jews had scholarship (information) The world needs the Word (incarnation) Must realize can only go so far w/words then it's between you & the Holy Spirit! Some may be more ready than others but intimacy is for everyone!

**Remember...** traveling a new road together and don't have everything in perfected order! Keys to intimacy are the Word... Context for communication... Prayer-full conversation... Heart-bowed interaction/respect/ humility... Willingness to obey... Resistance hinders relationship!

*Our response to whatever the Word says about us, to us, for us, not for us, is "Yes!"*

*Wrong response: Tell me more, what's it all about, how does it work, why do You want me to do that?*

**Intimacy thrives in love, trust, time spent and firsthand experience!**

**So... with "willingness..."** We open the Word of God... Filled with expectancy that His sheep hear His voice... Knowing that if we have (cleaned) ears to hear, we will hear... And when we hear His voice, especially correctively, we respond, w/o hesitation! Open to the Holy Spirit for meanings, impressions, reminders, corrections, directions, composites, applications!

**Remember that the Jews had the laws and no power and the early church had no Bible but plenty of Holy Spirit application and power! Modern Church filled with legalists and flakes and the world is dying for people who intimately know God... Who incarnate His substance and spirit, His justice and mercy, His correction and grace!**

**Opening words...** Most time spent in Bible schools spent waiting for significant moments! Lots of down time and sifting for nuggets. Wonder why we go to "cemetery." But we leave w/certificate of graduation! Makes everyone feel better...

**We're doing what we can to cram it all together/intense sessions/get you ahead!**

**Opening words...** We try to utilize the best learning process! No shortcut for getting word inside but we can condense the process! Bring pens/paper/Bibles/nimble fingers! Want you to write your own notes even though use PPT and provide syllabi later, online... Want to engage as many of your senses as possible to increase learning!

**Opening words...** As we open the Word together, force yourself to see it w/fresh eyes... and commit to spend the time to read on...! The Word exists to give us the spirit of wisdom and revelation for the epignosis: full discernment of – Him..." **E1.17** And outside of Him, with and in us, there is nothing but darkness! **R7**

**Opening words...** *If the Word of God is just a composition of stories, we are the most to be pitied for reading it... there are better sources of entertainment... but the Word of God is a record of His interaction with real people like us whose life experience has risen or fallen relative to their intimate relationship with Him!*

**1Cor10.1ff** "I desire that you would not be ignorant that our forefathers experienced the life we now live and that the majority of them displeased God being overthrown in their aloneness! They were examples for us that we shouldn't lust after the same things and fall away from God... Their lives were recorded for our counseling, upon whom the end of times has come!"

**Paul, penning that somewhere during the 60's, was referring to the Old Testament and our response should be... YES!**

**The Old Testament!** Sounds old... dry... old and dry... "Tried it and never got past the flood!" Let's go back and meet some very interesting people... Real people are an attraction to us all! Real people of the Bible all real characters. That have things to share w/us on our journey thru!

### **Characters of the Bible!**

**Adam and Eve!** Have to know them! Our parents! The guys who put us on this pathway! **Adam:** a man; ruddy; red earth! **G2.7** And God formed: yatsar; squeezed man of the dust of the earth and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living... Hunk, chunk, clod ever since!

**Adam was created by the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit! He was not primitive man, but perfect man! Pre-spotted, unwrinkled!**

**Along came Eve! 2.18** "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a counterpart!" **v22** "And God made: banah; built and crafted a woman from the rib He had taken from Adam and brought her to the man! And Adam said 'WOW! WOW! WOW! Can't believe you came from my bone and flesh – but I'm calling you Isha because you were taken from Ish!"

**And perfectly squeezed man and perfectly built woman were made one flesh and given the commands... to bear fruit... to multiply and replenish the earth... To rule over it and all that was on it... To eat freely from the plant life; except from one tree!**

*One magnificent God, two perfectly created people, one idyllic landscape... and if these two couldn't make it... no one could have!*

**Lessons from Adam & Eve... Firsthand knowledge of God's word is absolutely necessary...**

"did God say?" is more than a question of comprehension/it's a challenge to clear communication! **2.17** Adam was commanded by God... **2.22** Eve was created... **3.1** Eve questioned... who conveyed? She responds, "we may eat..." **1T2.14** Adam was not deceived, but the woman was brought into the sin by deception! **2C11.3 cp R5.12-21**

***It's not the bait but the reaching that is so terminal to our walk of faith!*** The tree/fruit was benign! Not a poison apple, peach, peyote... It was the reach that pierced Eve... "The tree of knowledge of good and evil" is about "steer clear – and you have knowledge of good – obedience!" "Reach for it – now you know evil – setting aside of God's word!"

