

An Interactive Biblical Discipleship Program
Equipping Believers to
ENCOUNTER THE POWER, PRESENCE, AND LOVE OF GOD

ENCOUNTER

DISCIPLESHIP

Naturally living the supernatural

**LEADER'S
GUIDE**

Encounter Discipleship **Leader's Guide**

Class Overview:

Encounter Discipleship is a spiritual formation group study with practical exercises designed to equip believers to grow in spiritual depth, develop an intimate relationship with the Lord, and become activated in their faith, gifts, and calling.

The Leader's role:

Your role as a leader is to facilitate this spiritual formation with the help, guidance, and power of the Holy Spirit. As a leader, you will teach, encourage, facilitate, and provide an opportunity for the Holy Spirit to do His work. Transformation and encounters in the power, presence, and love of God come only from the Holy Spirit. The good news is that as we are faithful to act in obedience, the Holy Spirit is always faithful to show up and touch people! That is what the Lord loves to do!

- Pray fervently for your students, the class, and yourself daily.
- Consider fasting (or partial fasting) on teaching days, and encourage your class to do the same (eg. Skipping breakfast, or giving up coffee, etc.) This creates an awareness of class time as being set-apart and special.
- Share your spiritual journey and testimonies of God working in your life.
- Allow the students to self-discover truth. Never force or prove.
- Maintain a spirit of humility; it's okay to answer questions with "I don't know."
- Continually encourage the students in all their efforts, not only in their successes.
- Create a safe environment for the students to share and practice.

Setup essentials:

- Have at least one Spirit-led support person. They will assist you in facilitation, teaching as you defer to them, ministry time, reading, opening in prayer, taking notes on what students share in testimony time, etc.
- Have music available to be played during the "worship" portion of class and during quiet exercises/meditation time—preferably an iPod or CD with pre-arranged music.
- Have chairs arranged in a semi-circle if class size allows. This gives students eye contact with each other as well as the teacher.
- An ideal class size would range from 6-20 students. More than this puts time constraints on sharing time and practical exercises. We found 12-15 students seems to work best.
- Have a definite start and end time inclusive of 2.5 hours. Be mindful of starting on time and ending on time. This is a class and more practice is meant to be done at home. Holy Spirit-led discipleship practice must become part of the disciple's real-time life outside of class.
- Have boxes of tissue available in the room.

Tips:

- Include your personal testimonies during the lesson wherever appropriate. Testimonies are a very important part of this class!
- Be yourself. Have fun. The students are here to learn from *you*.
- Be sensitive and aware of the leading of the Holy Spirit as you teach. He will often bring a testimony or encouraging word to your mind.

Other details:

- We would love to have a record your student's testimonies. Please email them to jarred@encounterdiscipleship.com. Let us know if the student wishes to remain anonymous. "I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done" Psalm 9:1.
- A two-page promotional class flyer is available on the *Teacher's Resources* page located on the website at www.encounterdiscipleship.com/teachers-resources/
- The password is: *encountergod*
- During the first class have a sign in sheet and verify each student's first and last name, phone number and email. You will want to send out midweek reminders, encouraging words, and a follow-up email after Week 8 to gather feedback and testimonies.

Week 1: Biblical Discipleship



Goals For This First Week:

- Establish the purpose and goals of this class;
- Introduce yourself as the Leader/Teacher through personal testimony;
- Define and teach on biblical discipleship;
- Foster an atmosphere of surrendering and being open to encountering the Lord in new and different ways.

Overview:

This generation is searching for God. They want to know Him in a personal way. There is an increasing draw to spiritual exploration. Many—even long-time Christians—are searching for a personal relationship with the Lord. For them it is not as much about religion as it is about relationship with their God. They desire to hear His voice and know Him like a friend.

This week's lesson starts out by establishing the necessity of spiritual formation. Next, true biblical discipleship is defined and taught. What is biblical discipleship? It is becoming like the Master. It is Christ-like transformation as we develop a personal relationship with Him, lean to hear His voice, and obediently do the works He commissioned by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Details:

This week is a time for the students to get familiar with the leader, the manual, the format, and other students.

Begin with an overview of the course including reading prior student testimonies. Explain format of the class time & manual, then teach the first lesson. Follow with worship time and “surrender exercise” while the leaders anoint and bless/pray over each student; include any special messages from the Lord you have received. End with the homework assignment (found in the student workbook), closing prayer, and dismissal. Offer optional social time after class if time permits.

This type of class may be unfamiliar to some students. This is a great time to make all students feel welcome, relaxed, and expectant. During this first week help to establish an atmosphere of transparency (with your testimony) and encourage the students to practice hearing God and operating in the gifts—even if they don't get it “right.” We will never fine-tune our gifts without practice and permission to make mistakes.



