MAIN SCRIPTURES

- Matthew 9:37-38
- Matthew 13:11
- Matthew 24:14

The Heart of David: *Building the Spiritual Temple*

- About the Book
- Introduction

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES:

"Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest indeed is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will **send out laborers into his harvest.**"" Matthew 9:37-38 WEBUS

"He answered them, "To you it is given **to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven**, but it is not given to them."" Matthew 13:11 WEBUS

"**This Good News [Gospel] of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole** world for a testimony to all the nations, and **then the end will come.**" Matthew 24:14 WEBUS

INTRODUCTION:

A call to radical, grace-empowered, faith-based obedience to God is going forth into the Church. What will it take to come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ? "The Heart of David" intends to inspire God's people to search for the deeper

things of God and to help create unity of the faith among those who will one day establish God's Kingdom on earth. A wise old friend once said, "If you believe you have something to do with establishing God's Kingdom, you're right; and if you don't, you're also right. It's up to you."

Let's open the chambers and peer deeply into the heart of David. David had a heart of praise, one that rejoiced in God's ways, sought after the Lord in all things, and delighted to do His will. He had a never-ending joy that sprang forth from knowing God. However, David did something that few other men in history would dare to do. He was able to anticipate God's desires and was bold enough to declare them aloud before ever being told! What can a man accomplish for God, who loves Him so deeply and wants to honor Him so completely that he can foresee the divine plan of his Creator? My prayer for you is that, like David, you too would develop such an uninhibited intimacy with God that your love for Him would inspire you to share David's vision and join in his daring prayer.

This is not just another story about the renowned king of Israel. "The Heart of David" explores the magnificence of using Biblical blueprints to uncover the "mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven." On our voyage to the Promised Land, we will journey from Captivity, through the Wilderness, and ultimately find ourselves

standing at the shore of the Jordan. Along the way, we will discover our high calling. What will it take to cross over? Mix unshakable faith, a giant slayer with the heart of David, and the awesome power of the Holy Spirit, and what we have is the recipe to part the waters. Step into the river and pass over on dry ground!

The high calling of the Church requires radical, grace-empowered, faith-based obedience to God's commandments. However, THINK NOT that anything can be added to the blood of Christ as a requirement for eternal salvation; no doctrine presented here should be interpreted as such. The only way to everlasting life is faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, and that faith is a free gift through God's grace. However, radical, grace-empowered, faith-based obedience to the God who saved you should be your gift to Him in return. Your obedience should not feel like a duty or obligation, but it should be your heart's desire.

ABOUT THE BOOK

1. Prologue

A. <u>The Heart of David:</u> <u>Building the Spiritual Temple</u>

(1) **Introductory prophetic ideas about what is possible:** what we are to become as God's children—The Church!

(a) *You are all living stones…*

1. "You also as **living stones are built up as a spiritual house**, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 2:5 WEBUS
    a) Each member of God's family has a role to play like each stone in a wall is an integral part of structural integrity of a house.
        1) *"Or don't you know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,"* 1 Corinthians 6:19 WEBUS
    b) As Christians we are each an integral part of the spiritual temple, a temple not made with humans hands.
        1) *"But Christ having come as a high priest of the coming good things, through **the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands,** that is to say, not of this creation,"* Hebrews 9:11 WEBUS

(b) *God's Kingdom is not a place…*

1. "Being asked by the Pharisees **when God's Kingdom would come**, he answered them, "**God's Kingdom doesn't come with observation**; neither will they say,

‘Look, here!’ or, ‘Look, there!’ **for behold, God’s Kingdom is within you.**”” Luke 17:20-21 WEBUS

a) The Kingdom of Heaven is better understood as the perfect manifestation of God in man.
    1) *““Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall give birth to a son. They shall call his name **Immanuel**,” which is, being interpreted, “**God with us.**”” Matthew 1:23 WEBUS*
b) When you were born again the Holy Spirit took up residence inside of you—when the Holy Spirit becomes the only thing animating you, and not a single thing tainted by sin can any longer manifest in you—that is what the Kingdom of Heaven is like.
c) That is why John pointed to the Christ and Jesus pointed to Himself and said..
    1) *“Repent, for **the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!**” Matthew 3:2 WEBUS*
    2) *“From that time, Jesus began to preach, and to say, “Repent! For **the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.**”” Matthew 4:17 WEBUS*

(c) The world is waiting for the Kingdom to manifest in God’s children; in fact, all of creation is waiting!

