

Lesson 1

Let the Revolution begin

A. **SHIFT Your Life**

1. Does anything concern you in your own community, city or nation?
2. What concerns you most?
3. What would a community look like that was being impacted and overtaken by the churches in it?

Who would be featured in news media reports?

How would schools be operated?

What would the crime rate be?

Where would community and church monies be spent?

When would a child begin learning about Jesus?

4. What gifts and abilities do you have to offer your community?

B. Laying a Foundation

1. Do you believe that every Christian should be a “prayer warrior”?

Why?

Why do we need to be fervent in prayer?

2. How does your experience in prayer compare to “prayer warriors” you know?
3. What is Pastor Sunday’s point about the prayer time required for him and his church to hear and receive God’s instructions?
4. Describe what you could do in your prayer closet and what you would expect to achieve.
5. What changes could you make to your schedule to achieve this?

C. The Kingdom of God

1. Fill in: (Page 5)

But God opened my eyes to see that to complete the Great Commission, we must have _____ upon _____,

not just _____ in _____.

Transforming _____ requires bold steps.

2. Explain in your own words what this statement means: “The “Great Commission” is not primarily concerned with building churches but with building the Kingdom of God in every sphere of Society .”

3. What is a major difference between “church” and the “Kingdom of God”?

Lesson 2

God Did Not Create a Passive Church

A. God is After Nations

1. How do you know God's concern is not limited to individuals?
2. Why does God teach us to obey, respect, and submit to the authority of man's government?
3. What do you believe your own individual responsibility is to government on a
 - family level?
 - church level?
 - government level?
 - global level?
4. How can parents encourage a "national focus" in the home? How about a "global focus"?

B. Man Is to Spread the Kingdom of God

1. Fill in:

God gave us this corner of the universe to _____, just as He is _____ over the universe. Adam was created in the _____ and after the likeness of God to _____ the earth. He fellowshiped and communed with God; he dressed and _____ the garden of Eden. The glory of the Kingdom was present in the garden of Eden, and men were to _____ it.

Starting with Adam, is it typical for God's people to take care of the world God created for us?

Do most Christians think in terms of discipling the nations?

Is it possible in our present day and time for Christians to exercise a "Kingdom" purpose in society?

2. Read the following verses of Scripture here and in your favourite Bible translation:

"...Occupy till I come" Luke 19:13

"...Jesus came...preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of god is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel" Mark 1:15.

"...No doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you" Luke 11:20.

How do these influence your thoughts concerning the Kingdom?

3. "The real focus of every Christian's life, and of all our church activities, is promoting the Kingdom of God in every sphere of our nations."

Do you believe that spreading the Kingdom of God is your job? Explain.

How can the church/believers fight corruption? Give practical examples.

C. God Expects Us to Move in Authority and Power

1. Meditate or discuss what these scripture verses mean:

“And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth”
Revelation 5:10.

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you, out of darkness into his wonderful light” 1 Peter 2:9.

2. “A church not focused on discipling nations exchanges big ambitions for small ones.”

Estimate the “ambition size” of your church with reasons supporting your assessment.

What is the difference between a large church and a church with a large impact?

Have you been satisfied with only “tools” of faith, blessing or prosperity? How can you lift your faith from small satisfactions to great ambitions?

D. The Time is NOW

“Did the only begotten Son of God humble Himself and come here to be violently and brutally murdered, hung on a cross, despised and mocked, then come back from the dead and preach and teach for forty days just so we could be prosperous and have emotion - stirring praise and worship times and pass colourful leaflets and set up clever websites all while people around us are depressed and committing suicide, spreading AIDS, dying of hunger, wrecking the planet and much more?”

It is time:

- to remember the Cross and the big ambitions Christ has for this planet
- to rule our Promised Land for the glory of God
- to ask, knock and seek results
- to stop thinking of ourselves on the bottom rung of the social ladder
- to stop lying low

God is waiting for us to take action! We don't have the moral right to be indifferent. Read the following aloud:

- I am an instrument on God's hand. I hold and help determine the destiny of my family, friends, co-workers and nation.
- I am not small or insignificant. I am God's messenger.
- I walk in power, exercising my gifts and talents. When I give up small satisfactions, I accept ambitions much larger than I ever dreamed!

