



## 2026 2Q Growing in a Relationship with God

### Lesson 11: Setbacks

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

#### SABBATH

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Read memory verse:

- And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us Romans 5:3–5 NKJV.

What does this text mean? Is it describing some masochistic bent where we get pleasure out of pain and suffering? Is it describing a god that requires suffering, pain, some type of recompense for our sinful lives?

Or is it describing some aspect of reality—how transformation, renewal, growth, development, healing occurs?

Once there is brokenness or woundedness of any kind, there are no pain-free options. There is only healing or not healing.

We are all born in sin and conceived in iniquity—it is not our fault as individuals that we were born this way. None of us chose to become sinners from a sinless state of being. We are not guilty for being born in sin, yet we still have this condition inherited from Adam.

- Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned Romans 5:12 NIV84.

We all sin because we are born sinners, we are not all sinners because we chose to sin from a sinless state.

We are all born into the world animated, motivated, energized, driven by the spirit of fear and distrust of God that we inherit from Adam. That spirit, that motivation, causes all humans to seek security, safety, comfort, protection, survival and thus we come into the world distrusting, fearful, and self-motivated to do what we must to protect, advance, and promote ourselves.

Our natural state is not selfless love built upon trust in our Creator, but distrust and fear inherited from Adam.

Therefore, as we grow, as we experience life, we internalize life experiences through the spirit of fear and survival. We form beliefs, attitudes, understandings, attachments framed in the context of what makes us feel secure, empowered, safe and what is painful, threatening, scary. We seek what feels good and to avoid what feels bad.

We bring into our hearts all kinds of things that comfort us—some may be, in their own objective design, healthy for us, IF THEY ARE IN THEIR RIGHT orientation to our heart, such as forming attachments and relationships with parents, siblings, neighbors, church family, or physical exercise, or healthy diet.

But, if human relationships, diet, exercise, are internalized to occupy a space in our soul, our hearts, our identity, our sense of self, our reason for living, our security, beyond what God designed them to occupy—then these healthy elements can become unhealthy in our engagement and use of them.

If we form our identity, our inner sense of security, wellness, goodness, peace, from them instead of from God—then they become barriers to salvation, and our condition worsens. A person who finds their identity in their fitness, their healthy living, their religious rule-keeping—like the Pharisees in Christ's day did. Exercise, healthy diet, religious practices may in and of themselves have a healthy place, but if done from a spirit of fear, for the purpose of making one feel valuable, worthy, righteous—then it becomes a barrier to salvation. And one will not have peace, but eventual exhaustion and discouragement as no matter how hard they work, they are still filled with fear.

The co-dependent who seeks relationship not to engage in mature other-centered love, but to find their identity, to find validation, affirmation, from the affection of others so they can feel good about themselves.

We all come into the world fearful and insecure, looking for security. The spirit of fear we all inherit drives the formation of our inner world, and we form all kinds of attachments that bring us security and comfort—but ultimately until we come to a living trust in Jesus and surrender our spirit of fear and are reborn with the Spirit of God, we are slowly decaying, and things will always get worse over time.

It is inevitable; the only outcome for breaking the laws of health is worsening health.

Now what is interesting about how God created us, is that our individuality, our consciousness, emerges from the living operations of our brains. And our consciousness, our thinking, which is our minds, react back upon the brain causing the brain to change, to encode, to be structurally altered to align with what our minds and hearts choose, conclude, internalize.

The spirit of fear twists and distortions how we internalize life are making us more insecure and inflaming selfishness. Thus, we create beliefs, understandings, conclusions, expectations, responses that align with the spirit of fear rather than the Spirit of God.

But God's Holy Spirit strives with us. We do not find peace out of harmony with God's design for life; we recognize something is not right. Despite our efforts, despite our hard work, despite our apparent success in this world, without Christ deep inside we are restless, feel a void, recognize something is missing, long for something more than this world has to offer—just like the rich young ruler who came to Jesus asking “what do I lack.” And Jesus told him he needed to let go of his heart's attachment to wealth so he could attach to His Creator.

