

KINGDOM TAKING TEAM RELATIONSHIPS (EXAMPLES FROM DAVID AND SIMON PETER)

BRINGING IN THE KINGDOM

PART 1 - HOW DAVID BROUGHT THE KINGDOM IN

David began as a loyal servant of Saul and was of excellent spirit. He served him faithfully with no wrong ambition. But he was too successful and Saul became jealous of him and of his success. Saul then tried to kill him and when that was not successful, he drove him away and outlawed him.

God, it seems, was willing at first to work with Saul, the people's choice, as long as he was obedient but he only partially obeyed and so God rejected him from being King (1 Sam 15:23,28).

David was anointed as King by God, through Samuel the Prophet, (1 Sam 16:13), even before he had killed Goliath. But it was many years before it came to pass. He served Saul with an excellent spirit for a number of years, even though it was very difficult at times, and he became very popular with the people. Finally, Saul became so jealous he was determined to kill him. David had to flee for his life and became a fugitive hiding in the wilderness.

Once David was outlawed, his own family and a growing army of mighty men came to him while he was in exile and were ready to make him King by force long before it was God's time (1 Sam 22:1-5). David used this Adullam's Cave period to train these men who were debtors, discontents and in distress into mighty warriors who would overcome all opposition and enable him to establish the Kingdom.

David was careful to honor Saul's anointing and refused to retaliate and kill him though he had the opportunity several times (1 Sam 24:4-7; 1 Sam 26:8-11).

Saul was finally killed in battle. David was anointed King a second time, by these mighty men and by his own tribe Judah, shortly after Saul's death (2 Sam 2:4-7).

A long war developed between the two houses of Saul and David. Even though Saul was dead, the influence of Saul's house continued for some time. But the House of David grew stronger and stronger and the House of Saul grew weaker and weaker (2 Sam. 3:1).

Many of the leaders of the tribe of Benjamin, (Saul's tribe), later came and joined David at Hebron and he became King over the two tribes (1 Chron. 12:29).

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Seven years later, the other ten tribes acknowledged David as their leader. He made covenant with them before the Lord and he was anointed for a third time as King over all Israel by the Elders of all the tribes of Israel. (2 Sam.5:3-5).

David then moved to Jerusalem and began to bring the Kingdom in.

First Some Thoughts on Covenant in Team Relationships.

Covenant is a big theme with God and His relationship with man is on that basis. The Bible teaches that many relationships have a covenantal nature to them. The most obvious is the covenant of marriage in which a man and a woman most nearly reflect the covenant God has made with His people or Christ has made with His Church.

In the ideal marriage relationship we see a picture of how God wishes to relate with man and what He will do for us if we will relate to Him faithfully on that basis.

It also shows us how seriously God regards such a relationship. This kind of covenant is indissoluble and the marriage bond between a man and a woman should never be broken. According to Malachi 2:14-16, she is a wife by covenant and God hates divorce. It is treachery even to think of any alternative. There is no way out, only a way through, which we must find by the grace of God.

The Covenant between Jonathan and David

To understand more of how God wants men to relate in leadership and in ministry together, we need to look at the covenant between Jonathan and David.

In 1 Sam.18:1-4; 20:14-17,42, we read a number of things that established the covenant between them:-

- 1) They were knitted in heart to one another.
- 2) They became vulnerable to one another as they laid themselves bare before each other and were now capable of doing much harm to one another.
- 3) They made a definite pact by ceremony to one another.

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4) Once formed, this covenant had precedence over the natural family relationships that David and Jonathan had. This has to be handled with care because the marriage covenant always has priority over any other covenant between people. But even the marriage covenant cannot override the covenant between an individual and their God.

5) In this particular case, because of the way it was expressed, this covenant not only bound the men making the covenant but also their descendants.