1. “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with **the glory which will be revealed toward us.** For the creation waits with eager expectation **for the children of God to be revealed**. For the creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the **creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of decay into the liberty of the glory of the children of God.**” Romans 8:18-21 WEBUS
    a) All of creation was corrupted in the Garden when man brought sin into the world.
    b) Creation is still in a process of decay until God’s children grow up into spiritual adults and are revealed to the world—just as symbolized in a bar-mitzvah—a child becoming an adult.
    c) The revealing of children is Passover language as the Passover separated true Children of God from all others.
    d) We are not yet what we will be, but it’s coming!
        1) *“Beloved, now we are children of God. **It is not yet revealed what we will be;** but we know that*

when he is revealed, we will be like him, *for we will see him just as he is."* 1 John 3:2 WEBUS

e) But first, the message of the Gospel of the Kingdom (not the Gospel of Salvation) must be preached to the world…

1) *"**This Good News [Gospel] of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole** world for a testimony to all the nations, and **then the end will come.**"* Matthew 24:14 WEBUS

f) It's time for God's children to grow up…

1) *"**When I was a child,** I spoke as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child. **Now that I have become a man,** I have put away childish things. For **now we see in a mirror, dimly**, but then face to face. **Now I know in part, but then I will know fully,** even as I was also fully known."* 1 Corinthians 13:11-12 WEBUS

g) That is how and when the transformation will be complete, and this is what you will look like.

1) *"But we all, with unveiled face **seeing the glory of the Lord as in a mirror**, are **transformed into the same image from glory to glory**, even as*

from the Lord, the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18 WEBUS

(d) The maturing of the Church into spiritual adults who look like Christ, talk like Christ, act like Christ, and walk like Christ, is the reason the five-fold ministry of Church exists.

1. "He gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, shepherds and teachers; **for the perfecting of the saints,** to the work of serving, to the building up of the body of Christ, **until we all attain to the unity of the faith** and of **the knowledge of the Son of God**, to **a full grown man**, to **the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,** that we may **no longer be children, tossed back and forth and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the trickery of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error; **but speaking truth in love, we may grow up** in all things **into him** who is the head, Christ," Ephesians 4:11-15 WEBUS

a) Anyone who claims to belong to Christ ought to believe that God's intention is for His children to become like His only begotten Son, and live as such.

1) *"he who says he remains in him **ought himself also to walk just like he walked.**"* 1 John 2:6 WEBUS

2) *"Be imitators of me, even **as I also am of Christ.**"* 1 Corinthians 11:1 WEBUS

b) If you intend to remain a child, there is a message for you. Become an adult—it's what God wants!

1) *"For everyone who **lives on milk** is not experienced in the word of righteousness, for **he is a baby**. But **solid food is for those who are full grown,** who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern good and evil."* Hebrews 5:13-14 WEBUS

2) *"Therefore **leaving the teaching of the first principles of Christ, let's press on to perfection** —not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works, of faith toward God, of the teaching of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. **This will we do, if God permits.**"* Hebrews 6:1-3 WEBUS

(2) **Y'shua preached about the Gospel of the Kingdom.**

(a) Our mission and devotion is to equip laborers for a harvest of righteousness…

1. "Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest indeed is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Pray therefore that the Lord of the harvest will **send out laborers into his harvest.**"" Matthew 9:37-38 WEBUS

(b) Solve the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven…

1. "He answered them, "To you it is given **to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven**, but it is not given to them." Matthew 13:11 WEBUS

(c) And then to make the Gospel of the Kingdom clear to the whole world.

