

SKYDIVING WITH A 12,000-FOOT PERSPECTIVE

CHAPTER 5 | TEACHING SEGMENT 2

(PLEASE WATCH THE STORY SEGMENTS CONNECTED TO THIS CHAPTER)

OUTLINE

**USE THE WORD OF GOD AS NAVIGATOR
AND RELY ON HIS STRENGTH AND ABILITIES**

PREMISE:

- Learn to stop and **RESET** our goals
- Trust God as **NAVIGATOR** of each season of our lives

1. THE PARADOX OF VICTORY AND DESPAIR

A. Elijah on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18 & 19; see pages 75–76)

- Elijah experienced incredible victory on Mount Carmel against the prophets of Baal as he witnessed God's miracles and power.
- Yet soon afterward, he plunged into despair, hiding in a cave, fearing for his life and praying to die.
- God met him in the midst of his fear and questions, and His gentle whisper told Elijah he was not alone.
- As we study the lives of others in the Bible, the same pattern of discouragement after achievement is often revealed.

B. Reset and regroup

- In our own lives as well, we've done the same: set goals, experienced victories, then falsely imagined our life to be over.

- Negative thoughts increase the toxicity, acidity and stress level in our body.
- With God's direction, Elijah had to regroup, but often we come to a place of regrouping without getting our new goal set.
- Example: When we are more stressed on vacation than we were at work, it's because we haven't actually set a goal to relax and enjoy our vacation time.
- If your goal is to rest, before you go on vacation deliberately tell yourself, I choose to rest.
- You can apply this to other life situations, but you must consciously create the goal first before your mind causes you to go into an overload and stress mode.

C. Navigating safely with the Word of God

- Pilots have visual flight rules (VFR) to rely on. But when the visual is gone due to inclement conditions, the orientation needs to switch to the instrumental flight rules (IFR) in order to navigate safely.
- John Kennedy, Jr. lost his life in a plane crash, disoriented because of weather conditions and unable to navigate using VFR.
- We have the IFR for our lives—the Bible. When you can't see clearly what's ahead or don't feel His presence, go to His Word and reinforce the truth back into your life.
- Many times we rely only on our experiences or those of someone else to determine what will happen in the next season.
- When we use the Word of God as our navigator in decision making, we avoid disorientation in the spirit realm.
- When we rely on our own abilities or miracles we've seen to prove the greatness of God, and when something doesn't happen the way we envision, we question our faith, gifts, and God.
- *Stop, recharge, and identify your next destination while in recharge mode.*

2. GOD IS OUR STRENGTH

A. Words and thoughts can isolate us

- Elijah told himself he was the only one left to do God's work.
- When we find ourselves using words like "I am the only one" or "my life is over," we create scenarios destined for disorientation, and we are about to crash.
- Avoid using absolutes such as "the only one," "never," "always," "this happens only to me." These words isolate us and move us toward failure and premature death of dreams and goals.

B. Depending on God

- Many die before their death because their dreams have crashed; they didn't see God as their ultimate source of strength, relying instead on their own gifts and abilities.
- If we think we are the only ones gifted to save others, the enemy will bombard us with lies that we will never be good enough. The key: it is God who is our savior, it is His gifts and abilities and power working through us.
- One of the worst things is reaching success before our character is fully developed.
- We want to jump out of our connection with God; we are impatient to fulfill all the things He has put in our heart. But we must go through the gliding season of being hidden in the clouds with Him to sustain success.

*** PLEASE CONTINUE TO CHAPTER 5 – TEACHING SEGMENT 3**