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2022 3Q In the Crucible with Christ—Lesson 7 **Indestructible Hope**

by Tim Jennings (announcement last page)

SABBATH

Read Memory Verse: "And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us" (Romans 5:5 NIV84).

What does this text mean to you?

What is hope?

- The feeling of positive expectation of something desired?
- Looking forward with desire and reasonable confidence?

What do you hope for? In what or whom to you place your hope?

As Christians, what are we to hope for?

Where are we to place our hope?

What does the memory verse about God's love and the Holy Spirit have to do with our hope?

Let's read the memory verse about hope in its larger context starting back in Romans chapter four verse 18 and going through chapter five verse eleven from *The Remedy:*

In the face of human opinion and conventional wisdom, Abraham placed his hope and trust in God and thus became the father of many ethnic groups, just as God told him: "Your descendants will be numerous." ¹⁹ Without doubting God for a moment, he accepted it in the reality that he was one hundred years old and his ability to procreate was severely limited, and Sarah had gone through menopause and was beyond child bearing years. ²⁰ Even though in human understanding the promise seemed hopeless, Abraham did not waver in his confidence in God, but praised God as he ²¹ realized that God was able to miraculously fulfill the promise. ²² This unwavering trust in God, in the face of scientific evidence to the contrary, was recognized as righteousness because this trust replaced distrust and opened Abraham's mind to receive the endowment of a new heart, right motives, and Christlike principles established by God's re-creative power. ²³ This record of his "trust being recognized as righteousness" is not written merely for Abraham, ²⁴ but for everyone who trusts in God. Everyone who trusts in the God who raised Jesus from the dead is recognized as righteous because through trust they receive the endowment of a perfect heart and have new motives created within, and their distrust of God disappears. ²⁵ Because our minds were infected by distrust of God, and our

condition was terminal, Jesus was given up to experience death in order to procure the Remedy. Having achieved God's purpose, he was raised to life, and now distributes this Remedy to completely restore us into perfect harmony with him.

5:1 Therefore, if our minds and hearts have been set right through trust, we are at peace with God through the Remedy achieved by our Lord Jesus Christ. ² It is through Jesus that we know the truth about God and are won back to trust, and thus open our minds to experience God's gracious healing power. Our joy is found in the hope of full restoration into beings possessing Godlike character. ³ Because of this, we rejoice in our trials and afflictions, for we know that trials bring to light our shortcomings and defects of character. 4 If we persevere, choosing God's methods, the defects are removed and character is purified, and pure character increases our hope for God's kingdom. ⁵ And our hope will not be disappointed, because God pours out his love into our hearts and thereby matures, ennobles, and restores us into his image by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given to us.

⁶ You see, at the exact moment it was needed—when we were infected with distrust, rebelling against God, and our condition was terminal-Christ died to restore trust and cure the terminally ill. ⁷ Very rarely will someone die for a healthy person, though this might sometimes happen; ⁸ but God the Father demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were dying and in rebellion against him, Christ died to restore trust and cure sinfulness in order to heal us and bring us back to unity with God.

⁹ Now that we have been won back to trust, cleansed in mind and set right with God by all that Christ accomplished at the cross, it is ridiculous to think that God would let us go! 10 For since—while we distrusted God and fought against him in every way—his Son died to win us back to trust and friendship with himself and to cure our rebellious hearts, how much more, having won us back to trust and friendship, will God heal all the damage caused to us while we were in rebellion against him! 11 And even better still, having experienced this healing of mind and heart, we are overjoyed because God, through Jesus, has made us his friends.

Read second paragraph, "In one of his books..." The lion in the book is supposed to represent Jesus, what do you think of this idea that Jesus "is not safe, but he is good"?

C.S. Lewis has written so many wonderful things and advanced the gospel to millions if not billions. I have personally been blessed by his writings and have grown in my own journey with God from reading what he has written.

