

SESSION 03 David's Training: 3 Anointings, 3 Stages and 5 Seasons

I. DAVID: GOD'S PATTERN (WITNESS) FOR THE REDEEMED

David is God's picture of the dedicated believer.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you-- The sure mercies of David. 4 Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people, a leader and commander for the people. (Isa. 55:3-4)

I will give you shepherds according to My heart (like David)...will feed you with...understanding. (Jer. 3:15)

In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David...(Zech. 12:8)

II. DAVID'S PRIMARY IDENTITY: INTIMACY WITH GOD (WHO HE WAS BEFORE GOD)

David's life was valued (measured) by two core issues: intimacy with God and meekness before people. These were strengthened in each of seasons of his life. His calling and function flowed from these.

A. David's primary identity (value and success) was established on who he was spiritually before God as "one that God loved" then as "one who loved God" in return (overflowed to others). In other words, by the anointing of the Spirit, David **felt** the power of being loved by God and of loving (God/others) in return. David's primary sense of success was in being successful before God (which is ultimate). The "anointing to love" gave David his primary sense of success.

B. This was the first way in which David saw himself and measured (evaluated) the success of his life. In other words, he **felt successful before God in context to how much he grew in the anointing of love**. Based on this, Jesus told Martha that Mary of Bethany had chosen the best part of life which could not be taken from her (Lk. 10: 38-42). All of God's paths lead to love. All that is truly of God leads us to grow in receiving more of His love (even feeling its tenderness) or returning it to Him then overflowing in it towards others. All that is of love lasts forever. This is the only equity that we will bring with us when we stand before God.

C. David is the model of the anointed Church that operates in power through worship and intercession that comes from those who walk out lifestyles of radical love and obedience towards Jesus. The foundation of David's ministry was his revelation of the governmental impact of prophetic intercessory worship (Ps. 22:3). This is God's most powerful weapon in shifting government in the spirit and transforming the earth now and in the Millennial Kingdom (Ps. 149:6-9; Rev. 4-5).

D. Summary: David's primary identity was in being one who was "**loved** (by God) **and was a lover** (to God/others) **therefore, successful.**" Because David felt the power of being loved and of loving, therefore, he felt successful even when his kingship was threatened.

E. Samuel taught David much about how God viewed him and his future calling as king of Israel.

The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander (leader or king) over His people... (1 Sam. 13:14)

- F. David first saw himself (his primary value and success) spiritually as before God, then in a secondary way he saw himself as the one who God made him to be “as before men.” In other words, whether he was a shepherd for his father, or armorbearer for Saul (1 Sam. 16:21) or as a fugitive serving the men in the wilderness or even as king of Israel, David wanted to be in the right place fulfilling that particular divine assignment. David trusted God with the assignment that God gave him in the different seasons of His life. God alone can evaluate where He places us (calling/function). This placement may change dramatically in different seasons of life. Many only will embrace God’s will when it involves high positions that are honored by men. God does not value the role of a king, who rules from a palace more than He does the one who cleans it.
- G. **Leadership Lesson:** Our primary identity in life is to walk in the anointing to love as one who is “loved and is a lover” therefore, who is successful before God. In difficulty, we re-align our hearts (1000 times a day) by confessing, “*I am loved and a lover, therefore, I am successful.*” Only then can we receive clarity about our secondary identity that is related to our divine assignment (calling/function or who God made us to be before others). As this changes we continue to trust God that it is wise and valuable to Him, regardless how it is esteemed by man.

III. HIS PRIMARY ATTITUDE: WALK IN MEEKNESS

- A. David’s primary attitude in each season of his life was to walk in meekness or with a servant spirit whether as a shepherd, armorbearer, fugitive or king. He expressed this in a practical way, by being faithful in the small things (mundane tasks).
- B. The only character trait Jesus proclaimed about Himself was His meekness.
Take My yoke...learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart... (Mt. 11:29)
...for I am gentle and humble in heart...(Mt. 11:29, NIV, NAS)
- C. Jesus provided us with an interpretive key to the prophecies in David’s life based on meekness.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. (Mt. 5:5)
Well done...you were faithful in a very little, have authority over 10 cities. (Lk. 19:17)
Well done...you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many. (Mt. 25:21)
But many who are first will be last, and the last first. (Mt. 19:30; 20:16)
He who is greatest...let him be as the younger...he who governs as he who serves. (Lk. 22:26)