6:30 – 8:45 Suggested Timeline

- 6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
- 6:35 Class overview
- 6:40 Read select testimonies from prior students
- 6:45 Leader/student introductions
- 7:00 Leader's testimony (15-20 min.)
- 7:20 Manual overview
- 7:30 Teaching
- 8:00 Worship
- 8:10 Surrender exercise
- 8:30 Hot seat prayer ministry
- 8:45 Close in prayer. Dismiss when done and/or allow social time



Class Details

[This first list of details is longer than in the following weeks so that some of the terms can be defined. Only details specific to the particular week will be used in subsequent *Class Details*.]

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Class overview: Build anticipation and summarize what students should expect. Include the overview points below:

Overview:
 - Purpose of this class is to encounter the power, presence, & love of God.
 - Meant to be fun! Enjoy, laugh, & step out in faith.
 - Expectation is key! Expect to encounter God!
 - Participate and step out of your comfort zone. That is where God usually works. Practice. Step out. No foolish answers or tries.
3. Prior testimonies: Read a few select testimonies of prior students to build expectancy for what they will experience in this class (see Appendix E for testimonies).
4. Introductions: Go around the room and have each student give their name and one thing they hope to receive from God during the next 8 weeks.
5. Leader's spiritual testimony: After the last introduction, give your testimony. Your testimony helps the students "buy into you" as the Leader and Teacher. As you prepare for this, think about what has brought you to this moment, wanting to teach this group how to grow closer to God. Your testimony should be focused on your spiritual journey as it relates to growing in relationship with the Lord. Allow approximately 15-20 minutes.

6. Student manual overview: It is easiest to start by reviewing the *Table of Contents* to give the students an understanding of the class content. Mention the *personal journal* section in the back and go to that page and read about its purpose (the purpose/instructions are written in the student manual).

Next, give a general overview of what to expect in class (class format) and out of class (homework, practical exercises, etc). You can read this out loud as the students follow along in the student manual. This information can be found in the *Overview* section above.

Summarize at the end of the overview for emphasis, telling your students:

- Homework and practical exercises are important. You will get out of the class what you put into it.
- Please don't read ahead. Stay with the class in reading and assignments.
- We won't cover all the teaching material in the manual. It is included for reference. Please read as homework what was not covered in class.

7. Teaching: Week 1 – Biblical Discipleship

All the teaching material and limited Scripture reference are in the student manual. The Leader should read through the information one week at a time, at least twice before teaching each week, and then lead from his/her own student manual.

1. The first time reading through is for familiarity and personal study.
2. The second time is to determine what parts you want to teach aloud (highlight those parts), and to prepare/add personal examples and stories of your own as comparable experiences supporting the teaching material and making it relevant to your students. This is a good opportunity to use your assistant leader who may have stories of his/her own to add. There is also a section in the teaching that calls for *Group Examples* in which discussion can be opened for the group to share their applicable stories. Personal testimony is very powerful in teaching because most people remember stories better than teaching points. This is why Jesus often used parables.

8. Worship: Worship is an integral part to this discipleship class. Based upon available time, worship should be between 10-15 minutes. Worship time almost always precedes the *In-Class Exercise* because it not only ushers in a certain presence of God, it also calms our own spirits to better listen to the Holy Spirit. You can use live or recorded music. We can help with music selection.

Week One: Provide 10 minutes of group worship to sing-along with, and then 20 more minutes of softer worship for the students to have personal time with the Lord as the leaders anoint with oil and pray over each student for a quick 1-2 minutes each.

9. Surrender exercise specifics: Before worship begins, announce something like this: "This particular worship time is focused on surrendering your life to God and being open to what He has for you. This exercise is about letting go of any preconceived ideology or religious

traditions and being open to an encounter with the Holy Spirit who will lead you into all truth. The leaders will come around to anoint you and pray over you.”

After 5-10 minutes of worship there will be a smooth transition into this ministry time when the leader and ministry assistant(s) will pray over each of the students. Pray something like this as you touch each student: “Heavenly Father, I ask you to help [student name] to encounter you in a new and fresh way. Open his/her ears to be open to hear you, Lord; Open his/her eyes to see what the Holy Spirit would show them; cause his/her heart and mind to be receptive to what you have for him/her. Fill him/her with more of the Holy Spirit.”

Speak any words of knowledge or prophetic encouragement that the Lord would give as you minister. Use your own words; be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and also to the time. You could have your assistant anoint while you pray. Depending on your class size, you will have about one minute to pray over each student.

