## HOW RELATIONSHIPS WORK: A Secure Foundation

I. <u>ONE THING</u>—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. <u>Review</u> 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. <u>Rewrite</u> your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

## III. PERSONALIZATION

- A. <u>Relational Security</u> can be yours as you learn to make God your safe place:
  - <u>Ps 118:8 TV</u>--It is better to put your faith in the Eternal (God) for your security than to trust in people.
  - <u>Ps 84:5-7 AMP</u>-- Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. Passing through the Valley of Weeping (Baca), they make it a place of springs; the early rain also fills [the pools] with blessings. They go from strength to strength [increasing in victorious power]; each of them appears before God in Zion.
  - Insights:
- B. <u>Relational Building Blocks:</u> Study these definitions that will enhance your understanding of how relationships work. Consider the degree to which these qualities are present in your relationships with God and your key people:
  - 1. <u>Unity</u>
    - <u>Defined</u>-- oneness of mind, feeling; concord, harmony, or agreement (dictionary.com); that which is bound together; a bundle (Strong's)
    - <u>Col 3:14 NAS</u>—Put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.
    - <u>Jn 17:22-23 MSG</u>-- The same glory You gave Me, I gave them, so they'll be as unified and together as we are—I in them and You in Me. Then they'll be mature in this oneness, and give the godless world evidence that You've sent Me and loved them in the same way You've loved Me.
    - Insights:
  - 2. Intimacy
    - <u>Defined</u>—a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person or group; a close association with detailed knowledge or deep understanding (dictionary.com)
    - Jere 9:24-- But let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the Lord.
    - o <u>Insights</u>:
  - 3. Vulnerability
    - <u>Defined</u>--easily hurt or harmed physically, mentally, or emotionally; open to attack, harm, or damage (merriam-webster.com)
    - <u>Quote</u>--"To let ourselves be seen, deeply seen,...To love with our whole hearts, even though there's no guarantee, ...To practice gratitude and joy in those moments of terror, when we're wondering, "Can I love you this much? Can I believe in this this passionately?"...To be able to stop and, instead of catastrophizing what might happen, to say, "I'm just so grateful, because to feel this vulnerable means I'm alive." And the last, which I think is probably the most important, is to believe that we're enough." (The Power of Vulnerability, Brene' Brown)

- <u>2 Cor 6:11-13 NIV</u>-- We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. As a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—open wide your hearts also.
- o <u>Insights</u>:
- C. Relational Glory is vividly portrayed in this passage from the life of Moses: Exodus 33:11-19, 21 NIV-- The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent. 12 Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' 13 If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people." 14 The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." 15 Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. 16 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 the face of the earth?" 17 And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." 18 Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." 19 And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you...21 Then the Lord said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock.
  - <u>Meditate on this Scripture</u> this week, keeping in mind that it took place after a very painful situation with his key people.
  - <u>Pray, asking the Holy Spirit to remind you</u> to go to your "place of meeting" with God whenever you experience challenges in your relationships. Ask Him to help you make it your priority to get secure and settled in Him before you address the people and the situation.
  - Insights:
- D. <u>Continue to grow in your relationship with God</u> by applying these principles:
  - <u>At the beginning of your day</u>, take a few minutes to connect with God: <u>Proverbs</u> <u>8:34 NAS</u>--Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at my doorposts.
  - <u>Deepen your intimacy</u> with God by rejoicing in Him. Take time each day to offer Him thanksgiving and praise.
  - <u>Maintain connection with God</u> 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?"
  - <u>Practice receiving</u> a particular Fruit of the Spirit every time a negative thought or emotion comes. 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.