Our inability to find peace from the things of the world, our own comfort measures is the impact of reality, truth, and the work of the Holy Spirit upon our hearts seeking to motivate us toward life.

So how does all of this fit together with tribulations?

What brain science demonstrates—and I will go into much more detail with illustrations and images in our program in August, is that as we go through life and form our understanding of the world, we are encoding into the substructures of our neurons our conclusions about our life experiences. These conclusions, once formulated, cause electron clouds in shared tubulin molecules to collapse which is what forms a memory, experience, conclusion, belief, attitude—how? By altering the shape of the tubulin, which alters the harmonic, the frequency, of the microtubules in which the beliefs, experiences are encoded.

Once encoded within our brains they becomes stable systems, modes, perspectives, attitudes, that become a predictive model in which we filter new life experiences that is neurologically stable and reinforcing of itself.

In order to change this conformation—and what I am describing is structural, literal encoding in the molecules of your brain by your choices—we must make new choices, new conclusions, encode different and corrective experiences. Which requires us to more than cognitively comprehend a fact, it requires us to value it with enough energy that we say yes, that is important enough that it is what I choose, what I hold to, what I want to be part of my life. When we make that type of choice, it causes the electrons to collapse encoding that experience into the tubulin molecules and they structurally change shape and locked into a stable position that make that encoding part of our being.

In order for real change to happen, the electrons that have collapsed and locked the tubulin into the current position, must receive enough energy to cause them to “uncollapse” and to enter back into a position of uncertainty open and ready for new encoding.

There are 8 different life experiences that provide the energy necessary to cause a locked tubulin system to enter into a position of uncertainty where new encoding can happen, where new truth can be assimilated, where we are legitimately open to receive truth and encode it and therefore be transformed—and the Bible describes all 8 and God uses all 8. One of those 8 experiences is trials and tribulations that do not fit our framework or understanding.

When we experience a trial or difficulty that does not fit our understanding, those experiences produce enough emotional importance, value, concern, that we step back and legitimately ask, “what is going

on? What is happening?” Those questions are the mind’s expression of the brain entering into a position of uncertainty, structurally, the tubulin molecules are back into a position of openness where truth can be heard and assimilated.

If truth is received and chosen, then the electrons collapse and the tubulin structure changes in a new conformation, resulting in a new harmonic, a new inner state of emotional and motivational energy. When truth encodes we literally are changed to be closer in harmony with God and the Holy Spirit and are more sensitive to the movements of the Holy Spirit and as long as we continue daily to choose truth by truth, the encoding continues, our brains change, our character matures just as the Scripture describes.

Thus, we glory in trials and tribulations for they are the opportunities for real transformation and growth.

However, these trials only provide *opportunity* for change, they do not determine the change, they merely distress the system enough to create opportunity for reevaluation, wrestling through old attachments, priorities, coping or comfort measures, and choosing to let go of what was maladaptive and encode what is healthy. But, it is also possible for people to enter that state of uncertainty, where opportunity for real change exists, but instead of choosing truth, they reject it, deny it, and reencode their long standing patterns, beliefs, preferences, lies and thus instead of being healed by the truth, their choice to reject it causes their heart to harden. They now don’t just have the same structures of the brain encoded in error, the new experience, with new energy, requiring a new evaluation, if reencoded with more lies, expands the encoding error, recruiting more microtubules, encoding new systems with the same error, and thus we slowly become less sensitive to truth, harden our hearts, and eventually are beyond new truth and love providing sufficient energy to create new opportunities for change—this is searing the conscience, hardening the heart like Pharaoh did, changing one’s self by persist rejection of truth and love to the point the encoding errors are so solidified nothing can move that person out of it.