10. Hot seat ministry: The hot seat ministry is where one or two students are chosen and placed in a seat in the middle of the room (ask the Lord to highlight which students He wants for that particular night). Then all the other students (ask for full participation) gather around them and begin praying for the person in the seat. Prayers can be for blessings and whatever the Holy Spirit highlights. This *hot seat ministry* time is where you want to begin encouraging your students to speak out what the Holy Spirit is showing them. It may be a picture, thought, Scripture verse, etc. The goal is to have the students begin to expect to hear from the Lord and to minister to others. (This is what Jesus did.)

Pray for one student at a time. Time may permit for 1 or 2 students. Calling on married couples as a pair is typically best. Try to schedule so that each student will be in the hot seat once between weeks 1-7. Week 8 will be impartation where each student will receive individual prayer and therefore there will be no hot seat ministry.

11. Close: Close in prayer and remind them of their out-of-class assignments found at the end of the teaching in the student manual.

Week 2: Hearing God's Voice in the Context of Journaling



Overview:

While Jesus was on earth He did nothing by Himself, but only what He saw the Father doing. Likewise, Jesus trained His disciples to listen and depend on Him and the Holy Spirit to teach them all things. Jesus said, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." Hearing God's voice is not only a privilege given to every believer, but it is the fundamental basis of our Christian walk. We are to listen to and obey the Lord's voice. Yet, it seems that many Christians don't fully recognize when God speaks. This lesson will help train believers to discern the voice of the Lord. This is demonstrated through a practical exercise in *journaling with God*.

Details:

This week starts off by asking for testimonies from the past week. Specifically, "Did anyone experience a new sense of surrender to the Holy Spirit working in your life or through you?" Discuss the Walter Beuttler reading assignment. Ask the students to share their most helpful insights and dialogue with them. There is extra time built in to this week so there is ample opportunity for the journaling exercise.

In the teaching this week under the heading "What does God's voice sound like?" Stop at the bullet point: "Demonstration of Spiritual Senses (see/hear)" and use the in-class practical exercise listed in the *Class Details* below (demonstrating God speaking through inner audible voice and pictures in our head).

Goals:

- Foster a hunger for an intimate relationship with God through testimony time and the Walter Beuttler reading review;
- Establish a simple biblical basis for the necessity of hearing God's voice;
- Demonstrate how our spiritual senses are used to hear God;
- Teach ways to discern when it is God speaking;
- Practically apply the teaching through journaling using a model from Habakkuk.



6:30 – 8:30 Suggested Timeline

- 6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
- 6:35 Class Testimonies
- 6:45 Review insights from Ch. 1-5 reading assignment; go over homework questions.
- 7:00 Lesson: Hearing God's Voice through journaling (including mid-lesson exercise not written in the student manual under "What does God's voice sound like?").
- 7:30 Worship (10-15 minutes + 15 more for journal exercise)
- 7:45 In-Class Exercise: Instruct, listen, journal (15 min.)
- 8:00 Volunteers share journaling
- 8:20 Hot seat ministry
- 8:30 Close in prayer



Class Details

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Testimonies: “Anyone experience a new sense of surrender to the Holy Spirit working in your life or through you?” Give students an opportunity to share ways they may have encountered God this week. (Hear His voice, have a dream or vision, minister to another person, encounter His presence, etc.).
3. Review homework reading: Begin by letting the students share their helpful and meaningful insights from the Walter Beuttler reading (Chapters 1-5). Since this is the first homework assignment, the Leader may need to get the ball rolling with his/her answers and insights. Try to encourage others to speak up first.
4. Teaching: Week 2 – Hearing God’s Voice in the Context of Journaling (Teach from Student text). On the second page of Week 2 under “What does God sound like?” stop at the 4th bullet point—*Demonstration of spiritual senses (see/hear)*. Have the students close their eyes.

Leader says: “Close your eyes. Picture your kitchen. Look around. Do you see your refrigerator? Sink? The color of your countertops? Now keep your eyes closed and in your mind, say your first and last name.” This is often what hearing God looks and sounds like. God speaks from His Spirit to our spirit and we interpret it through our spiritual and sometimes natural senses.

Don’t open this up for further discussion right now. After the journaling exercise, this concept becomes clearer as the student hears from the Lord. Next week will explore more ways to hear from the Lord.