***You can never select a relationship w/a person over a personal relationship w/God!*** **3.6** she saw the tree that it was good for food and pleasant to the eyes and took the fruit and ate it and she offered it and he did eat! He saw the girl, that she was good and pleasant to the eyes and willfully sinned! And then they heard His voice... and hid!

***When you sin, don't try to pass the buck, there's plenty of pay for all!*** **3.11** Have you eaten from the tree I commanded you not to eat from? **Adam:** The woman you gave me did me in! \$\$17-19 work, work, work and work! **Eve:** The serpent you put there got me! \$\$16 submission and child pain! **Serpent:** \$\$14,15 pounding head-ache pain!

***When we sin, only blood clears the way!*** **v21** "for Adam and his wife the Lord made a coat of skins... and clothed them! First blood sacrifice, foretelling of the day when another would die for us all! When we cave into temptations of lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, pride of life... Sin that requires His blood sacrifice! We never sin lightly!

**Cain, Abel and Seth... C:** A “whatever” approach to the things you offer to God can cause you pain!  
**C:** People who look right can become insanely jealous of those who do right! **A:** You can die for doing right!  
**C:** You may not be your brother’s keeper but you are on your Father’s radar! **S:** For every one you beat down, God will raise up another one!

**Noah and Sons...** Noah (and Enoch\*) “walked w/God!” How He got the inside scoop on boats... in a flood prone age! Intimacy w/God pays! Had 3 boys @500! Japeth, Shem, Ham! God overshadowed the whole earth/them. We are all related! Prejudice based on color, race, LAME!

**Japeth:** oldest son, Gauls, Britons, Germanics, Russians, Medes, Iberians, Greeks, Romans, Indo-Europeans... **Shem:** middle son, Persians, Assyrians, Chaldeans (Abe), Armenians, Syrians...  
**Ham:** Ethiopians, Babylonians, Libyans, Phoenicians, Canaanites, Egyptians...

**Lessons from Noah and Sons... Noah:** “the father’s sins complicates the lives of the children!” **Ham:** “don’t partake of other men’s sins and don’t rush to tell their faults...” A little Ham in all of us!  
**Noah:** It’s important to be near to God in times when men are “eating, drinking and making merry!”

**Abraham and Sarah...** Ab: husband to Sarah father of Isaac and Ishmael, father of our faith... The lead follower, promised:

I will make you a great nation! I will bless you! I will make your name great! You will be a blessing! I will bless them that bless you! I will curse them who curse you! In you, all will be blessed!

**Lessons from Abraham and Sarah...** *Can look great on paper/be lousy in practice!* Walked away from everything... **12.1** *Fearful of men* (Sarah’s beauty) **v10-20** *Sarah, beautiful to the eye, goes along w/Ab’s sin!* Uh-uh! Even when we are off track... *God still on track to the fulfillment of His word!* **13.2** Ab first tither! **14.20** and promise restated! *Don’t be afraid, I am your shield and great reward!* **15.1**

**“When you’re feeling down and willing to settle for much less because of what you have done, what you have said, where you have landed – remember God is still good for His word... don’t help Him!”**

*Even though God restated the promise 3x, Abraham still felt the need to “help” (We can be really slow to get it!) Okay, Sarah, I’ll sleep with Hagar! 16.1-4 Abraham’s compromise gave him a late life thrill... But his failure brought devastating results: the “wildness” of the Arab nations! V12 4th restatement 17.1,2 finally brings “Abram” into submission and God, convinced, changes his name. v5 Isaac is finally born!*

(Last failure under pressure from Sarah **21**) *Won’t step up for step child!* **v9-21**

**Final act:** He offers his son as a living sacrifice! **22** “*God will provide Himself a lamb!*” **v8** Finally brought to his end/ death to the vision... but he believed God... **and God became his Jireh!** **v14**