With this in mind, let’s read the first two paragraphs,

- One evening, as the sun dipped over the horizon, a girl was walking home when a dark storm blew in. She quickened her pace, knowing there was still a way to go. A lone raindrop fell on her cheek, then another, and, before she knew it, she was drenched. She started to run toward the front door of her home, where her father rushed to meet her. He had been watching her from the front window. As he wrapped a blanket around her shoulders, he asked her, “I saw you just now, in the rain. Why, with every bolt of lightning, did you stop running to look up and smile?”

“Oh, I stopped to look up,” she said, “because God was taking my picture!” *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 88.

What does this paragraph describe in light of what we have discussed?

There are events, and there are interpretations of events; it is not the event itself that matters, but how the mind interprets, internalizes, and encodes the events that matters.

This little girl was interpreted the experience of the lightning in a positive way. She, before the storm, had already been forming beliefs and experiences about God that encoded love, trust, security. Her response does not reveal a mind who sees God as threatening, but a God who loves her and delights in her.

This previous encoding about God, self, life, became a filter through which she interpreted and experienced the storm.

I had a patient once who came to see me struggling with panic and paralyzing fear of riding in cars. The history was that they were in an motor vehicle accident in which their car was hit by another, knocked off an overpass onto the interstate and then hit by a semi doing about 70 mph, and their car was crushed, flipped, spun. In the aftermath of that experience, they were paralyzed by fear, terror, dread. Their thoughts after that event was, “I almost died. Life is not safe. Cars are not safe.” And they were suffering from daily panic and inability to drive.

But the interesting thing is that despite this wreck, they walked away with only some bruises. After getting to know them, I observed that there are events and there are interpretations of events and one interpretation was “I almost died, I could have died.” But another interpretation is, “I didn’t die, in fact, despite this terrible wreck, I walked away with bruises. God has His angels watching over me. I do not need to fear what this world can do.”

My patient was struck by this, and reflected deeply on it, and because they were still in a state of distress, meaning that despite the belief that they were currently encoding, they were not at peace with that encoding, thus they remained open to a new encoding—they were seeking a better interpretation, a better understanding, longing for truth to set them free, so when they heard this it resonated with them, they chose yes to it, and encoded this, the neurons settled and their panic resolved.

What I believed happened to this person is the opposite of what Paul was describing in Romans, rejoicing in trials that build character. Paul was describing how trials that don’t fit our model cause our perspective to enter uncertainty through the distress and allow for growth with new encoding.

My patient experienced an event that, in reality, fit their model—they were safe and God protected them, but they failed to see the truth and instead interpreted the event by encoding a lie that they were not safe and that lie did not fit the model and caused the system to destabilize and enter uncertainty and they were struggling until they were again able to process the event in a way that was consistent with truth and harmonized with the true belief they already had about God.

Read the next paragraph,

- What is our response when the storms of life come or when we have certain setbacks in our relationship with God? Do we put our head down as the rain pelts upon our backs or do we

look up, knowing and trusting that God is there as we turn our face toward Him? *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 88.

The lesson asks an important question—“What is our response when the storms” happen?

Our responses are evidence of our previous internalizations.

As we come into the world, animated by fear, we internalize life as scary, threatening, unsafe, a scarcity mindset with need to protect self, hoard etc.

And this is why we need truth and love, heard, experienced, understood, in order to overcome the natural default position we inherited from Adam.

And the lesson is correct that the critical thing in all aspects of life, but particularly in the difficult times, is knowing and trusting God. And this is where so many are trapped and why so many struggle—because they have been raised in a religious belief system in which they believe God is real, but they don’t trust Him.

They have been taught that His law is imposed rules and His justice is just inflicted punishments, and He is following us everywhere recording all of our wrongs to ensure we get the proper punishment if we don’t get legal payment, pardon, and erasure from the records in heaven. Thus, people when struggling, don’t actually trust God, this false theology teaches them to trust in something to protect them from God. The three friends that came to comfort Job asserted that Job’s trials were because of his sin and God was the one punishing him.

We do not experience comfort from someone we distrust and believe will harm us.

