Q & A: Developing Your Destiny Anaheim, 2015

Allison: The first question is your teaching about habitation versus visitation and the Holy Spirit lives in here has helped change my focus from looking outside to looking inside. Jesus is massive territory! I'm guessing this is territory you have been in for a long time. When did you first discover it, and how would you describe this oneness in your life?

Graham: I didn't discover it exactly. It was kind of forced on me by a guy who was mentoring me at the time. You would have more luck saying "No!" to Jesus than you would to Arthur! He straightaway got on my case about, "Where are you living from?" and talked to me about the inner man of the spirit and the outer man of the soul. The soul is what is in contact with the world so it's subject to all the ups and downs, all the words, all the actions of others, and so on, but your inner man of the spirit only lives in the presence of God and has no connection with the world whatsoever. So he taught me that that is what the Bible meant about the secret place, the fortress of the Lord, the refuge. He began to teach me about how to live from the inside to the outside and not allow the opposite to occur. So when the outside penetrates we're going to get anxious, worried, fearful, events are going to overwhelm us. But if you're living from the inside, which is in the presence of God, what the Bible calls abiding, then you're only ever affected by Presence. The Prince of Peace lives there, which his pretty handy! The God who always laughs lives there, and that's great, too! You always get a great sense of who you are because when you live in that place, you become the Beloved because there is only you and Him in there, and you're in there together. All of life needs to be practiced from that reality. That is the truest reality you're ever going to face in this time- space world.

When we get into Heaven, into the Kingdom real, then everything will be different. We'll all have new bodies--Yahoo!--and round will no longer be a shape! That will be exciting. And all supermodels will weigh about 400 pounds for at least 200 years so that they know how the rest of us felt! Pay them back for a false image of men and women here. That will be cool.

Arthur really taught me about that powerful inner life, which is why I wrote a book on it eventually. I've always been fascinated by the relationship between Jesus and the Father because my understanding of salvation is we are called into that same space between the Father and the Son. We are called to be part of that

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first love experience, and we're meant to be having hundreds of encounters and experiences with God out of that place because that's the place where all encounters with God are normal. If you're living in your soul, encounters with God are rare, often, in the most powerful sense of an encounter. So I've always been fascinated by that and by the fact that I wanted a lifestyle that would allow me to overcome the world around me and not be overcome by it because I realized I had this prophetic word over my life that I had a high calling with God and I wanted to know exactly what that meant and how could I live in it, and how could I engage with it, and the warfare and the suffering that went with it, without being bothered because you're so delighted about the place you're living from. Yeah, you do suffer but, honestly, compared to what you gain, it's a joke. Suffering can be a little bit of a joke in that sense. I don't say that lightly, either.

In the soul, everything is about what you're losing. In the spirit, everything is about what you're gaining. What you're gaining is what dominates your thinking and the way you do life.

I had guys who had been in the prophetic in the Latter Rain movement who prophesied over me that I would be a prophet and a teacher and all this kind of stuff, and then described to me the journey of development God uses on you when He's training you to be a mouthpiece because it carries an extraordinary responsibility. They described it and I'm thinking, "Shoot! I'm not going down there with your feet attached to my legs!"

Then they said, "You would be mad to go down there. You would be mad to go down that road."

Then I heard God say, "Come!" and His voice was so incredible, I went, and they were absolutely right, but so was He.

It's in the crisis--don't ever turn away from a crisis, turn into one. Don't avoid it, lean into it because it's in the crisis that we get transformed.

How many of us are in crisis right now? I am. I'm determined to have a really good time! It's in the crisis that you discover who God wants to be for you, and you discover just how powerful this inner life really. The crisis creates a hunger to want to stay there and live there. All I can say is by the grace of God I'm as hungry now as I was thirty years ago because He is big territory. There's a lot to explore. Jesus is bigger than Montana! He is huge, and that means that we have to be huge in Him.

Q: What was it in Montana? You had the boys take you out to open space? Why did you want to go?

A: I wanted to be out in a space where there was not going to be another living soul for at least two or three hours. I wanted to get a feel for space like that because

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it's what I was encountering with God. I crossed a threshold one day, but I didn't realize it for two weeks that I was in this whole new space with God. I was just like, honestly, I was a little bored because I'm normally used to coming into contact with the enemy, and he is almost like a personal friend. He comes around and you get it on. There is only one winner so it's not all that bad! But he wasn't anywhere in that space, and no one was persecuting me, and stuff that I'm normally just used to calling up my patience and letting patience deal with it--none of that was happening and I'm thinking, "What's going on?"

And then the Lord started talking to me about a dream I'd had a few weeks back, but it was so real that actually something happened to me physically in that dream and when I woke up, something was different. But I hadn't really put the two together. But God sometimes invades our dreams with such a reality that your physical life changes. Your natural normal life gets adjusted.

About twenty-five years ago I had a dream that I spent two months in heaven and went I went to bed that night, I was clean shaven. When I woke up the next day, I had two month's growth of beard. It frightened the life out of me and my kids! My wife was going to call the police, "There's an intruder in the bathroom!"

"I mean, Sweetie, he wouldn't have been stealing your sink! He'd be downstairs stealing the TV or computer or something!"