- D. **Leadership Lesson:** We must cultivate the grace to be lowly in heart (humility, meekness or a servant spirit) as we serve diligently in very little (Lk. 19:17) or a few things (Mt. 25:21). We can only do this as we develop our primary spiritual identity as one who is “loved and a lover” therefore, we are ***already profoundly successful before God***. When we “feel successful” because of who we are in the love of God, then we have the foundation and strength to faithfully walk out our assignment before others (in times of honor and dishonor, prosperity and difficulty) without losing our intimacy with God nor our meekness before men. This is a dynamic place of stability and fruitfulness that helps us not waver in prosperity or difficulty. Like David, we must focus on being established in our primary identity and meekness rather than in “our future leadership opportunities.” Also, we must also continue to develop the ‘oil of intimacy’ with Jesus with a servant spirit in seasons of new opportunities, responsibilities, and prominence.

IV. THE THREE ANOINTINGS (EMPOWERING OR ENABLING) IN DAVID’S LIFE

He (Jesus) said to me, "My grace (empowering) is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect (mature) in weakness (voluntary weakness of the fasted lifestyle or involuntary difficulties)." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (2 Cor. 12:9)

God trains His anointed today in the same three-fold pattern that He used in raising up David as the man after His own heart. ***The anointing of the Holy Spirit is the grace (power or empowering) to do God’s will in each strategic season of our training and calling or destiny.*** David was anointed on three occasions receiving enabling grace for three different dimensions of God’s call. The 3 different anoints in David’s life: 3 different occasions and 3 different purposes.

- A. ***The first time David was anointed was in Bethlehem*** (1 Sam. 16:13). This is where David received his call to be king of Israel. David was empowered to do tasks while developing spiritual identity and meekness (servant spirit). The point of David’s life was to be established in two core realities. God wanted these establish in David during his Bethlehem years. This is what God wanted to establish in David in the Bethlehem season in order to develop a root system in these two realities that would go deep. In a ministry context, this corresponds to serving behind the scenes in the mundane that supports others without it consciously contributing to our promotion in a ministry position. David was left out of times of honor with his family.

'Well done, good servant...you were faithful in a very little, have authority over 10 cities.' (Lk. 19:17)

Well done...you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. (Mt. 25:21)

Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these." 11 Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep." (1 Sam. 16:10-11)

- B. ***The second time David was anointed was in Hebron*** (2 Sam. 2:4). This is where David was anointed or empowered to govern God's people without losing his primary identity or his servant spirit. In a ministry context, this would correspond with the difficulties of laboring in the difficult behind the scenes work of leadership with much problem solving that results in frustrations and set backs including rejection because of misunderstandings by those you work with. David was tested with praise and adversity at the same time.
- C. ***The third time David was anointed was in Jerusalem*** (2 Sam. 5:3). This is where David was anointed or empowered to conquer God's enemies without losing his primary identity or servant spirit. In a ministry context, this corresponds with power ministry in the public arena. This is the anointing most focus on.

V. THREE GENERAL STAGES OF GODS CALL ON DAVID'S LIFE

God trains all of His anointed ones in the same three-fold biblical pattern that He used in raising up David.