1. "**This Good News [Gospel] of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole** world for a testimony to all the nations, and **then the end will come.**" Matthew 24:14 WEBUS

(3) **Housecleaning**

(a) **Disclaimer**

1. This is part of a package of prophetic ideas that we are in the process of formulating and documenting.
2. It is an attempt at making the Gospel of the Kingdom clear to the world. It is by no means an exhaustive

work, but a small part of a much larger work in progress.

3. These ideas have slowly matured through study and debate, and have been presented for testing and critique to the best available minds within our limited community.
4. These prophetic ideas are not written in stone. It is our attempt to "put a stake in the ground," a common point of reference from which wider critique and participation can be received.
5. We will continue to pursue "all truth" (John 16:13), not truth defined by the winds of opinion or sacred tradition, but truth derived through diligent, thoughtful, and prayerful Biblical scholarship and dialog, all under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
6. Truth must always be beautiful, systematic, and predictive.
7. We reserve the right; in fact, we declare our responsibility, to change any and all ideas that ultimately do not conform to truth. This is our pledge.
8. Due to the nature of "a work in progress," [In the book itself] there may be ideas that have since matured—models that have already been removed

because they were unable to stand up to the rigorous demands of "all truth."

(b) **Special Acknowledgment**

1. No credit without special acknowledgement of my friend and mentor, Stephen Duame.
2. Many of the ideas and prophetic concepts contained in *The Heart of David* were born out of years of prayer and contemplation, as Stephen sought the LORD for His deepest truths.
3. It was together with Stephen, over countless hours of meetings and Bible studies, that the Prophetic Framework of this book was constructed.
4. It was truly on his shoulders that *The Heart of David* was written.

(c) **Think About It!** (Advice on reading the book)



1. Alongside certain subsections, there is a special "Think about it!" symbol. It is there to alert you about the nature of the material you are about to read.
2. Wherever the symbol is present, the material is complex and requires your undivided attention. Do not attempt to read these sections while engaged in

casual reading or when you are tired and not fully attentive.

3. Instead, allow time for deep thought and meditation, even time to reread the section, if necessary, so you can contemplate these vital and complex issues.
4. As the author, while editing this manuscript, I could not even fully comprehend these sections myself if working while tired.
5. The alert remains "ON!" until you no longer see the vertical line running down the left margin of the text.

(d) **About the Cover**

1. The cover of the book was inspired by a vision. God's prophetic plan for humanity is represented by the three dwelling places for God's Spirit.
   a) First, God descended on the Tabernacle in the Wilderness.
   b) He then occupied the Temple of Solomon, all the while making it well known that He could never be contained in a Temple made with hands.
   c) Finally, He will occupy the Spiritual Temple where His Name will dwell for all time.

INTRODUCTION

2. "The Heart of David"

A. <u>Building the Spiritual Temple</u>

(1) Prayers

(a) There are many prayers in the Bible.

1. Most prayers call out to God to do something for us. But the question remains: What can we do for Him?
2. One prayer, above all others, is the answer to this question.
3. God gifts us with "free will," the opportunity to make choices. Are you willing to surrender your free will back to God?
4. This "freedom" makes us accountable to Him. In reality, true spiritual freedom is having no options; you simply decide that God's way is the only way!
5. Are you willing to offer your life as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2)? If you are, you will discover the prayer that God is waiting for you to pray.
6. All of creation is groaning with expectation for the manifestation of the sons of God (Romans 8:19). Will you be bold enough to proclaim the prayer that will reveal the sons of God?

7. If you are, carry on and make your intentions known. Oh, and by the way, prepare yourself for change!

(2) **Patterns**

(a) We will learn to rely on repetitive patterns demonstrated in Scripture to help us recognize and read "Scriptural Blueprints."