God can do that. He can step in and out of dimensions with us, and that's when angels come. They step from one dimension into another and when Paul says, "I know a man," and he is discreetly talking about himself, "who was caught up into heaven..." I always think the membrane between heaven and earth is really thin in some places.

In this dream, I had crossed a threshold and something had happened to me. So my life wasn't computing with the reality that God had just brought me into. It took me a few weeks finally to catch up with, "OMG! This is that. Something happened."

Before I was in a pretty confined space because God puts you in a confined space. It's like taking your car to the shop. It's a confined space so they can work on something. When you're in a confined space, God is working on you. You may as well let Him change the alternator or give you a new battery or something because if you don't let Him do it this time, the next time you'll take yourself into the shop. You either take a car into the shop to get its regular service, or the car takes you in at some point on the back of a truck!

It's just that sense of space, and now I need to explore this and discover what it means, and I'm realizing all my boundaries have now changed. So then I'm thinking I have to fill this space and we start filling that space, really, with prophecy or promises that have not been fulfilled yet. It's like you want to get those

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out because some of those might be like part of the furniture that you're going to be sitting on now in this new space. Some of those prophecies might be a car that you can take for a ride through this territory.

It was great! I had a couple of learning days coming up so it was just great to sit down and think, "Okay, so what are the things spoken over me, Father, that are unfulfilled that are attractive to You right now?" So we just had a whole different conversation.

Everything about God is relational. He has this sense of mystery about Him. I mean, He talks to English guys so it's not going to be that outrageously complicated if we're involved!

Q: What are your feelings, thoughts, and beliefs regarding personal prophecy and prophetic counseling offered online, assuming that the prophet is genuine?

Allison: (Laughing) Are you starting a new business?!

A: No! Yeah, there is always a lot of assuming about certain prophetic people. It's hard to know sometimes what is genuine because there is so much mixture out there.

Honestly, the only thing I think I want to say about it is it's going to have to have a different means of regulation, monitoring, and quality control because all those things are meant to take place in fellowship. These days anybody who has got access to the internet fancies himself as something. The internet has given millions of people a voice who quite honestly have not done anything to deserve it. I keep saying to people who email me interesting things, "Thanks for that. By the way, did you know that being an internet troll is not a ministry?" Now most people think it is because they have a voice, but they are not in relationship with anybody, they're not in covenant with anybody. You're not even sure they're in covenant with the Lord because of some of the things they say, bless their hearts! I think when they get to heaven all their computer privileges are going to be revoked for at least a millennium! They'll be the ones carrying notebooks around learning stuff they didn't learn otherwise!

I just think it needs a different level of regulation, moderation, and quality control. There are lots of prophetic sites on the internet right now, and I wouldn't waste your time reading them, let alone mine, because they're uncensored. The whole point of supernatural gifts are that they are meant to be exercised in fellowship, in covenant, in relationship with people. So I'm a little nervous about the whole thing. But at the same time, we are in that technological age where none of this can be prevented. But it's going to be interesting to see is God going to raise

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anybody up to actually handle that or is it just going to be part of the warfare that we have to endure?

As Forest Gump would say, "That's all I have to say about that!" except that I don't want to do it!

Allison: On our site, too, one of the things is that we're training and growing so that we can use some wisdom and some discernment with what we're hearing. The internet does give us lots of practice opportunities!

Q: How do you think the Warrior Class leaders are leaders of a different spirit? What makes our values and style of leadership unique?

A: I think a lot of it really is the way in which we wanted to set TWC up from the start. We wanted it to be a unique company of people in the sense of the process that we wanted to adopt for spiritual development. We wanted to have a place where people could check their mindset at the door and maybe get a better one. There's always a better way of thinking about something and I wanted a group of people who will be willing to explore what that could look like and not use the world as a starting place, but use the Kingdom. The world is a problem-solving universe, the Kingdom isn't. So we wanted, therefore, to convert problems into possibilities because that's what the Kingdom deals with. We wanted to start a way of thinking that was absolutely rooted in the Kingdom itself, not in the world that we were a part of. So then people wouldn't have to be working on their negative stuff, but they could work on something better. So like we wouldn't have a place where necessarily we would be directly working on our weaknesses, we would start to be working on our strengths and build them up into such a wonderful way that our weaknesses would be overcome and obliterated. It's a much more fascinating journey when you're studying your own identity and who you are and who you've got permission to be, and then when we focus on that, which is the new man, the old man goes away. Whatever you focus on you give power to so if we focus on the old you, then the old you is actually going to get more established because you give power to it. You give it permission to stay if you're having a conversation with it. But if you want to have a conversation with the new man, then the old man withers because no one is engaged. So we let the old man stay dead and we focus on the new one.

We wanted to start a company of people who would do what Jesus gave us permission to do, which is consider yourself to be dead to this and alive to this. So we wanted to create a community of people who were alive to who God is and to how God sees us, how He thinks about us, how He feels about us, and we would be in brilliant conversation together about all of that, a company where we would be

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discovering ourselves and one another. The lessons that I was learning, maybe you can learn, too, with me, and the lessons you're learning, maybe I can pick something up from your story or your journey. We wanted the metaphor of story and journey because everyone has one, right? We've all got a story, and we are really concerned that you are not playing a bit part in the movie of your own life, that you need to be the star of your show because that's who you are in Jesus. You're learning to be as big and as brilliant as He is.

