

# Q & A with Graham at MOAS, 2013

(The first part of the audio begins at the \*\* below. The question is approximated from my notes.)

**Allison: You have said that TWC is one of the most unique spiritual communities. Why?**

We offer people something fairly unique, to learn and grow in a relational manner, not just a spiritually functional manner. Our goal was not just to produce a company of people that could do stuff, but really to produce a company of friends. So the relational part of what we are doing is really important. The Warrior Class is primarily about building a higher class of relationship with the Lord so that we don't become victims in the way that most intercessory groups do because their lives are falling apart. They are miserable. We wanted happy intercessors who are delighted at fighting, but not fighting with each other!

We wanted a learning and growing environment that was relational with God and relational with one another. You want to have people alongside you on the shield wall who really care about you so that when the pressure is really on from the enemy, we take care of each other. That way we all get to do more than survive. We may actually get to prosper in this battle, which would be huge.

We wanted to create an environment where we engaged process, we didn't just take part in training. It's the process that makes us rich, not the outcome. God has an outcome for everything, so if the outcome is guaranteed, then our situation is not about the outcome. It's about how we get there. It's about who we become along the way.

That's critical because there are so many training environments that don't provide that piece. They don't teach us that the real question is, "What if process is sumptuous?" What if the gorgeous part of what we are going through is that we are learning, step-by-step, with a God who adores walking with us. Each step is about seeing something. It's about becoming something. It's having our eyes opened. It's having our heart

enlarged. It's having things expanded, and that is the beauty about process, or as we say in England, [pro-cess]. It has an [o] in it apparently, process! The beauty about it is that the biggest relational piece of what is happening is between you and God. The outcome is great, but the outcome is guaranteed if we learn how to walk with the Lord. So the process is absolutely everything to God. It's the part that He enjoys the most.

When I am taking my grandkids to the park, they want to get to the swings as soon as possible. I just want to enjoy them holding my hand while we get there. I love the hand-holding part. Process really is about learning how to hold God's hand. And you know that God is in a hand-holding mood when He doesn't tell you anything! You want information and He is silent. When God is silent on how to get there, He is just smiling at you and holding His hand out because that

is what He wants. "I just want you to walk with Me. If I tell you how to get there, then you will be off and running. Right now I don't want you to be off and running. I just want you to walk with Me. Let's have some fellowship on the way."

We focus on our development in the Warrior Class *and* we really care about what people are doing. We care about learning the pieces that are really important for life, not just for ministry. And our training is linked to real battlefield situations. You are either putting me in moments of terror or you are getting me out of them! I've never quite worked that out in the end, which one comes first! But the brilliant thing about it is that what we are doing is linked to real battlefield situations, not simulated. They are real fights and there are very few training initiatives out there that are linking us to real battlefields. So that's pretty gorgeous, I think.

Allison: And you know how to throw a good fight!

Graham: Totally, just by learning how to throw a good punch!

Allison: So which of your inheritance words or promises do you feel that you are living in most right now?

Graham: I think I have some words about being an influencer and stuff, and I love influence because, again, it's relational. You really care about what people are learning, who they are becoming. When people know that you are for them, that gives you influence with them. If you know that you guys have a perfect right to mess up, at least once (!)...you know, we are all learning, so what we learn on a bad day, what we learn by our mistakes is really big. So why would we castigate people for making mistakes? It's like, when you are doing something for the first time, you can't make a mistake because you haven't done it before. So it's just what you can learn. So "What is the learning?" I hope is the constant cry, the constant question. "What are we learning about this?" We are all going to make mistakes. On days we are going to look incredibly smart, but on other days it's going to be dumb, and dumber! It's okay! It's what the Lord is for you in those moments that is critical. So I think when you can get people to relax and know that it's okay to mess up, know that God loves being with us in all the mess; He has budgeted for it, that is what grace is all about. Grace is God's budget for when we screw up, and there is tons of it, so if we are going to mess up, let's do it in a really big way!

Let's mess up because we are going for something really big. You know there is loads of grace, and because there is so much grace we will get it right, and we will be amazing people because of it.

So I love the influence, then, that when people connect with us that it's like (sighing with satisfaction), "Ahhh, this is so good! This is restful. This is relaxing, not being pressured. I am being challenged by the Holy Spirit only to become more like Jesus, which is the best challenge ever!"

So we can all be influenced. When we feel loved, we feel cared for, we are being influenced in the best possible way, and when we give that gift to somebody else, then influence is the outcome. We have influence with people.