This was not true of all covenants and cannot be applied as a general rule. But where such a covenant has been made rightly it can be a mighty blessing on succeeding generations. Or if made wrongly, (e.g. The occult covenants made in Freemasonry or witchcraft) then it can be a binding curse upon subsequent generations without them even realizing the source. These must then be broken by a definite act of renunciation.

6) The penalty imposed on covenant breakers was very severe. As a result, they were not entered into lightly or broken easily.

Whenever men come together on a leadership team in a Local Church or on an Apostolic Team, the fact that they accept the position automatically brings them into a measure of covenant relationship with the other men, whether such a covenant relationship is formally spelt out between them or not. One thing they must do is recognize the God appointed Head.

Every House has a Head

Everything God builds is built as a spiritual house with someone appointed as the head of that house and every house is a part of another greater house over which Jesus presides as the Head over all things to the church.

The Bible says that every house is built by someone (Heb 4:1-6) and God gives the house and that headship to whoever He chooses.

Once given it cannot be revoked by man but only by God. Every church and ministry established by God is such a house. We cannot just start ða houseö or a ministry or a church of our own. If God didn't start it we laboring in vain because God is not building it (Pss.127:1-4).

If we come to work in any way in an existing church or ministry that God has

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truly founded, we need to remember that we come into another man's house and we must serve him as the head whom God has appointed. We cannot use his house simply to further our own ends or ministry. Also we cannot usurp his headship and try to take over his house from within, even if we feel he is doing a bad job.

Getting Released Righteously from a Team

No other covenant between men has the same total insolubility as the marriage bond but any covenant must be seen as permanent until God dissolves it. It must be seen as lasting as long as the Lord chooses to hold these men or women together to fulfill His specific purpose.

Once that purpose has been accomplished then they may be released for whatever new work the Lord has for them to do. But this must be done in a proper way.

A man must be released by the ones with whom he is currently in covenant and they must agree that it is the Lord who is leading him on. In Acts 13, Paul and Barnabas already knew the new work to which God was calling them but it was also necessary for God to speak to the rest of the team to release these two men. This He did, presumably through prophecy. Once they had also heard from God they were able to release the first two missionaries with faith and joy, certain that it was the will of God for them.

Once a man has moved to some new task he will need to become joined to those with whom he is now working. As a result it is usually not possible to remain joined in the same way to those with whom he previously worked. While the old affections may remain, the old covenantal ties must be released to allow the new covenantal relationships to be formed.

Joining a Team for the Right Reason in the Right Way

Because of the covenantal nature of these relationships, the way in which a new man joins a team is also important. It could in one careless moment wreck the careful work of God over many years.

David's Mighty Men Are a Great Model

Out of all the men that gathered to David during those difficult days in the

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wilderness, certain of them became his mighty men. There were the three who formed a protective shield around him. Then there were the three who became the leaders of the thirty and then there were the thirty themselves, making thirty seven in all, including David (2 Sam.23:8-39).The main characteristics which marked them out were:-

- a) They were courageous and trained for war (1Chr.12:1,8,24).
- b) They were highly skilled in a whole range of weapons, with the right hand or the left (1Chr.12:2).
- c) They could fight alone if necessary and the Lord used them single handed to win some great battles (2 Sam.23:8-12).
- d) They had a deep love for and loyalty to David (2 Sam.23:13-17).
- e) They had a heart for David and the Kingdom and not for themselves.
- f) They knew how to keep rank (1 Chr.12:22,38).

Joab was not one of these mighty men though he was the Commander of David's forces.

Uriah the Hittite was one of David's mighty men. Even when David had Uriah killed the rest of the mighty men did not break rank and leave him! No one ever defected from David's mighty men. When David turned the Kingdom over to Solomon only then did these mighty men transfer their allegiance to the new King.

Even Saul's mighty men did not leave him but stayed loyal to him right to the end and then came and took his body after he had been slain by the Philistines and buried it.

Joab, a Man of Great Gift but Not of a True Heart

David made this tragic mistake with Joab and we need to be warned. Joab was motivated out of selfish ambition not loyalty to David.

