

# Many of us relate to the 'Journey' outlined below:

## The Journey phase 1. Don't delay!

Like Abraham leaving UR you know it's time to leave the stagnant place. Initially there is a strong sense of 'I don't know where to go but I know I can't stay here'.

You have restlessness without rebellion and a certainty that there must be more.

## The Journey phase 2. Detox!

Stripped back, adrift, lonely, perplexed, diminished, ignored, misunderstood are some of the feelings that are part of the detox process. We are taken back to basics, have much of our rubbish removed and old mind sets are broken. We probably stay here for as long as it takes for genuine detox to take effect.

Vulnerability and being strong from a place of weakness are part of moving on. A huge part of this phase is learning that victory is simply not quitting under pressure.

The Lord is not testing you so much as revealing you. He longs to redeem His original creation – You!. This is an essential part of our journey.

## The Journey phase 3. Hello!

As we progress through or emerge from the detox wilderness we 'find' others whom we 'connect' with in an apparently random fashion, but this new connectivity is primarily a spirit to spirit connection not an intellectual or geographical one.

ONENESS.....

A new "One ness" is being created based on being together with Father rather than sharing creed, style, affiliation or association.

Genuine and powerful covenantal relationship can be born in this atmosphere.

As we push in and pursue the Lord we discover an unforced unity with others doing the same thing.

This family one ness is CRITICAL FOR THE HARVEST:

A) Prodigals who are already on their way home are looking for Father but fear they will find the older brother. This Oneness creates an environment where the Father is hosted and in charge and it's safe to come in!

B) New believers will be brought in by those who care for the 'catch' more than the boat! It's not about competing it's about landing the catch and cleaning the fish.

"When Jesus had finished speaking, he told Simon, "Row the boat out into the deep water and let your nets down to catch some fish." "Master," Simon answered, "we have worked hard all night long and have not caught a thing. But if you tell me to, I will let the nets down." They did this and caught so many fish that their nets began ripping apart. Then they signalled another boat to come

and help them. The men came, and together they filled the two boats so full that they both began to sink. (Luke 5:4-7)"

## **The Journey phase 4. Repatriation!**

From this place of exiting detox and finding others comes a longing to return to our Fathers house (this is a reference to heaven not church).

Here is where we receive our CLOAK (identity) RING (authority) and SHOES (destiny) ...and revel in the party He throws coz He's so happy. (Luke 15).

Let's learn to invest significant time to sit rest and observe Fathers heart and house and sit in high places with Jesus to see from a heavenly perspective.

INTIMACY is foundational to everything.

## **The Journey phase 5. House dynamics!**

The key to understanding heavens culture is intimacy with the Trinity (the divine model of family).

"The government and model of heaven is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit - so perfect in their harmony and loyalty to each other, so perfect in their honour for each other, so perfect in their understanding of the purpose of each other and so secure in the identity of each one that you can glance at the three and think you saw only one." Paul Manwaring.

Here is a community of three with an absence of competition or hierarchy.

"Who will go for US?" (Isaiah 6:8)

"Let US make man in OUR image." (Genesis 1:26)

Yet they are one, in complete oneness and John 17:21-23 shows it's our reflection of this oneness that will win the world.

## **The Journey phase 6. Ambassadors that change the culture!**

The primary call in this era is to position ourselves to live "apostolic lives". The word apostle was a Roman term. After the conquering military came another non-military general called the Apostolos who was sent to establish the culture of his homeland. Ecclesia was the administrative body that came with the Apostolos to implement that culture from home.

"But we are citizens of the state (commonwealth, homeland) which is in heaven, and from it also we earnestly and patiently await [the coming of] the Lord Jesus Christ, (Philippians 3:20 AMP)

We are ambassadors, living an embassy lifestyle representing heaven and implementing its culture,

(We are called to be 'thermostats' not 'thermometers').

We invade enemy territory and then displace the resident culture by bringing in another culture( that of heaven).

"I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon and from the Euphrates to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you." (Joshua 1:3-5)

The prayer that Jesus gave as a model includes, "your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)

We can actually live in the reality of heaven on earth.

This strategy is a 'displacement' one. The more we bring in heaven the more the kingdom of darkness is displaced. The emphasis is on bringing in rather than throwing out.

"If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people.' The Lord replied, 'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' Then Moses said to him, 'If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on earth?"

## **On this journey beware of:**

Analysis paralysis

Familiarity contempt- this is not what God has done before.

Profile pride - too much to lose?

Baggage from the past, especially bitterness and unforgiveness.

Disappointment's disenfranchising of destiny.

When the winds of trial blow don't build walls, build windmills.

Acquiring material 'stuff' - so travel light.

Destiny will surge as you yield to Holy Spirit.

DON'T MISS JESUS because you are looking in the expected place for him to do the expected thing