People came to Jesus because they just felt good around Him even though they had awkward questions, and so on.

So I think being an influencer is a key word for me right now, a game-changer. That's what I feel we are doing right now. We are changing the game. We are changing the game of training, for one thing, what I have just talked about. We are changing the game of intercession.

(Phone dings) That's the Lord saying, "How do you spell 'intercession'?"

And I certainly think right now, I have had a word over me since 1974 about 'killing a religious devil and waking a sleeping giant', I really feel like we are actually on that battlefield now. We have been approaching it for a while, kind of gradually creeping up on it, and I think making a decision before we get into the fight "What battlefield do we want to be on?" Let's choose the fight. Let's choose the ground that we want to fight on. So doing that right now, creeping up on that place, and we are going to set up our army and camp right here.

So that whole sleeping giant thing, we are gradually creeping up on it and setting ourselves for the real fight, learning everything is on our side, learning who our game-changers are, who our champions are, who our warriors are. That has been probably a good ten-year process. I mean, ten years is nothing with God, it's absolutely nothing. It's like about 15 minutes or something. If every day is a thousand years. Ach, do the math and work it out, eh? Ten years is absolutely nothing. It goes by just like that (fingers snapping).

I think the other thing, too, that I am really moving in, I've been kind of moving in very surreptitiously into that, just like creeping my way into that whole thing, but I've got words on my heart, my life, about being an apostolic father. I just don't want to be an apostolic father based upon what I am seeing right now in the earth.

(Phone dings again.) That's you, right? That's me? That's Theresa saying, "What are you doing?" I'm just going to ignore her! Are you recording this?

Allison: Yes! Oh, that is going to work out so well for me!

Graham: So I am really wanting to move into that. We have still to define in this country, in the West actually, what really is apostolic and

what isn't. We still need to define what is a father and what isn't. Just because you have managed to persuade a few hundred needy churches that they want your ministry doesn't make you apostolic. So we are still kind of like determining all of that.

I think the Lord has been saying very much right now that He is just watching a lot.

So I think kind of those four things right now are things that I am really engaged with in a particular way.

Allison: So how are doing assignments in churches different than doing your own events?

Graham: We are driving our own agenda, that's the thing. When you go into churches, you are pretty much there as a talking head. You are a speaker. You don't get to set the agenda. You often go into places that are ill prepared for encounter. There is no sense of atmosphere, no sense of environment. You don't know what you are going to get worship-wise. You just don't know. Even things like the way that announcements are done; the whole thing often is like amateur hour. It's like Karaoke. It's like people are getting their 2 or 3 minutes of fame on the platform but don't

really know why they are up there or what they are doing. So you have to cope with all of those things. Like you go into some place and they can have brilliant worship, outstanding worship, and you are almost manifesting thinking, "Get me on RIGHT NOW because we are set right here," and then you have 20-odd minutes of announcements and a 35-minute offering call. By the time you get through that there is no atmosphere. There is about the same atmosphere as there would be in a Kentucky Fried Chicken. We are dead in the water, and then somehow I have to get on a platform and try and magically bring all of this together when people have already been in the building like 2 hours, and you get all of that and it's just kind of the world of the strange! It's like we are all on planet Bizarro or something. It's odd. You talk to them about it, and

the next time you go it's like, "Okay, clearly we never had a conversation."

Then there are some churches that are brilliant at it because they really understand what they are doing.

So here, doing our own events, we get to set the agenda. We get to create the atmosphere and the environment. We write songs specifically for an event because we want people to enter into an encounter and an experience with the Lord. We want to be laying markers down for worship and impartation so when you hear Bob and the guys get up, Bob will do things that are instructional. He will say, he will tell you, "This is why I wrote this song, this is what God was saying to me when I wrote it, this is how God wants you to sing it, this is the experience you can have while you are entering in." How many of you have been at events where that is commonplace? I thought so...

So we are trying to set a different marker down for what worship is, that it is more than what you get in your regular Sunday service. It's actually, you get the chance to enter into a place, a particular place with God, and you just want to grab it with both hands because we want manifest Presence in our worship times.

So I think the next thing we want to do, too, that we are building into is creating a really focused, high-definition ministry team that can do prophetic, we can practice it, we can do all of that. That would be cool. It would be great to do at least like one full-on evening of worship and WHATEVER! Without the talky bit, you know. But to do that you really need a ministry team that is really sharp and on the ball and all that kind of stuff. So that is our next step....(audio fades, much laughter).