- a) He saw his chance for promotion by slaying some of the Jebusites. He grabbed his opportunity for personal advancement. He was motivated by selfish ambition not love for David (1Chron.11:6).

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b) When David was about to commit the terrible sin of having Uriah the Hittite slain in battle. Joab cooperated with David, because it was politically advantageous, instead of rebuking him or pleading with him as a true friend should have done.

Later, David, having learned his lesson, was much more careful. In 1Chr.12:17 he sets out some important principals that we need to heed.

Some Basic Questions Have to Be Asked and Answered

As men started to flock to this new popular movement he established four basic principles, three of which were questions regarding their attitude to him and to those already in leadership namely:-

- 1) Do you come peaceably?
- 2) Have you come to help me?
- 3) Will you join your heart to my heart?

4) He also gives a clear warning " if you betray me to my enemies, since there is no wrong (violence) in my hands, may God look and bring judgment".

1) Blessed are the Peacemakers

The emphasis of the word "peacemaker" in Hebrew and in Greek, is to mend and strengthen relationships. So the question David is asking is "will you come with an attitude to strengthen the relationships between us. Because if you have come to cause turbulence or division in our relationships, we don't want you however gifted you are".

2) Having One Heart and One Mind in The One Place

The second question focuses on the important issue of singleness of vision. For a team to work harmoniously, it needs to be working to a common vision and it is the particular responsibility of the leader to see and spell out that vision. The other team members can contribute to that vision but they cannot go off at a tangent to try to work out something of their own. They must see themselves as coming to help the leader to fulfill his vision.

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If a man already has a distinctly separate vision, he cannot join the team and then try to impose it on the leader or the team. If his vision is that important to him, it's better for him to remain separate so he is free to work out his vision on his own.

When the Heart Changes to a Different Vision

Perhaps the most difficult situation of all is when a man develops a distinctly different vision after he has joined the team and feels compelled to go free to fulfill it.

The same basic rules outlined above should still apply. He needs to hear from God that this is the time and the right way to go out and do it. It would also be necessary for others to hear and agree that this is the will of God. A man who understands covenant and is in right relationship with his brothers would not want to go out without the security of being sent out by them in joy and faith.

This requires a great deal of care and integrity if it is to be accomplished successfully.

In my opinion, after having seen this happen a few times, it is imperative to go to a totally new situation well away from the previous location and start on truly virgin ground so that people from the previous location are not attracted to the new work. If God is in it He will cause it to prosper and the man going out should have the faith to be able to start from nothing.

3) Is Your heart Joined to Mine?

David's emphasis on a joining of heart teaches us that in the kingdom of God men are to be relationally joined not simply organizationally joined. They cannot just be employees or "staff members" but we must have fellowship or "koinonia". Paul speaks continually of his "fellow-workers", his "fellow-soldiers", his "fellow laborers" etc. Koinonia means "to be joined together in a common life or joined together in a common purpose".

Ecclesiastes 4 :9-12, teach the value of a covenant partnership. It applies first of all to marriage but also clearly applies to men in covenant. In the days of heightened conflict that lie ahead it will be very unwise to be alone and the close fellowship of covenant brothers will be the only thing that will keep us at times.

4) You Cannot Speak Dishonorably of the Head or Other Team Member

If a man was to be part of a team and speak negatively concerning the leader or the team, he would be doing what David described as betraying his covenant brother to his enemies (i.e. Satan the accuser of the brethren). Loving, loyal confrontation in private according to Matt.18:15-17 is not sin but part of real relationships, providing our motive is to gain our brother.

Obviously any leader is going to make mistakes, but if he is honest about them and deals scripturally with them, then as far as God is concerned there is no wrong in him and God will defend His servant and judge those who speak and act against him.

Don't Rush Into Anything

In the light of all this, joining a team should not be taken lightly. There would need to be a "getting to know you" period during which the style of our relationship should be clearly spelt out.

