

## Instructional Guidelines and Reference Materials

The following Study Guide, **Consecrated Contemplative Prayer**, has been prepared especially for you by Jim W. Goll. They are tailor made for your individual, small group, or Training Center needs in mind. At the end of each lesson, there are Reflection Questions to help you in your review of the materials you have studied. In a back section of this Study Guide, you find the Answers to the Reflection Questions to aid you in your learning.

Encounters Network also has for purchase the audio cassettes that match up with each lesson. Use this Study Guide alone, or for even more thorough understanding, order the corresponding cassette messages from EN's Resource Center.

These twelve lessons correspond to the following tape audio cassette messages:

1. The Inward For The Outward
2. Contemplative Lessons
3. Combative Lessons
4. Listening, Waiting and Watching
5. Contemplative Prayer: What It Is Not
6. Contemplative Prayer: What It Is
7. The Center Of Quiet
8. Journey Into The Interior Castle
9. Christian Meditative Prayer
10. The Fasted Life
11. Towards Greater Union
12. Walking Through the Tabernacle

**Encounters Network** also has for purchase the corresponding audio cassettes for each lesson. Use this Study Guide alone, or for even more thorough understanding, order the corresponding cassette messages from EN's Resource Center. You may place orders for materials from Encounters Network's Resource Center by calling 1-877-200-1604.

You may mail your orders or communications to us at:  
Encounters Network, P. O. Box 1653, Franklin, TN 37065-1653.  
You may also order online at **[www.encountersnetwork.com](http://www.encountersnetwork.com)**

If you have benefited from this Study Guide, note that MTTN offers other complete Study Guides by Jim W. Goll for your use. Besides this series on **Blue Prints for Prayer**, we also have a series on **Equipping in the Prophetic** and **Empowered Ministry Training**. May you be equipped to do the works of Christ and release the fragrance of His presence wherever you go.

## Acknowledgment and Debt of Gratitude

This set of teachings has come forth from the gleanings of various pastors, teachers, and authors. In recent years, there has been an explosion of new books and literature on various subjects of prayer. But, as of yet, there are few contemporary writings on this theme of contemplation.

I wish to express thanks to our Lord for the writings of Richard Foster. His books, *Prayer - The Heart Finding It's Home*, and *Devotional Classics* are modern day gems that show forth a reflection of the Holy Spirit's presence through the spiritual disciplines of quietness. Mark and Patti Virkler's book, *Communion with God*, has been a light in the midst of darkness to me as well.

But I wish to dedicate this study guide to my dear friend, Pat Gastineau, of Roswell, Georgia. Many talk about the Interior Castle, but few actually let the love of God penetrate their hidden rooms. Thanks, Pat, for helping to guide me into a deeper union with Christ. Bless you, Steve Meeks, Senior Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Houston, Texas. You are indeed a forerunner and your teaching and practices are a beautiful model. Thank you, Bob Lyon, Marcus Young and others. Thanks for reflecting His light.

## Preface: A Contemplative Lifestyle

Have you ever read Psalm 23? No, I mean really read it slowly and let the meaning of it sink into the very core of your being? Let's see - how does it go? Oh yes, *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me to...*

I think we need to start out all over again! In fact, if you will give me some grace I am even going to add in an opening qualifying word. Here we go - now read this slowly! When the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in the green pastures. He leads me besides the quiet stream. There He restores my soul

Oh, I can feel it right now as I pen this to you. Yes, when the Lord is my shepherd - He will lead me to the quiet stream. Yes, it is true, that is the place where He restores my soul - the quiet stream! Oh how we need this return to a 'quietist movement' in our generation! We need to learn the lost art of quieting our soul before the Lord in order to come into greater union with our Messiah. We need a wordless baptism to be immersed in!