1. These blueprints are the secret to a deep and significant understanding of Scripture.
   a) The first key to understanding the depths of Scripture **is to acknowledge** that there are predictable patterns throughout the Bible.
   b) These follow a common prophetic technique of "overlay" where one picture or pattern is overlaid by another to add detail.
   c) Secondly, you must know how to spot these predictable patterns.
   d) And finally, you must become skilled at interpreting them.

(b) In Matthew 16, Y'shua used the weather to demonstrate the predictable nature of things.

1. "The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing him, asked him to show them a sign from heaven. But he answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will

be fair weather, for the sky is red.' In the morning, 'It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Hypocrites! You know **how to discern the appearance of the sky, but you can't discern the signs of the times!**" Matthew 16:1-3 WEBUS

a) You too must be able to discern the "*signs of the times*".

1) *"But **concerning the times and the seasons, brothers**, you have no need that anything be written to you. For **you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night.** For when they are saying, "Peace and safety," then sudden destruction will come on them, like birth pains on a pregnant woman. Then they will in no way escape. **But you, brothers, aren't in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief.** You are all children of light and children of the day. We don't belong to the night, nor to darkness, so then let's not sleep, as the rest do, **but let's watch and be sober.**"* 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 WEBUS

b) You **must** be watchful for patterns.

c) You **must** be able to read the blueprints.

(c) Patterns and Shadows

1. "According to all that I show you, that is, **the pattern** of the tabernacle and **the pattern** of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it." Exodus 25:9 NKJV
2. "And see to it that **<u>you make them</u>** according to **the pattern which was shown you on the mountain**." Exodus 25:40 NKJV
3. "And **<u>you shall raise up</u>** the tabernacle **according to its pattern** which you were shown on the mountain." Exodus 26:30 NKJV

(d) *"See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."* **WHY?**

1. "Christ came as High Priest of **the good things to come**, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation." Hebrews 9:11 NKJV
   a) The Feasts of Yahweh, the Tabernacle, the High Priest and the Law—yes, serve as prophetic shadow pictures (patterns)!
   b) The Church must be spiritually discerning of God's prophetic strategies and what He is doing in the earth.

2. “Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: **We have such a High Priest,** who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, **a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.** For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. Therefore it is necessary that this One also have something to offer. **For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things,** as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, **“See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain** [from Exodus 25:40].”” Hebrews 8:1-5 NKJV
    a) This **High Priest (Y’shua)** is seated in the heavens at His Father’s right hand.
    b) That is the location of the true tabernacle and He minsters in that sanctuary. On earth is just a shadow of that.

c) The earthly priest simply copies what is from above and what they are performing *"**serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things**."*

d) Think of it like the sun casting a shadow on earth. The object upon which the sun sheds its light is the real thing and the shadow is formed from it. If the object moves, the shadow moves. The shadow has no life of its own.

e) To understand the spiritual ramifications of this, consider this. The Father is casting His light on His Son (the Real High Priest and all His duties), and the shadow is formed from it.

1) *"Jesus therefore answered them, "Most certainly, I tell you, **the Son can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father doing.** For whatever things he does, these the Son also does likewise."* John 5:19 WEBUS

a) What the Son does, the shadow does! The shadow (the earthly High Priest and all His duties) has no life of his own.

b) That is why Moses was instructed so carefully to **"make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."**

c) The shadows are blueprints!

(3) **Blueprints of Prayer**

(a) There are many famous models of prayer, or blueprints of prayer, in the Scriptures.

1. "He said to them, "**When you pray, say,** 'Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'"" Luke 11:2-4 WEBUS

a) The Lord's Prayer is likely the most famous of all.

b) This is the model prayer, or blueprint of prayer, instructed by Y'shua.

(b) Some prayers are blueprints for blessings, like the Aaronic or priestly blessing over Israel…

1. ""Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, **'<u>This is how you shall bless the children of Israel.</u>'** You shall tell them, 'Yahweh bless you, and keep you. Yahweh make his face to shine on you, and be gracious to you. Yahweh lift up his face toward you, and give you peace.' "**So they shall put my name on the children**

of Israel; and I will bless them.”” Numbers 6:23-27 WEBUS

a) Most Christians covet this priestly blessing and simultaneously deny their association with Israel.