In the local church, Paul exhorts Timothy, out of hard won experience, "Lay hands on no man suddenly" speaking, presumably, of the appointing of Elders.

Provision needs to be made for a man who maybe being called of God to join the team to investigate that call without immediate commitment on either side. He could be invited to attend all or part of a team meeting but may be asked to leave if a particularly sensitive private matter is being discussed.

In a team setting, it would not be appropriate for the team leader or any other team member to unilaterally invite a new potential member. He needs to be compatible with the whole team and they must be consulted. On the other hand there must not be an attitude of exclusivity and the whole team must be open, welcoming and ready to receive anyone the Lord is genuinely sending to strengthen them.

Once the new person is known and his gift and measure understood, room must be made for him at the level God has appointed to him. All of us must hold our roles and functions with humility and flexibility. We must be ready for change. We must let a newcomer with greater gift go past us to the higher role God has appointed him.

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E.g. Barnabas and Paul. Barnabas finds Paul (Saul) and brings him to Antioch. He soon realizes Paul is a man of greater measure than himself and steps back to let Paul take over from him and become the team leader (Acts 11 thru Acts 15).

PART 2 - MIGHTY MEN IN THE KINGDOM.

Kingdom mighty men have to be :-

A) GREATER THAN JOHN THE BAPTIST - MATT. 11:11.

JOHN 5: 31-35. - He was a burning and a shining light.

JOHN 1:5 - but not that light. Sent to bear witness to that light.

JOHN 8:12; 9:5 I am the Light of the World

MATT. 5:14 You are the light of the World

MATT 11:11-14 - the least in the Kingdom is greater.

B) AT LEAST AS STRONG AS DAVID - ZECH 12:8.

1) Mighty in Power And Deed.

Jesus a Man mighty in Power And Deed. Luke 24:19; Acts 10:38.

On the Disciples - Spirit Comes	Acts 2:1-4.
Power Released	Acts 2:43; Acts 4:31
Spirit Outpoured	Acts 4:31.
Power Released	Acts 4:8-16; 33; Acts 5:12.

Stephen a man mighty in Power And Deed. Acts 6:5,8.

Philip a man mighty in Power And Deed. Acts 8:4-8.

2) Mighty by The Spirit. You Shall receive Power after The Holy Spirit has come upon you. Acts 1:8.

The Spirit came mightily upon

a) Samson - Judges 13:25; 14:6,19; 15:14; 16:28.

b) Gideon – The Spirit came mightily on Gideon, He blew the Trumpet Judges 6:34

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c) Saul -1 Sam 10:6,10; 11:4-7 Esp.6 Later an Evil Spirit came 1 Sam. 18:10.

d) David - 1 Sam 16:13.

Two Men blew themselves up with the Power of their Anointing.

Two Men were Faithful all their lives though Powerfully Anointed.

Power without Character Is Dangerous.

The Greater the Power - the Greater the Fall - If We Become Open to the Devil.

a) Samson Is a Type - an Allegory of What Happens to a Powerfully Anointed but Unsanctified Man.

A Former Terror to the Enemy Becomes Their Plaything and Their Chief Sport.

b) Saul Is a Literal Example of a Man Who Was Mightily Anointed but Unsanctified.

An Evil Spirit Came Mightily upon Him, Just as the Spirit of God Had Formerly Been Mightily upon Him. 1Sam.18:10.

c) David Is a Literal Example of a Man Who Made It. He Was Mightily Anointed but Sanctified.

No Time to Speak of Samson or Gideon or Alexander the Coppersmith or Ananias and Sapphira or Timothy Etc.

WHAT CAUSED SAUL TO FALL AND DAVID TO STAND?

We need to know so we can learn from their Example.

1) SAUL ONLY PAID LIP SERVICE TO SEEKING GOD.

Went through the motions but no Real Heart for God.

1 Sam. 14:18-20; 36,37.

The whole nation did not seek God all the Days of Saul (1 Chron.13:1). A leader's attitude affects everybody!