So I want to ask, is there any way you can think of that it is true that Jesus is not safe? I couldn't think of one way this is true, to me this is a vestige idea from coming out of the Dark Ages understanding of God and God's law, the idea that God's law is imposed rules like humans make and need external enforcement. But perhaps I am not understanding what he means by this statement and so, can you think of some way in which Jesus is not safe?

If a person was dying of a terminal disease and there was the most compassionate a loving doctor who had a cure that worked 100% of the time for all who put themselves under the care of the doctor and followed the doctor's instructions, would anyone say of the doctor "he is not safe, but he is good"?

If a person with a terminal condition refused the doctor's treatment, does the doctor become their enemy? If a patient doesn't like the taste of the medicine so they cheat and throw the medicine, given by the doctor, away and substitute their own which tastes good to them—will the doctor use power to harm them? What happens? Can God save cheats?

Does the doctor use any active means to injure, harm, or kill the dying patient who refuses treatment or cheats?

From where does death from sin come? Does it come from God? Does the Bible teach that sin does not harm or cause death, that sin is only legal rule breaking for which God is required to harm and kill? Is God the source of death and all sinners could live eternally in sin if God could just get over His need to kill?

No, the Bible is clear, sin, which breaks God's design laws for life and severs our connection with God, who is the source of life, is the cause of death.

- The wages of sin is death Romans 6:23
- Sin when full grown brings forth death James 1:15
- Those who sow to the carnal nature from that nature reap destruction Galatians 6:8

So where does this idea come that Jesus is not safe but He is good? It comes from believing God's law is like human law, made up rules that require external enforcement and thus Jesus isn't safe because He will enforce the rules and punish the rule breakers, but He is good because He only punishes those who deserve it and will forgive those who ask.

But this view of God is Satan's, it makes God out to be authoritarian and sin to be legal, and safety is found only in external rule enforcement and inflicted punishments, which coerce and undermine freedom and destroy love and individuality. God wants our love, trust, loyalty, friendship and devotion and this can only be achieved by the methods of God, truth, love and freedom. Thus the Bible teaches "not by might, nor by power but by my Spirit says the Lord" Zech 4:6.

The Spirit works via truth and love in absolute freedom, gently, through persuasion, not coercion, because God wants to preserve and ennoble your individuality, not dominate and control you.

Read last paragraph, "Even though..." This is well said, except for the inference that God needs to be "safe." God is absolutely safe. God is the source of life, health, goodness, righteousness, holiness. In God there is no evil, no sin, no shadow of turning, no cruelty, no disease, no unkindness, no wickedness, no disloyalty, no untrustworthiness, no impatience, no foolishness, no ignorance, no immaturity. In God there is perfection of all things good, love, truth, liberty, kindness, patience, virtue, righteousness. God is 100% and absolutely safe at all times.

What is not safe is sin, rebellion, and disharmony with God and God's design laws for life. Sin is absolutely deadly; sin harms, sin hurts, sin injures, sin causes pain, suffering and death.

So erase completely anything in your heart, mind, and beliefs that suggests or infers in anyway that God is not safe. God is the only place of safety.

- If God is for us who can be against us (Romans 8:31)
- If you make the Most High your dwelling—even the LORD, who is my refuge—then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent (Psalms 91:9-10 NIV84).
- The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe (Proverbs 18:10 NIV84).
- Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me (Psalms 23:4 NIV84).

God is not the source of evil. God protects us from all evil. We only have safety with Jesus, with God. God is always safe.

But the idea that God is not safe and our desire to feel safe is one of the factors that leads to so much bad theology, teachings designed to hide us and protect us from God because we don't believe He is safe. Such things like needing someone between us and God to plead to God so God won't kill us, or to offer God a sacrifice of human blood to pay God off so God won't kill us, or to cover us with some blinder system, some robe or cosmic screen that causes the Father to see as righteousness when in reality we are unrighteous etc. etc. etc.