(c) Some prayers model provision and protection like that of Jabez…

1. “**Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying,** “Oh that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my border! May your hand be with me, and may you keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!” God granted him that which he requested.” 1 Chronicles 4:10 WEBUS

a) God granted him what he requested.

(d) One model prayer may be the one that has been echoed by more pastors and evangelists than any other throughout all of history…

1. “**that if you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart** that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **For with the heart one believes resulting in righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made resulting in salvation.** For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes in him will not be disappointed.” For there is no distinction between

Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, and is rich to all who call on him. For, **"Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.**"" Romans 10:9-13 WEBUS

a) This is often called the "Sinner's Prayer" or "Prayer for Salvation"!
    1) It is the most unifying prayer in all of Christianity—the defining prayer of the faith.
    2) It is used as a pattern for a prayer more often and is the most important blueprint for a prayer that any person will ever pray.
b) Although there is no need to recite any specific prayer to "get saved," without a true confession similar to Romans 10:9-13, one cannot even enter the family of God.
    1) This then, as a model prayer, stands above all others when teaching and preaching to a lost, unbelieving world.
    2) When evangelizing and preaching the Gospel of Salvation to the lost, it is the "high calling."
    3) When witnessing to the unsaved, leading them to a confession of faith is the goal.

c) The "Sinner's Prayer" (and every blueprint like it) remains the model prayer(s) for shining light into darkness.

1) *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only born Son, that* ***whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.****"* John 3:16 WEBUS
2) *"Peter said to them, "****Repent and be baptized,*** *every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ* ***for the forgiveness of sins,*** *and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."* Acts 2:38 WEBUS
3) *"They said, "****Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved,*** *you and your household.""* Acts 16:31 WEBUS
4) *"For I determined not to know anything among you except* ***Jesus Christ and him crucified.****"* 1 Corinthians 2:2 WEBUS

d) The prayer of salvation deals with the issue of sin. The blood of Jesus is the atoning sacrifice and has paid the price for all of our sins, and therefore, after we repent and pray the prayer of salvation, sin should no longer be the focus in our lives.

1) *"And he is **the atoning sacrifice for our sins**, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world."* 1 John 2:2 WEBUS

e) With this prayer we **move away** from sin.

1) *"knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with, so that **we would no longer be in bondage to sin.**"* Romans 6:6 WEBUS

f) However, after being born again and having become a member of the family of God, does the prayer of salvation still remain the most important prayer for you?

1) Does confessing your faith unto salvation remain the highest calling?

2) Is walking towards the altar to rededicate your life the upward call in Christ Jesus?

3) Is it the ultimate calling for the Christian?

(4) **The Most Important Prayer after Salvation**

(a) During the course of your life, all the types of prayers mentioned earlier are extremely value.

1. But, for the moment, set aside the focus on our **own individual needs and desires** in prayer and look at our function as members of the Body of Christ?

a) We may begin to have “eyes to see” and “ears to hear” a new high calling—a higher calling.

(b) As a Christian, if salvation is no longer the highest calling, then what is?

1. After salvation, there is one blueprint for prayer, which exceeds all others in importance; it leads to the highest calling.
2. It’s an act of faith, a request that supersedes every other that a Believer might pray for during his life as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
3. The fulfillment of this prayer request will bring the entire Christian faith to maturity and face-to-face with our highest calling.
   a) If with a willing heart, you are called to pray this prayer along with countless other Believers; we will see the hand of God Almighty move in the earth like in no other generation.
   b) The most important prayer a Believer could ever pray is not one that moves us away from sin as the “Sinner’s Prayer” does, but **towards God** the Father and towards being conformed into the image of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

(c) Even after Paul was born again, he did not consider himself to have already apprehended the ultimate prize —the upward call.

