



Turning Hearts.....Changing Lives

Elijah House School for Prayer Ministry

ELIJAH HOUSE MINISTRY SOUTH AFRICA®

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Mission of Elijah House

Elijah House is a nonprofit organization registered in USA, founded by John and Paula Sandford, who are committed to the principles of Malachi 4:5,6 and Matthew 17:11: to call God's people to *"restore the hearts of fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers"* and to *"restore all things."* Elijah House serves to inspire and educate individuals and churches to confess their sins, forgive one another, and equip one another for ministry. We are called to be instruments of writing, teaching, counseling, and healing, *"...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of Christ"* (Ephesians 4:12). Simply stated, Elijah House has one goal: to unite people with Jesus so all may experience the transforming power of His death and resurrection.

Vision and Purpose for Elijah House Schools

The Elijah House School for Prayer Ministry (formerly called "Elijah House Training for the Ministry of Prayer Counseling") was created from the ministry of Elijah House founders, John and Paula Sandford. In prayerfully planned instructional and ministry settings, we impart "Keys of Knowledge," opening the heart to receive truth, renewing the mind, resulting in life transformation through Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, we are co-workers with Christ, working to "restore" broken and hurting hearts and reconcile relationships. In keeping with the Elijah House mission, our vision for the school is therefore to equip, encourage, and release "Ambassadors for Christ" (II Corinthians 5:18 – 20), who will pick up His mantle and continue His mission of restoration and healing.

The school has been offered annually in a live school format since 1989. The video school has been in operation since 1995 and has replaced our correspondence course. Each student completing the course receives a "Certificate of Completion" qualifying them for additional training through the Advanced School and/or Internship Program.

School Goals

- To provide a safe setting for building relationships, learning, and ministry
- To provide Scriptural foundation for Christ-centered Inner Healing (Sanctification and Transformation)
- To offer students the opportunity to experience personal healing through small group ministry
- To teach, model, and provide opportunity to practice ministry to one another according to the Word of God and in the power and sensitivity of Christ through the Holy Spirit

Who Should Attend the School?

Anyone in the Body of Christ would benefit from this school. If you seek to experience and minister healing from life's hurts and desire to begin to restore healthy relationships with God and others, this school is for you.

What Can I Expect From This Course?

This school will help you discover Scriptural answers to many searching questions we all have about life, God, and ourselves. Have you ever wondered why you think, feel, speak and act the way you do? Have you ever wondered why things happen in your lives and relationships the way they do, and why God allows certain

things to happen? Jesus desires to bring you into wholeness through true change and to break through in long-standing areas of your life. He wants to equip you with greater vision and hope for the future...to take you into a deeper, more exciting and fulfilling love relationship with Him...and to prepare, empower, and release you into a new anointing to help others.

Each day you will gain understanding, be given principles of healing, and begin the healing process. Because we are dealing with the hearts of people, the school can, at times, be very intense. Personal responses to teaching and small group interaction may include, but is certainly not limited to, some of the following: expression of anger, prejudices and resentments; apprehension, anxiety, insomnia, depression, dissociation, etc. Because of time restraints, all of your personal life issues will not be dealt with during the course of the school. This is a life long process. We are simply giving you the tools to pursue further healing, restore your relationships, and minister to others. Many seek further ministry once the school is completed. If you feel there are already significant life issues that need to be addressed, prayer ministry or counsel prior to your enrollment in the school is advisable and always beneficial.

Course Description

The Elijah House Video/DVD School for the Prayer Ministry consists of 24 lessons. Videos/DVD is actual recordings of a “live school.” They feature John and Paula Sandford, David Brown, Charlie Finck and Mark Sandford. Thee “demo” tapes add a closer look at actual ministry situations. A vital part of training is giving students practical ministry skills and small group meetings. A brief description of each lesson follows.

