

### 3. Be Open To Hearing From God In A New Way

- Romans 10:17, NIV – (17) *Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word [rhema] of Christ.*

### 4. Whenever God's Word Comes To You, Choose To Embrace It With Faith

- Hebrews 4:2, NIV – (2) *For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith.*

### 5. Be Willing To Believe Again

- Getting free from past disappointments happens when the anticipation of the future is stronger than the pain of the past
- Philippians 3:13-14, NIV – (13) *Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, (14) I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*
- God is not nearly as mindful of your past, as he is about your future. We tend to be more mindful about our past, than about our future
- Philippians 3:13, NLT – (13) *No, dear brothers and sisters, I am still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.*
- You can waste your time and energy rehearsing past disappointments, or you invest your time and energy in your future. But you don't have enough time and energy to do both
- Mark 5:25-29, NIV – (25) *And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. (26) She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. (27) When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, (28) because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." (29) Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.*

### 6. Proclaim Your Future, Not Your Past

### 7. Act Upon Your Words Of Faith

- Proverbs 13:12, LB – (12) *Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when dreams come true at last, there is life and joy.*

### A TRUE STORY ABOUT EAGLES

- Philippians 3:13, NLT – (13) ... I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead.

## PREPARING TO CROSS OVER

### Part 4 – Hindrance 2 – Disappointment

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### HOW DISAPPOINTMENT HINDERS US

#### 1. Elijah Runs For His Life

- 1 Kings 18:37-38,40, NIV – (37) *“Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.” (38) Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. ... (40) Then Elijah commanded them, "Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let anyone get away!" They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there.*
- 1 Kings 19:1-4, NIV – (1) *Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. (2) So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them." (3) Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, (4) while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."*

#### 2. A Spirit Of Disappointment Defined

##### a) Disappointment

- “To deprive you of an appointment, or separate you from an appointment”

##### b) A Spirit Of Disappointment

- A spirit of disappointment is the long term pain experienced due to unfulfilled expectations

##### c) A Sick Heart

- Proverbs 13:12, LB – (12) *Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when dreams come true at last, there is life and joy.*

#### 3. Disappointment Is Used By Satan

### ELIJAH AND A SPIRIT OF DISAPPOINTMENT

#### 1. A Spirit Of Disappointment Makes You Want To Give Up

## 2. A Spirit Of Disappointment Makes You Focus On The Negative And Distort The Positive

- 1 Kings 19:5-9, NIV – (5) Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." (6) He looked around, and there by his head was a cake of bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. (7) The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." (8) So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. (9) There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (10) He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."
- 1 Kings 19:18, NIV – (18) Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel -- all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him.

## 3. A Spirit Of Disappointment Is Formed By A Series Of Disappointments

### a) The Dry Brook

- 1 Kings 17:8-11, NASB – (8) Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, (9) "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you." (10) So he arose and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, "Please get me a little water in a jar, that I may drink." (11) And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand."

### b) The Poor Widow

- 1 Kings 17:12, NASB – (12) But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have no bread, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die."
- 1 Kings 17:13-14, NASB – (13) Then Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go, do as you have said, but make me a little bread cake from it first, and bring it out to me, and afterward you may make one for yourself and for your son. (14) "For thus says the Lord God of Israel, The bowl of flour shall not be exhausted, nor shall the jar of oil be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

### c) The Dead Son

- 1 Kings 17:17-18, NIV – (17) Now it came about after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became sick; and his sickness was so severe, that there was no breath left in him. (18) So she said to Elijah, "What do I have to do with you, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my iniquity to remembrance, and to put my son to death!"

- 1 Kings 17:21-22, NASB – (21) Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and called to the Lord, and said, "O Lord my God, I pray Thee, let this child's life return to him." (22) And the Lord heard the voice of Elijah, and the life of the child returned to him and he revived.

### d) The Persecution Of The Prophets

### e) The Death Warrant On Elijah's Life

## 4. A Spirit Of Disappointment Hinders Our Ability To Hear

- 1 Kings 19:11, NIV – (11) The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. (12) After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. (13) When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

### a) Elijah Refused To Obey God

### b) God Had To Speak To Elijah In A New Way

## 5. A Spirit Of Disappointment Will Keep You From Mixing God's Word With Faith

- 1 Kings 19:14, NIV – (14) He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

## 6. An Unresolved Spirit Of Disappointment Will Keep You From Your Destiny

- 1 Kings 19:15-16, NIV – (15) The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. (16) Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet.

## HOW TO OVERCOME DISAPPOINTMENT

### 1. Be Aware That Satan Wants To Use Disappointment Against You

- Don't let disappointment to grip your heart – let trust in God grip your heart
- Psalm 112:7, NIV – (7) He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

### 2. Remind Yourself What God Has Done For You In The Past

- Philippians 4:6, NIV – (6) Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.