

ALL THINGS NEW A DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY FOR HEALING

*Overcoming the Effects of
Same-Sex Attraction and Sexual Brokenness*

WORKBOOK #3: HEALING



2 Cor. 5:17

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All Things New: A Discipleship Ministry for Healing
Overcoming the Effects of Same-Sex Attraction and Sexual Brokenness
Workbook 3: Healing

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DBarrMinistries@gmail.com
www.DBarrMinistries.org

True Potential, Inc.
PO Box 904
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
www.truepotentialmedia.com



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Sample

INTRODUCTION

ALL THINGS NEW: A DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY FOR HEALING is a Bible Study and Discipleship Ministry for people who experience same-sex attraction (SSA). It is designed to be facilitated by lay leaders and assisted by volunteer prayer/Accountability Partners. The purpose of the All Things New Ministry is to aid in the spiritual healing and growth of people who have in the past, or are currently experiencing SSA. This ministry is designed to help release people from the bondage of SSA and to allow them to experience healing from the effects of their exposure to SSA and sexual brokenness.

Each lesson contains five days of homework to be completed by the ministry participants prior to meeting as a group to discuss the lesson and complete the in-class exercises. Another very important aspect of this ministry is the weekly memory Scripture that relates to the lesson for the week.

If you are completing this workbook on your own and not using it as a part of a facilitated weekly Bible study, you will need to purchase the companion Facilitator Guide in order to have access to all of the material you need to get the most out of this Bible Study. This is especially relevant to the in-class exercises presented in this workbook. If you don't have the Facilitator Guide, or someone who is facilitating this Bible Study that is using that Facilitator Guide, some of the exercises may not make sense.

ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNERS

We grow spiritually as Christians by sharing our lives with other Christians. One important aspect of this Ministry is for you to have a trusted Christian Accountability Partner to share your journey with as you work through the homework assignments and weekly lessons. There will be times as you work through this material that you may feel like giving up or giving in to temptations that have been gripping you for years. Having an Accountability Partner who you can reach out to in times of temptation, or when you need a friend who understands what you are going through, can really help you to stay the course and experience victory over your struggles.

You may be assigned an Accountability Partner by the Ministry Facilitator(s) to work with you, or if you are completing this workbook on your own, please find someone who you trust; who you feel comfortable talking to; and who you can contact when you have questions or are struggling to complete an assignment. That person's role is to encourage you and to pray for you. Stay in regular contact with your Accountability Partner – sharing the homework assignments with them and letting them know how you are feeling as you work through this material.

OTHER RESOURCES FOR COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE:

A Guide for Listening and Inner Healing Prayer: Meeting God in the Broken Places by Rusty Rustenbach (NavPress 2011) ISBN: 978-1-61747-086-8 – used for Lessons #18-#27

All Things New: a Former Lesbian's Lifelong Search for Love by Debora Barr (True Potential Publishing 2012) ISBN: 978-1-935769-32-3 – Ministry Break Reading Assignment following Lesson #27

MINISTRY BREAK READING ASSIGNMENT

Read *All Things New: a Former Lesbian's Lifelong Search for Love* by Debora Barr. Available at: <http://www.DBarrMinistries.org/>

As you read this book, notice how Debora leaned on God and on other Christians to help her walk away from her life of homosexuality. Think about your life, and how you have been leaning on God and other Christians so far in this study. What have you learned so far? What victories have you achieved so far? What do you want God to do for you as you continue in this study? Write a prayer to God below asking for what you desire from Him:

Sample

The Power of Sharing Your Testimony

LESSON #28

HOMEWORK

There is great power in the telling and hearing of a personal testimony regarding what God is doing and has done in a person's life. Testimony is defined as a declaration by a witness under oath, as that given before a court or deliberative body; evidence in support of a fact or an assertion; or a public declaration regarding a religious experience (The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language). The Bible is full of stories about what God did in the lives of His people thousands of years ago, but don't you agree that it is a bit hard to relate to some of these stories of people who lived in a far different time, place, and culture than our own?

What if you heard from someone today, who you know and who lives right where you live, about something incredible that God did in his or her life? What if someone you know was healed of an "incurable" disease? Wouldn't that have a stronger impact on you than reading about King Hezekiah being healed from the disease that was supposed to kill him around 700 years before Jesus was born? (Isaiah Chapter 38) What about the testimony of a woman in your town who was barren for years, prayed fervently and then was able to conceive and have a child? Wouldn't her story have a much more powerful impact on you than reading about Hannah in the Bible who lived approximately 1,000 years before Christ? (1 Samuel Chapter 1) What about hearing the personal testimony of a man or woman who lived for years as a gay man or lesbian, and who, through the power of God working in and through their lives, has walked away from that lifestyle, and is now living free from that bondage?

Sharing a personal testimony brings healing and encouragement not only to the person hearing the testimony, but also the person sharing it. For the person sharing, it "seals it" and makes it more real even to them. Sometimes, we can go through something incredible in an almost 'out of body' experience where it doesn't become real and tangible to us until we hear ourselves telling the story, or see a video, or hear someone else tell it. Sharing a testimony also reminds the teller of what God did in his/her life, when in the future, they may be discouraged about something. Just remembering what God has already done in your life can encourage you to hold on when the going gets rough. If He did it before, He can do it again!

Personal testimonies can reach some people for God like nothing else can. To see living tangible proof of the power of God working in a person's life today might just be the thing that leads someone to Christ. And, by the way... Satan hates it!

This Week's Memory Verse:

Revelation 12:11 (NKJV) *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.*

DAY 1

Read Joshua 24:1-28 and answer the following questions:

1. Why do you think that Joshua recounted to the people the entire history of the Israelites just before he died?

2. What is significant about your history, and what can be learned from recounting the history of your life?

3. Do you think other people can learn from you and be encouraged by hearing your story? _____ Yes
_____ No

Why/why not?

4. In the space below, write a prayer to God asking Him to reveal to you the importance of sharing your testimony, and what He will accomplish through your obedience.

Practice writing your memory verse (Revelation 12:11).

Sample

DAY 2

Read Joshua 24:1-28 and answer the following questions:

1. What is revealed in Joshua 24:2-3 about what God did for Abraham and how does this relate to your salvation story?

2. How do you think Abraham felt when God asked him to leave everything he knew and go to an unknown destination led by God?

3. How did you feel when you first accepted Jesus and began to walk in this new relationship with God?

4. How has your life changed since you accepted Jesus and began walking with God?