- A. ***The birthing of the vision: receiving prophetic promises*** – David received his initial call to be king of Israel in Bethlehem (1 Sam. 16:12-13). At that time, David was about 17 years old. However, he did not become king of all Israel until he was 37 years old, approximately 20 years later. David had no idea it would take 20 years to see these prophecies fulfilled. **Leadership Lesson:** endurance with a marathon (long-term) perspective is essential in walking out ones full prophetic destiny.
- B. ***The death of the vision: training (preparation through testing) to make us worthy (prepared) to walk out the vision without ending up in greater judgment*** – this speaks of seasons of pain, difficulty, disillusionment and delay. David was prepared (tested) in this stage especially in the Adullam years so that he would be equipped to walk out his full calling in Jerusalem. ***Our hearts are deceitfully wicked in unperceived pride which successfully hides from us.*** We are guaranteed surprising times of mistreatment designed to bring the truth of our pride to the surface so that we can more fully see and confront it. When we feel pain (mistreatment, disappointment, delay, etc.) the darkest issues of our hearts come to the surface. My pain in rejection is mostly linked to my unresolved yet unperceived pride, which is our greatest enemy to our calling in God. I liken our pride to the fault lines below the surface in an earthquake zone that bring disaster when pressure is applied. Our ed pride exists as hidden “fault lines” far below the surface of our understanding. They only come to the surface under pressure (mistreatment, delay etc.). These pressures are meant by God to be our friend that escort us to freedom from pride and depth in God and then to our full calling. We all either ***get bitter*** by focusing on what others wrongly did to us or we ***get better*** by focusing on our pride (instead of the God's tool in the “enemy” that brought our pride to the surface). ***Our primary enemy is always our pride.*** The lesser enemy is the “Saul” that God mercifully used to expose our great enemy within. **Leadership Lesson:** I do not consider one ready for their full calling until they successfully pass at least three significant seasons of disappointments by continuing in humility (servanthood and gratitude) without rejection and offense, which is often wrongly named as burnout.

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? (Jer. 17:9)

Who can understand his errors (pride)? Cleanse me from secret (unperceived) faults. (Ps. 19:12)

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try (test) me, and know (reveal) my anxieties (fears); 24 See if there is any wicked way in me...lead me (bring to surface) in the way...(Ps. 139:23-24)

For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more. (Lk. 12:48)

An inheritance gained hastily at the beginning will not be blessed at the end. (Prov. 20:21)

- C. *The release of the fullness of the vision: commissioned with power and authority – David became king over all Israel in Jerusalem (2 Sam. 5:3). This is the first time he received the full authority as king to begin to develop his full destiny over the next 33 years. **Leadership Lesson:** we must not seek to establish ourselves in the circumstances that are promised to us in a prophetic way.*

VI. 3 STAGES IN DAVID'S ANOINTING IN PS. 78

He also chose David His servant, and took him from the sheepfolds; 71 from following the ewes that had young He brought him, to shepherd Jacob His people, and Israel His inheritance. 72 So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands. (Ps 78:70-72)

- A. Chosen- called by God
- B. Took- trained by God
- C. Bought- released and commissioned by God

VII. THREE PRINCIPLES NECESSARY FOR WALKING OUT OUR CALLING OR DESTINY

We...do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will (receiving revelation of God's call on ones life) in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may have a walk worthy (prepared in character) of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience (endurance) and longsuffering with joy. (Col. 1:9-11)

- A. First, the necessity of receiving clarity of revelation about our calling through diligent prayer.
Epaphras...always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. (Col. 4:12)

that...the Father of glory may give to you the spirit of...revelation...18 eyes of your understanding being enlightened...know what is the hope (assurance) of His calling (life destiny) (Eph. 1:17-18)

She (Israel) did not consider her destiny; therefore her collapse was awesome (Lam. 1:9)

This charge I commit to you, (my) son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare... (1 Tim. 1:18)

- B. Second, the necessity of having endurance with a long-term perspective for the fullness of our destiny.
...strengthened with all might...for all patience (endurance)...with joy (Col. 1:11)

Do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience (endurance) inherit the promises. (Heb. 6:12)

Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, whose heart is set on pilgrimage. 6 As they pass through the Valley of Baca, they make it a spring...7 They go from strength to strength (Ps. 84:5-7)

- C. Third, the necessity of walking worthy of the calling by our lifestyle (purity, fasted lifestyle, etc.)
We...pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling...fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power (2 Thes. 1:11)

Watch...and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape (falling from steadfastness and faith) all these things...and to stand (faithful and worthy) before the Son of Man. (Lk. 21:36)

Beloved...be diligent to be found by Him...without spot and blameless; 17...therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness...(2 Pet. 3:14, 17)

I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified. (1 Cor. 9:27)

You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. 5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white... (Rev 3:4-5)