**Allison: What changes have you seen in the intel since we started, and what do you think our next upgrade in intel is? How will that help you?**

Graham: I think we have been growing steadily in the whole intel thing. I think the thing about it is there is no grid for it out there. There is no territory so we are exploring. We are like the spies, well, the 2 good ones anyway! We are like those guys. We are exploring the territory. That is

the brilliant thing, I think, that is so innovative about us that we are actually drawing the map. We are cartographers.

You know, that's a big word like 'marmalade.'

We are drawing this map that other people will follow. So that whole intel thing has to

keep constantly changing. Our goal is to end up with the helicopter vision that God has. We are definitely off the valley floor, we are part way up the mountain, we are going up higher and

higher all the time. I have friends who climbed Everest. I went there myself. The weather set in and we only got to base camp 4. But it was fun. Here's the thing: At every base camp you basically do set up camp, that's it. And you hope to get to a point where the weather provides a big enough window for you to get to the top and get back down again before things start to freeze.

So we go through various base camps. Eventually our goal is to get to that helicopter view that God has because He is hovering above the circumstances seeing everything, and right now we are seeing some things. So it's cool. We keep going up.

I think probably right now it would be great to have some intel that our next stage is maybe to move away from just focusing on my material because we all know what it can do, but there is more for us to see about what the enemy is doing. That is the big thing. It's not so much about the solutions we can employ, though that is good stuff, it's more about really the minutiae of what he is doing because we want to kick him where it hurts every single chance that we get.

I am wondering sometimes what is the difference between a battle with an independent church or one that is like Presbyterian or Methodist or Baptist or Pentecostal. What are the different things going on?

I think the brilliant thing about us is we are constantly learning, and I think it is time we learned we take steps higher up in this whole intel game. I talk to people, there are other speakers here, "So you have this

team who pray for you?" I'm going, "No! We are NOT a 'team'. We are a COMPANY! And we have incredible class. We know our identity. We are warriors, and we are classy warriors, which is not a 'team'. We are a company growing into an army. We are more than special forces. We are the people you never see until a hole magically appears before your eyes! We are the people you don't see but we see you!"

I think the thing, too, is what the intel we are growing into as well is like, "What if we could think of new weapons of mass destruction? What if we could think of, as well as thinking where are people imprisoned, where have they been captured?" Because in Isaiah 61 when Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me," so I want to set captives free and take prisoners out. What is the difference between a prisoner and a captive? What if a prisoner is someone who is taken prisoner just in their own lifestyle because they really haven't moved out of some worldly thinking or action? What if the captive thing, what if they are captured by a religious system? Then what if a person is both a prisoner and a captive, then they need a double portion to set them free, and what is the best way for us to attack that without killing anybody? How do we take that thing on? What are the weapons? Is there a weapon of mass destruction spiritually that we could use if we went to Atlanta? Would it be a different weapon in Chicago or New York or Boise, Idaho, or (Madras, India ? audio fades). What is that? If there are principalities and powers in their different states or big cities and small towns, or whatever, rural to urban, what are the weapons that could take them down?

So just trying to think the higher you go, the more you see, the more you start to think bigger. So right now we are focused on meetings, but should we focus on the city? We started to do it a little bit in places like in Colorado when we had the whole Water Level is Rising thing. You guys are responsible for all that!

Questions like that really help us to start thinking differently in our whole development, our whole training. We want to go there. Why? Because nobody has been there. No one is

thinking like we are thinking. That is why we are the class act right now because no one is thinking like we are thinking.

**Allison: What do you think it takes to stay in TWC long-term?**

Graham: What does it take any of us to stay anywhere that is competitive, that has oppositional forces against you? What does it take to play in the NBA long-term, or the NFL? It takes stamina! For one thing, you have to be in it for the long haul. You have to really understand that a big value in our training is that we are all learning to take care of our spirituality. We are all learning to take responsibility for our blessings and to really love working in the prophetic with the Lord, and being present-future.

It's really important that each of us knows what our distinctives are as an individual. So like in Santa Barbara we are developing this community called "Radiance" and 2 of the things we spent probably 9 or 10 months doing is talking about our values, our relational values, what do we want to be for each other, and also talking about our distinctives. What do we want to represent to the Christian world and the world around us? Our distinctives would be like working with the new man, not the old one; learning how to think with wisdom rather than spiritualized logic, which is 'positive thinking', right? Our distinctives are that we are present-future, we are not present-past, so we have luggage, we don't have baggage. Maybe we have luggage right now that we haven't unpacked yet. Yahoo! We have all got prophetic words that have not come to pass, so it's luggage. We are taking it with us into every situation so we are unpacking our circumstances in the light of things that God has said that previously we haven't understood.

