

- I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. MEDITATION

A. Review your class notes from Tuesday.

- Take some time to think about the main ideas of the lesson. If you want to add details to your notes, you'll find the audio message on our website under the Resources tab. (www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com).
- Which of the scriptures referenced were particularly meaningful to you? Write out those verses below and spend some time studying them this week.

B. Rewrite your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

III. TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Judges 6:1-16 NLT-- Again the Israelites did what was evil in the LORD's sight. So the LORD handed them over to the Midianites for seven years. 2 The Midianites were so cruel that the Israelites fled to the mountains, where they made hiding places for themselves in caves and dens. 3 Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, marauders from Midian, Amalek, and the people of the east would attack Israel, 4 camping in the land and destroying crops as far away as Gaza. They left the Israelites with nothing to eat, taking all the sheep, oxen, and donkeys. 5 These enemy hordes, coming with their cattle and tents as thick as locusts, arrived on droves of camels too numerous to count. And they stayed until the land was stripped bare. 6 So Israel was reduced to starvation by the Midianites. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help. 7 When they cried out to the LORD because of Midian, 8 the LORD sent a prophet to the Israelites. He said, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I brought you up out of slavery in Egypt 9 and rescued you from the Egyptians and from all who oppressed you. I drove out your enemies and gave you their land. 10 I told you, 'I am the LORD your God. You must not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you now live.' But you have not listened to me." 11 Then the angel of the LORD came and sat beneath the oak tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash had been threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. 12 The angel of the LORD appeared to him and said, "Mighty hero, the LORD is with you!" 13 "Sir," Gideon replied, "if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn't they say, 'The LORD brought us up out of Egypt'? But now the LORD has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites." 14 Then the LORD turned to him and said, "Go with the strength you have and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!" 15 "But Lord," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!" 16 The LORD said to him, "I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man."

IV. PERSONALIZATION

- A. Determine if you have a Poverty Mindset or problem-oriented thinking. When you examine the hard places of your life, look for these characteristics:
- Barricades: Hiding, self-protection, or walls erected due to fear or past baggage
 - Bellyaching: Grumbling or complaining. If asking "why" questions, make sure it is a real question, open to conviction or correction.
 - Blaming: Making excuses vs. taking responsibility for actions and solutions
 - Bitterness: Comparison, resentment, offense, or unforgiveness
 - Buts: Focusing on "What I'm not" vs. "Who I am" in Christ
 - Insights:

B. Partner with God in the circumstances where you're subject to Poverty or Problem-Oriented thinking. In these areas, implement the following strategies:

1. Decide Not to Go It Alone

- You can stay in that disconnected, offended, disappointed, "less than" poverty place. God says this is not a good idea: Prov 18:1-- A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment.
- The other choice is to decide to partner with our Covenant-Keeping God: Gen 17:7 MSG-- I'm establishing my covenant between me and you, a covenant that includes your descendants, a covenant that goes on and on and on, a covenant that commits me to be your God and the God of your descendants.
- Insights:

2. Agree with God in Word

- Choose to speak words that bring light and life to you and your situation: Prov 18:21—Death and life are in the power of the tongue
- Exercise faith by articulating God's truth and promises: 2 Cor 4:13 NIV-- It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." With that same spirit of faith we also believe and therefore speak.
- Rehearse and lay hold of your inheritance as God's child using the handout "Tools & Techniques: Spiritual Blessings."
- Insights:

3. Agree with God in Deed (Obedience)

- The strength of your obedience muscles is largely determined by whether you believe God or not. Choose faith!
 - Heb 3:12 NIV-- See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God
 - 1 Tm 6:12-- Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.
- *Are you ready to fight the good fight of faith and act in agreement with who God says you are even though you have lots of growing to do?*

C. Ask God what it looks like to grow into your true identity in the current circumstances you are facing. Spend some time prayerfully imagining new pathways of responsibility and authority.

➤ Child of God

➤ Called of God

➤ Partner of God

➤ Victor

C. Continue to grow in your relationship with God by applying these principles:

- Maintain connection with God by applying “The Middle of the Page” listening exercise whenever you sense distance between you and Him: “Is there anything causing separation or disconnection between us right now, Lord?”
- Practice receiving and welcoming a particular Fruit of the Spirit every time a negative thought or emotion confronts you. Ask the Holy Spirit what He wants to be TO you in that moment. Receive His provision. Then ask Him to be that same thing THROUGH you to the people and circumstances involved.
- Deepen your intimacy with God by rejoicing in Him. Take time each day to offer Him thanksgiving and praise.
- Learn to find joy in waiting on God. Remember that He has more in store for you than just a resolution to your issue. Pray and praise as you wait. Be sure to keep a record of His faithfulness and tell others of all that He is doing.
- Throughout your day take the opportunity to enjoy God’s presence. Go to your Secret Place to connect with Him spirit-to-Spirit anytime, anywhere.
- At the beginning of your day, take a few minutes to connect with God: Proverbs 8:34 NAS--Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at my doorposts.