Write two more proclamations for yourself:

1. _____

2. _____

Make a copy of these proclamations for your mirror, desk, computer, refrigerator, dashboard, backpack, PDA or iPod.

“And thou shall bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house and on thy gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:8-9.

Lesson 3

How do I get started?

A. Discover your promised land

1. Define "Promised Land."
2. Why is discovering your personal Promised Land of primary importance?
3. How does a Promised Land relate to evangelism?

B. Break Free into Your Ministry

Read: *"But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men...And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, pastors and teachers: For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"* Ephesians 4:11-13.

1. After reading this passage, explain the statement that "limiting the ministry to the pulpit or to the fivefold ministries makes ninety-five percent of the Church irrelevant."

2. Pulpit ministries are to:

1. help people discover and be effective in their own sphere of influence.
2. empower people with kingdom principles.
3. Release people in confidence and strength.

Are pulpit ministries helping you with these elements?

3. Fill in:

Your promised land is almost certainly _____ a ministry you feel you should _____ but an actual place of _____ in society that you can take back by the grace of God.

Don't confuse the _____ you perform in God's house for the _____ He gives you outside His house.

What chore are you doing in the Lord's house?

What area could you "occupy" as part of your Promised Land outside the church?

"Your place of calling becomes your place of manifesting Christ as a servant." Explain what this means to you and how it affects your actions.

4. Re-read this statement:

“If you have not found your own Promised Land, or if you are still in training, don’t stand idly by, but help others find their Promised Lands. Our goal in subduing our own Promised Land is not about self-fulfilment or self-advancement. Nobody can excuse themselves from labour simply because they do not know where their Promised Land is. Ours is a common goal, not a one-man show.”

Who can you help in their Promised Land right now?

How do you think this could help you find your own Promised Land?

How do you discover your own Promised Land?

How do you start out in your Promised Land?

C. Explore Your Promised Land Through Education

1. From this chapter, describe the differences between a foolish Christian and a successful Christian.

2. How can you become a sharp or sharper arrow in God’s hands? How can you increase your credibility?

3. Assess your training, education and experiences in light of what you are discovering about your Promised Land.

- Where do they mesh?

- Where do they intersect?

- Where do they oppose each other?

4. In your pursuit of the world's knowledge, prayerfully consider whether or not you have taken on the world's values and character. List changes you need to make.

5. List the kind of Kingdom values we must impose on the world.

D. Empty the Pews

Describe three things you can do immediately to shift to sphere-subduing.

1.

2.

3.

Lesson 4

Embody the Nature of Our King

A. Ruled by the Kingdom

1. Read aloud: "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing" John 15:5.
2. Do you tend to personally "remain in Christ" or do you mostly just hope He "remains in you"? "*You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you*" John 15:16 NKJV.
3. If addiction to Christ were a disease, then based on your level of addiction to Christ today, what is your condition? Is your case terminal and permanent? Is it a mild case or a full blown case?

B. The Church-Minded Church

1. Can a Christian make church too much of a focal point of life and ministry?

If so, how? What would be a solution?

2. Do you struggle with unforgiveness toward leaders of any kind who failed to release blessing and favour on you or who didn't acknowledge and support your call and dreams? Pray to release the past, and ask God to help you find new, encouraging relationships.

3. "Egocentrism kills leadership because it shrinks ambitions to the size of desires."

Meditate on or discuss this statement, then describe what you would see as a difference between these two leaders:

Church-Minded

Kingdom-Minded

Which type of leader are you? Which do you aspire to be?

4. "A half-truth is a whole lie." How does this apply in your life? In your church?

C. Rule from a Superior Place with Superior Principles

What principles make us kingdom-minded?

