

A woman in a white dress with black polka dots stands behind a yellow vintage car. The car is packed with luggage, including a large orange suitcase, a blue suitcase, and a green map. A blue and white striped bag is on the ground in front of the car. The license plate of the car is 6832. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

# Journey Preparation

A new introduction for 2020  
(Part 1)

*Mike Parsons*

# Journey Preparation

- Having completed EG Module 12 after 6 years of teaching and 12 years of journeying, I thought it would be good to look at journey preparation with the benefit of hindsight
- Would I have taught things differently knowing what I know now?
- Yes is the answer, but rather than change the teachings I am going to frame them

# Journey Preparation

- Many of the things I believed at the milestone points of my journey in 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016 have been deconstructed by my encounters with God Himself
- Many doctrines and theological positions became untenable by the cognitively dissonant experiences I had during the last 12 years

# Journey Preparation

- I guarantee if you don't bail out you will face the same cognitive dissonance, where your experiences won't match your beliefs.
- Please allow the experiences with God to renew your minds to the real truth and don't fight it like I did

# Journey Preparation

- Many areas of doctrine and my understanding of who God is and what He is like have been transformed during this journey
- This has impacted on my understanding of the Bible, OT interpretation and my experience of God as love, light, Spirit and a consuming fire

# Journey Preparation

- The *Engaging God* programme is, as its name suggests, about engaging God personally and allowing God Himself to reveal and unveil the truth through your personal encounters with Him
- Don't let the Bible interpret God; let God interpret the Bible

# Journey Preparation

- Deconstruction will be a very challenging process for everyone, particularly for those with a strong church background influenced by evangelicalism
- Please persevere when the going gets tough, as it inevitably will, and the rewards will be immense

# Journey Preparation

- We have the Holy Spirit of Truth in us and with us as our guide
- We have Jesus, the way, truth and life, in us and with us to disciple us
- We have our loving Father in us and with us to Father us into sonship
- *Agape* love should be what we use to measure and test everything against



# Journey Preparation

- The essence, nature and characteristic of God who is Father, Son and Spirit being **love** is the underlying foundation for all the teaching modules
- Creation's beginning and consummation is totally connected to Jesus being the Alpha and Omega

# Journey Preparation

- Rom 8:19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

# Journey Preparation

- Maturing in relational sonship is the key to fulfilling our destiny as children of God
- You will only discover your identity, heavenly and earthly positions and authority through face to face, heart to heart and mind to mind encounters; by engaging God for yourself

# Journey Preparation

- I taught the programme linearly but I did not experience it linearly as many things were concurrent on my journey
- In engaging God relationally there was always an element of responsibility.
- God took me on a journey: from the inside out, through my gateways in first love, but also outside in, through the different realms of heaven, concurrently

# Journey Preparation

- If there is one thing I would want to say in hindsight it would be that it is a relational journey therefore do not formularise it.
- There are many twists and turns that will surprise you if you do not approach it with a fixed agenda

# Journey Preparation

- The programme is there to facilitate and help you on your journey, not to hinder or restrict you.
- Therefore please be led by the Spirit/spirit at all times.
- This is not meant to be an intellectual exercise but a relational adventure of personal discovery

# Journey Preparation

- The Father wants us to discover the true reality of our sonship through our relationship with Him
- Try not to set the agenda for your encounters with Him on the journey
- Be led by God, not driven by your own agenda and needs, be they for healing, destiny, acceptance or recognition

# Journey Preparation

- During the continual process of transformation be relational not formulaic or ritualistic.
- The *Transformation* series will give you many tools to aid you having your mind renewed to be set free; but use them as led by the Spirit, not as a systematic process.



# Journey Preparation

- As a living sacrifice let Jesus, your High Priest, prepare you. Do not try to prepare yourself as you will end up striving in self-effort and get weary.
- God is quite capable of setting the agenda and timing of the process of transformation if you are willing to be a living sacrifice

# Journey Preparation

- Do not try to run before you can walk; it is not a race to an imaginary finishing line.
- It is more of a marathon than a sprint but in reality it is a walk not a run.
- A restored walking relationship, whereby you do not try to get ahead of the Father or lag behind Him

# Journey Preparation

- Practice, practice, practice; to train your senses to be able to discern God's heart
- Heart to heart, cardiognosis knowledge is far more important on this journey than intellectual knowledge
- Try to spend time in God's presence without an agenda and learn to rest

# Journey Preparation

- Try not to thirst for knowledge but be hungry for relationship because that is where you will learn to be and not just do.
- Identity comes from knowing who you are from God's perspective, not your own.
- Being leads to doing; so that the doing flows from the being, not for it.

# Journey Preparation

- One question people ask during mentoring more than any other is “How can I see?”
- “I am only imagining it,” as if that makes it ‘less than’ in some way.
- The reality is that true ‘seeing’ (or better translated, ‘perceiving’) comes through all the senses, not just vision.

# Journey Preparation

- Knowing is the key; therefore I would encourage you to stop striving to see visually and relax, so that you can know the Father's heart and discern His voice along with Jesus and the Spirit as you learn to "hear" and sense them
- It all happens in your head, so just accept that and it will be easier for you to engage

# Journey Preparation

- All communication is eventually interpreted in the mind or consciousness as it ends up being transmitted to the brain through electrical impulses.
- Seeing, hearing, tasting, touching, smelling; both physical and spiritual senses are all electrical frequencies

# Journey Preparation

- Practice and train your senses but enjoy the process do not strive to perfect one way above any other.
- Through heart to heart communication Jesus knew what the Father was doing and creatively outworked that through His life as a son.
- Live in the rest of love, joy and peace



# Journey Preparation

- There is a small meditation exercise in module 1 that I believe will be helpful in being at rest.
- Your imagination is a sacred gift: be careful not to denigrate or belittle it.
- Imagination becomes the portal to experience; use it to create the doorway and enjoy the experience.

# Journey Preparation

- I have discovered that I still had my thinking influenced by an old covenant law mentality.
- I discovered many truths, including:
- You are not under the law but grace
- You do not have to try to be obedient as there is no law other than love
- You do not have to try to please God, you are already pleasing to Him

# Journey Preparation

- You do not have to try to love God, your neighbour or yourself as if it were a law.
- Under grace, let God love you; and that will be all the inspiration you need to love Him and everyone else as He loves you
- Here is the commandment: be loved

# Journey Preparation

- There is one specific topic that I will address in a separate session from the hindsight perspective:
- How we view God in light of the OT and NT interpretation
- Jesus came to fully express the character and nature of God as love and show God as wholly and consistently good

# Journey Preparation

- Religion has created a bipolar type of God who needs appeasing or pleasing.
- How we view the Bible, and particularly our understanding of the OT, can warp or twist our perception of who God is.
- I will cover how to read the OT in light of the NT which reveals Jesus as love.

# Journey Preparation

- Let love be your guide on this amazing adventure and do not lean on your own understanding
- If confused or challenged, take it back to God. Do not take my word for it.
- Make all the exercises and declarations your own, do not just be a parrot.
- My experiences are just your starting point not the end

# Journey Preparation

- Rest is the key to restoration and revelation
- Start to focus on your breathing, slowing it down, and start thinking of the name of God, YHVH
- Breathe in deeply and exhale slowly, Yod
- Breathe in Hei and out Vav

# Journey Preparation

- Repeat; in Hei, out Yod, in Hei, and out Vav...
- Be still and know that I am God
- I am love, I am joy, I am peace
- Invite love, joy and peace to flow in you and through you to create an atmosphere of rest around you







# Freedom

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