## **SUNDAY**

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Read the second paragraph,

- As evening fell, Jesus spoke to His disciples, inviting them on a journey with Him. “ ‘Let us cross over to the other side’ ” (Mark 4:35, NKJV). Jesus knew a storm would come but suggested they go anyway. He had an important life lesson to teach His closest followers. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 89.

Hmm... The statement that “Jesus knew a storm would come” struck me. How did Jesus know? If we conclude that He knew because He is God and God knows the future, this, in my understanding, is incorrect. Jesus, at that time, had divested Himself of access to His divine abilities. Yes, He was always able to choose to access them, but if He did, then He would not be able to be our Savior. Why?

Because in order to be our Savior, He had to overcome as a human, be tempted in all ways like we are, yet without sin. So, Jesus was tempted to turn a rock into bread because He had the ability to tap into

His own divine power, but if He did that, He would have left the path of our substitutionary Savior, who as the Bible says was made like His brothers in every way.

Jesus Himself said while He was on Earth, that He did not know the day and hour of the second coming, only the Father in heaven knew—why? Because He was divested of His divine abilities.

So, Jesus did not know a storm was coming by His divine ability to look into the future and see future events. And there is no inspired record that God gave Him a vision of the future.

So, if Jesus knew that a storm would come, it was only by His knowledge of reality, of design laws of God, and in understanding the warfare going on with Satan, in the same way we can know hardships will come—because we live in a world dominated by Satan and his principles that are at war with the principles of God. Jesus knew that Satan was at war and seeking to destroy Him and the apostles. So, He could certainly anticipate and predict satanic assaults. And in my view, that is what this storm was. It was not a natural weather event, but a storm brought by Satan, in an attempt to kill Christ before Christ can complete His mission. This is why the disciples couldn't handle it, they were fishermen and were used to natural weather storms, but this storm was beyond them because it wasn't natural.

Despite Jesus' knowing the devil will attack Him, He is not afraid or distressed because His focus is not on the enemy, but upon His Father. Thus, Jesus is at peace in the midst of the storm

Read bullet number 1.

- Jesus falls asleep on what was likely the only pillow in the boat. The fishing boats usually had one pillow, which the driver of the boat, at the stern, sat on. The person at the stern guided the boat to the destination. So here, Jesus is in the position of the boat's "driver," but He falls asleep at the wheel. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 89.

This is another one of those places where we must be careful of what we read into the story. The text describes Jesus sleeping on a cushion in the stern of the boat.

The lesson however, suggests that Jesus is in the position of the boat's driver and falls asleep at the wheel.

Do you like this picture of Jesus falling asleep at the wheel?

No, I do not believe this is an accurate representation at all for a variety of reasons:

- Would Jesus take the role of piloting a ship and then neglect His duties by falling asleep?
- Would Jesus teach His disciples that He will pilot the ship but then fail to do so and thereby teach them they cannot trust or rely upon Him?
- Jesus was a carpenter and there were several fisherman on the boat—who is most likely to pilot the boat?
- Who does the Bible say was in fact struggling to sail the boat through the storm? The disciples.

So why was Jesus asleep in the stern where the steering of the boat would occur?

Because, in those fishing boats it was the only relatively flat, sheltered space on the vessel—which explains both why the helmsman operated there and why Jesus, as an honored guest, was given the cushioned place to rest.

So, no Jesus was not piloting this boat, the disciples were, and that was the lesson. Jesus was at perfect peace, sleeping, on the boat, in the middle of the storm and the disciples struggled against the storm themselves, forgetting Jesus, and they made no headway. It was when they remembered Jesus and asked for His help that the storm was stilled.

Yet, even in asking for His help, they didn't do so with confidence. Instead of acknowledging their lack of faith, instead of acknowledging their failure to turn to Him, they projected their fear outward and accused Him of not caring about them.