Sometimes when God gives you a prophetic word and you don't understand it, the reason you don't understand it is because it is not for now. It's a future word. So if you don't understand it, the Lord is saying, "That will be really helpful down the road." So your next question is, "How can I prepare now to see it when I most need it?"

I have lost count of the number of times people come to me and say, "I really need to hear from the Lord," and when I open my heart to the Lord, He just points back to 2 years ago I told them something. They didn't get it then, but it's for now." So they want a new word, when God wants to make that word the now-word. So you have got to point back and say, "You know what, God is always previous. You have got a situation right now that relates to that word He gave you a couple of years ago. Why don't you dig it out, dust the cobwebs off, and see what you think."

I think it takes stamina to stay anywhere long-term. There is no substitute for lifestyle. We are all engaged in moving away from situational spirituality, that is, where we are inviting God into this event that we are calling life. But He doesn't call it life, He just calls it a circumstance, and He would like to mean more to you than just an involvement in a particular circumstance. He wants a bigger framework to work with in terms of lifestyle. He loves it when we connect with Him when we've got things, issues and stuff going on, but He is saying, "Why don't we aim for something a little more beautiful than that?" So we are looking at a lifestyle as walking with God, which means that we learn differently and we become something different, I think, faster, and we have a mindset that the enemy can't talk us out of.

(Phone dings)

And nobody can call us about!

There is no substitute for lifestyle and we really have to think about lifestyle just where we revere the Presence of God so much you feel like, "I can't miss a second of His presence. I don't want to miss out on His presence." I want that engagement. I want those butterflies all the time. I want to walk in anticipation. I want God to be able to see through my eyes, and I want to feel Him doing it. I want to know God coming out of my heart through my mouth towards someone. You know, so many times I am thinking, "I hope this is making sense to you." Then there are those magical times when you suddenly are aware that every single word you say has the power of 5 attached to it, and you can feel something

happening in someone. I don't want to 'visit' that stuff, I just want to live there.

I think what makes us stick around, what should make us stick around in TWC is that we love the conquest. I've often said that if you are going to succeed in warfare, you need this incredible passion for Jesus, and you need this passionate hatred of the devil (phone dings). I think God just seems to be underscoring that!

We need a hatred of the devil. Jesus went about doing good and overcoming the enemy and healing all who were oppressed. Overcoming the enemy has to be delightful for us.

I am wondering prophetically when I am thinking of TWC, "I wonder what our next expansion is going to be?" What if we continue with this, but then what if, say, the Baptist Union wanted us to do a TWC for Baptists? What if we could have a statewide TWC for Alabama? Y'all have to talk funny when you get there! But you can do it!

What if there were 20 or 30 different varieties of TWC, and what if we train some of those people to have the statewide TWC? Or what if every major city had a Warrior Class in it dedicated to taking down the enemy in that city?

In particular for us right now is we are a prototype, we are pioneers. We are doing something that hasn't been done before, and at some point people out there are going to get really canny about what we are doing and thinking, "We like that, we just want it in Houston only! We want our own company in Houston."

What does that do for all of us? What if a number of us here become trainers and facilitators?

Here's the thing: What if TWC is just going to morph into lots of different things? And then what if Allison is just going to become the fourth member of the Trinity?

What I'm saying here is we are talking about a whole new way of warfare. We are talking about high-definition focus in places. I mean, really, there are no limits in the Kingdom. What we want to make sure is that every time we do a different version of TWC we do it properly, you know, we don't skimp on all the ingredients, we don't bypass some of the suffering or the persecution, or the \_\_\_\_\_ things. (audio minute 35, 24 seconds) We have got to make sure that we don't abandon what we are doing for some weird functional paradigm again, that it does stay relational.

You know, there are going to be copies of TWC springing up. We have to face that. No point getting mad about it. In some way, we just have to hold our hands up and say, "Well, as long as people are praying we are going to be happy." But we want to be the real thing. At some point we want to maintain that and keep growing into that Kingdom reality so that when people are looking at us and looking at all the copies that are springing up, they are realizing that can only go so far, that can only climb a foothill.

This is the Everest of operations right here. We want to make sure that we have that reality of the Kingdom, of the Presence of Jesus.

I think there are lots of things to keep us occupied! If some of us feel like TWC or any organization starts to become a little disappointing, it's time for a reinvention. What we are trying to do is make our reinventions not dependent upon anything being confined.