David Sought a Real Relationship with God.

Real Heart for God - Really seeks God. Pss.42:1

Growing Responsibility - More Earnest Seeking.

“Let's Bring Back the Ark” - 1 Chron.13:1

Longed to Build a House of Rest for the Ark of God - 1 Chron.28:2

Always Seeking God's Face

Ziglag - Sought God - 1 Sam 30:6-8.

Sought God for strategy to beat the Philistines - 2 Sam.5:10-12,17,19,23,25.

David – He was a Leader that other Leaders joyfully followed - Not legally imposed authority.

2) SAUL LEAD BY HARSH LEGALISM AND AUTHORITARIANISM.

Rules Instead of Knowing God. 1 Sam.14:24.

**Saul a Driver - Rule of Fear .E.g. Pursuit of Philistines 1 Sam 14:24
A Shepherd to the House of Israel. A Father**

The Sweet Psalmist

Joy in Praise and Worship - Gentle with the Weak.

3) ATTITUDE TO PROMINENCE AND POSITION.

Saul Seemed O.K. until he was given Position - Couldn't Handle It.

Empire Building. Added to Himself - 1 Sam.14:52

Jealous of David - 1 Sam 18:6-16.

“Honor Me Before the People” 1 Sam. 15:12 - Etc.

David Truly Humble.

I am weak though anointed King 2 Sam.3:39.

Gladly served under Saul, even when it was difficult 1 Sam.18;14-16.

Sought heart relationship with Mighty Men. Gave them space.

Consulted with them - 1 Chron.13:1

4) ATTITUDE OF SAUL TO ABLE LEADERS WITH INITIATIVE WHO THREATENED HIS INSECURITY.

Kill Them! He was like this to David, Jonathan, anyone who got in his way.

b) David's attitude even to those who wrongly handled him or opposed him.

To those who were loyal. He welcomed them and rejoiced in their strength

To those who were not loyal. No Retaliation - Honor and Submission - Let the Lord Deal with Them

Shows kindness many times Mephibosheth 2 Sam 9:1. Hanun 2 Sam10:1

Merciful with those who opposed. But not weak.

5) HANDLING THE PROBLEM OF THE JEBUSITES.

Judges 1:8 Took Jerusalem. V21 but the Jebusites still lived there.

The House of Benjamin never got rid of the Jebusites.

Saul Was of the House of Benjamin. He lived all his life with Jebusites.

When David came to the Throne, his first act was to get rid of them. 2 Sam.5:1.

Paul's exhortation to Timothy, the Man of God. Flee Youthful Lusts!

**It was the New Testament equivalent of getting rid of the Jebusites. 1 Tim 6:3-16;
2 Tim.2:19-26.**

PART 3 -A TEAM TO ADVANCE THE KINGDOM AND TAKE THE CITY.

The greatest model by far in Scripture is given to us by Jesus Himself. He trained the Twelve to become the first Apostolic Team. But the principles He taught and demonstrated apply to any team whether is a Local Church, some other kind of Ministry Team or an Apostolic Team. The Gospels particularly highlight Peter and we learn many principles from the way Jesus brought him step by step through many experiences. Because of Peter's right response he finally became a powerful Apostolic ministry.

STEPS IN THE LIFE OF PETER

1) John 1:35-42

A Change of Mind or a Change of Life?

John the Baptist points to Jesus. Andrew then finds Peter. "We have found the Christ". They followed Him. They decided. "to believe in Him".

They initiated and decided everything.

Peter's First Encounter with Jesus, changed his mind about Him but not his relationship with Him. It changed his mind but not his life.

Jesus Prophecies "You are Simon You shall be called Peter"

Simon - A Reed - Always bends the way of the wind
Harken - Listening with the intention of obeying what you hear.

Peter - Petros - A piece of building stone. Built on "Petra" the great foundation stone

2) Mark 1: 14 - 20

The Gospel of the Kingdom

Six to Eight months later.