We're all upping our game, and we're all going on a different journey. Sometimes that journey is over the same territory but at a different level. It's the difference between riding on horseback across America and flying at 37,000 feet with a glass of wine in your hand and watching a movie! That's a whole different journey, right?

We wanted to explore all of that and what is the process for us to engage with that and be joyful about the things we're learning, be joyful about our change and not be worried about what we're not, but be fascinated about who we are becoming.

I was always like that with my kids. I loved every single strand of my children's lives, being a part of that and looking at them and listening to them, and as they were reaching for things, like reaching for language, they started to see things and they understood things in a certain way. It was fascinating to me being part of that and learning how I could just lean in and then lean out and let them just follow me and talk about things. Now I get to do it with grandchildren, which means I should be better at it this time around! But that's fascinating, too.

I think the important part of what we offer people is fascination, the fact that we should be fascinated with Jesus, and we should understand that the Father is totally fascinated with us, delighted to have made us, delighted to have created us, delighted to be with us, not at all bothered if we get stuff wrong because He has poured out grace so much that I could make a mistake for a thousand years and still not get to the end of the grace that is mine, and that I can get to stand in that grace and exult in the goodness of God.

It's not like He is making this difficult!

I do think the church makes it difficult. I don't have any rants against the church--I'm part of it. But we wanted a community that operated in a different way, operated at a higher level because we have permission. So I think what is unique about us is that mindset, that perspective, the way we see things, think about things, and the language that we are creating, which is the language of the Kingdom, not the language of Churchianity, which is a mixture of world and religion often.

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I deal with churches all the time, and I'm constantly fascinated by the question why they are using a lower level of language than the Bible gives them permission for? What's that about, really? What is it we're not seeing?

As evangelicals we kind of pride ourselves on being Bible believing. I think sometimes we are the least Bible-believing people on the planet when it comes to actual truth lived out and rejoiced over.

I feel sometimes like we created the Warrior Class because we wanted to go to the Promised Land. Check it out!

In the first incarnation of it when it was Prayer Partners, I realized after several years that none of these people were really going anywhere. They were all just trying to live the best life possible in Egypt, and no possibility of us taking on giants because all the giants are in the Promised Land! All the giants are standing next to your promise, which is the coolest thing ever because you not only get to get a hold of a great promise, you get to take something down at the same time that guarantees you can keep that promise. A giant is about giving you increase. When you look at a giant the Lord is saying, "That's how big I'm making you! That's why your promise is this big because only a giant can carry it so I'm making you into a giant."

We had all this kind of imagery that Scripture gives us, all this imagination that the Father is opening up to us, and we wanted just to explore that. I think all of those processes and all the ones that we're currently learning, an all the ones that are still to come, I think make us a unique company of people right now. That's why I think it is such a privilege for all of us to be together because of what's happening, who we're becoming, and all of that. I flippin' love this journey! I love it, and as my daughter says over chocolate cake, "Daddy, I love it, and I'm in love with it!"

I feel the same about warfare that she feels about chocolate cake! I love this fight! I love what we're gaining. I love the breakthroughs we're getting. I love that some of us are radically different people now than we were three or four years ago. That to me is what a Kingdom community looks like. And we're enjoying it! Enjoy every single part of it, no matter what it is. Love the learning. Love the learning because that is a huge part of what makes us unique--we really enjoy everything that is going on.

Allison: It was interesting because when we really first went exploring together, not knowing what was ahead, the first six months were really a lot of conversation. We talked somewhat today about the creation of the two-way street and just keeping that going to the next level that not only what you're investing, but the level that we're investing back into you and into each other just keeps going higher and higher and higher and higher and the power and the potential of that.

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Q: "Every relationship needs to be reinvented every three to five years," a wise man once said.

A: My wife told me to say that.

Q: Yeah, I have her list.

A: You and me both!

Q: How are you currently reinventing your life and relationships and is that reinvention part of your health accommodations?

A: It has nothing to do with the health thing, really, because my mindset on that is I'm not a sick person trying to get well, I'm a whole person fighting off sickness. So my mind is set in terms of how I want to live each day. For me that means I haven't made allowances for anything like that.

But I think the real reason that I'm taking time out is because I have so much going on that I need actually to reinvent my working day or working week or whatever. I have a schedule, but I also have a rhythm. My rhythm is my relationship with the Lord. My rhythm is based around Presence, meditation, listening, and being God's paid friend! So I have a rhythm because my most creative part of the day is usually 4:00 a.m. til noon. I don't do anything logical in that time frame. I don't do anything analytical. I don't do anything functional in that time frame. That's where I pray, I think, I write, I create because that 's my most creative time. Straight after lunch, all my logical, rational capability (all seventeen minutes of it!) kicks in, and that's when I do my mail and answer the phone, talk to people, all of that stuff.

I'm realizing that I'm so fascinated by what I'm doing. When God puts you into this big space, you're like a kid in a sweet shop, a candy store. Your Mom might send you in with a little bag, but you're going to go out somewhere and buy a suitcase and go back and fill that thing! I'm like that. I like to fill my time with stuff. It got to a point where the Lord said, "Hey, it'd be nice to have a chat sometime!"

"What?!"

