

# Plan for Growth & Renewal

*Where do I begin my journey toward renewal?*  
**Empty the suitcase of the soul.**

People often ask me how they can use the resources I have created to maximum benefit on their journey toward spiritual renewal. Let me give you a suggested pathway forward.

**Start with *Soul Care*.** *Soul Care* is not just a book to be read; it is a lifestyle to be adopted. These are the principles of freedom that need to be integrated into our daily living. Too often we are a knowledge-based discipleship culture, but Jesus was an obedience-based discipleship teacher. Knowing something will not transform us; only when we live it out will we experience the benefit of the principle. So, don't just read *Soul Care* and say to yourself, "I know that." Live it. Work through *Soul Care*. Do the exercises at the end of the chapter. Go through it with a small group of people and talk about it, process it, seek to gain insight, and take it deeper. Download the **study guide** for *Soul Care* and work through the questions and exercises that are given there.

One of the things that has benefited me greatly over the years is to download the audio version of a book that I am trying to work into my daily living. After I have read the book and worked hard to process everything that I need to, then I begin listening to the audio version. Sometimes I will listen to it 10-12 times in a year. It is a form of meditation that allows the principles that I am seeking to apply to sink deep into my heart. You may consider getting **the book on Audible** as your next step to work through *Soul Care*.

You may also consider signing up for the **eCourse**, where I take the principles of *Soul Care* and break them down into 12-15 minute bite-sized portions. At the end of each section there are practical action steps to help you integrate these principles into your life. You can work through the eCourse with your small group. We do a couple of course launches per year and those include webinars where I interact with students and help them to process the material.

If you haven't done so, come to a **Soul Care Conference**. Join one in person or on livestream. Coming to a Soul Care Conference is a powerful experience because you can access the presence and power of God, receive ministry, experience deliverance if needed and benefit from the momentum of three dedicated days of deep life change work. Over time, different issues may come up as you experience more of life, or you may have a better understanding of shaping events or family history that takes you deeper. I know some people who have come to multiple Soul Care Conferences as they were learning to live out these principles or applying them to new situations in their lives.

*What's the next step after Soul Care?*  
**Learn to walk in the fullness of the Spirit.**

People often ask me, "When I have worked through *Soul Care*, where should I go next? What should I do after that?" I recommend **River Dwellers**. We cannot walk in the fullness of

God until we empty ourselves. *Soul Care* walks through the emptying process. *River Dwellers* moves us toward walking in the fullness of the Spirit. Again, work through it with a small group. Practice the exercises. Learn to walk in the Spirit together. Learn to hear God's voice, walk in step with the Holy Spirit and access the power of God.

Another transformational event to attend is a **Holy Spirit Weekend**. I designed Holy Spirit Weekends when I was a pastor because I realized that a lot of people could give the right answers about who the Holy Spirit was and what the Holy Spirit did, but they were living beneath their privilege. They had more knowledge of the Spirit than experience in the Spirit, and they needed equipping. I set up Holy Spirit weekends with teaching on the Holy Spirit, and then a lab time to experience the things that we talk about. We teach on hearing God's voice, for example, and then we take time to experience listening for the Spirit on behalf of other people. We learn about praying for the sick, and then we practice what we have learned with one another.

**Both Soul Care Conferences and Holy Spirit Weekends include experiences because true discipleship is not just knowledge-based.** Jesus didn't just tell his disciples to pray for the sick or cast out demons. He demonstrated it. Then he sent them out to do it and he gave them coaching. The conferences are important experiential learning atmospheres.

*Pathways to the King* was my first book. I recommend that you include it in this step of learning how to walk in the Spirit. It offers both inspiration and practical help to living to live a life of renewal.

### *Where do we go from here?* **Living on Mission with God**

Jesus called his disciples to be with Him, and then sent them out to do the work of the Kingdom. If we only take for ourselves, and don't give it away, we will not live a revived life. We must give what we have received – as Jesus said to the disciples when He sent them out, "Freely you have received, freely give."

We offer **a variety of resources** to help people live on Kingdom mission. Books like *Deep Faith*, *Spiritual Authority* and *Calm in the Storm* can all help on this step of the journey. I would start with *Spiritual Authority*. When Jesus sent out the 12, He gave them authority to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom and to heal the sick and cast out demons. Authority is key to the mission of the Kingdom. Authority is too seldom talked about in the church. If it is mentioned, it is usually only considered from the perspective of our position in Christ. Authority is positional, that is, it is dependent upon our identity in Christ. But it is more than positional; it is developmental. We must learn how to develop authority.

After reading and working out some of the practices listed in *Spiritual Authority*, I would read *Deep Faith*. This is critical to living out the mission of God. *Calm in the Storm* also offers some insight about living out this mission that is helpful.

You may also consider joining us for **other conferences or livestreams** that we offer which can equip you on the journey. The *Deliverance Training Workshop* is a critical training event to do the works of the Kingdom. Jesus did deliverance ministry; He commanded the 12 to do deliverance and He commanded them to teach us to obey everything He commanded them. That means that Jesus commanded the church to be involved in deliverance today.

There are certain problems that people are facing that cannot be solved without casting out demons. The *Deliverance Training Workshop* offers practical help in how to do deliverance ministries and how to develop in this area so you can get better at it.

*Soul Care 2* and some other workshops are also offered to help individuals to go deeper in their own Soul Care journey and to equip them to help others toward freedom. We also offer a ***Soul Care Leaders eCourse*** which is designed to equip leaders who are doing the work of *Soul Care* with others (coming in the Spring of 2022). This course will be beneficial to anyone who is doing one-on-one discipleship, leading a small group, or doing pastoral care and ministry.