That is why we want to try and be prophetic. When Allison and I get together and talk about y'all and talk about what we are doing, our conversations are present-future. We talk a little bit about what we are doing right now, but we are always talking about 2 or 3 years down the line. What are we becoming? Who are we becoming? What are we morphing into? And my question constantly is, "Al, who is coming through right now that can help us lead a charge with something different?"

We are all growing up in this thing right now, but we are going to get to a point where there is a fresh definition going to come into what we are doing that is going to change things for a while, and we will mean some interesting adjustments, and we will just handle all that with our customary grace and brilliance. It's what we do.

Things are changing around us, and we know that the TWC that is sitting here will not be the same one that is sitting here in 3 years' time, and hopefully you won't be the same, either! You will be different, and new things will be opening up for us because you know what the Lord is like, as soon as you start to really grow in something, He starts to make space open up. But we want to be like that, that as things are opening up, we want to make space for things that the Holy Spirit is doing.

The brilliant thing about that is right now to get something off the ground and into the air, you have to control the development of it because you have got to make sure, if it is a plane, that the wings are of equal size. \_\_\_\_\_ (audio minute 39, 12 seconds) to control our limits are important. But once you get into the air and you start travelling, then control becomes a different thing. We want to get to a place where so many things are happening that what we are doing is governed by the Holy Spirit in a prophetic sense.

That's why we need the relationships because if the enemy is looking for a time to kill us, it's going to be when that happens, and people then want to start splitting off and doing their own thing, and everyone has a right to do that, but we want to maintain we've got something here that we are not fully into the abundance of Presence yet that we would like, and that is something that is a relational environment that we have here. Once people start taking themselves out of that, my sense is, I have seen it so many times, that it puts a ceiling. People leave because they want to grow, but they don't understand the growth element that is actually present. You have heard the age-old idiom for that when you take a live coal out of the fire and put it by itself, it soon goes out. We want to understand what is the burn effect in terms of what we are doing. How can we maintain that whilst saying 'Yes' to the Holy Spirit with lots of different initiatives going on?

That is where it gets wildly fascinating. So, there you have it.

**Allison: We talk about wanting to reach the evangelical community. How do you plan to do that considering that everything you do is rooted in a Holy Spirit belief?**

Graham: Actually, I have been doing something for the last 5 to 8 years very deliberately. I just haven't spoken about it, but I started this movement around about 8 years ago. I have grown up in...when I came to Christ in 1972, I came on the back of having gotten saved because I heard the audible voice of God and because I had a full-on physical encounter with God. I was on the run from the police and I met God in the middle of a field in the middle of the night, and I thought it was a policeman. I was trying so hard to punch his lights out, it was the weirdest thing! Then I grow up in this relationship with God where I hear His voice audibly every single day, which doesn't exactly equip you for church life! So during the first year of my being a child of God, I got thrown out of every single church in the town where I lived, not because I was being obnoxious back then, but because I was curious and I heard things, I wanted to do things, and in that environment in 1970's England, all of that was weird. So I was made to feel weird rather than the normal that I was and everyone else was weird, but you can't say that, right, because that makes you sound weird!

So for me growing up in that and then starting one of the first house churches in British history, within like about a year there was like half a dozen of us who had all started house churches. The other 5 house churches were all started because people left church in a group while my group was just me and the Lord. So I started my house church by having dreams about the neighborhood and houses that God was working in, so I would go knock on their door and God would do something, and they'd have an encounter with Him, and then they would join my work.

So I went in my 15 months in a church of one to a church of like 84, and they were all fresh fish, nobody else's kippers. We had no smoked fish whatsoever, it was all fresh fish! The thing was brilliant.

So for me, then, that's my starting place. So I am grown up in that, and then all of the charismatic, Pentecostal stuff, then begins to get attached because all those people could relate to you in some way, and this whole other wing of the church just makes the sign of the cross when you walk by.

So when I came to the U.S. and went to Vacaville, that was the first traditional church I had ever been in in my life. Yes, that is what I said! I remember sitting there, I love those guys. When I first went there, it was like, "Dear Lord! Seriously? Either they are going to kill me or I am going to kill them!"

Well, something wonderful happened and we both managed to not murder each other. They started making me think, they started making me really understand what some of the tensions and frictions and difficulties are in that whole paradigm, basically, a one-dimensional paradigm where everything is factually driven. I grew up in a culture where what we did in a meeting was the least important thing we did. What we did in life was the most important thing, and the reason we kept growing like crazy is because we never put all our efforts into giving a meeting. We put it into expecting the Kingdom, not just doing church and assembling, or whatever.