I'm realizing I've got so many fascinating projects on that I'm happily spending some creative time, which is what it's for, doing those things, so I've readjusted because some projects are coming to an end anyway. So for me it was more of a time thing.

Reinvention for me is I feel like God is calling me up to a higher place and so I need to make time for that to happen. I'm fortunate, too, in that I have some

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projects that are coming to the end of their time frame. I've been working with some churches for around five years and we're coming to the end of that phase. I think there are some of those churches that like the high place they're at and want to set up camp, and that's okay. I've got a couple of projects where they're realizing this isn't the summit, it's just base camp 14. But they still want to go up higher so that will be great. That will be good fun! But there are some that really want to camp, and I think that's the reason why we have a range of mountains and hills and foothills. Not everyone is going to climb Everest, but some people are going to go walking. Everyone has the right to settle on what height they want to be at, and so I don't have a problem with that. It will just be good-bye, and I'll point them in the direction of some really good guys who are doing great things at that level. But I want to go on.

So for me it's just really become a time where there are a lot of things converging in this space and it's getting overcrowded so I need to kind of sit down and chat with the Lord about all that.

But I think on the whole every relationship needs to be reinvented every three to five years. Otherwise you get into a routine that becomes abnormal at some point or it lacks passion at some point. When we're looking at where we're going, Theresa and I have been chatting for the last year or so about what's happening, where we're going, what we need to mean for each other. She is coming into her own in some really interesting areas so how do I partner with that? How do I embrace it with her? How do I support her? What does she need? What's going to change for us? So we're looking at that.

We're also looking at Brilliant Book House. We're reinventing that at the moment. We've just reinvented Brilliant Perspectives, and we're starting a new company this week. We're launching it here, actually. It's Brilliant TV, which has been in the pipeline for five years. We've been working on it for five years, like in secret. We're excited about that. That's going to change quite a few things.

So it's interesting, and I've still got about another twenty books I want to write. So I'm not looking for things to do, but I am looking for different ways to do them. And I think with all the relationships that matter around me, I know that I'm part of their reinvention because I'm innately curious. I'm curious about my friends, about who they're going to become next, about what those promises they have over their lives are like. Promises change you. They adjust you. They are chiropractic! They do--they make an adjustment in your life. You can't have a promise and not be adjusted in it. The promise is going to change you first before it wraps itself around you and opens up. So I'm fascinated by some of the promises that some of my friends have and wondering what kind of person they'll need to be to realize that in full. I get to understand that because I'm their friend, I'm part of that

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process. That's why I've got files on all my friends so I can keep up with everything that's happening. It's about time to open that file drawer, I think.

Allison: I think one of the things that we have really enjoyed in this last season, and knowing the value for our time--I think we spent quite a bit of time talking today--I think it's really been delightful to see you have more time to be able to do this.

Q: Passivity is one of our key fights that we're looking at in TWC. The Warrior Class requires us to overcome this by taking responsibility for our level of involvement and training. What are the best ways to overcome passivity, especially in our training process?

A: Passivity is not caused by issues or problems. It's caused by lack of engagement with our favor. When you really engage, when you see the bigness of the favor that's on you right now, RIGHT NOW, you can become so thrilled by that--that it pushes you out there. Passivity is like, honestly, it should be such a nonissue. It's caused by lack of engagement with favor, with blessing, with promise, with the goodness of God. When you engage with the joy that God has over you, you can't wait to be out there and have another conversation with Him. You can't wait to engage with life, either.

The image I want of TWC is of people running through a mall waving a promise saying, "I got a promise! It's as big as this mall!" and people are going, "Weirdo!"

Maybe I should refine that!

We want people who are super excited by what God is doing. Here's the thing--and I mean this in the nicest possible way--I'm just about to slap you--I could care less about where you've been. I don't even care about where I've come from. I don't care about my past. It's over. I don't care about what people did to me, what people said to me. I don't care about how that made me feel because I'm a different person, and I haven't got time to be thinking back. We've got too much to do, all of us.

The antidote to all of that is for you to discover how amazing you really are and live that life. Then we don't have to be concerned about the past robbing us of our present or affecting us now. I'm not at all concerned with low self esteem. I'm just thinking, "I'm not going to deal with your low self esteem. I'm going to tell you who you really are and make you excited about it." And when you're excited about who you're going to become, you won't have any issues with low self esteem! You'll be running ahead and shouting like a lunatic!

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Really, joy is the antidote to all of that stuff anyway. Count everything as joy. There isn't a bad thing in my life that I haven't deliberately gone back to that point and started laughing, "Because of that, I became this." I don't know how many times I have thanked all my persecutors, "Thank you so much for persecuting me because I have this incredible promise from the Lord, 'When men reviled you, blessed are you because the Spirit of God and of glory rests on you.' If you all understood the power of good that your persecution has done, you would cut your tongue out!"

Honestly, I feel the past, because of the Cross, because of what Jesus did, it is flipping irrelevant. It is irrelevant. It has no power so we don't give it any. We are totally free to become a brand new person any time we like.

For me, then, passivity is destroyed just by the sheer pleasure of being in Christ. I don't even like to focus on it sometimes. I'm just saying let's focus on the real cause of passivity. It's just because you're not tracking with your favor. So let's talk about passivity in the context of the favor that belongs to you and it's in your life right here, right now. Let's open it up. Let's get a good look at it, and then let's start to make you adjust to your favor. When you adjust to your favor, I don't think passivity will be an issue.

