

# INTRODUCTION

## MINISTERING IN THE SPIRIT

### THE GOAL OF THIS COURSE

#### THIS COURSE HAS A TWO-FOLD GOAL

- To define the Biblical concept of Christian ministry. (1 Peter 2:9)
- To aid and equip those who seek to serve God to fulfill the commission that Jesus gave His followers here on earth. (Matt. 28:19-20)

#### REVIEW

- The Spiritual Growth course prepared us how to grow consistently with God.
- The Walk in the Spirit course prepared us for learning to walk for and unto the Lord.
- This Ministering in the Spirit course attempts to prepare us to actually go forth carrying out each and every work of the Lord here on earth. (Eph. 2:10)

### TRUE DISCIPLES BEAR FRUIT

#### DISCIPLES WILL BEAR FRUIT

The Word of God makes it very clear that the true disciple of Christ will bear fruit. (John 15:5, 8).

#### THE WORD "FRUIT" HAS TWO ASPECTS

- Of like kind to the original. (John 5:30)
- Having to do with productivity or increase. (Matt. 25:14-29 – the Parable of the Talents)

#### CHRISTIANS ARE TO BEAR A LIKENESS TO CHRIST IN

- Character and lifestyle.
- Labors.

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### SCRIPTURES

John 4:34-36; Rom. 6:21-22; Eph. 2:10

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### FRUIT BEARING REQUIRES THREE THINGS OF US

- We must remain vitally united to the Vine.
- We must allow Christ's nature and personality to consistently and more and more fully become our own.
- We must manifest every good work in the finishing up of the Father's work here on earth.

### FOUR SOBERING TRUTHS (JOHN 15:1-8)

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### WE CAN ACCOMPLISH NOTHING APART FROM OUR LORD AND SAVIOR

Christians never have and never will produce any good or true fruit, in lifestyle or in labors, without complete dependence upon Jesus Christ. (John 15:4-5)

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### BEING FRUITFUL

Being fruitful, both in personal development and in service, is expected of us by our God. Dead branches will be cut off and cast away. (John 15:2)

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### FRUITFULNESS WILL BE REWARDED

Our fruitfulness will be rewarded by our Father because it blesses Him. (John 15:8)

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### FRUITFULNESS IS A MARK OF BEING A DISCIPLE

Fruitfulness in nature, in lifestyle, and in usefulness remains the mark of being a true disciple of Christ Jesus. (Matt. 7:16-20)

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## MINISTERING IN THE SPIRIT

### SPIRITUAL MINISTRY BY HIS PEOPLE – THE HEART-CRY OF GOD

- Under the Law of Moses, priests were appointed to minister unto God and unto the need of the people.
- Under the new covenant, Jesus, the perfect priest, made it clear to all that the Father's highest will for Him, and for us also, is ministry. (Matt. 25:31-40)

### CONCLUSION

- True disciples of Jesus will always seek to minister in the ways of and under the direction of their Lord and Savior.
- In ministry, as in our personal relationship with God and in our relationships with others, He remains our perfect example.
- The Spiritual Growth course taught and guided us into the lifestyle-likeness of Jesus.
- This course is designed to teach and guide us into achieving the ministry or love works-likeness of Jesus. (1 Pet. 4:11)
- As we come into these areas of growth, we become true spiritual Trees of Life, and this blesses our Heavenly Father.