5. Worship: Group worship for 10-15 minutes, then instruct for the journaling exercise while continuing music.
6. In Class Exercise: Instruct, listen, journal. After worship there will be a smooth transition into this journaling exercise. Ask the students to remain in an attitude of worship. Have them turn to the *In Class Exercise* as you give them instructions: “Quiet yourself, fix your eyes on Jesus, tune to spontaneity, and write.” Instruct them to ask the Lord one of the two listed questions, then turn the page and begin journaling. Give them about 5-10 minutes to journal (watch to see when students are finished). Give a two-minute warning telling them it’s time to finish up. Play instrumental music (or no music). Ask for volunteers to read their journal. Encourage them. If there are no volunteers you can choose to read yours. This will help encourage others to step forward and share. Tell them as part of their homework to do this two more times this week.
7. Hot seat ministry: One or two students as time permits. Ask the Holy Spirit who should be chosen.
8. Close: Close in prayer and remind them of their out-of-class assignments. This week’s assignment is to read Walter Beuttler chapters 6-10 and set aside time to journal with the Lord twice.

Week 3: Hearing God's Voice: Various Ways



Overview:

“For God may speak in one way, or in another, yet man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night...” Job 33:14,16. God is continually speaking to His children, but often we do not perceive or recognize His voice. This lesson will explore seven common ways the Lord is speaking to us to foster an expectancy to hear His voice in new ways.

Details:

This week starts off by asking for testimonies from the past week and reviewing the journaling homework. Have one or two students volunteer to read their journals. Then ask the students to share their most helpful insights from Ch 6-10 of the Walter Beuttler reading assignment. Dialogue and encourage them.

Prepare for this week's practical exercise by providing slips paper on which each student can write his or her name. Details for this *In-Class exercise* are below.

Goals:

- Increase student's perception of the ways God speaks
- Increase student's expectancy to hear God's voice
- Practice listening to God



6:30 – 8:40 Suggested Timeline

6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
6:35 Testimonies & journaling homework
6:45 Review insights from Ch. 6-10 reading assignment
7:00 Lesson: Hearing God's Voice: Various Ways
7:40 Worship
7:55 Class exercise in hearing God (30 min.)
8:25 Hot seat ministry
8:40 Close in prayer



Class Details

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Testimonies: Give students an opportunity to share ways they may have encountered God this week. Then review journaling homework and give one or two students a chance to read their journal.

3. Review homework reading: Begin by letting the students share their helpful and meaningful insights from the Walter Beuttler reading (Chapters 5-10). Facilitate the discussion by encouraging the students.
4. Teaching: Week 3 – Hearing God’s Voice: Various Ways
5. Worship: Worship as time permits for 10-15 minutes.
6. In-class exercise: Practice hearing God speak: Tell the students we will have a fun practical exercise where we will practice hearing the Lord speak. Pass out small slips of paper to each student. Have them write their name and fold it in half. Collect the names and mix them up. Redistribute them to the students instructing them *NOT to look* and hold the paper between their hands. This is very important. Tell them we are going to ask the Lord to give us a word, picture, vision, or Scripture for the person’s whose name is on paper we are holding. Pray a short corporate prayer. Go around in a circle taking turns sharing what the Lord has revealed. After one person shares, have that person open the paper to reveal the name. Let the named person give a very brief response as to if and how that encouraged them. Encourage the students as they step out in faith.
7. Hot seat ministry: One or two students as time permits. Ask the Holy Spirit who should be chosen.
8. Close: Close in prayer and remind them of their out-of-class assignments. This is to read chapters 11-15 and record three different ways the Lord speaks to them during the week.

Week 4: The Power of Prayer



Overview:

The Power of Prayer lesson explores five ways to encounter God through prayer. It is purposed to refresh, enliven, and build an increased desire for prayer in the student's daily walk. The prayer of faith, intercession, prayer in the secret place, unceasing prayer, and meditative scriptural prayer are taught about and practiced.

Details:

This class begins by having select students volunteer to testify of the ways in which God communicated with them this past week. Encourage them and add to the discussion. Then the reading homework is discussed. Next the lesson is taught. **This is a longer lesson so a timely start is important.** During this lesson the students will practice the meditative Scripture prayer (*lectio divina*). After worship the students will practice the prayer of faith and intercession. Then hot seat prayer ministry will follow.

Goals:

- Increase awareness of different types of prayer
- Provide a scriptural basis for these prayers
- Engage the students in practice



6:30 – 8:30 Suggested Timeline

- 6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
- 6:35 Testimonies of ways God spoke (homework)
- 6:45 Review insights from Ch. 11-15 reading assignment
- 7:00 Lesson: Encountering God Through Prayer
- 7:40 Worship
- 7:55 In-class prayer exercises
- 8:15 Hot seat ministry
- 8:40 Close in prayer



Class Details

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Testimonies: Give students an opportunity to share ways God has communicated with them this week. This was part of the homework assignment. Encourage the students as they share.
3. Review homework reading: Begin by letting the students share their helpful and meaningful insights from the Walter Beuttler reading (Chapters 11-15). Facilitate the discussion by encouraging the students.