1. Explain why holiness and righteousness can be the best testimony we have for showing people that God is real.

2. Are you a “problem chaser”? Explain your answer.

3. What role does “repentance” play in your life?

D. Learning to Love all Equally

1. How did this happen in Pastor Sunday’s life?

2. Fill in:

Love people! _____ them no matter who they are or what they do. _____ people regardless of their faults.

_____ them unconditionally. God’s _____ draws people, but our attitude often pushes them away. But if there is _____, then that _____ draws and keeps them. _____ is the strongest bonding agent in the universe.

_____ preserves people in the kingdom of God. If they do something wrong, _____ them. Even if you do not like socialising with them, continue to _____ them!

_____ and help people before you ever try to influence them. _____ them before they listen to you.

_____ them while delivering them from slavery. _____ them while bringing them out of the world.

3. What is our “first commission”?

4. "National transformation is today's assignment."

How must you shift your thinking, behaviour, your goals, and your socialization in order to become deliverers and saviours of your family, community and nation?

E. Applying SHIFT Words

1. Quietly, prayerfully compare these SHIFT words with your personality, behaviour and lifestyle.

Righteous	Reformer
Egocentric	Virtue
Smugness	Transparent

2. What two words would best describe the person you aspire to be?

3. If Jesus' followers embody the nature of their King, there will be no need to prove that we are Christians.

If this shift were to happen in America tomorrow, how would your life change? Give examples from a variety of spheres (home, church, school, business, politics, etc.)

Lesson 5

Get to Work!

A. No Shortcut to Hard Work

1. Why is hard work one of the most neglected ingredients in many Christian's lives?

2. What are some consequences of this neglect?

B. The Blessing of Work

Fill in the blanks:

1. Hard work and the _____ rescued Sunday from a life of _____.
2. Many believers incorrectly think hard work is a _____ and an _____, a means of supporting themselves, or a means of _____.
3. Even worse, some see work as _____ from their Kingdom life.
4. What is your opinion about working for God and advancing your own career? Are they mutually exclusive?

5. Name two things that God established work as a blessing for:

6. Explain this statement: "Anyone who does not work disgraces himself and steals from the wealth of those who do labour."

7. In the context of this chapter, describe "pitiful" people.

C. Side Benefits of Hard Work

Name ten areas of life that are helped or improved by work:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Lesson 6

Promoted Through Persecution

A. God Has Purposes for Persecution

1. How might Pastor Sunday's wariness of going to Russia have hindered God's purpose for his life?

What is wariness hindering you from doing?

2. Have you had a frustrating or disappointing situation(s) in your life that you complained about rather than prayed about? Explain what you could have done differently, or are doing differently today.

3. Read aloud:

"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners" Isaiah 61:1 NIV.

Pastor Sunday had never preached before and was only a young convert, six months in the Lord when he felt the Lord direct him to this passage.

What does this passage mean to you personally? Explain your answer.

4. Have you been betrayed or negatively impacted for your Christian beliefs? How did you respond? How do you believe you should respond in the future?

B. Kingdom Nature Gets in You

1. How does persecution reveal one's character?

2. Fill in the blanks to complete these statements about the five reactions to persecution we are to have:
 - Our first reaction should always be _____ and _____.
 - Our second reaction is well shown in the Bible: But I say to you, _____ your enemies, _____ those who curse you, do _____ to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use and persecute you.
 - Our third reaction is _____ for those who harm us. This connects us with God in the most powerful way possible.
 - Our fourth reaction is freedom from _____.
 - Our fifth reaction: Finally, we need to be _____ and let God _____ our persecutor.

3. Why should we thank God for the tests?

4. Explain this statement: "Persecution gives us the perfect platform to overcome evil with good."

5. Describe the effects of fear...

On you personally:

On the Church corporately:

C. School of Persecution

We are to expect persecution and rejoice in it as we grow into the stature of a mighty man or woman of God.

Think of situations and fears which hinder your ability to face, stand through, and rejoice in persecution.

1.

2.

3.

How can you practice the five reactions to persecution in each one?