## MONDAY

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The lesson points our attention to the events after the storm,

Read third paragraph,

- This incident shows Jesus' care and compassion for the sick and lonely, and those usually lost in the crowd. Many that day were pressing close to Jesus' side as they drifted along with the crowd, but only one intentionally reached out to touch Jesus to receive the blessing she so desperately needed. However, it wasn't her touch that healed her; it was her faith that made her well (Mark 5:34). "The Saviour could distinguish the touch of faith from the casual contact of the careless throng."—Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 344. Jesus' garment held no special power; rather, it was the woman's faith and her choice to reach out to touch Him that healed her. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 90.

This is a very interesting story and powerful object lesson. In Scripture many of the real stories, and I believe this was a real woman, who experienced a real bleeding problem, who spent her wealth on physicians without success, and who was healed by touching Christ's hem.

Yet, this story reveals so much more.

The Greek word translated "hem" is the word referring to the blue tassel that hung from the edge of their garments.

In other words, she touched the blue tassel in faith and was healed—what is this signifying?

- Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a **pavement made of sapphire**, clear as the sky itself. Exodus 24:9, 10

Note two verses later:

- The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you **the tablets of stone**, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction.” Exodus 24:12

Literal reading, “Tablets of THE stone...”

What stone, *the* only stone referenced in the text, which was two verses before, the sapphire stone.

Now, note Numbers 15:37-40 (NKJV):

- Again the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make **tassels** on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a **blue thread in the tassels** of the corners. And you shall have the **tassel**, that you may look upon it and **remember all the commandments** of the Lord and do them, and that you may not follow **the harlotry to which your own heart** and your own eyes are inclined, and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and **be holy** for your God. Numbers 15:37-40 NKJV.

What does all of this mean? What is the reality-based lesson in all this symbolism?

The High Priest, who represents Jesus, had the breastplate tied to his tunic with blue cords.

The harlot of revelation has all the colors in her garment that the high priest has **except blue**.

In Bible symbolism a woman represents humanity: “I will put enmity between you and the woman...” (Gen 3:15).

- Pure woman=saved;
- Harlot=unsaved.
- This woman had been bleeding for 12 years.
- 12 in Scripture represents completeness (12 tribes, 12 apostles, New Jerusalem 12 foundations, 12 gates etc.)

So what does all of this symbolize?

Humanity (woman) is completely sin-sick and our life (symbolized by blood) is bleeding out. We are dying.

We try every human effort we can to try and save ourselves spending all of our resources, but we only get worse.

When we finally realize we cannot save ourselves, hit rock bottom, when we stop our harlotry—our attempts to save self with our various legal systems of religion, and turn to Jesus in faith, our seeking we touch reality, His design law of truth, love, and freedom, and experience His Spirit writing is law of truth and love upon our hearts and minds and we stop dying, stop bleeding out, we are healed in the inner person, have God's design for life restored within us.

Which represents the law of love! God's law of love is what binds us to Him, only His design does this.

## **TUESDAY**

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The lesson focuses on Job, his trials brought by Satan, and the three friends who made matters worse by taking the position that Job's sufferings were a result of Job's sin.

Have you ever heard this today, someone struggling and family and church members make it worse by suggesting it is a result of some sin, or stated another way, a lack of faith?

I have had many patients who have struggled with mental biologically driven health problems, that have been told if they had enough faith then they wouldn't have bipolar, or depression, or some other problem. These statements are not helpful, they are discouraging and distressing and if encoded make it harder for the patient to get well.

While it is true that pain and suffering in this world is sometimes a direct attack from the enemy of God, does that account for all pain and suffering?

What are other causes?

- Other humans who are motivated by the spirit of fear and selfishness
- Random events in a world in which sin exists
- Unknown factors like toxins in the environment
- Nature out of harmony with God's design—storms, animal attacks, poisonous plants
- Our own choices that deviate from God's design for life

When truth presents in a way that we can understand it and yet we choose to go against it, despite loving warning from family, friends, God—what does God do?

He lets the error, the lie, the untruth, run its course and what happens? The natural result of deviating from the laws of health, pain, suffering, breakdown, decay.

Why does God allow this? In grace and mercy to awake and alert and teach and hopefully get the person to turn around.

