

<p>Topic</p> <p>13 Jan 2013</p>	<p>People of One Thing (King David, John the Baptist, Apostle John and Mary of Bethany) – An Overview</p>
<p>The Big Picture & Context</p>	<p>As we look around us, do we know what is happening and what God is saying and doing? As believers, it is always vital to make sense of what is happening in our lives and around us - so that we can align and fit into the "bigger picture" of God - prepare and respond appropriately (both individually and corporately) and live with a sense of purpose and urgency.</p> <p>We are living in serious times and in a unique juncture of human history. The next 20 years will be crucial - how we live, prepare ourselves and respond to God will determine if we become the burning and shining lamp (John 5:35) or be caught unprepared. (Useful reference: The Parable of the Ten Virgins). http://www.onethingministries.net/resources/free-mp3-articles/parable-of-the-ten-virgins</p> <p>What's going to happen in the next 20 years? There's going to be major shifts spiritually, politically, economically and morally. Thus how we live, hear and prepare ourselves will determine if we will arise and shine (Isa. 60:1-3; Hag. 2:6-9; Heb. 12:25-29). We are not to assume that we will be automatically ready if we are not diligent and intentional in our efforts to hear and take heed (Luke 8:18; Mark 4:24), live with a new depth of obedience, wholeheartedness and responsiveness to God and embrace a season of rigorous preparation to be His voice.</p> <p>How do we prepare ourselves? God is inviting us to arise to be the <i>watchful and wise</i> and be <i>the people of one thing</i>. God is raising up the David Generation, a people after His own heart (Psa. 27:4, Jer.3:15). God is inviting us to be one like David and calling forth the David Generation to rise to the fullness of their destiny – a generation that will pursue God wholeheartedly, live in total obedience and reckless abandonment, and make Jesus their magnificent obsession. A people who will contend for the fullness of God in their generation. May we be found by God, for He is seeking, searching and looking for one who goes hard after His heart! (2Chron. 16:9; 1 Sam. 13:14; Acts 13:22)</p>

Some questions discussed in the small groups	
<p>1) What is the role and relevance of older people on the David generation, since David generation is primarily about the raising up of the younger people in the days to come?</p>	<p>Whether young or old, we all have a place in God’s heart and in His plan (both individually and corporately). In preparing for His return, we all play our own unique role in response to His calling in our lives. The calling of God is based on our heart response and it often comes suddenly, but the commissioning often takes place after seasons of preparation. Again, the commission often takes place suddenly - it's called the "divine shift" where God re-position us.</p> <p>Don't focus on the role but focus on being the MAN that God is looking for so that we may be found ready for the "moment" when the shift takes place! (1 Samuel 16:1 - 13; Psalm 78:70 - 72).</p> <p>Many 'try too hard' to be relevant, aptly addressed by Os Guinness in his book Prophetic Untimeliness: <i>"In our uncritical pursuit of relevance, Christians have actually become irrelevant. By our determined efforts to redefine ourselves in ways that are more in line with the modern world than are faithful to Christ, we have lost not only our identity but our authority and significance. Prophetic Untimeliness addresses this issue by giving practical, constructive solutions for living with integrity in the midst of modern pressures."</i></p>
<p>2) The way we live as Christians and the way the world lives seems to be the 'same'. What does radical obedience mean?</p>	<p>Believers are as salt and light to the world (Matt. 5:13-14) - it’s not about knowing more or speaking more loudly etc, rather, it’s about being a testimony that flows from a heart that connects with God – knowing God, knowing what’s on His heart and what we ought to do. (1Chron. 12:32). When we grow in the knowledge of God, we will live differently. In THE CALL 2013, we will be sharing on the topic of Awakening Passion for Jesus - "Who is Jesus?" (Matthew 16:15). It is in the heart of God to awaken passion in us by revealing the knowledge of who Jesus is.</p> <p>Power in our life is found in pursuing 100-fold obedience - There are powerful dynamics that occur in our heart when we soberly seek to walk in total obedience. The 98% pursuit of obedience has a limited blessing. The last 2% positions us to live with a vibrant heart. We are pressing in prayer and believe that God will raise up forerunners like John the Baptist who is a "burning and shining lamp" – hearts that burn in love with God and as a result shines for Jesus.</p> <p>Useful MP3: Jesus is not boring! Knowledge of the Fear of the Lord http://www.onethingministries.net/resources/free-mp3-articles/jesus-is-not-boring http://www.onethingministries.net/resources/free-mp3-articles/knowledge-of-the-fear-of-the-lord</p>