VIII. THE FIVE SEASONS IN DAVID'S LIFE AS SEEN IN FIVE CITIES HE LIVED IN

- A. **Bethlehem** (1 Sam. 16; age: until approximately 17 years old) – this is where David received his initial call to be king of Israel. Yet, David was focused on being established in his primary identity as one loved by God and who is a lover of God rather than in being a future king. David was also empowered to be faithful in the mundane (small things) as he develops a meek servant spirit. This season in David's life speaks of the season that we receive prophetic promises from God that require faithfulness in the mundane (small things) as we are rooted and grounded in love (Eph. 3:17) or in our identity as one who is loved by God and is a lover of God. In a ministry context, this corresponds to serving behind the scenes in the mundane that supports others without it consciously contributing to our promotion in a ministry position. David was faithful (responsible) with the small details in leaving his supplies in good hands (1 Sam. 17:22). **Leadership Lesson:** focus on establishing our identity as we are faithful to serve in the mundane. (Mt. 25:21; 1 Sam. 16:10-11; 17:22).

- B. **Gibeah** (1 Sam. 17-20; age: approximately 18-23 years old) – David's identity tested and strengthened by early praise and success (promotion before men) before a soon coming season of testing that would last about seven years. In this season, David killed Goliath, which resulted in him being promoted to national prominence. The young women throughout the nation sang songs of his triumph. David was honored in marrying the King's daughter. David was invited to move to Gibeah, which was King Saul's royal court or governmental headquarters (Washington, D.C.). ***David was tested with praise and adversity at the same time.*** Can David find God in the pressure of praise and jealousy as he found God in the solitude of Bethlehem? Early promotion is often unrelated to where our full destiny is manifest. This season is given by God to train our heart not to establish our ministry. Many stumble in this season by totally misinterpreting it in pride. This results in them being distracted from walking in their true identity and lifestyle as a devout lover of God and people with a servant spirit. **Leadership Lesson:** early successes are deceptive thus easily misinterpreted. Some sell out so quickly even at the first sight of opportunity. They use much biblical language to support it.

The crucible for silver....but man is tested by the praise he receives. (Proverbs 27:21, NIV)

- C. **Adullam** (1 Sam. 21-31; age: approximately 23-30 years old) – David's identity and servant spirit goes through testing as he is tested and strengthened by adversity. David can only find comfort by realigning his heart with God a "thousand" times a day. The Adullam cave years in the wilderness is where David is tested not with praise and success, but with hardship and difficulty. **Leadership Lesson:** when God wants to raise a David, He uses a demonized authority figure (Saul) to train him.

I set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. (Ps. 16:8)

I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. 14 Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the LORD! (Ps. 27:13-14)

No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. (Ps. 84:11)

He answered and said, 'It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' ' (Mt. 4:4)

- D. **Hebron** (2 Sam. 2-5; age: from 30-37 years old) – David tested in only receiving his partial inheritance after a long season of testing. In Hebron, David was established only as king of Judah (which was only one of the twelve tribes of Israel that he was prophesied to lead). This is David's second season of promotion (Gibeah was the first and Jerusalem will be the third). David's primary identity in God and his servant spirit was tested in three different ways.

1. First, David must continue in his primary focus in being loved by God and being a lover of God without being distracted by so many new responsibilities in being “king” of Judah. To keep developing our ‘oil of intimacy’ with Jesus and to not lose our servant spirit in seasons of new responsibilities, authority and prominence is an important test. **Leadership Lesson:** continue in our primary focus in being loved and loving God without being distracted by our new responsibilities as “king” for our developing our ‘oil of intimacy’ with Jesus.

It happened after this that David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up to any of the cities of Judah?" The LORD said to him, "Go up." David said, "Where shall I go up?" And He said, "To Hebron." 2 So David went up there...3 David brought up the men who were with him...they dwelt in the cities of Hebron. 4 Then the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. (2 Sam. 2:1-4)

Come, my Beloved, let us go forth to the field; let us lodge in the villages. 12 Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine has budded, whether the grape blossoms are open, and the pomegranates are in bloom. There I will give you my love. (Song 7:11-12)

The foolish (virgins) said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 "But the wise (virgins) answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' (Mt. 25:8-9)