4. Teaching: Week 4 – The Power of Prayer. Meditative scriptural prayer (*lectio divina*) will be practiced during the teaching lesson. After worship the other methods of prayer will be practiced.
5. Worship: Worship as time permits for 10-15 minutes.
6. In-class exercise: Prayer of Faith & Intercession: After worship, two prayers will be practiced in class. The first is the **prayer of intercession**. After worship instruct them to remain in an attitude of worship. Tell them we are going to practice the prayer of intercession and ask God to bring someone to their mind. God may show them a picture of a person's face, they may hear or see a name. Have them take 3-5 minutes to intercede for that person. Have one or two students share how they received revelation from God for whom to pray over.

Next practice the **prayer of faith**. Have the people break up into pairs (women with women/men with men as much as possible). Have them take turns. Have one student tell of a specific prayer request where faith is needed. The other will pray in faith for this request at that very moment. Then repeat with the other student. This really stretches students who have never prayed aloud for another person before. After the prayer is over, tell them you expect them to be sharing how these prayers were answered before *Encounter Discipleship* is over.

7. Hot seat ministry: One or two students as time permits. Ask the Holy Spirit who should be chosen.
8. Close: Close in prayer and remind them of their out-of-class assignments. This includes reading Brother Lawrence's "*The Practice of the Presence of God.*"

Week 5: Encountering God Through Worship



Overview:

Worship is so much more than a Sunday morning activity. Worship is an unceasing act that flows from each and every person. Our lives are an act of worship—what we say, do, and think.

Praise and worship are also expressed through singing, playing musical instruments, or even a silent heart attitude or posture towards God. Worship is an essential personal *lifeline* in which we connect with the Almighty God. In worship we express our love and surrendered life to our King and in return He graces us with His transforming presence.

Details:

This class begins by asking students for testimonies from the prior week. Then time is taken to discuss the assigned reading—*Practicing the Presence of God*. It may be best to start out this facilitation by reading a small passage that was insightful to you as the leader. Then encourage others to share. If certain participants are quieter, you may try and engage them by asking what they found insightful in the reading. As a facilitator the goal is to foster meaningful conversation from the reading. Next, the lesson is taught. After the lesson comes the practical exercise of praise-worship-prostrate. Below is a more detailed description of this time. Communion may be taking during worship.

Goals:

- To help students understand the difference between praise and worship.
- Develop an understanding for the need of private worship time.
- To provide and practice a model to help the students praise, worship, and wait in God's presence.



6:30 – 8:30 Suggested Timeline

- 6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
- 6:35 Testimonies
- 6:45 Review insights from *Practicing the Presence of God*
- 7:00 Lesson: Encountering God Through Worship
- 7:30 Explain the practical exercise of praise-worship-prostrate (wait on God)
- 7:35 Practice Praise, worship, and prostrate before God (including communion)
- 8:15 Hot seat ministry
- 8:30 Close in prayer



Class Details

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Testimonies: Give students an opportunity to share ways they may have encountered God this week.
3. Review homework reading: Begin by facilitating the students in sharing their helpful and meaningful insights from the *Practicing the Presence of God* reading assignment. Be prepared to share a passage you found insightful to get the discussion started.
4. Teaching: Week 5 – Encounter God Through Worship (see notes in the chapter)
5. Explain the exercise: A few minutes should be taken to explain the process of praise-worship-prostrate. The students should be encouraged to fully participate. As a leader you should be prepared to set the example.
6. Worship/In-class exercise: Praise-Worship-Prostrate: (40 minutes) This exercise is a model that helps students to personally praise, worship, and encounter God's presence. It starts out by having corporate praise. Choose two or three praise songs that give praise directly to the Lord and facilitate a fun atmosphere (5-10 min). God inhabits the praises of His people. After praising, begin worshipping as the Spirit of worship fills the room (God's presence). Plan on 2-4 worship songs (15-20 min.). Communion may be best administered after the first worship song. [A good communion reading starts at 1 Cor. 11:23.] After worship, move into a time of prostrating (laying flat on the ground) or kneeling if the student is unable to get into a prostrating posture. Soft instrumental or worship music could be played on low volume. Wait upon God in this position for 5-10 minutes as time allows. Be aware of what is happening in the room while everyone is waiting on the Lord. [There have been times the Leader in our classes have seen Jesus walking around the room touching each person on the head. Others in the room then confirm they thought they sensed that too. It's a great way to confirm what other may be sensing/seeing for the first time in their spiritual journeys.] Then tell the students to stay in an attitude of worship as they return to their seats. Give them opportunity to share with the class what the Lord has shared with them while waiting upon Him. It may be personal or for the group's edification; a vision, picture, Scripture, word of encouragement, prophetic word, etc. As a leader you may need to open the sharing. Give time for other students to speak up. The close in prayer thanking the Lord for what He has done.
7. Hot seat ministry: One or two students as time permits. Ask the Holy Spirit who should be chosen.
8. Close: Close in prayer and remind them of their out-of-class assignments.