We must return to what Jesus taught that if we have seen Jesus we have seen the Father, they are One! And no one had to stand between Jesus and Judas to protect Judas from Jesus. Jesus revealed by acts and deeds, even forgiving His crucifiers, that God is not a threat to us, God is not a danger to us, God is not the source of pain and death. What is a threat is sin and Satan and everything that separates us from God, including ideas that we teach in the church that keep us hiding from God rather than running to Him like king David and praying "search me and see the wicked way in me create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me."

But the rest of this paragraph is excellent. Our human perspective is narrow, limited, and our infinite God who sees through time, who sees all the variables and cascading consequences of actions will do things that from our perspective may seem unpredictable and even not make sense to us. But we can be certain God's actions are always for our good, always in harmony with love and trust and to reach the most people for salvation.

Can you think of some examples of where God has done something that was unpredictable?

- God calls Moses to go back to Egypt—did Moses see that coming?
- God responds to Adam's sin by promising Jesus as our Savior did the angels or anyone see that coming?
- God allowed Joseph to be sold as a slave in order to elevate Joseph to Prime Minister—did Joseph's brothers see that coming?

Any examples in your own life?

- This ministry—we didn't see how God was going to work to establish and grow this ministry
- Our call to go to Liberty University. We certainly didn't see that coming. But we can see God leading and are aware of amazing possibilities for reaching people with the truths of God's kingdom for the healing of hearts and minds.

Since we are talking about God pouring love into our hearts and this is our hope. Let's consider 1John 4:16-18 and the three angels' messages.

"Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the **eternal gospel** to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷ He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

⁸ A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."

⁹ A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, io he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name." 12 This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus" (Revelation 14:6–12 NIV84).

Now consider what we just read and harmonize it with what John, the same author of Revelation, inspired by the same Holy Spirit wrote in 1John 4:16-18:

"God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. ¹⁷ In this way, **love is made** complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love" (1 Jn 4:16–18 NIV84).

- What is the relationship between these two texts?
- How are we to fear God but then if we have God's love in our hearts we will have no fear?
- What is the relationship between fearing God and judgment and what is this confidence of love we are to have on the day of judgment?
- What is the relationship to this and giving God glory?
- What about fear having to do with punishment?
- If we have love and it drives out fear what is the relationship with punishment?
- When we think of punishment for sin, what comes to mind?
- Does punishment typically make one feel safe or incite fear?
- Does God punish and if so are we to be afraid of the punishment of God and if so how can we be perfected in love?

- But if we have fear as we face the judgment and fear the punishment for sin we are not made perfect in love, what is going on?
- Does the text say we are made legally perfect by a full and complete sacrifice to the heavenly magistrate so in the judgment we are declared righteous even though we are not? No, the text says we are made perfect in love, what does this mean?
- What day of judgment?
- Do we not have fear in the day of judgment because we have finally replaced imposed law with design law and we have finally judged God to be right, just as Paul in Romans 3:4 said needs to happen. And when we judge God to be righteous, holy, good, and understand His laws as design laws we trust Him, open the heart and experience His transforming power and are changed to be like Him, just as John is saying we don't fear because in this world we have become like Him!

Do you see the plan of God is to restore us to love and trust, to remove sinfulness from our inmost being, to set us right in heart and mind with God, to bring us into unity at-one-ment with God, to purify us, to cleanse His bride and bring us into eternal oneness with Him, i.e. Christ the Bridegroom weds His bride after He purifies her and makes her righteous.

SUNDAY

The lesson focuses our attention on the Big Picture and references Revelation 12:7-9 and Romans 8:22, let's look at those and ask, what is the big picture ideas of these two passages that can help us understand what is happening in the world?

And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him (Revelation 12:7-9 NIV84).

What is the big picture idea here? How does it help us with difficulties in this world today? Does it give us hope or discouragement?

What kind of war is this?

Why was Satan cast out to the earth, why not some other planet?