C. Outcasts Begin to Look Respectable

1. How do people living in the shadows of society become respectable?

2. Fill in the blanks to illustrate how loving outcasts with the love of Christ changed Pastor Sunday's world in Kyiv.

But when people came and felt the _____, looked past their _____, braved the _____ of their families, and made the _____ their priority. In my first four years in Russia, I could not get any European saved, but now thousands were coming because our church was touching _____ people.

3. Serving "the least of these" is the primary concern of Pastor Sunday's church. It is their foundation.

When you think about your church, what is your primary concern?

Is caring for people the foundation of your church or ministry?

Who are the "least of these" in your world?

D. Taking It to the Streets

Matthew 25:34-46 NIV

Name some of the "least ones" you previously passed by. What do their faces look like? Have you passed by, not seen, ignored, been too busy for, been prejudiced against, been too fearful of, or just not wanted to be associated with them?

Lesson 8

What to Do When Battles Come

A. Battles Are Normal

1. Pastor Sunday suffered lawsuits and death threats. Name some battles you have faced as a Christian, whether great or small?
2. Why do you think challenges are necessary to change our world?
3. How do battles of life make us into a better person?
4. How have you responded to battles?
5. Have you ever been in battle, yet able to sleep soundly and unworried? Why or why not?
6. How do think you could respond to battles differently, now and in the future?

B. Passing the Test of Battle

1. Fill in:

Some Christians _____ the test of battle because they are _____ . They claim they are being _____ , but they are actually _____ to fight battles because they are not dead to their own _____ .

2. How can each of the following result in losing a battle?

- Timidity
- False humility
- A desire for self preservation
- Ego
- Not living totally for Christ

3. Read Numbers 13. List some of your “negatives “ – both personal characteristics as well as circumstances around you – and list how they could be used for good by God:

- a.
- b.
- c.

4. Would God ever allow problems or hardships in your life on purpose?

What purpose could they serve?

What is required of you to win the battles of your life?

C. How Battles End

1. What is the “first result of battle”?

How can this happen?

2. What is the next result of battle?

Have you ever completely won a hard-fought victory? Explain.

3. What is the third result of battle?

Name some instances in which you have seen positive come from what seemed only negative.

4. What is the fourth lesson of battle?

5. When a battle comes, is it better to pray for God to shorten the battle or for Him to teach us to fight? Why?

Shift Challenge 9

Leader Shift –Leaders, let's shift

Egocentric Leadership

John 21: 14-15

Shift your thinking:

1. As a leader what is your focus? To advance your ministry or create opportunities for those under you?

2. What are the two main goals of a leader?

How does egocentric leadership fail to fulfil these goals?

How does egocentric leadership produce egocentric followers?

3. Compare and contrast a government leader who is Kingdom-focused vs. Egocentric. A teacher. A church music director. A businessman. A pastor. An athlete. A journalist.

1. Read Jeremiah 29:7 in your favourite bible version. After completing more than half of this study, what does this passage of Scripture now mean to you?

2. Fill in the blanks:

In other words, don't try to _____ yourself from working for the good of your nation, because God has _____ your _____ with its _____.

There are no exceptions for believers who are trying to follow God over in their own little corner. No, it is your _____ to make sure _____ and _____ come.

3. Pastor Sunday names the economy, political problems, ungodliness in entertainment, sports and business. What other areas of your society need to be "fixed"?

a.

b.

c.

d.

4. In what ways can you speak for God?

5. Name some decisions you can make that will:

Deliver people:

Enslave people:

C. Read Isaiah 59:14-16 in your favourite version.

1. Does God use angels to do a man's work?

2. Who does God use?

3. Whom does God call "a man"?

4. In your own words, define what it means to be "a man" or "a woman" in God's eyes.

5. In what ways have you fulfilled God's purpose for creating "a man" or "a woman"? In what ways have you not fulfilled it?

D. Call to Action

1. What forms of ungodliness are hard for you to accept?

Lesson 10

Let's Get Practical!