I firmly believe that we don't work on our negatives. We work on the glory of what God is doing in us. We don't work on our weaknesses, we work on our strengths. When you work on your strengths and they get to a point, your weaknesses are less than they appeared beforehand and they may be easily dealt with then.

When you work on who you are becoming in Jesus, everything that you're not becomes automatically reduced to a point where you can flick it away, you can overcome it easily. It's a nothing exercise anymore.

Does that make sense?

This is what we're doing. We're working on the majesty of Christ in us. That's our starting point not, "What do I have to be to receive Jesus fully?"

No, it's like, "What if the fullness of Jesus squashes everything that you're not?" How about we think about it that way?

So I'm fascinated by that whole thing of Jesus just blithely came in saying, "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you! The Kingdom is all around you. Everyone is pressing into it. No one is bothered about this legalistic stuff anymore. All the law and the prophets, you had them until now. But now the Kingdom is here and everyone is pressing into it."

All the issues of the Pharisees and the Sadducees, they were all about the law of Moses, but what they never realized was the Messiah was here and the law of Moses didn't apply anymore. That's like trying to play baseball with football rules! We're in a different game and different rules apply. You're in the Kingdom

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now. You're in the world but you're not of it. You're in the Kingdom now. Different rules apply.

That's the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Gospel is the transition from the Old Testament to the New Testament. Jesus came saying, "You have heard it said, but now I say..." What He said turned everything they'd ever known on it's head. That's why He did the Sermon on the Mount because that's the manifesto of heaven, "Yeah, this is what we're doing." Nobody understood it, nobody got it, but He wasn't too bothered about that. He was intent on speaking it into the atmosphere of the earth knowing that there would eventually be millions and millions of people who would be circulating that message all around the world and every culture could be shaped by it, and that's what we're doing slowly but surely.

It's important for us that we have a mindset that is not rooted in the norms of how we learn things in the world, but it's rooted in the process of the Kingdom and what we're learning about who God is for us and what God is like because you would expect that life in Jesus would be way different than life any other way. So we're going to prove that.

Allison: Well that was interesting because along the line of our conversation today when we were talking about the key fights--and we're still in that exploration stage of identifying and being able to describe--but we talked about that our upgrades in language when we get to at least the first expression of them that we want to put to it will not be in what we're fighting against, but what we're fighting for, what we're coming into, what is the atmosphere that we're going to be establishing, what's going to displace that? So that fits right alongside that.

Q: Divine Confrontation, the book, is now out of print.

Graham: FINALLY!

Q: Will it come back? I think we already know the answer to that question--only as a dartboard! What would you write in it now that you didn't know then, and when was it written?

A: I think it was written in 1800-something. I think it was around the 90's sometime. But it's the book I never wanted to write. It was the book, really, that a publisher that I'd signed with encouraged me to write.

I wanted to write two books, one about the apostolic because I'd been part of two great apostolic networks. I've been in apostolic teams for twenty-five-plus years and had a fabulous time all around the world just doing stuff. I really wanted to write a book about transition, but they didn't. So then we had to tack this whole



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apostolic thing on, which would have made it honestly almost like the size of War

and Peace. So then they kept shaving it down until the apostolic part of it was nothing like what I'd written, and we were left on the other side with just four kind of composite chapters on the character and the process of transitions. And then it became divine confrontation--birth pangs of the new church--which it wasn't anything like that at all. So it's the only book I've been really dissatisfied with because it never did what it said on the label. It wasn't anything about that, and it's like I don't think I ever talked about it publicly once in all the meetings I've ever done. It's like, well, you know, okay.

I learned a lot though! I learned that I should really stand up for what I believe more. In the end it was that experience that probably pushed me into creating Brilliant Book House. I don't want to be in that situation anymore. I love taking advice from people. I have lots of friends, and a few people who give me advice even if I don't want it!

So I like advice and I like people having a say in some of the projects that I'm doing, but that was one that I really felt now I know what I *don't* want to do in terms of writing.

I went back to a previous publisher and bought back the rights to the Being with God series because they wanted to change them into something else. It still felt to me like they were my children so I bought them back. And then the first book, which was Developing Prophetic Gifting, was a great book when I wrote it, and then after ten, twelve years became a decent-to-average book simply because I'd had twelve years more experience so I knew more, so I knew the things that I would have written in the first book had I known those things then. So I've been rewriting that book ever since, and there will be probably six to eight books in that series.

I learned a lot through writing Divine Confrontation, and I learned how *not* to do something. So I don't intend to ever let that book see the light of day again!

I think I still would love to write a book about the apostolic. Maybe that will happen one day.

Q: Would the next book in the prophetic series--will you do Making A Prophetic Impact?

A: Yeah, it's possible. I've got a pile of manuscripts on my desk right now. I only really write a book when the Holy Spirit is in the mood because I want them all--I really want to write classics--and I'm really trying to do that with the prophetic series especially.

      

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The Warrior series is classic in the sense that no one has really written about warfare in quite that way in terms of preparing warriors. I wanted them to be different and , therefore, a classic because of that.