Who gave Satan the ability to act on planet earth?

What about Romans 8:22?

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time (Romans 8:22 NIV84).

What is the big picture idea here? How do we apply it to what we see in the world today?

Is there sickness and defects and pain in the world today because there is sin in the world? Are all such problems a result of individual sin or caused by acts of sin?

Why is there disease, aging, death, decay, poisonous plants, ferocious beasts in the world today? From where did all of this come?

Did God create plants with thorns and plants that are toxic to humans, poisonous plants?

Did God create animals that kill each other for food? From where did they come?

And before Christ returns and God eliminates all sin, sickness, disease and death, do things on earth get better or worse? Why?

Does this give us hope or undermine hope?

MONDAY

Read first paragraph, "Oswald Chambers..." Just like C.S. Lewis, Oswald Chambers has written incredible things about God and dedicated his life to spreading the gospel, and millions if not billions have been blessed by his works. I also have found beautiful truths about God from reading some of Oswald Chambers writings.

But I question this particular idea. I wish he were here so I could ask him what he meant, for perhaps he means something I don't comprehend. But the way I am understanding these two sentences, it just doesn't quite add up for me.

Yes, God absolutely reveals Himself to us in all kinds of ways:

- In Scripture
- In the life of Jesus
- In nature and science
- In music
- In every act of kindness, mercy, compassion and love
- In the quiet moments when the Spirit moves upon our hearts
- In the providences of life

But does that mean that God will not reveal His plans to us? Hmmm...consider these Bible verses:

- "The Sovereign LORD never does anything without revealing his plan to his servants, the prophets" (Amos 3:7 GNT).
- "I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that I am He" (John 13:19 NIV84).
- "I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe" (John 14:29 NIV84).

Has God revealed through multiple Bible promises what He was going to do before He did it sending the promised Messiah, bringing the Babylonians and the 70 year captivity and then having Israel set free to return and so much more, the various prophecies of Daniel etc.?

Has He told us of the second coming and an earth made new? Is He going to do it?

So, I am not sure what Oswald Chambers meant here, perhaps he meant that God doesn't spell out all the little details of where and how He is going to act in our lives because God, like a loving parent, sometimes wants to surprise us and see the smile, joy, and excitement on our faces when He blesses us with something He didn't tell us beforehand.

The lesson focuses on Job's struggles and his questions and the questions of Job's friends, then the lesson points out that God asks Job 60 questions which distinguish God as the infinite Creator and Job as a creature. Such question as:

"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand" (Job 38:4 NIV84).

And

"Can you bind the beautiful Pleiades? Can you loose the cords of Orion?" (Job 38:31 NIV84).

Why do you think God asked Job such a long list of questions that made it clear God was the infinite Creator and Job, as a created being, was limited in both his ability and understanding?

Consider what the lesson suggests in the fifth paragraph, "God never..." Do you agree with this conclusion, that because God is the infinite Creator "Job certainly does not need any answers"?

If God was going to win the war with might and power and not give answers, couldn't He have done that right in heaven and there would have been no need for this world to fall into sin? Couldn't He have just punished Lucifer from the beginning and exercised His might to force compliance, if that was what He was going to do?

But is that the way God wins? Why or why not?

And what about the idea that the need for explanation has been eclipsed by overwhelming might, power, and magnificence, is this what God wants? Is this how He wins the war?

Did Jesus use such methods when He was on earth? Could Jesus have wowed His audiences with great displays of power and might and wealth and pomp? Did He? Why not? What did Jesus want to be the only thing that attracted His followers to Him? The beauty of heavenly truth! Why?

Because it is a battle for hearts and minds and every person MUST be fully persuaded in their own mind, so settled into the truth about God, His methods, principles and laws that nothing can shake us from God.

Satan doesn't have truth and love, but Satan does have more power than we do. Satan can wow, mesmerize, intimidate, demonstrate great light shows, mysteries, pomp, and wealth. Satan showed Jesus all the wealth of the nations of the world and offered them to Him, but God doesn't win hearts this way.