Week 6: Words of Knowledge



Overview:

Included in the nine spiritual gifts are the gifts of *words of knowledge* and *prophecy*. These gifts are given to God's people for the common good. They build up the church by strengthening, encouraging, and comforting believers. These gifts are not for the special elect, but for all believers. Paul says, "For you can all prophecy (1 Cor 14:31). Words of knowledge can also be a great evangelistic tool. This is seen in the biblical account of John 4 with Jesus and the woman at the well. His word of knowledge broke down her defenses, opened her heart to the truth, and caused many others who heard the woman's testimony to believe in His love.

Details:

This is a long lesson so starting on time and keeping control of testimony time will be helpful. After opening prayer ask for testimonies. Try to keep them in line with class related topics (hearing from God, worship, prayer, intimacy with the Lord, words of knowledge, etc.). Steer the discussion back to previous teachings, readings (Walter Beuttler), and in-class exercises. After testimonies, discuss the homework exercise of praise, worship, and prostrating.

Try to keep this teaching to an hour or less. Be sure to include many personal stories of giving and receiving prophetic words and words of knowledge. You may want to collaborate with your co-leader to make note of when to tell the testimonies. Your students are learning from you as a leader as much as they are learning from the material. You may need to skip some of the latter content. If you do, make sure to end with the last page on *activation*. Then go into a time of worship. Two songs may work well. Then the practical exercise and hot seat follows. The practical exercise is described in greater detail below.

Goals:

- Set a basic biblical understanding of the gifts of the spirit from 1 Cor. 12.
- Define, explain, & differentiate *words of knowledge* and *prophecy*.
- Instruct on how to receive and give a word of knowledge.
- Activate the students in practical application.



6:30 – 8:55 Suggested Timeline

- 6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
- 6:35 Testimonies
- 6:45 Discuss homework: Reading and the out-of-class worship exercise
- 7:00 Lesson: Words of Knowledge
- 8:00 Worship
- 8:10 Exercise: Practice Words of Knowledge and prophetic
- 8:40 Hot seat ministry (Only if time permits)
- 8:55 Go over homework assignment & close in prayer



Class Details

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Testimonies: Give students an opportunity to share ways they may have encountered God this week. Ask how their time in personal praise and worship went. Facilitate discussion that testifies of spiritual growth.
3. Teaching: Week 6 – Words of Knowledge (see notes in the chapter)
4. Worship: Depending on time, worship should be 5-10 minutes in length. Allow enough time for both the practical exercise (about 30 minutes for 10 students) and the hot seat exercise.
5. In-class exercise: Words of Knowledge: Encourage the students by telling them that this will be a fun exercise. This is a safe place to practice. It is alright to step out in faith, have fun, and even get it wrong. For this exercise, pair the students in groups of two. Men with men and women with women. For best results pair them with people they don't know very well. Start with instructions:

“Each pair will have a total of six minutes to give words of knowledge over each other—3 minutes each. The Lord may communicate in the form of a picture, an impression, feeling, etc. Don't over-think it. Speak what first comes to your mind.” Then choose who will start. You can say something like, “The taller person will give the word first.” Pray a quick corporate prayer for the Holy Spirit to open the student's ears and eyes and give them words for one another. After the first three minutes is up, go around the room to each group to share. *First* ask if the word meant anything to the recipient. Let them explain. *Then* interview the person who delivered the word of knowledge. Ask them how they received the word (picture, vision, impression, words). Ask them if this is something they regularly operate in. Encourage them. Then repeat the process. Give 3 minutes for the other person give a word or knowledge. Then repeat the interview process. Close in prayer and thank the Lord for this time of ministry.

6. Hot seat ministry: One or two students as time permits. Ask the Holy Spirit who should be chosen. (If time permits)
7. Close: Close in prayer and remind them of their out-of-class assignments:
 1. Explain how to watch the video homework:
Go to encounterdiscipleship.com/class-resources and click on the Week Six video icon. It will take you to YouTube to watch a 50-minute teaching by John Wimber on the 5-step healing model. This will prepare the students for next week's lesson and allow more time of practicing praying over one another.
 2. Instruct the students to be intentional and aware of God speaking to you in order to give a word of knowledge this week to at least two people.