I'm thinking, too, I like to call them a classic because I want someone to be annoyed enough to write something better because the Kingdom deserves something better, and I'm really happy if my first book is a stepping stone for someone. The whole advantage of mentoring is that every mentor should expect their disciple to go further than they have. Otherwise how can you gauge your success if they don't rocket past you in gift and ministry? I'd be really upset if they rocket past me in character, but in gift and ministry the advantage of having a mentor is that you don't fall down all the holes that they fell down. What took them fifteen years to get to this place may take you five, which means you can do so much more. You should take that territory and enlarge it in some way.

So I'm writing books right now and I'm saying to people, "You don't like it? Write something better!" I call them classics because I want to be a little provocative and say, "Hey, if you want to write a super classic, I'll buy the first book because then I'm going to learn your stuff and write something better! Game on!"

Allison: I think one of the things I always--when I first went out and started teaching--was the idea that you feel like you would be saying, "And that's by Graham Cooke," and you'd just be quoting all the time, and I always love the agreement that you gave me which was, "Everything I have is yours, and when you make it better..." but it was kind of with this tone of, "Oh, you can and you will!" But that sets it up, that should be true for all of us.

Q: What is one thing you have done in the past twelve months that you've never done before but always wanted or hoped to do?

A: Nothing! Actually I haven't done anything in the last twelve months that fits into that category at all. The reason for that is there just hasn't been the time to do something that new. I've been finishing up a bunch of things. I started some things ten, twelve years ago that I had a five-year plan for twelve years ago, and then when I got to the end of five years I realized why it needed to be nine years, and it's taken me three years to bring it to a conclusion. So over the last year or two I've really been coming to the natural end of some things that I've been working on for quite a while.

I love being present to the moment with God, but He has plans and purposes, too, and they require strategies, tactics. They require deep thinking over a long period of time, and they require a certain amount of discipline to see it through.

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I love all of that. I love the paradox of both/and, that I get to be in the moment and do something just off the spur of the moment. That's great! But I also get to do something long-term. I'm taking a couple of organizations right now through a whole series of changes, which will take around ten years, I think, which is kind of cool because I get to be involved in something for at least ten years that has some real breath on it, that has some real adventures, that will hopefully have some decent battles to fight and I think it will make a radical difference in certain parts of the world. So over the last couple of years I've really just been finishing some things up and reinventing other things that I am involved with to their next stage.

I guess the only thing I could say is I've never had my own TV company before. That's something new, but it's not new in my heart. I've been in it for five years, it's just that it will physically be out there in a week's time so that will be new. That will necessitate some new things happening in terms of my lifestyle and how we operate. So that will be cool.

Allison: You'll see Melissa will have a table and so check out what's available from Brilliant TV. It's going to be a wonderful resource.

Got time for a couple more? Graham: Yeah, sure!

Q: You have spoken of doors being knocked on and suddenly you are in the middle of a wide open space, no floors, ceilings or walls. Do you feel TWC is already in that wide open space and exploring or on the brink of another wide open space?

A: I think we're not on the brink of another one. I think we're still deciphering the one that we're in. We're in this huge space and I think maybe the topography is going to change. It feels to me like we've got into this wide open space and we've been on this plain, crossing this plain, and I think now there's an incline we're going up, and I see mountains ahead. I see some really interesting tests for us in this space. Mountains are a test. You have to find a pass or you have to climb the thing, but I see some interesting tests ahead of us, which I think is really exciting because the test tells you what your next level of increase is going to be. The test tells you who you are so we're going to discover some things about us. I think we're going to come into a tough time, but I also think we're acclimated enough to be excited about that.

Some of us have had a tough time just shaking stuff off and learning how to think differently and learning how to walk this territory in a different way.

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I'm really learning how to walk with the Lord in sensitivity. But I think in this big space right now, there are all kinds of things in it. We're going to have to, at some point, make a boat to get over this sea. We're going to have to climb these hills. We're going to have to learn some endurance. We're going to learn how to climb.

As always, the God of grace and goodness, who is full of laughter, will be with us. He'll probably get a bigger chance to laugh at us! But we are born for this thing. We're made for it.

I do think there will be some people in TWC who will stay at the level they've made and will be happy there, and other people will want to go on, and new people will come to us who are already in the territory. We'll find them because some of them are ahead of us right now, but they're not processing it as voraciously as we do. So we're going to find some new friends and that will be interesting. There will be a new dynamic, I think, coming into the group.

There are people who have been out there and done maybe more splendid things that we've done, but they're more beaten up and they need to learn a new thing. They don't understand about promise and they think everything is about warfare and it really isn't. They don't know things like God schedules your conflicts so every time the enemy comes, they think they have to fight him. I don't know how many times in the last couple of years the enemy showed up for a fight and I looked in my planner and said, "You're not on my schedule. I'm not fighting you. Push off and get a fight somewhere else! You're not on my schedule so, no, I'm not in this fight. I don't have to be. I only do what God tells me to do. If he tells me to kick your butt, I'll kick it, but right now, go away!"

So I think we're going to find some people out there who've maybe done things that we haven't done, but we're all in the process of unlearning things so we can learn other things better. That's why loving the learning is so key. If you don't love the learning, you're going to repeat everything you've always done that hasn't been helpful.