Why does a parent, after repeated instructions for their child not to touch the hot stove, and after actively intervening to pull the hand of the child back, when the child later still reaches out touch the stove NOT numb their hand? Why does the parent allow the child to experience the pain of such a choice rather than numb their hand?

Does the parent want them to experience pain? No, what does the parent want? For them never to touch the hot stove. But, if the child does touch the hot stove what does the parent want the child to experience? Pain, so they will stop doing what is harming them.

So, what happens then, if a person is involved in some self-destructive activity, say an addiction, and family or friends intervenes to protect them from feeling the pain of their choices? Do the addictions typically resolve as quickly?

What happens if people do not intervene and the person experiences the pain?

And what happens if instead of acknowledging that in this circumstance this is the result of their own choice, they choose to believe that they are under assault from Satan and Satan is doing this to them, that they are like Job?

This is why all healing starts with the truth, not just acknowledging the pain, but discerning the true cause of the pain—are we innocent victims being attacked by evil? Is it random chaos in a world of sin? Is it the pain of living in an aging and decaying body? Is it from some choice of our own? And then, once identifying the cause, discern the solution—if any.

The lesson states in the last paragraph,

- There is so much more to the picture than what we see here and now, and one of the great challenges for a believer is to trust God even in the darkest times. God has, in many ways, revealed to us the reality of His love. We must cling to this crucial truth—that of God’s love—even when we might not sense it at the moment. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 91.

No question knowing and experiencing God’s love is essential—as the Bible teaches God is love and God’s kindness is what leads to repentance. We must know He loves us in order for us to experience genuine salvation. And as we emphasize all the time, Satan works to characterized God as a cruel tyrant, punishing judge who requires legal payment lest He kill us—so I couldn’t agree more that we need to reveal the truth of God’s love.

But could this idea be used in a way that rather than empowering people and leading them to freedom from sin it rather keeps people in sin?

Have you heard people say, “There is nothing you can do to cause God to love you more and there is nothing you can do that will cause God to love you less?”

Is this true? Could it be unhelpful to some? How?

The statement rightly helps expose the lie that God is other than love, moves away from seeing God as a punishing judge to a loving Father which is essential if we are going to be saved. However, it also subtly shifts our attention away from the true problem with sin and continues to keep the focus in the wrong place.

The sin problem was never a problem with God—God is love, that was true before Adam sinned, after Adam sinned, and is eternally true. God is love is true before Christ died as our Savior and in fact it is because God is love that Jesus did die as our Savior. So the statement is true—but God is always love and always will be, so this can be helpful for those who believe otherwise. But knowing God loves us isn’t enough—we must also be won to trust by that love so that we open the heart and receive His Spirit of truth and love and are transformed.

Jesus loved Judas, but that didn’t result in Judas being okay in the end. Judas could say, “There is nothing I can do that will cause Jesus to love me more and there is nothing I can do that will cause Jesus to love me less.” But there is something each one of us can do that can cause us to turn away from His love, that can cause us to become callous to His love, that can cause us to deny and obstruct His love from healing and transforming us, and that is divorcing God’s love from the other aspect of His character: God is not only love, God is truth!

And love rejoices with the truth. Thus, genuine love is always more than an internal attitude or emotion, it is functional, it seeks the good of others, it acts for their benefit, and God’s love is always perfectly aligned with truth that restores to God’s perfect design for life.

Thus, when we are in our suffering, we must know and experience God’s love, no question. His love is the platform which provides a sense of trust to open ourselves up to hear the truth. But it is the truth is what actually sets us free. So in our distress we lean into God’s love with hearts hungry and open for the truth applicable to us in that moment of our lives.

What truth do I need today? On all levels, the truth about the cause of the suffering, the truth about our purpose in God’s call, the truth of what God would have us to in that moment, and perhaps it is be still and know that God is good.

## **WEDNESDAY**

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The lesson focuses on the disciples on the Road to Emmaus, and how they were discouraged and how Jesus walked with them, revealed the truth to them and how they responded.