Some questions discussed in the small groups	
<p>3) We learn about king David, Mary of Bethany... etc... doing the one thing... what about evangelism, the works of the ministry etc?</p>	<p>When Jesus said One Thing is needed, He didn't mean that it is the "only" thing. Jesus is not telling us to do nothing but only to sit at His feet and listen to Him. We must realise that Jesus is also concerned about the lost and the fulfilment of the Great Commission. As a Church of Jesus Christ, we have a task to fulfil – to reach the world with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ! What Jesus is trying to emphasise is the BIG PICTURE in our faith. What is this BIG PICTURE? In essence, Jesus is saying this:</p> <p><i>"When a human heart is engaged with God in intimacy, the rest of the work of the Kingdom will happen more effectively and efficiently. If we don't sit at the feet of Jesus, it's a matter of time that we will get burnout."</i></p> <p>We must make the First Commandment (Matthew 22:37 – 38) FIRST – that is the essence of One Thing. The Second Commandment must not be first. If we make the Second Commandment first, ministry and church will eventually become an idol in our lives. But if we make the First Commandment first, the Second will naturally flow from the First.</p> <p>David was the greatest king and the most successful military leader in the history of Israel because he is a person of "One Thing". When we settle the "One Thing" in our life, many things in our life and ministry will begin to fall in place.</p>
<p>4) How do I become a people of one thing?</p>	<p>This will be covered in the next few sessions. Meanwhile, here are some useful reads:</p> <p>Being a People of One Thing How to Grow in Intimacy with God http://www.onethingministries.net/resources/free-mp3-articles/being-a-people-of-one-thing/ http://www.onethingministries.net/resources/free-mp3-articles/how-to-grow-in-intimacy-with-god/</p>
<p>5) What does being watchful mean? What are the Scripture references?</p>	<p>Jesus taught about three kinds of "Watch" in the Gospel of Matthew. Two are in the context of End-Times but all three exhortations are relevant for us to pay attention to. We need to take heed because we will face the greatest temptation, trials, persecution, confusion, fear and offense as we enter the days ahead.</p> <p>Being watchful is more than prayer. It's about developing understanding, cultivating intimacy and being vigilant to what God is saying and doing. It's about developing understanding of the times and cultivating what is important to God.</p> <p><u>Scripture references:</u> Matt. 24:42-43; 23:13; 26:38-41; 27:26; Mark 13:9, 33-38; Luke 12:38-39; 21:36; Acts 20:31; 1Cor. 16:13; 1Thes. 5:2-4,6; Rev. 3:3; 16:15</p>

***Our prayer
and
meditation:***

We must seek to be a people that are REAL, DEEP & AUTHENTIC for the next 10 years. To be REAL, it means that all that we do is really who we are and part of our lifestyle. To be DEEP, it means that we have a history with God as a result of our walk with Him. To be AUTHENTIC, it means that we have authority as a result of being real and deep. It takes time to be real, deep and authentic because it's about BEING and not doing!

Our dream is not IHOP - One Thing Ministries nor to establish 24/7 House of Prayer in the spirit of Tabernacle of David. This is our assignment from God. We love our assignment. We will be faithful to it and will work very hard. But this is not our dream. Our dream is to love God with our all and to walk in the first commandment as first place in our lives, to have a heart-connect with Him and be alive in our spirit."

For our main dream has to be what happens in our heart that nobody can touch and it should never change whether our ministry assignment gets really big or really small. If ministry assignment is our main dream, it would burn us out, because we would overdo it or under-do it or compensate in weird ways.