

HEART READY 4 - THE MYSTERY OF GOD

I. MYSTERY - UNCOVERING WHAT IS HIDDEN (*PEEK-A-BOO* first game for both babies and Christians)

Prov. 25:2 *It is the glory of God to conceal a matter,
But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.*

BILL JOHNSON - *"God doesn't hide things from us. He hides them for us."*

A. THE GLORY OF KINGS - *Royal Pursuit and Responsibility*

Colossians 2:2 that their (BELIEVERS) hearts **may be encouraged**, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, **3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge**.

Ephesians 3:8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ⁹ and to make all see what is the **fellowship of the mystery**, which from the beginning of the ages has been **hidden in God** who created all things through Jesus Christ;¹⁰ to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,¹¹ according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,¹² in whom we have **boldness and access with confidence** through faith in Him.

B. THE WEIGHT OF INVISIBLE THINGS

1. HOW TO CULTIVATE ATMOSPHERES THICK WITH GLORY

2Cor. 4:16 Therefore **we do not lose heart**. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.¹⁷ For our **light affliction**, which is but for **a moment**, is working for us a far more **exceeding and eternal weight of glory**.¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. **For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal**.

- **SMITH WIGGLESWORTH PRAYING** - Other spiritual leaders could not remain in the room while he prayed. They could not bear the

intense weight of glory. Difficulty breathing.

- **INTENSE PRAYERS OF FAITH**
- **SPEAKING OFTEN IN TONGUES**
- **WOULDN'T LET 30 MINUTES GO BY WITHOUT PRAYING**
- **MADE AUTHORITATIVE DECLARATIONS BASED ON TRUTH**
- **DIDN'T ALLOW DOUBTING PRAYERS IN HIS PRESENCE**
- **PRAY AUDACIOUS PRAYERS** (*Dead body propped up on wall*)

2. HOW TO TIP THE SCALES OF MYSTERY TOWARD GLORY- CULTIVATE HIS PRESENCE IN YOUR LIFE

- **RULON GARDNER** - *Olympic champion wrestler who was also a farmer.* The Wyoming-born dairy farmer stunned the world by defeating the *undefeated 13-year reigning champion, Aleksandr Karelin*, in the Greco-Roman super-heavyweight final at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. **MOST BORING WRESTLING MATCH EVER. TWO SLABS OF MUSCLE LEANING ON EACH OTHER.** No body slams or costumes

C. GET COMFORTABLE WITH GLORY - *It's just unfolding MYSTERY*

- **DON'T BE FEARFUL** - *Fear interfere's with the revelation of mystery*
- **DON'T BE PUT OFF BY WHAT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND YET**
- **PRESS TOWARD MYSTERY- THAT'S WHERE GROWTH HAPPENS**

II. FIVE KEYS THAT UNLOCK MYSTERY

1. HUMILITY - BECOMING AS A CHILD (AWE AND WONDER)

Luke 10:21-24 TPT

*Then Jesus, overflowing with the Holy Spirit's joy, exclaimed, "Father, thank you, for you are Lord Supreme over heaven and earth! You have hidden the great revelation of this authority from those who are proud, those wise in their own eyes, and you have shared it with these who humbled themselves. Yes, Father. **This is what pleases your heart: to give these things to those who are like trusting children. [22]** "Father, you have entrusted me with all that you have. No one fully knows the Son except the Father. And no one fully knows the Father except the Son. But **the Son is able to reveal the Father to anyone he chooses.**"*

- **JESUS REVEALS MYSTERY (HE IS THE DOOR - JOHN 10:7-10)**
- **PRIDE ALWAYS OBSTRUCTS REVELATION**

- **TRUST BEGINS WHEN WE HUMBLE OURSELVES** (*about Control*)

2. **HOPE - IS NOT GIVING UP. HOPE COMES FROM GOD**

Hebrews 11:1 NLT *Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. (PLANE TICKET but haven't traveled yet)*

Rom. 15:13 *Now may **the God of hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may **abound in hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Romans 4:18 MESSAGE *When everything was hopeless, Abraham **believed anyway**, deciding to live not on the basis of what he saw he couldn't do but on what God said he would do. (HAVE YOU DECIDED HOW YOU WILL LIVE?)*

- **HOPE IS NEVER DERAILED BY DELAY**
- **GOD HIMSELF IS THE SOURCE OF ALL HOPE**
- **HOPE ALWAYS PRECEDES FAITH**

3. **FAITH - IS HOLDING THE REALITY OF INVISIBLE THINGS**

Romans 4:16-17 TPT

*The **promise depends on faith** so that it can be experienced as a **grace-gift**, and now it extends to all the descendants of Abraham. This promise is not only meant for those who obey the law, but also to those who enter into the faith of Abraham, the father of us all. [17] That's what the Scripture means when it says: "I have made you the father of many nations." He is our example and father, for in God's presence **he believed that God can raise the dead and call into being things that don't even exist yet**.*

- **FAITH HOLDS INVISIBLE REALITY BEFORE IT IS EVER VISIBLE**
- **INTANGIBLE FAITH MOVES THE TANGIBLE MOUNTAINS (MK 11)**
- **CONTRARY TO HOPE IN HOPE BELIEVED (Rom. 4:18 NKJV)**

4. **INTIMACY - ABIDING IN CHRIST releases life and instructs us in the mysteries of God.**

John 6:56 *He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.*

57 *As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so **he who feeds on Me will live because of Me**.*

John 15:5 *"I am the vine, you are the branches. **He who abides in Me, and I in***

him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

- **GOD HIMSELF IS THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE**
- **WE PREPARE TO UNDERSTAND MYSTERY THROUGH INTIMACY**
- **ABIDING RESULTS IN CONTINUOUS FRUITFULNESS**

5. LOVE - UNDERSTANDING THE MYSTERY OF GOD

1 John 3:14 *We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.*

John 17:3 *And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*

John 17:21 *that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.* ²² *And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:* ²³ *I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.*

- **THE PURSUIT OF MYSTERY IS EXPLORATION INTO THE LIFE WE HAVE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST**
- **UNDERSTANDING THE MYSTERY OF ONENESS IS ABOUT LOVE AND OUR REVELATION OF GOD TO THE WORLD. Love is how they will know God is real.**

III. MYSTERY IS NOT ABOUT INSUFFICIENCY IT IS ABOUT DISCOVERY
Compare looking for misplaced keys to solving a good mystery

A. WE ALREADY HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED - Sufficient in Christ

Colossians 1:27 *To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

Colossians 2:9 NLT *For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body.*

¹⁰ *So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.*