



KNOWING GOD I

Lion of Judah
LAMB OF GOD
Jesus Christ

MODULE III
February 2019

KNOWING GOD - I

MENTORSHIP WITH SUPRABHAT

Speiro Ministries

Manual and Workbook



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Discover Your Purpose
Mentorship with Suprabhat
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Dear Mentee,

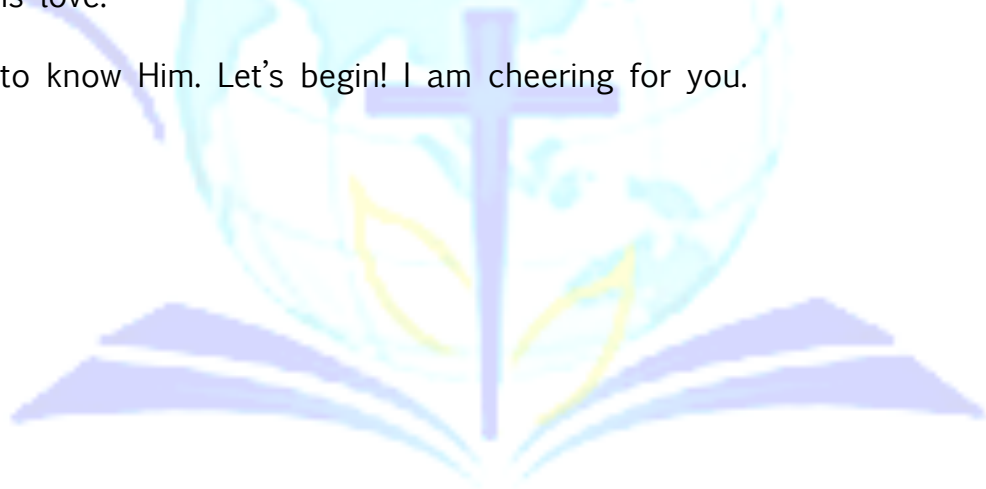
Our faith is superficial if we don't know the One that it comes from. If we call ourselves a follower of Christ or a Believer, we should know the One we are following or the One we are believing on. Else it is just a mere religion. To know is to experience. And God invites us to have an encounter with Him. To know is to have the revelation of Him in our spirit. And He desires to reveal Himself to us through the Holy Spirit. The Bible says, draw near to Him and He will draw near to you.



So in this module, I invite you to have revelation of some attributes of His nature and as He reveals Himself to you, you will know Him as that and will worship Him. For example, if He reveals Himself to you as Jehovah Rapha, you will know Him as healer. God is Sovereign. God is Love. In this module, you will also be introduced to His will and His love.

So get ready to know Him. Let's begin! I am cheering for you.

Your Mentor
Suprabhat





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Session II The Sovereignty of God

Dictionary defines Sovereignty as having supreme authority, control, and power over all that has happened, is happening, and will happen in the future in all times across all history. Christians define it as the ruler of the universe, God, having the right, the authority, and the power to govern all that happens and what has, is, or will happen being in accordance to His divine will.

Psalm 115:3 “Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.”

Just because we don’t understand what is happening or what did happen, there is no reason to question the authority and sovereignty of God because “Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?” (Romans 9:21) He has every right to do what He purposes and all that He does is according to what pleases Him.

II Chronicles 20:6 “O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you.” God is ruler over all the nations. God has all power and is all mighty so no one can stand up to Him or make Him change His mind or His plans.

God has the right to achieve His purposes and has the power to bring about circumstances that dictate whatever He wills to come to pass. He has complete control of everything and there is nothing that is done, that is not done by or allowed through His will. In Romans 8:28 Paul writes, “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

For those who are God’s chosen, they are “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover, whom He predestined, these He also called, whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, He also glorified” (Romans 8:29-30). His sovereignty includes those who have “being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will” (Ephesians 1:11). That is because He is “far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come” (Ephesians 1:21). Knowing this we ought to “Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.” (Romans 11:22). Romans 8:28 applies to “those who love God” and “for those who are called according to His purpose.” Someone who is not yet saved but will be, this verse is applicable but for those who plan to forever reject the Son of God, Jesus Christ, all things work out for the bad (Revelation 20:11-15), not the good.

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Joseph's brothers tried to kill him, and then they sold him into slavery but what was done with evil intent, God used for good. Genesis 50:20 "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."
That aligns with Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord direct his steps."
Even our bad choices can be used by God for His purpose in His sovereignty.