Week 7: Healing the Sick



Overview:

It is in the nature of the God to heal, and healing has been provided to us through Jesus Christ and His completed work on the cross. Not only is it the Lord's desire to heal, but also He has commissioned each and every believer to pray for the sick. Though there are no specific models to heal this sick (Jesus and the disciples used various methods) in the Word, we will teach a model that serves as a helpful template as we learn to pray for healing. Additionally, there can often be root causes that need to be dealt with for the fullness of healing to manifest. We will cover some of these including unforgiveness, afflicting spirits, generational issues, etc. Praying for divine healing is a process dependent upon listening to the Holy Spirit.

Details:

This is a very full lesson. A timely start is helpful. First review the practical homework exercise of words of knowledge/prophesy. It may be helpful to start with your own example. Encourage others to speak even if it is only a prophetic word of encouragement, etc. If you have time you could ask for one or two general testimonies. Then remind them of the journal they are keeping in the back of the book and how they will have a chance to use some of it as they share on Week 8. Expect the teaching lesson to take 45 minutes. Then allow enough time for the practical exercise and worship. Worship may be only one or two songs. It is not necessary to have *hot seat ministry* tonight because essentially that will be done through the in-class practical exercise.

Goals:

- Set a basic biblical basis for divine healing
- To establish that all Christians are commissioned to heal the sick
- To introduce a helpful 4-step healing model
- To activate individuals in practicing this pray model



6:30 – 8:45 Suggested Timeline

6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
6:45 Discuss practical homework: Words of knowledge / prophecy
6:50 Testimonies as time permits
6:55 Lesson: Words of Knowledge
7:40 Worship
7:50 Exercise: Practice the 4-step healing prayer model
8:25 Hot seat ministry (optional)
8:45 Close in prayer



Class Details

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Review Practical Exercise: Give students an opportunity to share any words of knowledge or prophetic words they were able to give this past week. The leader may have to start. Encourage them to speak even if it was a slight word or simply prophetic encouragement. If there is time you can ask for a few general testimonies.
3. Teaching: Week 7 – Healing the Sick (45min-1 hour)
4. Worship: Depending on time, worship should be 5-10 minutes in length. One or two songs may be all time allows.
5. In-class exercise: 4-step healing model: After a time of worship encourage the group to stay in the attitude of worship. Ask who in the room (by a raising their hand) has a physical condition, sickness, or ailment that can be readily checked or measured for healing. We are looking to find people who we can pray for that can measure a decrease in pain, etc. after being prayed for (back problems, hearing, etc.). Try to group each person needing healing with 2-3 ministers who will use the healing prayer model. If you are able, use the PowerPoint to show the 4-step model summary. Have one person to start the interview process and another to lead the prayer ministry. During prayer have them periodically check for improvement. As they notice improvement, have them ask what percentage they have been healed (0% none at all to 100% fully healed). When their healing is 80% or more have that group clap five times to give God thanks and praise and indicate to the others in the room that God is healing someone. Continue to pray as time permits or until 80-100% healing manifests. After the exercise is done have groups share and testify.
6. Hot seat ministry: This is optional tonight because of the healing prayer ministry time.
7. Close: Close in prayer and remind them of their out-of-class assignments. They are to pray for at least 2 sick or hurting people this week while discreetly using the 4-step prayer model. Also remind them to prepare to give a brief 2-3 minute presentation on Week 8 as described in the homework section.

Week 8: Impartation / Destiny



Overview:

The purpose of this week is to reveal the Father's heart of purpose and destiny for his children in both Kingdom work and relationship. This includes commissioning the students to go forth and make disciples. Week 8 has a shorter teaching with more sharing and ministry time. The students will each have opportunity to share from their Week 7 homework assignment.

Important: The leaders should prepare in advance for this closing night by asking the Lord for prophetic words and/or impartations for each student. Start praying for these words from the Lord several days early. Then write the words on slips of paper as the Lord gives them. This way you can read the word to the students then give them the paper for future reference.

Details:

This class will open by asking for healing testimonies from the previous week. Ask students to share their experience with praying for the sick even if the person was not healed. Next, is a time for students to share how God has encountered them these past two months. When finished, pass out the certificates of completion. The template to print the certificates can be found at www.encounterdiscipleship.com/teachers-resources. A small time of teaching will be next, follow by a transition into a time of worship. After worship will be time of impartation. A short personal impartation testimony may help set the atmosphere of faith and expectancy. Then continue with worship music as the leaders go around the room and minister by anointing with oil, laying on of hands, prophesying, and praying for impartation as the Holy Spirit leads.