It's going to be interesting. I think the dynamic of TWC will change. I don't think the spirit of it will change at all. I think that will continue to grow, but the dynamic of how we assimilate certain types of people and so on may change. We'll have some warriors join us, but they'll need to be re-educated in terms of how this life really works so they can fight from joy rather than anger. There are a lot of people out there in intercession who are fighting from anger, and we need to have the joy of battle on us. We need to fight from rest because we'll stay in the fight longer, and the fight will make us fresher. We'll be fresher for longer.

I think it's interesting. The landscape that is coming into TWC is going to be pretty cool! Some of the people we pick up are going to be very interesting, and

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God has brought them to change us as much as for us to change them. It's all a part of our development, and it will make life jolly interesting!

I think the thing about territory, too, is make sure you own the territory that is opening up. Don't just have fun going through it and saying, "Oooh! Ahhh! Look at this! Look at that!" Make sure you own it. Make sure you become a stakeholder in it, and don't be too quick to move through this territory. There are things that are supposed to accrue to you. Things are supposed to gravitate towards you. Well, make sure you stick around long enough to pick everything up that belongs to you. It's about possessing your possessions. There are things in this space that the Lord is saying, "I want you to go down this road because there are things I want you to have. I want you to climb that mountain because there is something at the top for you. I want you to swim that river because you're going to see something on the riverbed and I want you to drag it to shore. You need this conflict because when you route the enemy, the goods that you plunder will be really helpful to you." So it's important that we don't blast through this territory. We don't saunter through it, either, but we go through it at the pace that God wants, and we should be super aware of what the Lord is giving to us and what it feels like to take territory and hold it.

You need to put things in that space that is opening up. Some of those possessions, some of those promises need to become real. The Promised Land had things in it. It had a house that you never had to build. It had a well you never had to dig. It had a business, a vineyard, that you never had to plant. And it had giants! What was interesting was all the things of life were a turnkey operation. You turn the key, you went in, and it was all yours. The biggest thing you had to do was nothing connected with life, it was connected with dispossessing the entities that were there. The biggest things was fighting the giants, and the whole point of fighting the giants is so that you can realize how big you are and how big you're becoming.

So in the territory that opens up, a lot of that stuff is going on, and you have to live in that space and occupy it because you need to be ministering out of what you came into. You can't bring people into an unlived space. This is where you get to be somebody. It's really mostly about that because this territory is your internal space that you carry with you wherever you go. So we're all growing up into Christ and He's big territory.

So don't be a space junkie! You've got to learn to occupy that space and fill it with all the stuff God is giving you.

Allison: One of the quotes we looked at today and we've referenced the article several times from the Leadership Training Journal on the privilege of being a prototype, and the statement that's in there when you talked about the idea that

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there comes a time when you have to say that you know what you know, not that you won't explore it or expand it, but just establishing that.

Graham: That's right.

Q: You talk about the importance of asking a better question. How do you go about upgrading a question to make it better, and what separates an okay question from a brilliant one?

A: I do think that our thinking is only as good as the questions we're asking. I think that a lot of the time we get stuck in something it's because we need to ask a better question. So somewhere between, "What does this mean?" and "What must I do?" is a whole bunch of questions that also need to get us from "What does this mean?" to get us to the point. There are other questions that get us to the point of "What do I need to do about that?" So there's always a better question. I think that's what we're learning.

Also, it's really about the questions that God wants to ask you about who you are. I've loved all the questions. Every question that God has ever asked me has caused a major disruption in my lifestyle but also brought me into some amazing places that I may never have seen or experienced. The only reason I started a business was because God was bored with me having a 501c3, a not for profit. So the question was, "Grae, what's a prophet doing with a not-for-profit ministry?"

I did exactly the same as you--I just laughed! It's like, "I honestly have no idea what I'm doing with a not-for-profit ministry. I thought I did, but apparently I don't!"

Here's the thing: I'm not saying anything about a 501c3. We're actually just about to start one which has got nothing to do with the ministry. It's going to be called *For Goodness Sake* and it's just purely a charity to do some of the stuff we want to do.

But it got me thinking, and so I went, "Okay, Lord, what is it about my 501c3 that no longer appeals to You?"

And His question was, "Graham, it was great while I was teaching you to walk by faith, to live by faith. But now I don't want to do that anymore. I want to give you your inheritance, and I can't give you your inheritance if you're living on donations from other people."

Here's the thing about this: This is personal and descriptive for me. So I'm not making it public and prescriptive for everybody else. This is a personal thing. Get your own word!

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So that was it, and then He said, "I've really enjoyed playing this game with you!"

And I'm thinking, "Game?! You never told me it was a game!"

"We've played this game for thirty years and you're too good at it now so it's kind of boring. But here's the thing: You've come to a place where I want you to have your inheritance, and for that we need to be in a different space together."

So that's when He said, "I want you to cancel your 501c3 and get a business licence." That took us into a whole different space together.

So that was a great question, "What's a prophet doing with a not-for-profit ministry?" It's not just the questions you ask the Lord, it's about you getting yourself into a space where you can hear the question that He wants to ask you. The question He asks you is the one that will radically change your life because it will reorder your whole private world.

But the questions you ask Him are always a source of delight for Him. Of course He will always answer the question that you should have asked, which is what I tend to do, getting it back to front.