Isaiah 40:23 "He brings the princes to nothing, He makes the judges of the earth useless."
God can bring to nothing the plans of the most powerful rulers on earth and make their rule come to nothing. Mankind might think he is in charge but even Jesus told Pilate "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above" (John 19:11). Pilate thought he was in control, but truly, God was sovereign even over Pilate's decision and his position of power. It was not of human origin but by the will of God.

There are many who believe that whatever happens in life is just God's will. Somebody dies at a young age, we don't know why and we come up with explanations like it was God's will, etc. to bring comfort in your situation. When you are in pain, you accept it, however far it may be from the truth.

"Any definition of God's sovereignty that allows for evil to exist as a part of His will and purpose is an amoral definition of sovereignty."

It is important that we learn how to live in the midst of mystery where we cannot explain things but yet we know that He is good. We know that He is true. We know that He is with us and we know we can trust Him. We know that we can trust him to any outcome.

Have you ever had situation lately where you did not know where you are going but trusted the Lord to the outcome? Were you able to lean on Him and not on your own understanding to the end? Did it work out for your good?

Jeremiah was being sought for and the Bible says, "And God hid him." Jesus walked through a crowd of people that wanted to kill Him and they did not see Him yet they saw Stephen and killed him.



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When Herod wanted to kill Peter, the church prayed and he was supernaturally freed from chains and was escorted from prison by an angel.

“It is not a right theology that looks at something that happens and assumes that it is the God's will.”

There is one part of God's will that has been absolutely decided, there is nothing you can do to change it. Then there is another part of His will that is determined by our influence.

The difference between the perfect will of God and the pleasing will of God. The perfect will of God is absolute, unchanging. And then the pleasing will of God when we do what is our responsibility according to what is in His heart now.

It is not God's will that any should perish so we cannot assume that because something tragic happened, it was God's will.

One extreme of the will of God is – the soul that sins shall die. The other extreme of God's will is – on earth as it is in heaven. And in between these two extremes, we hold on to this verse in Romans 8 that all things work together for good because we don't always experience on earth as it is in heaven and we need comfort in the middle of process of learning how to bring the reality of His purposes into our life and into the earth through our prayer, through our confidence on Him, through our lifestyle, through the issue of character.

There are different ways that God heals people. We know that He can heal with a word. He has to just make a decree and people can get healed. But Jesus did it so many other ways not because He couldn't declare the word to bring healing, but because there are other realities around the disease that needed to be dealt with. We may not understand what is going on but we know His heart. We know that He is good. Jesus, on most of the recorded cases of healing, did not just heal the physical issue but also restored the soul.

God wants every person we pray for to be healed. Jesus healed everyone who came to Him. We know that Jesus only did what He saw His father do. Sometimes the Father directed Him but sometimes He discovered what the Father was doing when He found that the Father was working in another person. If we only wait to know what the Father is doing, we may miss out. Often those who are in pursuit of His will find what the Father is doing than for those who are just waiting. Some things are not discovered through instruction but are discovered during the journey and the Lord looks for people that will be drawn into the journey.

He hides Jeremiah, Jesus walks through the crowd, Stephen is killed.

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We have both the realities where we are required to rejoice with one and mourn with the other. Just because God can use a tragedy doesn't mean that He is the author of the tragedy.

“Any definition of the sovereignty of God that removes our responsibility to risk everything to pursue is an illegal definition of sovereignty.” We are co-labourers with the Lord to see His purposes unfold on the earth. And in His sovereign will, He allow our influence to have an effect on the outcome of things.

Acts 12: 1-11

Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread. So when he had arrested him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring him before the people after Passover.

Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church. And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison. Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, “Arise quickly!” And his chains fell off his hands. Then the angel said to him, “Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”; and so he did. And he said to him, “Put on your garment and follow me.” So he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

And when Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people.”

This is a comparison of two people that have the same threat on their life. In one case the imprisoned dies. The other is in prison with the same intention but constant prayer was offered up



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for Peter and he was spared. The Lord was summoning us to pray to cover each other. People prayed with constant unyielding, unending prayer for Peter's release.

We all have blind spots. This is where we need people that just do what the church did for Peter. They could have sat back and just said, "whatever is God's will is that will be done and we will just celebrate Peter is in the prison."

What are the areas where you need people to cover you with prayers?