2. Second, David must continue in his servant spirit as “king” of Judah. David is to serve (govern) God's people without losing his servant spirit (meekness) because of either pride or laziness, since he now has primary position of honor and authority without anyone being able to check up on his humility or diligence. **Leadership Lesson:** continue without losing our servant spirit with a new beginning of prominence. In a ministry context, this would correspond with the difficulties of laboring in the difficult behind the scenes work of leadership with much problem solving that results in long hours, frustrations and set backs including rejection because of misunderstanding by those you work with.
3. Third, David must continue in his servant spirit as “king” of Judah without any disappointment in the delay of some dimensions of being “king” and the release of some authority yet only partial fulfillment of his earthly promises. This led to the disappointment of his team, who felt they had waited long enough and thus wanted more at this time. (Judah was only 1/12 of his full destiny to rule all twelve tribes of Israel). David was not disappointed because his identity identify and servant spirit continues through the early preparation. This is the season in which we walk in the beginning of our life calling and destiny. **Leadership Lesson:** focusing on developing deeper love and humility before God.

- E. **Jerusalem/Zion** (2 Sam. 6-24; age: from 37-70 years old) – David's identity tested in the season when he experienced the fulfillment of his earthly promises and prosperity. The anointing of power and authority to conquer God's enemies without losing his primary identity or his servant spirit (meekness). In a ministry context, this corresponds with power ministry in the public arena. This is the anointing most focus on. This is the season in which we walk in our full destiny or purpose of God in this age. Individually, we have promises, as we do corporately. The season of Zion in all its fullness was not trouble-free for David. Many have fantasies about this season. Paul had many more troubles as his ministry matured and grew in power (2 Cor. 11-12). The same was true of David, who had many difficulties in this season. No season is trouble-free on this earth. David remained faithful in small things with a servant spirit and Asaph a fellow-psalmist in David's choir (1 Chr. 6:39) spoke of David's integrity of heart (Ps. 78:72). David also maintained his teachable servant spirit and was restrained in victory. He was humble before God and man. He was easy to correct. This carried over in his attitude toward his enemies (2 Samuel 16). David continued to proclaim God's word publicly in his days in Jerusalem (Ps. 40:9-10). **Leadership Lesson:** God is looking for leaders like David who possess a teachable servant spirit.

IX. GOD'S TRAINING STRATEGY FOR DAVID PRODUCED INTIMACY AND MEEKNESS

- A. David knew God put him in place thus he had no strife to keep his role and he knew why God did it. It was not for David's sake, but for Israel's sake.
David knew that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He (God) had exalted His (God's) kingdom for the sake of His (God's) people Israel. (2 Sam. 5:12)
- B. David's spiritual identity remained fixed on being loved and a lover of God as a ***passionate worshipper*** who longed to encounter and understand God's beauty (Ps 27:4; 18:1; 31:23; 36:8; 145:5) and wonder (Ps. 19; 36; 145). David was first and foremost a worshipper.
One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD....(Ps. 27:4)
The LORD said to my father David, Whereas it was in your heart to build a temple for My name, you did well in that it was in your heart. (2 Chr. 6:8)
- C. The success of God's training of David is seen in him maintaining his spiritual identity as being loved and a lover of God as a ***passionate worshipper*** (Ps 27:4; 18:1; 31:23; 36:8; 145:5) and wonder (Ps. 19; 36; 145). David was always first and foremost a worshipper even as king.
One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD....(Ps. 27:4)
LORD, remember David....2 How he swore to the LORD, and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob: 3 Surely I will not go into the chamber of my house, or go up to the comfort of my bed; 4 I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids, 5 UNTIL I find a place for the LORD, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob. (Ps. 132:1-5)

The LORD said to my father David, Whereas it was in your heart to build a temple for My name, you did well in that it was in your heart. (2 Chr. 6:8)

- D. David's spiritual identity remained fixed on being loved and a lover of God as he saw himself as raised up, anointed and as a worshiper. This is David's confession, much like John's in Jn. 21:20.

These are the last words of David. Thus says David the son of Jesse; Thus says the man raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel: (2 Sam. 23:1)

- E. David finished his course in the same spirit that he started it, yet with much more maturity. God evaluated David in the same way, ***before and after his life*** was over (1,000 years later in Acts 13). Even in his weakness, he was esteemed by God as "one who did all of God's will."

He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David...a man after My own heart, who will do all My will. (Acts 13:22)

David after he had served the PURPOSE OF GOD in his own generation, fell asleep...(NAS)