REDEEM IT!: LIVE OUT OF THE REFLECTION

SECTION 1 — LESSON SUMMARY AND OBJECTIVE

Summary: To live out of the reflection is to continually behold the Lord as He is revealed in Scripture and allow the Holy Spirit to transform us into Christ's image. The Word is a mirror: it reveals the character of Christ and our identity in Him. We must not glance at that reflection and walk away unchanged. We keep the truth before us, renew our thinking, speak in agreement with redemption, act on the Word, meditate on it, and stand in the freedom Christ provides.

Objective: Participants will understand that spiritual transformation comes through continually beholding Christ; recognize the difference between merely hearing the Word and living it; and identify practical ways to bring thoughts, words, and actions into agreement with the truth of redemption.

SECTION 2 — TEACHING POINTS, EXPOSITION, AND APPLICATION

1. Behold the Lord and be transformed. The Greek word katoptrizomai conveys looking in a mirror or reflecting an image. With the veil removed, we behold the Lord's glory, and the Spirit changes us into His image. Jesus reveals the Father's character. Imagination may help keep the scriptural picture before us, but it never replaces Scripture. (2 Corinthians 3:18; John 14:9)

Exposition: What does continually looking to the Lord do in us, and why is the Spirit—not human effort alone—the agent of transformation?

Personal application: What characteristic of Jesus do I need to keep before me and allow the Spirit to develop in my life?

2. Do not forget the reflection. A hearer who does not obey is like someone who looks in a mirror and immediately forgets what he saw. We remain in the Word and practice it. The Word shows us Christ and calls us to reflect His character in everyday life. (James 1:23–25; 1 John 4:17)

Exposition: What is the difference between briefly hearing the Word and continuing in it as a doer?

Personal application: What truth have I heard but not consistently put into practice? What specific step of obedience can I take?

3. Examine the image you carry within. What occupies the heart influences how we think, speak, and respond. Abraham's offering of Isaac revealed faith in God's provision and pointed to God's own provision. At Lazarus's tomb, Jesus gave thanks to the Father and acted in confidence in Him. We are called to live from the blessing and identity we have in Christ, not from the reflection of the curse. (Proverbs 23:7; Genesis 22:13–14; John 11:41)

Exposition: How did Abraham's faith and Jesus' thanksgiving demonstrate confidence in God beyond what was immediately visible?

Personal application: Which image most often shapes my response—fear, defeat, and condemnation, or the truth of God's provision and my identity in Christ?

Declaration: "I'm not living from the reflection of the curse anymore. I'm living from the reflection of the blessing in me. I will imitate the image of Christ within me."

4. Live out the reflection through five practices. (a) Renew your mind: bring false or resistant thoughts under Christ's authority. (2 Corinthians 10:4–5) (b) Confess redemptive realities: let your words agree with what God has provided in Christ; confession is not denying circumstances but declaring truth. (c) Act on the Word: obey what God has shown you rather than allowing fear or doubt to talk you out of it. (James 1:23–25) (d) Meditate on the Word: give it sustained attention until its truth directs your response. (Mark 4:24; 2 Peter 1:19) (e) Stand on it: reject condemnation and live in the freedom of the Spirit of life in Christ. (Romans 8:1–2)

Exposition: When the Word confronts a stubborn place in me, how do renewing my mind, confessing truth, acting, meditating, and standing in Christ work together?

Personal application: Which of these five practices do I most need to strengthen this week? Identify one thought to bring under Christ's authority and one action that will demonstrate obedience.

Closing charge: Keep beholding the Lord in the Word. Let the Spirit renew your mind, shape your confession, guide your actions, and establish you in the truth. Fellowship with the Lord is not only for times of need; it is also where we continually become more like Him.

SECTION 3 — SCRIPTURES IN FULL (KING JAMES VERSION)

2 Corinthians 3:18 (KJV): But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

John 14:9 (KJV): Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

James 1:23–25 (KJV): For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

1 John 4:17 (KJV): Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

Proverbs 23:7 (KJV): For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

Genesis 22:13–14 (KJV): And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

John 11:41 (KJV): Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

2 Corinthians 10:4–5 (KJV): (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Mark 4:24 (KJV): And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

2 Peter 1:19 (KJV): We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Romans 8:1–2 (KJV): There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.