Want to hear a descriptive definition of what it means to walk in the Spirit? To walk in the Spirit is to walk so closely with Jesus so as to only cast one shadow! Does your heart long for this? Do you long to cast just one shadow and it not be your own? That is the lifestyle of those who reflect upon the beauty of the Lord and bask in His radiant presence. Yes, worshipping, waiting, listening, longing and yearning for His presence is the lifestyle of the contemplative Christian. It's for you - it's for me!

That is what this Study Guide Consecrated Contemplative Prayer is all about! It was designed with you in mind. If you are wanting to go deeper in your life of communion with the lover of your soul - then these materials were forged in the fiery furnace of God's majestic love as a tool to help you grow in intimacy with Christ Jesus our great Lord!

This Study Guide is broken down into twelve lessons with Reflection Questions at the end of each lesson and answer key at the back of the manual. This Guide has three sections. The first one is devoted to the subject of **Quieting Our Souls Before God**. Vintage material is found here.

The second section is simply titled **Contemplative Prayer**. Here I teach you What contemplative prayer is and what it is not. We continue with great lessons on The Center of Quiet and the Journey Into the Interior Castle. Once again, I take you on a journey less traveled, but one that your heart and soul will find delightful.

The third and final section is new material I have prepared on **Cultivating Spiritual Disciplines**. Here we glance at Christian Meditative Prayer, The Fasted Life, Towards a Greater Union and Walking Through the Tabernacle. Great lessons with wonderful insights ready for you to devour as your next meal!

I trust that you will be as blessed in working through this Study Guide as I have been fulfilled in preparing it! Take and eat - for this is the diet for the lifestyle of the contemplative - **a life wasted on God! James W. Goll**

SECTION ONE:

**Quieting**

**Our Soul**

**Before God**

# Lesson One

## The Inward For The Outward

by James W. Goll

### I. SCRIPTURES ON “INWARDNESS”

- A. **Isaiah 30:15** *In quietness and confidence shall be your strength.*
- B. **John 14:20** *And in that day you shall know that I am in the Father, and you in Me, and I in you.*
- C. **I Cor. 3:16** *Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you.*
- D. **I Cor. 6:17,19** *But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him... Or do you not know that your Body is a Temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, when you have from God, and that you are not your own.*
- E. **Col. 1:26, 27** *That is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints, to whom God willed to make know what is the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is CHRIST IN YOU THE HOPE OF GLORY.*

### II. NEW CREATION REALITIES - THE SHADOW FULFILLED

#### A. **Old Testament Tabernacle of Moses**

The Old Testament tabernacle of Moses was a shadow of New Testament realities. Even as it had three compartments: The Outer Court, the Inner court and the Holy of Holies; so also are we made of spirit, soul and body. In the very center of the Holy of Holies was the Ark of the Covenant containing the law, Aaron's rod that budded, the manna from the wilderness. Then on top lay the covering cherubim and the mercy seat of God. God dwells in our heart (the most Holy place) by faith in Christ Jesus. Therefore, we find that the shadow of the Old Testament fulfilled by the New Creation of Christ dwelling in our hearts through faith.

#### B. **Lazarus Word**

Let us break the hard, outer shell (husk) off our lives so the tender shoot of God's life from within may arise. We must cooperate with His breaking in order that His life will flourish. Even as Lazarus was raised from the dead and new life came, we also shall spring forth out of hardness into a place of tenderness within. Let His new life spring forth!

### **III. A VISIONARY EXPERIENCE**

I had a visionary encounter where I was shown seven consecutive doorways through which we proceed in order to come into greater union with Christ. I could read these words written over the door post in this encounter.

#### **A. Seven Consecutive Doorways**

1. The inward journey (an invitation to enter into)
2. Forgiveness (having a clear conscience)
3. Cleansing by the power of the blood
4. Lowliness of heart (the quality of humility)
5. Grace (from the Father towards us)
6. Mercy (towards others through us)
7. Union with Christ (II Cor. 6:17)

#### **B. A Continual Journey**

We are each at different stages of growth in our Christian experience. I have just described for you part of my “Revelatory Pilgrimage” into the interior life message that the Lord may lead you. He is a great instructor! But He wants us to grasp more than just knowledge about Him. He wants us to “Know Him”. At different seasons in your life you will pass through different doorways; Rest assured - it is a continual journey of cleansing, knowing and being known.

