

LESSONS FROM RICK JOYNER'S BOOK "THE FINAL QUEST"

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Recap of the previous lesson (True and Effective Ministry)

- Live for Jesus; not to make a name or history (2 Corinthians 5:15)
- Do not waste time (Ephesians 5:15-16)
- Do not 'carnally' compare yourself with others (2 Corinthians 10:12-13)
- Do not control people; be humble and secure in God (Philemon 8-21; 1 Corinthians 13:9; Galatians 1:11-12, 15-17, 2:1-2)
- Practice what you preach (Matthew 23:1-3, 14)

Today's Topic: GREAT FAMILIES

51:9 – 52:3 *"True," she answered. "But you can gain the whole world and still lose your own soul. Only if you keep your own soul pure can you truly impact the world for the eternal purposes of God. My husband lost his soul to me, and he only regained it at the end of his life because I was taken from the earth so that he could.*

(10) *"Much of what my husband did, he did more for me than for the Lord. I pressured him and even gave him much of the knowledge that he taught. I used him as an extension of my own ego because as a woman I could not be recognized at the time as a spiritual leader myself. In a sense, I took over his life so that I could live my life through him. Soon I had him doing everything just to prove himself to me."*

52:2 *"You must have loved her very much," I said, looking at him.*

(3) *"No, I did not love her at all," he said to my amazement. "Neither did she love me. In fact, after just a few years of marriage we did not even like each other. But we both needed each other, so we found a way to work together. Our marriage was not a yoke of love, but of bondage. **Ephesians 5:25; Titus 2:3-4***

53-8 *"The purity you see in me was what my husband first saw in me when we were young. I was relatively pure in my motives then . . . **1 Peter 3:3-6; Proverbs 4:23***

54:2-4 *Simply wanting to prolong our conversation, I asked the next question that came to my mind: "Is it difficult for you and your husband to be here together?"*

"Not at all," she responded. "All the relationships you have on earth are continued here. They are all purified by the judgment and by the fact that they are now spiritual, just as we are now

spirit. The more you are forgiven, the more you love. After we forgave each other, we loved each other more. (Luke 7:47) Now our relationship is continuing in much greater depth and richness because we are joint heirs of this salvation.

“As deep as the wounds were that we afflicted upon each other, that is how deep the love was able to reach when we were healed. We could have experienced this on earth, but we did not learn forgiveness in time. If we had learned forgiveness, the competition that entered our relationship and sidetracked our lives would not have been able to take root in us. If you truly love, you will truly forgive. The harder it is for you to forgive, the further you are from true love. Forgiveness is essential, or you will stumble and stray from the course chosen for you.”

55:4-5 *“Yes. As your mind is renewed by the Spirit of Truth, you will not see relationships as opportunities to take from others, but to give. Giving provides the greatest fulfillment that we can ever know. (Acts 20:35; John 3:16) The most wonderful human relationships are but fleeting glimpses of the ecstasy that comes when we give ourselves to the Lord in pure worship. What we experience in worship here, your frail, unglorified body could not endure. The true worship of God will purify the soul for the glory of true relationships. 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NB: We become like the god we worship)*

“Therefore, you must not seek relationships, but true worship. Only then can relationships start to be what they are supposed to be. True love never seeks to be first or to be in control, but rather it takes the place of humble service. If my husband and I had kept this in our marriage, we would be sitting next to the King now, and this great hall would be filled with many more souls.”

6:6 *The primary strategy of this army was to cause division on every possible level of relationship—churches with each other, congregations with their pastors, husbands and wives, children and parents, and even children with each other. The scouts were sent to locate the openings in churches, families, or individuals that such spirits as Rejection, Bitterness, and Lust could exploit and enlarge. Through these openings would pour demonic influences that completely overwhelmed their victims. (Hebrews 12:15; Ecclesiastes 10:8)*

79:14 *He shared that the first man had been raised in a wonderful family, which had always known the Lord . . . given one hundred portions of His love (Malachi 2:15; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4)*

Summary: 1) Love your partner, 2) Guard your heart, 3) Forgive, 4) Be a giver, 5) Be a worshipper, 6) Pursue unity, 7) Raise godly off-springs