So the last 5 or 8 years I have been moving away gradually in public, but not in private, from the whole charismatic thing. I have got great friends who are charismatic. I love the charismatic, but in public I have not said anything much about it. In private, I still have all of the same friends and everything, but I made a decision that my language would start to change, so things like dropping the word 'supernatural', which actually is a non-Biblical word. The whole fact that God isn't supernatural, not remotely. It is perfectly normal for Him to raise the dead, heal the sick, and talk to people about their future. Healing people isn't being supernatural at all, He is just being Himself, so why don't we just be ourselves? We are in Christ, let's just enjoy it and explore it. What is there to discover for us?

Then I set about changing the whole dynamic of how I talk as a person because I am realizing that in the church at large the whole prophetic training thing is really what I am most known for. So I start changing, I have literally rewritten every single prophetic talk I have, which is like 160 talks. I rewrote them to reflect 4 major strands, one of which is when I train in the prophetic, I want you to listen to me and figure out keys to grow in your devotional life. I want you to understand there is a leadership strand in there, so I want you to understand something of what leadership is. There is an upgrade in terms of story and journey, so life in the Spirit, walking with God, wisdom, and of course the nature of God, you know, putting the prophetic in the context of what is God really, really like.

In spite of all of those 4 strands weaving the training about the prophetic and how to speak with people, and so on, and then rewriting that prophetic book, *Developing Prophetic Gifting*, which is intensely practical in terms of how to prophesy and all that kind of stuff, ripping it apart and rewriting 6 books of equal size to the original, but now doing each book on a different kind of prophetic theme so the first one is *Approaching the Heart of Prophecy*. It is talking about the nature of God, what is God really like, how to demonstrate His nature while you are prophesying, how to see people the way God sees people, how to speak to them, how to connect with them, so everything then is coming through the cross, it's coming through the nature of God.

Then the 2nd book was *Prophecy and Responsibility*. So really going after a lot of the weird stuff and a lot of the indiscipline stuff, the rebellious stuff, and anti-leadership stuff that goes on, so when you look at the books they are all laid out the same way. They have all got what constitutes maturity and immaturity. Nobody does that in the prophetic! But it's the one thing that is most necessary because a lot of prophetic people are still a little bit off the wall. It is still a by- word for weirdo stuff.

So like putting that element in, and then putting in an element in in terms of working with leadership, partnering with leaders, putting those two elements in along with case studies and assignments get people thinking

about it's not enough to get a prophetic word, I have to give it the right way, and I have to have a sense of outcome. So it's much more wholistic, it's much more partnering with God.

And then, of course, Prophetic Wisdom...I don't know, that is just out there, but really connecting how God sees issues, how God thinks about them, how we should interact with them. So a lot of the areas where people are being killed right now in church, in terms of this false accountability, this whole thing of authority, what is the nature of admonition. Admonition has got nothing to do with shame or guilt. You can't guilt somebody into improvement. You can't judge somebody into a better relationship with God. That is the most stupid thing ever. So how does the prophetic, how do we behave responsibly? What are the planks of wisdom so that we could be known as the most wise, most sensible, most anointed people on the planet rather than just the weirdo people who are out there?

Changing that dynamic is really important to me. So then what is happening right now is I am getting off this from more and more mainstream churches to teach on the prophetic. Why? Because they feel safe, which is, I think the prophetic is a plough, feeling safe, everything about God is safe. The only time you should see God when He is unsafe is when the enemy is unlucky enough to be in the room with Him. Then you won't see a tame lion at all, you will see something different.

So doing that, and then waited and started deliberately doing other teaching themes like new man focus, like thinking brilliantly, mind of a saint is the next step on, growing up in God, favor, the nature of God, crafty prayer (!), teaching about process and how to walk with God, teaching about identity, all of that stuff because all of that is close to their heart, and they want to be able to do it better and more powerfully so just gradually I feel like they are pulling me into their orbit because they like the things we are saying. It's not me banging on the door saying, "Hey, talk to me, I really am nice!" It's more like the doors are opening and more and more people are buying our stuff, and I am hearing stories and we are getting letters from people, so that's really cool.