God wins hearts by presenting truth in love and leaving us free. The war is not over might and power, but over God's character and trustworthiness in the use of His infinite might and power. God absolutely invites our questions, "Come let us reason together..."

So, what was the purpose of this long list of questions to Job? It was NOT to shut Job down, to stop Job's questions, but it WAS the answer to Job's questions. God was leading Job by these questions to realize that there are perspectives, issues, possibilities that Job had not considered, that there is more going on that just earth, that an entire universe is involved, including the angels in heaven. God was, through these questions, opening Job's mind to larger realities Job had never considered and thus Job is silenced by insight, by truths that were stunning, awe-inspiring, and incredible. These questions were not presented to intimidate Job but to ennoble and enlighten him. It is really sad that God's magnificent patience in talking with Job and asking these questions is presented by some to teach exactly the opposite of what God actually did for Job.

God's actions in asking these questions caused thinking, questioning, contemplating deeper truths and thus opened Job's mind which is unlike certain religious institutions that build grand cathedrals and demonstrate much pomp and mystical ceremonies that are designed to intimidate and shut down thinking and reasoning.

TUESDAY

The lesson points to one of the most tender, encouraging, comforting and beautiful passages in Scripture, one that at times in my life has brought comfort and encouragement to me. Isaiah 41:13:

"For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you" (Isaiah 41:13 NIV84).

Have you ever needed God to take your hand and help you?

What does this perspective mean to you?

WEDNESDAY

The lesson points us to Israel's captivity in Babylon and that despite their captivity God still had a plan for them.

The Bible records these events not only as historical facts, but as lessons, as teaching illustrations to teach us the larger reality of the sin problem and God's solution for it.

- Why was Israel taken captive in Babylon? Because they were unfaithful to God and worshipped false God's. What is the spiritual lesson? What does Babylon represent?
- What happens to our hearts and minds if we reject God and His law?
- Will our hearts and minds be taken captive?
- Why did God allow them to be taken captive by Babylon?
- Why does God allow our hearts and minds to be taken captive if we reject Him and choose sin?
- Did God forget them and abandon them in Babylon?
- Does God forget us and abandon us even if we end up enslaved by some sin?

The lesson points our attention to Psalm 137 where the Babylonians were asking the captives to sing songs about their homeland, but they couldn't do it and this psalm has one of the most difficult passages in Scripture.

Let's read this from the NIV and consider what it is saying, then we will read it from *The Remedy*:

By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.

- There on the poplars we hung our harps,
- for there our captors asked us for songs, our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"
- How can we sing the songs of the LORD while in a foreign land?
- If I forget you, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill. 5
 - May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you, if I do not 6 consider Jerusalem
 - Remember, O LORD, what the Edomites did on the day Jerusalem fell. "Tear it down," they cried, "tear it down to its foundations!"
 - O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, happy is he who repays you for what you have done to us—
 - he who seizes your infants and dashes them against the rocks. (Ps 137:1–9 NIV84).

What does it mean? We have a Bible verse that tells us happy is the one who takes their enemy's babies and smashes them against the rocks. Should we start a religious campaign to put this into practice?

Does this sound right to you or does it sound in some way contradictory to what Jesus taught?

Here it is from *The Remedy:*

- 1 By the rivers of Babylon, as captives in this selfish world, we wept when we remembered Zion God's fortress of spiritual health and wellness.
- 2 There on the willows we hung our harps
- 3 while our captors told us to sing: they demanded songs of happiness and joy; they said, "Sing us a song of health about Zion!"
- 4 How can our lives be songs revealing God's character of love while our hearts are held captive to this selfish world?
- 5 If I forget the truth about you, O Jerusalem the center of God's healing plan may I write no more music.
- 6 May I sing no more songs, if they are not about you;
- if they do not teach God's healing plan centered in you, O Jerusalem, as my highest joy.
- 7 Remember, O Lord, what the Edomites did the day Jerusalem your spiritual treatment center fell? They shouted, "Tear it down, tear it down to the ground!"
- 8 O people of Babylon, who cling to selfishness, you are doomed to destruction! Happy are those who are finished with you, just as you deserve; who have weaned themselves from you.
- 9 Happy are they who take your children to fall upon the Rock and be broken.