A. Kingdom Principles

1. What are some Kingdom principles that you know?
2. Where could you begin to teach these Kingdom principles?
3. Explain in your own words, "Principles unite, religiosity divides."
4. What is the best way to teach Kingdom principles, by preaching or by personal example? Explain.

B. Creating strategies

1. What purpose is served by forming an "NGO" or "non-government organization"?
2. Name 3 powerful NGOs that you know about:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

3. Do you know how each one started? What was its purpose in forming?

4. Pastor Sunday listed the following needs that his congregation discovered they could meet. Read these and add five more needs in your own community:

Smoking

Teenage pregnancy

Alcohol

Legal Aid

Feeding Centres for the Hungry

Medical Help

Street Children

High Schools: Purpose and Responsible Living Classes

Drugs

Homeless

Corruption

Violence

Pornography

Lobbying Government

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

5. Fill in:

As you begin to think of what you might do to change society, remember that _____ is the solution, but it's OK to present the solution in the way you are allowed, which means emphasising the principles, not _____. You are _____ representative. Just by being in a _____,

God is there. You have the anointing and the Kingdom _____. Bring it to people in a way you are allowed to. Don't deny them _____ answers just because you can't speak the _____.

Eventually, Kingdom principles will _____ the Kingdom of darkness, like the mustard plant that crowds out other plants. But every big goal starts out _____. You start by doing what you _____. Give it time to spread simply and naturally through you.

6. What will happen to others around you when they see you create a solution to a social problem?

7. When believers start occupying every sphere of society, what happens to church?

8. What do Christians have that talk show hosts do not have?

9. "We need to see every position of influence in society as Christian assignment."

Explain your thoughts about this statement.

C. Getting Organized

1. In the story of Jesus feeding the multitude, what is Pastor Sunday's perspective on gathering the leftover food?
2. Have you ever seen a good idea doomed by poor management? Or an organization that failed due to poor management?
3. Pastor Sunday said he was ignorant when he first became a pastor. Name two things he thought he needed to know or have:

a.

b.

Name one thing he now calls one-half of his success:

4. Name the "Seven Spheres of Influence" Pastor Sunday identified:

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

g.

D. Bring It Home

1. Which one of the Seven Spheres of Influence excites you the most?

What are you going to do about it?

2. Which are the next two you find most exciting?

3. How can your passion and giftings be used in the sphere of society that most intrigues you to maximize the Kingdom of God?

4. Is it too late for you to start using your passion and giftings? What can you begin to do?

5. What model would best suit your work in the sphere that interests you?

6. Has anyone ever done it before in history? Who? What made them succeed?

7. What can you learn from them?

8. How would you implement those lessons to affect our society and world?

9. What will you do this week to teach Kingdom principles, create models and be organized?

Lesson 11

Arise from your prayer closet!

A. Not Praying!

1. When are we to stop praying? Why?
2. "Prayer is not merely a habit but a way of life." Explain ways that Christians can pray.
3. Fill in the blanks:

"Even youths grow _____ and _____, and _____ stumble and fall; but those who _____ in the Lord will renew their _____.
They will _____ on wings like eagles: they will _____ and not _____, they will _____ and not be _____. Isaiah 40:30-31.

Does this familiar passage have greater meaning to you in light of this study?

B. What does God want you to do?

1. Pastor Sunday says there are two things you learn about God when you pray. Name them:
 - a.
 - b.
2. We are building in the here-and-now what has already been established in heaven. What must we do to ensure we accomplish what he called and appointed us for?
3. Name some ways we can do this?
4. If the Kingdom does not advance on prayer alone, what else is required to advance the kingdom?

C. Overcoming Timidity

1. How can timidity and passivity masquerade as “humility”?
2. Have you ever known anyone who seemed to pray a lot but was not very successful? In light of this study, what could be done differently?
3. In what areas is God waiting on you, when you think you are waiting on Him?

What would you do differently now?

4. “Some countries are full of faithful believers living in poverty.” How does this statement apply to your community? Your church? Your friends?

D. Becoming a Doer!

1. "The kingdom belongs to doers not hearers. You can hear God speak all you want, but if you don't do anything, the kingdom does not rightly belong to you."