- **Biblical Basis for Christian Counseling**

The fundamental laws of God are written into the universe and affect our lives as surely as gravity. We are all subject to these laws whether or not we believe them. When we transgress them, we set in motion forces that must be reaped by simple, impersonal law—law that is absolute and eternal. In our sinful responses to wounding, we begin early to develop patterns of behavior that cause us to reap in adulthood the very thing we hate. We sow and reap in kind. We judge and do more of the same. We honor or dishonor, and in the area of life in which we dishonor, life will not go well with us. The pain we reap often seems out of proportion to the harm we have done, but Scripture clearly states the principle of increase. Praise God for His provision for our healing and salvation through Jesus’ victory on the cross.

- **Ingredients of Christian Counseling**

This lesson introduces the basic ingredients of the Prayer ministry process: recognition; confession; repentance; forgiveness; reckoning habits as dead on the cross; healing; comfort; prayer for a new spirit, heart, mind; deliverance; discipline; and support from small groups. Deliverance is important, but not always necessary or appropriate. All the others should be included at some point in the process but do not have to be applied in any specific order, nor do they all need to appear in a given ministry session. In fact, a Prayer ministry session may be taken up with only one aspect of the process. Prayer, spoken aloud with the person, is at the center of all that is discussed and revealed through the ministry process.

- **Repentance and Restitution**

We learn in this lesson that repentance is more than simply being sorry. We look at several different types: remorse, a substitute for true repentance; Saulish repentance, or fear of the consequences; and Davidic repentance, true sorrow for grieving the Lord. The Lord has given man a strategy for helping us to come to full repentance and restore trust in relationships. This is restitution—not retribution, which is revenge—but rather, giving back more than was taken in order to write on our hearts the cost of sin.

- **Accomplishing Forgiveness**

This lesson makes the necessity of forgiveness clear. We learn how resentments become lodged in the heart and, once entrenched, require a work of God’s grace to remove. The main stumbling blocks to forgiveness are misconceptions of what it means to forgive. Forgiveness is surrendering to Jesus our right to hold a judgment against someone who has sinned against us. Forgiveness does not justify sin or remove accountability from those who have hurt us.

- **Bitter Roots**

This lesson reveals the depth and power of bitter-root judgment, the driving force behind the recurring patterns of trouble and/or destruction in our lives. The power of bitter roots comes from the unchangeable laws of God which cause us to reap in kind what we “—until have sown.” Bitter-root judgments are far more powerful than bitter-root expectancies. Judgments operate by God’s laws; whereas repeated incidents form patterns of expectancy, which operate only on the psychological level. Both judgments and expectancies rob us of the abundant life Jesus came to give us.

- **Honoring Father and Mother**

In Hebrew, “honor” or *kabod*, means to make glorious; in Greek, it is *time*: to place high value or price upon. The law of honoring affects our lives more powerfully than we realize. To honor your father and mother is the 5th commandment, and the first one with a promise—“that life would go well with you.” But can we honor parents who are abusive, addicted to drugs or alcohol, or have broken our trust? This powerful lesson brings godly balance and understanding.

- **How We See God**

In our infancy and childhood, mothers and fathers model a picture of God for us. We “see” what God is like by how they act and what they do. We interpret each succeeding experience through the lens of judgments we make and the expectations we develop as a result of what has happened in the past. The more judgments we make, the more our view of life and God is distorted. By the time we reach adulthood, our minds may have been taught that God loves and desires to bless us, but our hearts say, “Oh, yeah? He’s just like Dad (or Mom).” We are not capable of seeing life as it really is—experiences with our parents have given us “tinted spectacles”

- **Hearts of Stone and Inner Vows**

A heart of stone is a defense mechanism, a hiding place we believe will protect us from hurt, but which in fact makes us the loneliest people in the world. The Church is filled with hearts of stone, people who can love and serve others, but can’t allow others to minister to them. Healing is hard work; it requires time and the understanding and support of family and friends. Inner vows are one aspect of a stony heart. Although they are made early in life and are often forgotten, they act as directives that control our responses to situations and people around us.

- **Rightly Expressing Emotions**

This lesson looks to Jesus as a model for dealing with our human emotions. Through His responses in the garden of Gethsemane, we explore some of the wrong attitudes we have about our own emotional life. We are not to let feelings control our lives, but we are not to do away with them. They are messages that inform us of the condition of our hearts. We need to identify and accept them, as well as learn to express them appropriately. When we learn to do this as Jesus did, it becomes possible for us to share who we truly are with others.