And the final thing I am doing, really, is just when I am talking, whether I am teaching or doing something like this, I want to be engaging in terms of the Presence of God. I really am learning a lot about how to speak as a father, how to speak from the Father's heart, a way of speaking that is easy but powerful. It's gracious and it's loving, and it draws people in, and if you use the metaphors of story and journey, because we have all got a story, we are all on a journey, wanting people to really fall in love with Jesus by hearing how I talk about Him. When I talk about the Holy Spirit, everyone who talks about Him talks about the whole judgment thing, He's a dove, like He is super sensitive, He can be easily offended; that is not the Holy Spirit I know! The Holy Spirit I know is the funniest person ever. He is Mr. Exuberant. He is exciting, He is dynamic. He knows He is a genius. He has the most magical laugh, and He is up for anything! He is a genius at everything. He can do everything. He likes to be involved in everything. He is more than slightly mischievous, and He loves His job! He loves being our helper. He loves the fact that He can show us the emotions of God because He is our comforter. But He is also like this crazy warrior who loves the odds always. So I love hanging out with Him, and I love that picture that I have of Him that He is just a flat out genius and has no problems telling you to say He is a genius!

So there you have it.

That is just some of the things, areas where I am deliberately moving over the last 5 to 8 years and kind of, like, repositioning myself in a place where people are thinking, "I want to hear him more. We should get him here. He makes me think about God in a completely different way."

Every one of us from extreme ages at this wonderful church, everyone I am convinced really wants to know Jesus and to meet Him.

So that is what we are doing, we are trying to do that.

**Allison: Can you describe how you grew into ministry in the early years? We only see the outcome now and it all seems so solid. What**

were some of the toughest places in ministry to overcome, and how did you overcome them?

Graham: My toughest thing to overcome were all my mentors! Allison: I understand that!

Graham: Touche!

I think for me one of the biggest things I had to overcome is I have only ever wanted to move in a relational paradigm, not in a functional one. I love function, but it's a poor second for me. I want to do everything out of relationship and in relationship. And so being a relational minister in a very functional environment has meant that I have been killed for all my generosity, which is a problem, and I almost shut down from it because I just got so wounded and taken for granted and abused and everything. One day I was crying out to the Lord and the Holy Spirit walked in the room and He's just like, it's like He sat down and crossed His legs and said, "So, what's up?"

"What's that? Where have You been for the last 3 years? 'What's up?' This is up!" And He went, "Ahh. All of that. So do you like what we are doing in your life?" "A life with \_\_\_\_\_?!" (audio minute 58 50 seconds)

He just laughed and He said, "Well, this is the accelerated road."

And I said, "Why do I feel like I am being hammered into the ground?"

And He said, "Because your whole mindset about what is happening is so earth-bound all you can do is feel sorry for yourself."

And I'm thinking, "I am going to hate myself for saying this, but what should my mindset be?"

And He just starts talking to me about how do you love when love is not returned. Short answer: Love doesn't seek a return. Love loves for the sake of loving.

And over the next year or two, I just began to learn things like the fruit of the Spirit only grows in bad soil, that when you are being persecuted,

according to Peter, that is when the Spirit of God and of glory rests on you. So He began to teach me then that every negative has a positive attached to it, and He began to teach me that in all of those things, this was the high road, this is how we think about it. He would say stuff like, "Graham, you don't have a right to be wounded, you have a right to be healed," you know, all the things that I have poured across into your heart once in a while. All those things I began to learn about loving your enemies, about praying for those who persecute you, about blessing those who use you, and how to rejoice in all those situations, how to take the road less travelled, which never involves vindication, the whole revenge thing, and knowing you are not allowed to kill people and FedEx them to Jesus without a return address!

I joke about that often because I tried it so often, "Lord, p-l-e-a-s-e just take him early, eh?" Sometimes it would be, "Lord, either take him or take me!" And the Lord would say, "Don't tempt me!"

I think, too, hearing one of my mentors, Arthur, on humility. He said that when you learn humility, you come into a place where no one can put you down. It may not mean much to you, but it means the world to me.

Arthur would teach me how to die quietly. I would write typed pages (I'm not bitter about this) telling him all the things I was suffering, like 18 typed pages, and I would get like a postcard, a white postcard, where the address was bigger than the message, and the message just said,

Dear Graham, D.Q.

--Arthur

What the heck is "D.Q.?"

And I would phone him, "What the heck is 'D.Q.'?"

"Oh, it's code."

"Well, I know it's code. What is it?"

"Die quietly. Graham, no one wants to hear you screaming, especially me!" and he hung

up.

He would teach me things like, "Graham, nothing is personal. Everything is private, and

you take all those things into your private relationship with God. If someone wounds you out there, don't take it personally, take it privately into the presence of God. Persecution is about learning how to rejoice. What if the Spirit of God and of glory, what if persecution was so amazing because it brought you into this place of relationship with God where you might not have got there without the persecution?"