The will of God is multi-dimensional.

In two cases that appear the same, you pray for one and see healing and deliverance, while the other one you fight and fight but we don't see any result. Does that mean this was God's will and the other one not? No. It just means we warred for months against an obstacle that didn't move and in the process our strength was built inside the character. The persistence in prayer is for us, it changes us, it changes our capacity to live in the revealed will of God.

Lord gives us measures of breakthrough to see what we will do with what we have been given. He is looking for those who will stay humble, stay accountable and learn to get breakthrough in realms that are rare, difficult and then at the end of the day give God all the credit for it.

My strength is perfected in your weakness. That doesn't mean God demonstrates himself strong in our weakness it means He demonstrates Himself strong through someone who doesn't know what they are doing.



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Reflect on a recent situation where you were ignorant or weak or unaware and God demonstrated Himself strong in that situation.

Look back over the last fifteen-twenty years and reflect on how God led you. Maybe you were not born-again, you did not know Him, did not hear God. Yet you now realise that He was with you, His hand protected you and lifted you when you fell.

Are you ready for this awkward journey where you don't have all the answers yet willing to depend completely on His presence to lead you?



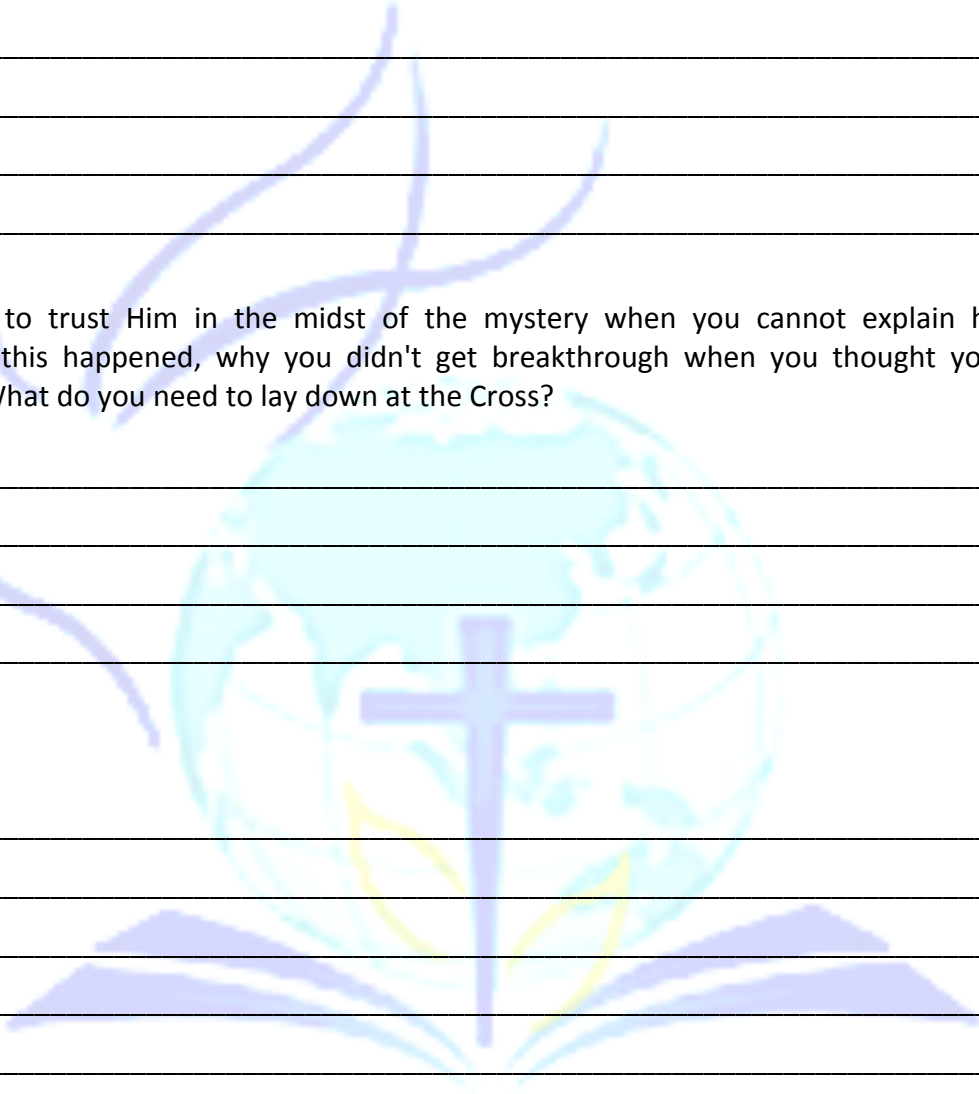
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We pursue breakthrough in every case. When you don't get it, are you willing to stand and give Him praise and never question His faithfulness or His goodness? Consistently. What do you think Holy Spirit needs to change in you to do this?