Goals:

- To establish basic biblical basis for our role as believers to make disciples
- To introduce and explain the different types of impartation
- To pray over the students and give opportunity for the Holy Spirit to touch, impart, and use the leaders to speak prophetically over each student.



6:30 – 9:00 Suggested Timeline

- 6:30 Welcome & opening prayer
- 6:35 Discuss homework exercise: praying for the sick
- 6:45 Have each student present their 2-3-minute testimony based on Week 7's homework.
- 7:30 Lesson: Impartation & Destiny
- 7:45 Worship
- 8:00 Minister to the students: impartation, prayer, and prophecy.
- 9:00 Close in prayer



Class Details

1. Welcome: Welcome students and open in prayer
2. Discuss Homework: Give students an opportunity to share their experience with praying for the sick. Give them encouragement.
3. End-of-class testimony: Allow about thirty minutes for this exercise. Go around the room in order asking each student to share for 2-3 minutes from their Week 7's homework assignment. They were to prepare a 2-3 minute response to one of three questions. If they did not prepare for this, simply ask them to share how this class has helped them to deepen their relationship with the Lord. They can add a testimony or share select parts of their personal journal from the back of the manual. When finished, pass out the certificates of completion. If possible, use a phone to record this testimony time. The testimonies can be transcribed and submitted on the website. (15 students X 3 min.=45 min.)
4. Teaching: Week 8 – Making Disciples / Impartation. Do not attempt to teach all the material. Read through the manual and highlight certain sections that the Holy Spirit places on your heart. Keep this teaching to 15 minutes max.
5. Worship: Depending on time, worship should be begin with 5-10 minutes of group praise/worship and then continue through ministry time. Be aware that the impartation service following worship may take 4-5 minutes per student, easily lasting over an hour.
6. Impartation / Ministry time: During this impartation we are asking the Holy Spirit to come and impart unto them the gifts, calling, and a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. The leader should be sensitive to the Holy Spirit while ministering. If the Holy Spirit does not lead to pray for impartation, then a blessing may be appropriate.

It is best to prepare for this service several days in advance. Pray in detail over each student and ask the Lord to give you a prophetic word that would encourage, build-up, and edify them. Write down what the Lord tells you or shows you. It may come in a picture form. You can cut this into slips of paper so after you minister the word (read it), you can give it to them to keep. It may be helpful to have two to three other leaders prepare in the same way. Have the students space themselves out for privacy. Have worship music softly in the background. [In a typical class with 12-18 students, we would have the leader minister plus 1-3 additional co-leaders or guest ministers. Two leaders can start on one side of the room, while the others start on the other side. Be expectant for the Holy Spirit to flow through you. Remember to have breath mints. A catcher may also be helpful.

7. Close: Close in prayer or if it gets late the students may leave after they have been prayed for.
8. Send out a follow-up personalized email to each student 1-3 days after the completion of class. Encourage each student as the Holy Spirit directs. Also ask the students to email you a

testimony of how the class helped and touched them spiritually. Ask them to submit a copy of this testimony to our website at: www.encounterdiscipleship.com/my-testimony/.

Final thoughts:

I want to personally thank you for investing into the lives of your students. I know first-hand how much time and energy you have had to sacrifice in being obedient to the Great Commission—“making disciples of all nations” (Matt 28:19,20). I hope that you too were rewarded during this process. For me, hearing the student’s testimonies, experiences, and encounters with the Lord makes it all worthwhile. There is nothing like seeing student’s eyes, ears, and hearts open up to the Lord in new and wonderful ways.

One thing I have noticed is that there always seems to be a few select students in each class who truly experience a radical transformation. It is as if a light turns on in their heart and they begin to seek after God with abandon. This is the essence of this class. It is not merely to teach good theology doctrine, or even models, but to see lives that are forever changed by the transforming power, presence, and love of our Almighty God. For this purpose I take up my cross daily and act in obedience to His written and spoken words.

Please feel free to personally email me with any questions, comments, or testimonies. You can reach me at jarred@encounterdiscipleship.com

May God richly bless you with His awesome presence.

In His service,
Dr. Jarred Fenlason

“For it is not mere words that nourish the soul, but God Himself, and unless and until the hearers find God in personal experience they are not the better for having heard the truth. The Bible is not an end in itself, but a means to bring men to an intimate and satisfying knowledge of God, that they may enter into Him, that they may delight in His Presence, may taste and know the inner sweetness of the very God Himself in the core and center of their hearts.” A.W. Tozer