Jesus comes preaching the Gospel ("Good News") of the Kingdom of God.

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The offer is to re-establish the rule or government of God lost through Adam's choice of independence. It is only when this rule is accepted, that the sins and rebellion of the past can be forgiven and brought to an end.

The kingdom is not a place, but a relationship between a man and God in which God rules over the voluntary joyful submission of the man. The result of God's will being done perfectly is to turn hell into heaven. It's obedience which makes heaven into heaven!

This is a "Kairos" moment. Jesus then calls them. It is a "diatheke" covenant. They are free to accept or reject the offer but not change the conditions.

If they follow Him they will definitely be made into "fishers of men".

Peter decides to leave his nets and follow Jesus.

3) Luke 5:1-11 - A Worker with God or a Worker for God?

**Sometime later Peter is back at fishing. What happened?
He went off in his own strength and he was not successful.**

He returned to what he felt competent in - catching fish! Jesus intervened and caused him to fail even here.

But when Peter does it at Jesus' word he succeeds beyond his wildest dreams.

This was to teach him a very important principle. We are not called to work for God - but to be workers together with Him.

Jesus is the perfect example. He never did anything of himself. John 5:19; John 5:30 etc. He only worked with the Father.

Peter saw the sinfulness of this and cried "Depart from me Lord" v.8

Jesus replied "Don't be afraid, from now on you will be catching men".v.10

4) Matt. 16:16-20; 21-27 - Recognizing and Receiving Headship by Revelation

Who do you say that I am? It must be by revelation

But even genuine revelation does not give one the right to correct and overrule the Head. Peter challenges and seeks to “correct” the Vision.

5) Matt. 17:1-9 - The Strongest Horses are the Hardest to Break in

The three who had the greatest potential needed a supernatural encounter to come to recognize who Jesus really was to them and not challenge the vision of God he was imparting to them. They had to be bridled and harnessed before their gift could be put to work properly in a Kingdom Team.

On the Mount of Transfiguration God spoke “This is my beloved Son - Hear Him”! They never challenged His leadership again

6) John 6: 41-71 - The Offense Test

Jesus is experiencing a wave of popularity after a great miracle.

He preaches a controversial and offensive message. He tells the Jewish crowd “To have any part with Me, you must eat my flesh and drink my blood.”

Many are offended and leave. Peter is also offended but cannot leave. He knows who Jesus is and is captured by his heart commitment.

Jesus asks “Will you also go away”? Peter replies- “Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of Eternal Life. We are certain and we are sure that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God”.

7) Matt. 14:22-33; Mark 11:22-24 - The Faith Test

Where is your Faith? Will the Son of Man find faith upon the earth (Luke 18:8)?

Oh foolish and slow of heart to believe (Luke 24:25).

Jesus upbraided them for their unbelief (Mark 16:14).

Have the faith that belongs to God! The need for God’s faith Mark 11:22-24

**It is in His life “Take hold of the Eternal Life to which you were called”
1Tim.6:12**

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Faith comes through intimacy or knowing God. It's easy to hear Him when you live close to Him. Faith only comes by hearing the specific spoken word of Christ (Rom.10:17).

8) Luke 11:1-23; Luke 18:1-8; Matt.26:36-46 The Power to Pray Test

Jesus teaches on the five levels of prayer. (Luke 11:1-23)

One disciple asks him to teach him to pray - It wasn't Peter! (Luke 11:1)

They fall asleep and can't watch even for one hour.(Matt. 26:36-46)

They have to learn to pray as a Son not as a petitioner (John 16:23-30).

9) Matt.18: 1-5; Matt20:20; Matt23:8-12; Mark 9:33-37; Mark 10:35-45;Luke 9:46-48 Luke 22:24-30. - Competition in the Team Test.

Who is the greatest? They argue, discuss, debate about this one

Family ties stronger than other ties. James & John plus their mother are ambitious for the Bar Zebedee family.