1. "Brothers, **I don't regard myself as yet having taken hold**, but one thing I do: forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before, **I press on toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**" Philippians 3:13-14 WEBUS

   a) That upward call is expressed so well in Ephesians 4:13: *"until we all **attain to the unity of the faith** and of the **knowledge of the Son of God**, to a full grown man [a perfect man], **to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.**"*

   b) Salvation is no longer *"the high calling"* once one is saved; but instead, a goal of unity among all Christians, experiencing the most intimate relationship with Jesus, and reaching His stature of perfection are!

(5) **Who are you now, really?**

(a) Can you be conformed into the image of Christ? Is it possible to attain the heart of Jesus?

1. “Don’t you know that **those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize?** Run like that, so that you may win. Every man who strives in the games exercises self-control in all things. Now they do it to receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible. **I therefore run like that, not aimlessly. I fight like that, not beating the air, but I beat my body and bring it into submission,** lest by any means, after I have preached to others, I myself should be **disqualified**.” 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 WEBUS
    a) If you dedicate your life to completing the process that Jesus started on the cross; if you run the race with certainty… **Yes, it is possible.**
    b) Prayerfully you will agree by the time you complete the study of *The Heart of David*.
    c) Lose the attitude that you cannot do absolutely everything the Lord asks of you.
    d) Discard the belief that you cannot become everything He died for you to become.
    e) Run the race with certainty so you are qualified to preach the same message to others!

(b) As a Christian, you should NO LONGER see yourself as an imperfect, destined-to-sin victim of being human!

(See Voluntary or Mandatory for a complete set of notes on this topic.)

1. "Therefore let's also, seeing we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **lay aside every weight and the sin which so easily entangles us,** and let's **run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith,** who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising its shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2 WEBUS
    a) Stepping into who you really are now will take forgetting what is behind you and reaching towards what is ahead of you.
    b) Christ is the author and **perfector** (**finisher)** of your faith.
    c) It is possible to reach the measure of Christ's stature and fullness.
    d) Have you ever considered that as a reality—that you can actually be conformed into the Image of Christ?
    e) How is it even possible?

(c) Christ died and you died with Him; He was buried and you were buried with Him; He resurrected and you resurrected with Him (Read all of Romans 6).

1. "For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we will also be part of his resurrection; knowing this, that **our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away with**, so that **we would no longer be in bondage to sin.** For **he who has died has been freed from sin.**" Romans 6:5-7 WEBUS
   a) The new you is NO LONGER a slave to sin!
   b) The new you is free to NO LONGER sin!
2. "Thus **consider yourselves also to be dead to sin**, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore **don't let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.** Also, do not present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. **For sin will not have dominion over you,** for you are not under law, but under grace." Romans 6:11-14 WEBUS
   a) Sin is DEAD in the new you!

b) Sin has NO DOMINION over the new you!

1) *"Whoever is born of God* ***doesn't commit sin,*** *because his seed remains in him, and* ***he can't sin,*** *because he is born of God."* 1 John 3:9 WEBUS

2) *"We know that* ***whoever is born of God doesn't sin,*** *but he who was born of God keeps himself, and the evil one doesn't touch him. We know that* ***we are of God****, and* ***the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.****"* 1 John 5:18-19 WEBUS

c) How then can we explain what is happening when sin does take place in your life? (Again see Voluntary or Mandatory especially page 7.)

1) *"So now* ***it is no more I that do it****, but sin which dwells in me. {20} But if what I don't desire, that I do,* ***it is no more I that do it,*** *but sin which dwells in me."* Romans 7:17, 20 WEBUS

2) It isn't the new you, born-again in Christ who is sining, but the old man—**and that is not you!**

B. The Narrow Road

(1) Itching Ears

(a) The road to being conformed into the image of Christ is a tough one paved with many difficulties; it will take you on a journey through the Wilderness (hardships). Paul warned…

1. "For the time will come when they **will not listen to the sound doctrine, but having itching ears,** will heap up for themselves teachers after their own lusts, and will **turn away their ears from the truth, and turn away to fables.** But you **be sober** in all things, **suffer hardship**, **do the work of an evangelist**, and **fulfill your ministry.**" 2 Timothy 4:3-5 WEBUS

1. Guard yourself from any doctrine that either teaches you that you cannot become like Jesus, or paints your walk as a Christian as something meant to be easy.

b) If you are sober-minded you will know that hard times are part of the process of spreading the message of both Gospels!