- **Ministry Skills**

In this lesson we will explore the approaches need to promote love, respect and healing. As prayer ministers, we enter into what God is already doing in the person’s life, connecting with them heart-to-heart – tuned into to truly hear and understand – with the help of the Holy Spirit. We will also look at the interview process and show how open-ended questions allow people to express themselves more fully. We may see bad fruit in the person’s life to whom we minister, but we need the Lord’s help in determining what is “ripe” and ready to deal with in prayer. We want to ask the Lord what He is presently doing in this person’s life, listen for His answer and follow His leading. In doing so, we can be more assured that the timing is “right” and His will is accomplished for this person.

- **Healing Relationships to Authority**

No one except Christ has exhibited both perfect submission to authority and perfect leadership. We have all failed in both these areas. However, in this lesson, we will deal only with our issues and attitudes towards those in authority over us. We will outline how history and Satan have worked hand-in-hand to destroy proper respect for authority, how that has affected us, and what the Scripture says about submission – even to those who abuse authority.

- **Cutting Free**

In this lesson we will look at the principles of leaving and cleaving. We will discuss these principles in the context of spiritually and emotionally leaving our family of origin and/or former position in order to step into God’s call for our life. We will also look at the importance of individuation and examine some difficulties that may occur in relationships when this doesn’t happen at the appropriate time in a person’s life.

- **Denial**

Denial is a common and familiar response to wounding and sin. Some forms of denial are easily dealt with because they are circumstantial and temporary. Others are deeply routed and require much love, persistence, and patience to break down. Because denial is rooted in lies and secrecy, what is shared can be convincing and confusing for the prayer minister. Often denial must be recognized and brought to death first, before sin can be revealed and healing accomplished.

- **Basic Trust**

Human growth requires certain accomplishments. This lesson discusses the stages of development we must go through, as well as the tasks associated with them. These stages are sequential and build upon the previous stage in order for healthy and timely growth and development (Ecclesiastes 3:1-11). Basic trust is the first and foremost of developmental accomplishments, without which the succeeding lessons cannot be well learned. Failure to acquire basic trust affects us throughout our adult lives, impacting our ability to relate to God and others.

- **Spiritual Rebellion**

It is not sin to desire relief from the pain of abuse or ravaging illness. This lesson is not about such things. Rather, it speaks to the way we reject our lives and ourselves, thus rebelling against the God who has given us life. We are all in some degree of spiritual rebellion. We are all angry with God, and in need of being reconciled to Him. This lesson identifies the attitudes that indicate the problem, and discuss the ramifications of this sin in our lives. Special attention is given to the problem of dyslexia; a disorder having some of its roots in the confusion caused by spiritual rebellion.

- **Sealing our Healing**

Numerous disciplines are illustrated by which we can maintain our healing and further develop our relationship with the Lord. These, along with classic spiritual disciplines, will strengthen new and healthy structure to replace old and sinful patterns in our lives. The process of prayer ministry would be incomplete without instruction and support in this area.

- **Personal and Corporate Strongholds**

Strongholds, both personal and corporate, are formidable obstacles to the healing process, for they are deeply embedded in our minds. Strongholds have lives of their own. In this lesson, we look at the origin of strongholds, and the part the mind plays in blocking our relationship with God. Scripture offers us a model for entering into warfare against the strongholds that hold us captive as individuals, as groups, and even entire nations.

- **Performance Orientation**

Performance orientation is a term that refers neither to the work we do nor the things we accomplish, but to the false motives, which impel us. After we bring performance orientation to death, we can find worth or value in who we are, not just for what we do. We may do exactly the same work in much the same way, but from an entirely different intent in the heart. In this lesson we explore the roots, identify the symptoms and examine the damage this problem causes. We can help those in this wounding by offering an example of Christ's unconditional love and acceptance: love with skin on it.