Name three things you are certain God told you to do:

a.

b.

c.

2. Write a short prayer of commitment to work in each of those three areas everyday this coming week:

3. Repeat this prayer each morning, then go out and DO what you know to do!

Lesson 12

A. Foundations and Preparations

1. Go back in this study and name at least two things that Pastor Sunday and his church did to prepare for their role in a major SHIFT in their country:

2. Is your foundation of prayer ready to withstand a government assault, persecution, or difficulties? If not, what can you do to prepare to take your promised land?

3. “Our actions helped clear the fear from people’s minds. Boldness came to everyday Ukrainians. They began to dream of freedom. They developed a willingness to fight for their rights. They saw that the government is to serve the people, not hold them captive like cattle.”

Are people around you inspired to greatness and boldness?

How can a Kingdom focus in your life affect others around you?

4. In your own words, how does accepting responsibility for your community or nation affect you stepping into your personal promised land?

B. Feed the people

1. If you could publish a newspaper for your community, what would you the headlines and editorial be?

2. In your opinion, will the “chores” you are currently doing in the Lord’s house get the kingdom message to the greater community around you?

What will you have to do to balance the housekeeping in the Lord’s house with pursuing your promised land outside the church walls?

Right now, today, are you willing to do the hard work necessary to reach this Promised Land?

3. Looking back at the first steps in experiencing the “shift,” what outcasts of society are you willing to serve today? How could this help bring “revolution” in your community?

Is there someone you know who is serving the outcasts with whom you could form a team?

4. How ready are you for the persecution you will face once you begin to occupy the world around you for the Kingdom?

What does this passage mean to you:

“When a man’s ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.” Proverbs 16:7.

5. What battles will need to be won in your community for leaders to become aware of spiritual principles?

Do you think this will be easier than it was in Ukraine? More difficult? About the same? Why?

C. Deliverers Are Needed

1. Who were the “Moseses” who brought deliverance to Ukraine?

2. Name some specific things they did that brought the victory of freedom to that country:

D. Bringing Freedom

1. Are people in your community ready to step into roles vacated by unbelievers who do not follow Kingdom principles?

What must be done to prepare them?

2. What will you do this week to become even more obedient to God's guidance than you were last week?
3. God may have a bigger change in mind for your sphere of influence than you currently realize. What can you commit to, in order to be ready?

A. “The Christian Community Is Largely Mute”

1. What can Christians do to help solve the world’s greatest needs and major issues of the day?
2. Why do non-Christians carry God’s burden for the poor, the unhealthy, the prisoner, the orphan, the downtrodden and many Christians do not?
3. What Christian do you know who has been on the leading edge of solving one of the world’s great problems?

B. People in the World Are Suffering!

1. Do you believe that everyone without Christ suffers from futility and lives in some form of torment?

Was there a day when you were like that? Can you recall how it felt?

2. Name specific people who likely depend on you to show them how to live by Kingdom principles.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f.
 - g.
3. What part of your life is hardest for you to give up for the Lord?

Circle the following activities that would be difficult for you to forgo in order to pursue your promised land and help needy people.

Surfing the Internet

Sleeping late

Gardening

Playing or watching sports

Going out with friends

Working

Watching television

Shopping

Cooking or eating

Working on your house or car

Taking your children to various lessons and activities

Reading the newspaper

C. Did the Donkey Take a Bath?

1. Many Christians feel they need seminary or elaborate preparations in order to be used by God. In the story of the donkey, did the donkey smell good? Did the disciples bathe the donkey before Jesus used it? How does it apply to your life?

2. Must we be perfect before we can be used by God?

3. People do not need YOU personally as much as they need the God that you carry. What does this mean to you as you step into the Promised Land?

D. Have a Grand Opening!

Imagine your life is a big empty store, having a grand opening as a “Kingdom Principles Mart.”

1. What need(s) in the community will your store meet?

How would you communicate Kingdom principles through your store?

Notes

Notes