Read third paragraph,

- Once their eyes were opened, the two followers rushed to Jerusalem to share the things that had happened to them on the road (Luke 24:33–35). As Jesus came and stood in their midst, they were terrified. Notice His questions to them: “ ‘Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts?’ ” (Luke 24:38, NKJV). *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 92.

What blinded them? What prevented them from seeing the truth that was in their Scripture and they had heard?

It was what their religion had taught them. They had been educated in a religious system that took the Bible and interpreted through false lenses and thus the disciples had various preconceived ideas that were not consistent with reality and couldn't make sense of the reality that Jesus revealed and achieved. They needed to reexamine and reprocess what they had previously been taught.

The distress of the events provided the energy necessary to put their framework of reality into a position of uncertainty and they were seeking for a better understanding and thus they were open to encode the truth that Jesus revealed.

This is what spiritual warfare is all about, it is about hearts and minds, what have we encoded, what beliefs, attitudes, perspectives, values, methods, who do we trust, what motives out actions and choices, have we encoded truth enough to surrender the old life of fear and be reborn with a life of love and trust such that we can so no to the temptation of fear, we can recognize the lies, the methods of God's enemy and not be duped?

Do we have beliefs we have been taught in our religion that make it hard for us to process and understand the truth?

And what is our responsibility? To think, reason, study, pray, experience God for ourselves and come to our own conclusions. Romans 14:5.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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**The God of Reality: Separating Truth from Fiction Seminar:** August 13-16 2026 Orlando, Florida—More information coming soon. First 500 get five free meals. Our outline of program topics:

**1. Who Decides What’s True?**

How do we know what’s actually true in a world full of competing voices? This session examines the foundation of truth—what authority can be trusted and how to discern reality from deception.

**2. Did Life Happen by Chance ... or Design?**

What does science really reveal about the origin of life? This session examines the evidence behind life’s beginnings and what it suggests about our purpose, meaning, and design.

**3. What Kind of Power Runs the Universe?**

What kind of power sustains the universe at its foundational level? This session explores what reality reveals about worshiping a Creator whose power operates through truth and love rather than force—the quantum power upon which Newtonian power is built.

**4. What If Sin Isn’t What You’ve Been Told?**

What if sin is something other than breaking rules? This session examines why God allowed sin to exist, how it began, and how being out of harmony with reality in our beliefs and actions reshapes the mind.

**5. Genesis: History... and What It Reveals About Reality**

What does the book of Genesis reveal about the operating design of our reality? This session explores how God and the human mind intersect in the physical world.

**6. What Did God Really Do After Human Sin? (Part 1)**

Were God’s actions after sin acts of punishment—or something else? This session reexamines key moments after the fall to uncover what they reveal about God, salvation, and the nature of reality.

**7. What Did God Really Do After Human Sin? (Part 2)**

What does death reveal about God’s response to sin? This session explores how death relates to God’s mercy and what Christ’s life and sacrifice accomplished in reality.

**8. Spiritual Warfare: The Battle for Your Mind**

How do truth and lies shape the direction of your life? This session examines how our thoughts get encoded within the substructure of brain changing the motivational energy that moves us to action and why truth and love are the powers that, in reality, bring healing.

### **9. Are We Misreading the Old Testament?**

Why does God sometimes appear harsh or angry? This session examines how truth, love, and freedom help us better understand God's actions in the Old Testament.

### **10. The Bible: History... and How Reality Works**

What kind of book is the Bible, really—and how should we relate to it? This session explores how Scripture records real events that reveal truth, conflict, and the principles that govern life.

### **11. The Opus of Jesus: The Opening Movement**

The Sermon on the Mount: A Quantum Masterpiece

*How Jesus revealed a kingdom built on truth, love, and transformation—not power and force*

### **12. The Opus of Jesus: The Final Movement**

Revelation and the 3 Angels—The Quantum Finale

*How the final message of the Bible restores the truth about God and brings everything full circle*

**REMEDY APP:** Updated, many new features including the ability to listen to the audio right from the app!