My inheritance words kept me sane, Psalm 91, Isaiah 41, Numbers 13, 14, being a Caleb, learning to be a man of a different spirit.

**Allison: We will finish up with this one: What would you like to do most in the next 5 years that you have never done before?**

Graham: I want to create this road map that can take an absolutely brand new Christian and they can learn their story and their journey and how to walk with God, all the truths they are going to need, all the things they want to learn about the nature of God, all the things that God wants to be for them. And it won't just be like a one-dimensional map. It will be like a three-dimensional map so there would be life on this level, and there would be something going on on this level, and something going on on this level, you know, because some truths you get so far on this level, and then the next part of your training has to be at this one. I have felt we are actually discovering about it now is Warrior Class.

I was talking to someone who said, "Well, we are right out here on this level," he said. "We don't know how to change it and all of this, and how to deal with all of this. Well, that's still going on, and we're just really stuck right now." And I said, "Oh man, it's not about this level for you. You have got to create another level on top so you can keep all of this going legitimately because we need to, but we also need to do this."

We can't keep extending our territory on the same level because vision is not just about the direction you are going in, it's about the height at which you want to travel. If you get in a plane, and you look in the seat

back pocket, the in-flight magazine, and every airline shows you what their fleet of planes looks like and they talk about different payloads, different thrust, their range, how many people they can carry, all that kind of stuff, all their different airplanes in their fleet. What they are saying is that, "We've got planes that can go at this level, we've got planes that can go at that level," and so on. So vision is not just about the direction you are going in on this level, it's about the height that you are going to be traveling at. Churches should learn that because you can get a church of 300 that can learn how to occupy this level, but a church of 3,000 makes a mess at this level but that's what we've got. So people then start to leave that church because "Everything is covered here and I don't know where I fit." Well, then we need to have different levels of anointing and ministry so that we can really create this whole thing of fulness and abundance right across the earth. Too many churches have a crop-duster mentality. They have half a dozen people and they are just spraying the ground like some rabid skunk or something, spraying this territory, just spraying the same old territory. We are not occupying the heavens, so the devil is doing what he likes because he is the prince of the power of the air. He lives in the atmosphere. That is why we have got to learn to be seated with Christ in heavenly places so we get above certain things. We have got to create ministries that can get above. We have got to create anointings that can get above.

So for me, I want to create this road map but at different levels that can cause people to rise up and occupy a different place and then find out the territory on that level, and then go to another level. Wouldn't that be cool?

I want to own my own T.V. station, and I want to have a recording studio because I really want to bust right through into the arts. Art and Business are my two things. I own my own business now, I have three businesses, and I am very creative, though I couldn't sing a note, I can't play an instrument to save my life. I can write, I am creative there. But I love all the arts and everything. So I want to have a medium where I can actually empower people to explore their creativity without it having to cost them an arm and a leg.

I want to become a very deliberate father. I want to be a father figure to new warriors, new champions. That is really important to me because there are some amazing people growing up right now who need something amazing to do.

I have the honor of being international director with Aglow, and my passion is to see that organization grow into a true apostolic network that can cover the earth.

I am very passionate about the place of women in every culture and every society. You know the church is around 2/3 women, but leadership is almost 90% male, which accounts for why we are so screwed up, I think.

The church is a parody of what she should be. We are not this beautiful bride that is incredibly powerful and anointed and that has this immense compassion and a capacity to fight

like you wouldn't believe, and also to provide, and so on. We need to see the release of the Bride in all of that fullness, and that takes male and female partnering in ways that right now are unprecedented.

I am also an ambassador for Not For Sale, anti-human trafficking. My goal really is I want to raise tens of millions toward it. It's a noble cause. One of my heroes is William Wilberforce, and the slavery is back now is worse, it's a thousand times worse than it ever was before. It's a \$32 billion dollar industry. It's what they earn every single year, and our resources right now are a lousy hundred million; one hundred million dollars to fight a \$32 billion dollar industry. There are so many steps ahead of us, it's unreal. It's like, no point in having a big giant unless you are really satisfied that you can pull him down, and I believe we can.

My other goal is I want to create new relationships with mainstream churches because unless we wake up the sleeping giant, that is, conservative evangelicalism, we are going to lose this country. We have to wake this giant up, and she has to know how incredible she is, and we have to set captives free and take prisoners out of prison. Right now too

many Christians are captured by the system, not captivated by God. That is something we have to change.

Well, as Gump would say...

Allison: That's all you have to say about that!