Peter & Andrew are seeking to make the Bar Jonah family the greatest.

Peter and John never do anything together. Don't really like each other. This has to change

Peter does not have the same intimacy as John with Jesus. He's on the outside

10) The Rebuke and Chastening Test. God chastens, rebukes and scourges every son that he receives - Heb. 12:5-8

This is for their good. To share His holiness. To partake of His Divine Nature He has called us to His own Glory and Excellence 2 Peter 1:3

For every stage of natural growth there is an equivalent in the spiritual realm. Each Greek Word describes one of these stages. The main words are:-

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<u>Brephos -</u>	<u>A sucking Infant</u>
<u>Nepois -</u>	<u>A “not yet talking” Toddler A babe</u>
<u>Paidion -</u>	<u>A child under training or discipline</u>
<u>Technon -</u>	<u>A Teenager - trained to obey and who now accepts and rejoices in a lifestyle of obedience but is not yet mature.</u>
<u>Huios -</u>	<u>i) A Mature “Son” (male or female), over 30 years of age</u>
	<u>ii) Has become like his or her Father</u>
	<u>iii) Functionally has come into the possession of his/her inheritance</u>
<u>Neaniskos -</u>	<u>Young man/woman over 30 but under 40 trained and equipped for war</u>

11) John 13 :1-17 - The Foot Washing Test

Peter didn't want Jesus to wash his feet. Without foot washing he could have no part with Jesus. He overreacts “Wash me all over”.

We must understand what this means and do it to one another. It is our responsibility to wash the feet of those we serve as fathers and as leaders. We are also called to wash the feet of our peers. We must be very careful about trying to wash the feet of those set over us.

12) Matt.26:31-35; Luke 22:31-34, 54-62; John 13:36-38; John 21:15-22.
The Flesh and Spirit Test. Learning the difference, especially when it comes to Love

There were many relational difficulties and undercurrents among the disciples who Jesus chose.

The team would not hold together until these were dealt with.

They did not love God, each other, or the Lost World the way they needed to.

They needed something beyond themselves to make this happen.

Jesus exposes the need and shows them the answer is in God's supernatural Agape love.

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Peter has a genuine “Philea” love for Jesus but it has to be changed into “Agape” love.

Peter does not know his need, but it is exposed by his denial of Jesus. Peter weeps bitterly over his failure.

Peter has to wait until Pentecost to receive that kind of Love.

13) The Fear Test Luke 1:69-75; 2 Tim.1:5-8; 1 John 4:16-20; Acts 4:31-34

Fear had to Go! Fear is not simply an emotion. It is a spirit and it doesn’t come from God. 2 Tim.1:5-8

It’s God’s covenant promise to serve Him without Fear. Luke 1:69-75

It’s overcome by Agape love which casts it out 1 John 4:16-20

14) THE PATIENCE TEST (LUKE 24:49) Transformed in The Upper Room (Acts 2: 1-4 Acts 4:33).

They had to wait (kathizo) “until”. Of all Jesus’ disciples, only 120 stuck it out “until”

At last, right on time, the Spirit fell upon them. Now everything was different

They came out totally different to the way they went in. Everything is now changed and the City is rapidly taken

Peter has a prominent part to play.

They have great Unity.

15) PETER, NOW PART OF AN INSEPARABLE TEAM WHO STAND TOGETHER.

Peter stands with the Eleven.

Peter and John do everything together.

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a) Peter now has that Agape Love. (2 Peter1:15)

b) Peter can now Pray (Acts 9:40; Acts 10:9)

c) Peter now has the Faith (2 Peter 1:1)

d) Peter is now Bold and Fearless in preaching the Gospel (Acts 4:8-19)

16) PETER, A MIGHTY MAN OF POWER AND MIRACLES

But it is the outflow of their corporate Grace and unity (Acts 4:33).

Mighty signs and wonders flow through him (Act 3:6-16 ; Acts 5:12-16; Acts 9:34,40).

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