

Institute of Self-Worth®
Teaching Notes

**Your Destiny in Two Words:
Thankfulness or Un-thankfulness**

In Genesis 2:7, the Word says that after God breathed into Adam; he, Adam, became a “**living**” soul. The word “**living**” could be translated “**spirit.**” It could then be read, Adam became a “spirit” soul. In other words, his spirit and soul were one and the same. It wasn’t until he sinned that his spirit and soul were separated. God’s plan was for Adam’s spirit and soul to remain one. This is still God’s plan for us.

The Perfect Part of Us

1 Peter 1:23 tells us we were born again not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible seed, which is the Word of God. Every born again person has the incorruptible seed in their re-created spirit. This means that our re-created spirit has no flaws in it. It’s perfect.

Hebrews 10:14 talks about a part of us that has been perfected forever. We know that in 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Paul teaches that we are spirit, soul, and body. We know that from time to time our soul (mind, will, and emotions) has a few flaws, as does our body. That being the case, we can conclude that the perfected part of us is not our body or soul. It is our spirit that has been perfected.

Working Things Out

In Philippians 2:12, Paul teaches us that we are to work out our own salvation. If we are to work out our salvation, our salvation must be in us. The enemy’s plan is to create enough outside pressure through circumstances and relationships with people that we will see only our problems and not the way of escape. In order to win over the pressures of life, we must bring our salvation from the inside of us to the outside. There are two keys we must know in order to do this.

1. All tests and trials are external and are designed to keep our salvation on the inside.
2. You must have the revelation that your re-created spirit, which is perfect, has already won over the tests and trials of life.

The writer of Hebrews teaches us that we are not to draw back during the tests and trials of life. (Hebrews 10:38) In verse 39, he says that when we draw back, it is to our own perdition (or destruction). What part of us draws back? Is it our spirit, our soul, or our body? A perfect spirit has no fear; therefore, it has no need to draw back. Our body is just doing what we tell it to do. That only leaves our soul; which contains our mind, will, emotions, thoughts and feelings. Our soul is where we draw back. When our soul is not renewed to the truth that we have already won in the tests and trials of life, it will draw back. When this happens, we stop going forward with the plan of God for our lives.

In order to go forward, we must be able to see beyond the external. If this doesn't happen, we end up saying things like, "it was too tough"; "something just wasn't working right"; or we blame someone or something for the abortion of our dream.

Now Faith Is

Hebrews 11:1 says that "**now**" faith is. Although we move to a different chapter the thought continues from chapter 10:39. When we believe to the saving of the soul, rather than drawing back in our soul we can "**now**" operate in faith. If you don't believe to the saving of the soul there will be no faith. Knowledge must precede faith. Knowledge supplies hope, which gives us a picture of our future.

Temporal Things

In II Corinthians 4:18, Paul tells us to not look at the things that we see, but to look at the things we can't see. How do we do this? You must look at the picture on the inside of you. In order for the things you see on the outside to change or to be temporal or (temporary), the picture you see on the inside of you must be greater. Please understand; the picture you see will become your destiny.

In II Corinthians 10:7, Paul asks an important question, "Do ye look on things after the outward appearance?" We must ask ourselves this same question. We must realize that our destiny is directly tied to what we see. **Please remember; if you can't see it, you can't go there.**

Thoughts, Imaginations, and Strongholds

II Corinthians 10:4-5 talks about three areas of life: our thoughts, our imaginations, and strongholds.

Thoughts: One author has suggested that we will have as many as 10,000 thoughts a day that will go "through" our mind. Let's suppose he's right. However, even as believers, not all of those thoughts are godly. Thoughts are simply seeds looking for soil. In order to reproduce after their kind, they must have soil. The key is to let all of our ungodly thoughts to go "through" our mind. Don't let the ungodly thoughts stop in your mind and take root.

Imaginations: Our imagination is the picture part of our soul. It's where we "see" the thoughts that are going through our mind. Every thought that has a picture attached to it slows down while going through our mind. If it doesn't have a picture attached, it will continue to travel on through our mind. Our negative thoughts are not our enemy. People that don't know this will continually fight with their thoughts, only to lose. Every thought (godly or ungodly) that has a picture attached slows down when going through the dark room of our mind giving us an opportunity to capture and develop it. The

thought that we dwell on or allow to be developed in our imagination will become our destiny. **Remember, you will never go where you can't see yourself going.**

Strongholds: This word has two meanings. It can mean a "prison" or a "fortress." A prison is designed to keep you from prosperity. A fortress is designed to keep you from poverty. The fortress or prison in a person's life is based on the thoughts they have allowed to become their imaginations. Your thoughts always precede your way.