THURSDAY

The lesson speaks of God's discipline and point out that in the Greek the word for discipline was the most basic word for "education."

Are discipline and punishment the same?

What is the difference?

Does the motive make a difference?

What is the goal of discipline?

What is the goal of punishment?

Should we fear discipline? What about punishment? Do we remember that in love there is no fear, because fear has to do with punishment?

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dear Come and Reason family,

Since the founding of our ministry in 2010, we have been actively praying that God would not only lead us in advancing the truth, but also open new avenues for us to share this lifechanging message with ever-increasing numbers of people.

Our ministry has steadily grown over the past twelve years, and we have just purchased and are completing renovations on our broadcast studio, classroom, and office facility. As we are being positioned to create more materials to share, God has now opened an entirely new avenue for advancing the healing principles of His kingdom. Dr. Jennings has been nominated for and accepted the position of Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Lynchburg, Virginia.

The vision for this new position is for Dr. Jennings to lead the medical university in creating a world-class psychiatric residency training program that fully integrates Bible-based Christian principles with modern neuroscience and behavioral medicine. This training program will be a state-of-the-art, comprehensive, and holistic treatment program founded on a Christian worldview. It will not only train new physicians, but it will also become a template program to be replicated across the country and globe in like-minded Christian facilities, practices, and programs.

As you can see, this is an incredible opportunity to advance the gospel—pairing it perfectly with not just the healing arts, but specifically with mental healing in a biblically sound lifestyle program that leads people to harmonize with God's design laws for life and health.

Being at Liberty University will also provide Dr. Jennings with the opportunity to network with other like-minded Christians, increasing the speed at which new platforms to share the gospel and advance the principles of God's kingdom can be built.

Dr. Jennings will be closing his private practice in Chattanooga, and he and his wife, Christie, will be moving to Lynchburg to begin his new duties starting in mid-September. Dr. Jennings will continue to serve as president of Come and Reason Ministries and contribute weekly blogs, new sharing materials, and new lecture series. He will also continue to be involved in the Saturday morning livestream Bible studies and Q&A.

If you want to interact directly with Dr. Jennings, come to our new facility once it is complete; his livestream will be interactive in the studio. If you live outside the area, you will still be able to get the live broadcast as usual. Additionally, we will have a monthly potluck in our new facility, and Dr. Jennings plans on attending in person on those dates.

We hope you share our vision to advance God's healing truth that this opportunity presents, because we absolutely need your continued prayers and support as Come and Reason

Ministries moves through this transition. We value you as a vital part of our team, so we ask that you continue to lift us up in prayer, join us each week for our live class, and share our resources with your family and friends.

Sincerely,

Come and Reason Ministries Board and Team

Building update: The HVAC has been installed and we are back on schedule, hopefully for early September move in date. Keep us in your prayers.

Dr. Jennings presentation at the United Healthcare Summit in Grand Rapids MI. entitled COVID and the Manipulation of Your Mind, is available at

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August 13, 2022: Dr. Jennings will be speaking at Sligo by the Sea, sponsored by Sligo SDA church at the First Presbyterian Church — 1301 Philadelphia Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842. Dr. Jennings will lead SS at 10 a.m., sermon at 11 a.m. and have Q&A session in the afternoon.

September 8-10, 2022: Dr. Jennings and Dr. Curt Thompson will be presenting an Intensive together at the American Association of Christian Counselors National Conference in Dallas, TX. You can find more details about the event at https://nationalaacc.com/