1) **The Gospel of Salvation:** the good news that an eternity with God is a free gift from God and is available only by His grace, which then gives you faith! (See Ephesians 2:8-10)

2. **The Gospel of the Kingdom:** the good news that you are now called and able to be conformed into the Image of Christ!

c) Note: Spreading the Gospels is the calling for every Christian, not just those "in ministry".

(b) Itching ears only want to hear feel good messages.

1. "Therefore **you shall be perfect**, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5:48 WEBUS

a) Those who want their ears tickled will not be lovers of this truth.

b) The truth is that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you.

1) *"**I can do all things** through Christ who strengthens me."* Philippians 4:13 WEBUS

c) You can be conformed into His image. You can become like Jesus.

1) *"For whom he foreknew, he also **predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."* Romans 8:29 WEBUS

4. However, it will take a total sacrifice of self and the death of your will.

1) *"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless,* ***not my will, but yours, be done.****"* Luke 22:42 WEBUS

e) Prayerfully, the Holy Spirit will guide you to understand the truth.

1) *"However, when he,* ***the Spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth,*** *for he will not speak from himself; but whatever he hears, he will speak. He will declare to you things that are coming."* John 16:13 WEBUS

f) Do any of these ideas bother you, or do the possibilities truly excite you?

(2) **Contemplation**

(a) Do you remember when you prayed the prayer of salvation, when you confessed with your mouth and believed in your heart that Jesus is Lord and that God the Father raised Him from the dead?

1. Do you recall your born again experience, when you first believed?
2. Do you remember when you called on the name of the Lord for the first time, whether it was during a Church service, or an evangelical outreach, or with a friend who witnessed to you, watching a TV ministry,

reading the Bible, or perhaps you were alone with the Lord when He called you?

3. Do you remember the move of the Holy Spirit in your life after you got saved, after you prayed that prayer?
4. Some changes were sudden and dramatic, while others were slow and painful, but there were changes.

(3) **Not Born Again?**

1. If your testimony does not resemble anything like this, then for you we must first take a step backward.
    1. We must stop here and pray for your salvation and that God is truly calling you to repentance.
    2. You must make Jesus the Lord and Savior of your life.
    3. You first must be a child of God before you can be an heir to His inheritance (on earth and in heaven).
    4. You need to be born again and grafted into the family of God before you can consider praying the most important and dramatic prayer that any member of God's family can pray.

(4) **The Believer's equivalent of the Sinner's Prayer**

(a) If your witness is that you truly are born again, then you probably also have many other testimonies since the day you first believed.

1. You probably can testify of numerous occasions when God moved in your life in a powerful way.
    a) I often teach those whom I disciple: *"Tell your testimonies and God will give you more testimonies to tell."*
2. You know the saying, "Be careful what you pray for; you just might get it!"
    a) The prayer that I propose is the most important prayer you will ever pray as a Believer is the Prayer of David.

(b) David is the key prophetic figure in this series:

1. As you may have guessed from the title of this book, *The Heart of David*…
    a) David's life is the blueprint that I am inviting you to emulate.
    b) Be careful if you pray his prayer; it will change your walk forever!
    c) Just like your prayer for Jesus to come into your heart and change you when you got saved, this prayer will invite the Holy Spirit into your life to do a radical work of transformation in you.

4. This prayer is the Believer's equivalent of the Sinner's Prayer. What you ask for will change your faith forever; it changes everything!

e) By proclaiming this prayer, you step out of the Wilderness into the Promised Land.

f) Be patient however; if you have the book, DO NOT skip ahead to discover this prayer without laying the groundwork first.