Are you willing to trust Him in the midst of the mystery when you cannot explain how this happened, why this happened, why you didn't get breakthrough when you thought you had a promise for it? What do you need to lay down at the Cross?

Reflection



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Session III Love of God - I

He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 John 4:8

Bible does not say God loves. Bible says He is love. Everything in God is love.

He disciplines those He loves. Even when He disciplines, He disciplines out of love.

Every attribute of God flows out of this attribute of Him – love.

It is His nature. It is His character, He Himself that is not going to change. So His love is not going to change.

The only reason love is in the universe is because the creator of the universe is love. Without God, there is no love possible.

God is love. But love is not God.

True love originates from God.

Since it is from God, *God's love is supernatural.*

Anything that is supernatural does not depend on the natural conditions. His love cannot be defined outside of supernatural. His love is beyond the natural understanding.

What love is not?

The Greek words for love.

Eros - sexual love based on physical attraction. It does not have foundation for steady love, it lasts till physical attraction lasts.

Storge' – family love , natural affection, mother and child.

Phileo – friendly, brotherly love. Conditional, give and take.

Pragma – practical, long period in relationship/marriage will result in this adjustment.

All these are conditional and temporal. They have reason to love.

What reasons or expressions do you experience in the natural for love?



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God's love is unconditional, without any reason.

God's love is unending, eternal.

Do you see consistency in the natural love? If no, why?

A love that is based on feelings is not the love of God.

Reflect on times that you experienced love, which was not based on feelings and reasons.

Any love that does not end in obedience is not the love of God. Our love to God is expressed in obedience.

John 14:15 If you love Me, keep My commandments.

A born-again has the true love of God.

Romans 5:5

For hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

At the fall, love became carnal, motivated by self-interest and self-ambition. An unbeliever will not love unconditionally.



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God's love is without a measure.

Another Greek word, which means love, is
Agape – in Hebrew Chesed /Hesed means loving-kindness, mercy. Faithful love.

Psalm 23:6
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Hebrew word for love is âhab (phonetic aw-hab')

It originates from God. It is sovereign.

God's love is unconditional, unending, unfailing, eternal.

God is love. I love you <period>
I love you in spite of you being you.

We have difficulty in accepting that because we have never experienced unconditional love.

You may have experienced some moments of unconditional love in your life but no human being loves unconditionally all the time.

God says my love for you is consistent, unending. It is everlasting, it is unfailing. You don't need to ask.

Love is the highest expression of God himself.

Ephesians 3:16-19
that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

The love of God is supernatural, eternal, limitless, unconditional, beyond reason and human imagination.



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When you know love, you know God.
The word Know is to experience.
God loves even in your deepest and darkest moments.

*God's plan of redemption was hidden in His love.
Satan could not understand this.*

The first expression of God's presence is love.

The first expression of God's love was a sacrifice. The Lamb was crucified before the foundation of the earth.
If you ever doubt whether God loves you, go to the Cross. An innocent dies for sinner.
The cross is a constant reminder of His love.

The first manifestation of His love is sacrifice of His Son

The love of God is without fear
Fear has a reason. Since the love of God is without a reason, there is no fear in perfect love.

The love of God makes us worthy.

A deeper look at the Hebrew word for love — ahava (אהבה), which is made up of three basic Hebrew letters: aleph (א), hey (ה), and vet (ב).
From these three root letters of a-hav-a, we get the root word, hav (הב), which means *to give*.

For God so loved the world that He gave.

The love of God is supernatural.

The love of God goes beyond human love. There is a limit to human love. God's love is without limit. He loves when you don't deserve it. Human love gives you what you deserve.

God's love has the power to change because it is supernatural.

Compassion and mercy are the keys to the demonstration of the power of this love.

Mercy is the ability to demonstrate compassion.

Compassion is the ability to recognise the suffering of others and do something about it.

Compassion should be our approach to people in need.

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