Change always comes, good or bad. Change can be the best thing that can happen to you or it can be the worst thing that can happen to you.

Change first comes in a person's imagination (through a thought with a picture attached). Our imagination is the ability to "foresee" things happening before they happen.

Romans 12:2 says that our mind needs to be transformed or **changed** to what is good, acceptable, and perfect. This is why it is important to renew our mind to the truth of the Word.

Un-thankfulness

The book of Romans is a letter Paul wrote to Christians. In chapter 1 and verse 21, we find the reason believers have so many problems. Lets look at four areas that create problems for the believer.

1. They choose not to glorify God.
2. They become un-thankful.
3. Their imagination becomes empty.
4. Their foolish heart is darkened.

If there is no picture (imagination) and no light, you are cannot know where you are going and you can't see the way to get there. The reason is because you've become un-thankful. God places His vision for our lives in our imagination. When our imagination is empty, we don't see or fulfill the vision He has placed on the inside of us. Our dreams are aborted and people don't receive proper ministry from us.

When all of this happens, change takes place in our imagination. The change that takes place is the inability to "foresee" ourselves the way God sees us. When this happens, we create a stronghold or prison in our minds.

Thankfulness

I Thessalonians 5:18 **"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."** Please note that it's **"in"** everything, not **"for"** everything. God does not create the tests and trials that we face. However, He does create a way through the tests and trials of life. We must learn this truth: **voiced thankfulness creates a**

picture in our imagination and that picture is our way through the tests and trials of life.

The reason it's God's will for us to offer thanks in the middle of the tests and trials of life is because He wants us to fulfill our destiny. The only way for this to take place is to have a picture of our escape in our imaginations. And the only way we can have a picture is by being thankful.

Paul writes in Colossians 2:6-7 that we are to walk in the Lord. In verse 7, he tells us how we do this: **with thanksgiving.**

In Colossians 4:2 he tells us that we are to "continue in prayer, and watch in the same **with thanksgiving**". The word watch means to awake. When we give thanks we awake to the things of God. When we give voice to un-thankfulness, we awake to the things of the world.

Ephesians 5:14 says that when we **give thanks** our soul becomes full of light. Thanksgiving is our expression of faith.

In Closing

When a believer chooses not to glorify God, there is a chain of three events that takes place:

1. We become un-thankful.
2. Our imagination becomes empty.
3. Our heart becomes darkened.

All of these events cause us to abort the God given dream on the inside of us. That dream is our destiny.

However, when we give glory to God, as a lifestyle, it creates the following chain of events:

1. We become thankful.
2. Our imagination has a picture of our hope or direction.
3. Our heart becomes full of light.

These events cause our dreams and visions to remain in us and become our destiny.

Each of us is the rudder of our ship. As we lock our rudder in the position of thankfulness, we will arrive at our destiny. When this life is over, we will hear our Father say, **"Well done thou good and faithful servant."**

The Institute of Self-Worth®
Exam

Your Destiny in Two Words

1. Are you responsible for your destiny?
2. Can you go where you can't see yourself going?
3. Change can be the _____ thing in your life or it can be the _____ thing.
4. What does the word "imagination" mean in Romans 1:21?
5. What causes a person's imagination to become vain and their heart to become darkened?
6. If voiced un-thankfulness blocks your ability to see, what happens when you become thankful?
7. Change first comes in a person's _____.
8. In I Thessalonians 5:18 Paul says to give thanks "in" everything. Why don't you give thanks "for" everything?
9. Where do you give thanks; your spirit, soul, or body?
10. What do you see about your destiny when you close your eyes?

Name: _____

Date: _____

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Answer Sheet

Your Destiny in Two Words

1. Yes
2. No
3. Best
Worst
4. Things that you foresee are going to happen
5. Being unthankful
6. You can see
7. Imaginations
8. There are a lot of things that happen in our lives that are not from God.
9. Soul
- 10.