7. If you do, it will have very little meaning to you and will most likely only leave you disappointed and confused.

(c) God said that David was *"a man after His own heart."* (1 Sam. 13:14; Acts 13:22)

1. He is the only man in all of Scripture that God gives this title.
2. We had better take notice of what a man after the heart of God is all about.
3. Even though David made many mistakes, some of them gargantuan, he remained in the favor of God Almighty because of his repentant heart.
4. He so understood the heart of God that he was able to step out and pray what might be considered the boldest prayer found anywhere in the Bible.

5. It's with this heart and with this intention that I wrote *The Heart of David*.

(d) Prayer is powerful!

1. Pray with a heart like David's and you just might change the world.
   a) God is looking for His children to first become sensitive enough to recognize what may be the most powerful prayer in all of Scripture.
   b) Secondly, He is looking for volunteers to step forward in unity, enthusiastic to humbly proclaim this prayer for the Church and the entire world to hear.
   c) If willing, we might find ourselves participating in the most exciting events the world has ever known.
2. In the words of Jesus Himself…
   a) *"**This Good News [Gospel] of the Kingdom** will be **preached in the whole** world for a **testimony** to all the nations, and **then the end** will come."* Matthew 24:14 WEBUS
3. Join me now as we hear his prayer and seek *The Heart of David*.

Questions and Discussion

1. **If God's Kingdom is not a place, what is it?**
   A. How does it relate to what John the Baptist said about Y'shua and what Y'shua said about Himself?
      1) *"Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!"*
   B. How does it relate to the idea that the world is waiting for the Kingdom to manifest in God's children? In fact, all of creation is waiting!
      1) *"For the creation waits with eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed."*
   C. How does it relate to the following Scripture?
      1) *"This Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."* Matthew 24:14
2. **Use Ephesians 4:11-15 to prove this statement…**
   A. The maturing of the Church into spiritual adults who look like Christ, talk like Christ, act like Christ, and walk like Christ, is the reason the five-fold ministry of the Church exists.
      1) If you intend to remain a spiritual child, there is a message for you in Hebrews 5:13-14 and 6:1-3). What is it?
3. **What does it mean to learn to rely on repetitive patterns demonstrated in Scripture to help recognize and read "Scriptural Blueprints"?**

A. See pages 14-19 to help build an intelligent and comprehensive answer.

4. Explain how this same idea of Blueprints shows up in some prayers we find in the Scriptures.

A. Review the model prayers found on pages 19-22 for help.

5. The prayer of Salvation deals with the issue of sin.

A. However, after being born again and having become a member of the family of God, does the prayer of salvation still remain the most important prayer for you?

1) Explain your reasoning.

6. Even after Paul was born again, he did not consider himself to have already apprehended the ultimate prize—the upward call.

A. See Philippians 3:13-14 for Paul's point of view.

B. What is the higher calling?

1) Use Ephesians 4:13 to assist your answer.

7. Something happened to you when you got born again; there was a change in identity.

A. Use pages 26-30 to craft a well-thought-out explanation of this statement:

1) You should NO LONGER see yourself as an imperfect, destined-to-sin victim of being human!

8. **The road to being conformed into the image of Christ is a tough one paved with many difficulties; it will take you on a journey through the Wilderness (hardships).**
    A. Paul warned us that teachers would arise who deny this reality.
        1) Explain in your own words what that will look like according to 2 Timothy 4:3-5.
    B. Itching ears only want to hear feel-good messages. Those who want their ears tickled will not be lovers of truth.
        1) Describe the "truths" that bother them using Philippians 4:13; Romans 8:29; Luke 22:42.
9. **If you are sober-minded, you will know that hard times are part of the process of spreading the message of both Gospels!**
    A. Identify and distinguish both Gospels.
        1) See page 31
10. **Why is David the key prophetic figure in *The Heart of David*?**
    A. See pages 34-37