### **IV. FROM THE WRITINGS OF MARTHA WING ROBINSON <sup>1</sup>**

Martha Wing Robinson (1874-1936) was a pentecostal preacher and a leader of Zion Faith Homes in Zion, Illinois. She was known as a carrier of the presence of God as told in the biography ‘Radiant Glory’.

#### **A. True Inwardness of a Christian**

When Jesus first sets vessels to love Him, He wants them to see Him all the time, every moment, and if they are very much in earnest, to live that way - moment by moment -

In the beginning of such experience, most of the time they pray, praise, wait on God, commune, and often, if at work, see Jesus in the soul.

If they grow in this experience and become vessels of God for His use, they begin to seek more for Him, and He comes more to them, for He does to all who seek Him from the heart.

Also, He begins to draw their thoughts all the time - every moment - to Himself, causing them to find Him within. This is the beginning of the inward or deeper life.

As soon as this change takes place, He then teaches, if He can make them to get it, either by teachers or by their light, how to “practice the presence of God” - that is, to keep the mind *stayed* on Jesus - each wandering thought, act, work, or feeling being recalled (i.e., called back) by the will of the vessel in the love of God.

However, this takes care. Often the mind lingers over a subject not of God. Turn the mind back to God. Words come not appointed by Him. Check such words at once, as soon as remembered. Look within and tell Jesus He rules, you will act, think, and speak as He would and he will look after you to help you to be like that.

Also, you need to watch and pray to be in God, wait in God, etc. To so live for a time makes the inward change to abide in anyone who will go down to thus live; but if you keep to this lowliness, rest, and faith to be all the time in God so, then the voluntary act of dwelling in God, seeing God, thinking of God, and keeping in is done altogether by the Holy Ghost, which is the true inwardness called for in every Christian.

Martha Wing Robinson

## **V. THE PURPOSE**

What is the purpose of cultivating the “inner life message”? Always remember, it’s the inward for the outward. In other words, we cultivate the beauty of this reflective, contemplative prayer life to give us riches to export to others through rightfully motivated deeds of kindness and demonstrations of God’s power.

Yes, it’s the inward for the outward! Let us search out the treasures of “*Christ in us the hope of glory*” and then release displays of His brilliant presence wherever we go. So I invite you to go on a journey with me on a road less traveled. Let’s seek out together the treasures of the Inward Journey as beginning steps into consecrated, contemplative prayer.

## **The Inward For The Outward Reflective Questions # 1**

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

1. Isaiah 30:15 “In \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ shall be your strength.”
2. What three things were placed inside the Ark of the covenant?  
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_
3. John 14:20 “And in that day you shall know that I am in the \_\_\_\_\_, and you are in \_\_\_\_\_ and I \_\_\_\_\_ you.

### **MULTI-CHOICE**

- |           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| A. Jesus  | C. Temple   |
| B. House. | D. Presence |

**FROM THE LIST ABOVE, ANSWER THE NEXT TWO QUESTIONS:**

4. I Corinthians 3:16 “Do you not know that you are a \_\_\_\_\_ of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you.”
5. Practicing His \_\_\_\_\_ is constantly staying our eyes upon Jesus.

### **TRUE OR FALSE**

6. The inward journey is an invitation to enter in the depths of Jesus Christ.
7. Doorways like forgiveness, cleansing, grace and mercy are all vital to achieving union with God.
8. Cultivating an inward life is the very expression of who we are in Christ.

### **SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION**

9. Write out and memorize I Corinthians 6:16-19.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What was the primary point you learned from this lesson?

*Turn to the back of this book for the answers to these questions.*

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