But questions--always be thinking, "Is there a better question than this?" If nothing is happening, maybe it's time for a better question. Maybe that question needs to be bigger or maybe it might just need to be different. Is there a bigger question here? Am I ask a question on the right level?

And I think just listening and having that expectation--I love listening because God's a talker. I don't feel any responsibility on me to hear the voice of the Lord. He takes responsibility to speak. I need to take responsibility for just being in that space and listening. It's not my job to hear the voice of God, it's my job to prepare my heart so He can speak.

So that's cool. I like sitting and thinking and being still, asking the questions. There are days when the answer comes back within minutes or the same day or the next day. I haven't really waited any length of time for any answer in the last few years. I do feel that when we are in a place of acceleration, which I think many of us are. Compared to where we've been, we're all being accelerated. I think we can have an expectation that God is going to answer us more quickly, so we should cheer Him on!

Allison: Okay, last question.

Q: When thinking about the prophetic, how do you shift from hitting the target to hitting the bullseye?

A: There is no target, there is only a bullseye! Here's the thing for me: I've always seen a prophetic word as an arrow. The bullseye takes shape when you ask the

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question, "In what part of their life do You want to aim this prophetic word?" The target is never there when you're putting the prophecy together a lot of the time. But when you look down that arrow and you're looking at that person, you're asking the question, "Lord, what part of their life are You aiming this word at?"

Sometimes the two come directly together and you have that sense of God is showing you something in their life, particularly if He shows you a negative about them, something they are struggling with. That's your target. That's your bullseye right there. What you've got to ask is, "Lord, what is it You want to say into that and how do I say it?" and you want to give a word of promise right into that area. You don't want to be telling them something they already know. You want to be telling them, "Hey, this is what the Lord sees and what He is going to do in your life."

The first thing you get, if it's a negative, it's for you. It's God saying, "Hey, that's the target, and this is how I want you to hit it. This is what I want you to hit it with." They can come together like that.

I'm always fascinated by what the Lord is aiming at in our life right now. When He says, "I know the plans I have for you," He is taking aim at something, right? "You're a target for love and blessing and favor right now. I know the plans I've got for you." He is aiming at something.

"Lord, what are You aiming at in me right now? What is the thing in me You most want to change right now?"

Sometimes He'll tell you, "Hey, I want to deal with this." So He will aim everything in the Kingdom at that.

Prophets who are seers, we see the bullseye. We see the core thing that God wants to talk into and we aim something at it. And when you're a feeler, you feel that particular thing. It's different than seeing, but it still will raise the same target. You'll feel something but it will be the same target. You may just be looking at it from the back, but it's the same target essentially. It's the same bullseye.

God is very precise about where He puts things. There's lots of general prophecy which is good and it's encouraging and it's always going to be true, but the life-changing stuff is always specifically focused and targeted.

If you've got aspirations in the prophetic, then you're going to have to sit down and learn the discipline of being on the money. For that you'll need to come away from spontaneous prophecy, which is you being there in the moment and feeling something and seeing something. You'll need to move away from that to thinking a few weeks beforehand and praying over someone, asking the Lord, and crafting a prophetic word, actually writing it down, scripting it, because most prophecy in the Bible is scripted. It was written down before it was spoken. Take the guys like Isaiah, Jeremiah. You've only got to look at the language, the grammar, the syntax, everything. This is not a spontaneous word, none of it. In

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fact, a lot of them, like Jeremiah, had secretaries who travelled with the, who wrote down the prophecies. They were scripted. I think the Bible probably has more to say about that type of prophecy than it does about the spontaneous stuff.

So when you're learning about targets and things, God will take you to that extreme also and He will target, and you'll focus, and you'll write something down, and then you'll speak it out and you'll give them the written thing, whether it's on a card or a piece of paper. Just make sure your writing has improved, eh, because you don't want to have to pray for the gift of interpretation, and you don't want them phoning you up trying to decipher it!

I think when we're learning in the prophetic, we learn the extremes, we learn the edges, and we fill in the blanks in between. Spontaneity is a small part of prophecy, but sitting in the presence of God and crafting something is the bigger part. But when you give yourself to the bigger part and you learn the lessons there, the spontaneous thing you do gets an automatic upgrade as well, and that takes you to a whole different level. So that's cool!

Allison: If you've not heard "Making a Prophetic Impact" and the teaching that Graham did in the Portland sessions this year, it unwraps that whole area of the crafted prophetic really well.

Well, as usual, the time flies by and you need to get ready for work tonight. I know you're looking forward to the weekend, all packed. Did you get all your homework done?

Graham: I'm still there. I just think right now God is being mischievous! Every time I sit down to do something, I'm super excited, and He's downstairs having a coffee! So that's okay. It will be probably three o'clock in the morning and He'll wake me up and say, "Why don't we just finish this talk?"

So that will be cool. Allison: Thank you for coming and spending the time with us.

Graham: Yeah, while we're here, I did want to thank you guys for the input in finances. That has just enabled me to take this step of having more free time sooner than I'd expected, so that was pretty special and I really, really appreciate that. It has allowed me to get a three months' jump on stuff. I expect to be even more terrible! I appreciate your gift. That was outrageous and extremely kind of you. Thank you.

Our pleasure!

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