- **Parental Inversion**

Parental inversion and substitute mate describes the identity taken on by children when a parent is unable or unwilling to fulfill his/her parental role. The parentally inverted child will carry the weight of care and responsibility meant for the father or mother. As a result, later in life, the person will reap destruction in his/her relationships with others. The role of substitute mate is a more serious type of parental inversion, where a parent relies inappropriately on a child of the opposite sex for emotional comfort, a confidant, and in severe cases, for physical satisfaction. False roles or identities must be brought to death on the cross and the person's identity restored.

- **Slumbering Spirit**

This lesson helps us understand the functions of our own personal or human spirit. If we are not awake in our spirit, we will not be able to function in various areas of life. In this lesson we learn how to distinguish between soul and spirit, how to identify the symptoms of a slumbering spirit, what causes the spirit to slumber.

- **Identifications of Love**

Identifications of love are those words, gestures, actions and attitudes we interpret as love from others. These "packages" are idols that define and limit our idea of what true love is to us. They almost assuredly deny us the full joy of giving and receiving it. When we demand these "packages" of love from those around us, we practice unregenerate love. This lesson includes presentations on the subject of identifications of love. The teaching focuses on the subject of unregenerate love.

- **Inner Healing & Deliverance**

Reconciliation between the fields of inner healing and deliverance will help to bring freedom, wholeness and maturity to the Body of Christ. This lesson seeks to correct the abuses and misunderstandings that fuel the conflict between the two, and offers the scriptural support that integrates them appropriately. The relationship between inner healing and deliverance is both necessary and practical in the process of sanctification. This lesson is based on *A Comprehensive Guide to Deliverance and Inner Healing*, written by John and Mark Sandford.

- **Common Errors in Ministry**

This is a lesson in awareness. Prayer ministers profit from frequent self-examination, as we come before God with our gifts, knowledge and abilities. This lesson describes some of the many ways Prayer ministers can act outside the will of God, especially in ministry to the abused. Many errors are made from ignorance and/or rigid adherence to procedure; others from excessive zeal or religiosity derived from inadequate or limited theology. Unfortunately, some Prayer ministers prey on the weaknesses of their clients, and seek to see results for their own satisfaction, rather than doing what they see

their heavenly Father doing for others.

- **Burden Bearing**

While not all of us are “burden bearing personalities,” burden bearing is still the first calling and primary labor of every Christian, and the key service through which we may come into the fullness of relationship with God. This lesson focuses on the joy we can receive through the gift of burden bearing and intercession.

Course Offerings

Video schools can be offered throughout South Africa wherever there is a graduate and a church or Christian organization willing to host a school. A graduate of the Basic Course, approved by Elijah House (in Pretoria), administrates and “facilitates” the actual operation of the school.

Video Course Information

- Optional Reading:
 - The Renewal of the Mind*
 - A comprehensive Guide to Deliverance and Inner Healing*
 - Waking the Slumbering Spirit*
 - Healing Women’s Emotions*
 - Burnout*
 - The Blessing*
 - Healing the Wounded Spirit*
 - Restoring the Christian Family*
 - Healing Victims of Sexual Abuse*
 - Why Some Christians Commit Adultery*
 - Choosing Forgiveness*

General Admission Policy

- Acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior at least one year prior to enrollment.
- Must be in good relationship (general), with the body of Christ, or in good standing as a member of a Christian church or home group, participating in regular worship and ministry opportunities.
- Must submit an application with recommendations from one character references and pastoral (spiritual authority / mentor) leadership.

Certification of Completion

Upon completion of the Basic Elijah House School, a student receives a certificate of completion indicating satisfactory completion of the course. As Elijah House is not an accredited educational institution, the certificate carries no weight or meaning with accredited institutions or state licensing agencies. Therefore, the certificate does not entitle nor endorse a student to be called an associate, affiliate, representative, minister, or counselor for or of Elijah House. It simply signifies you have successfully completed the course and is eligibility for further Elijah House training. Basic School Certificates are required by Elijah House to be eligible to be a video school facilitator, advanced school applications, and internship program.

ELJAH HOUSE STATEMENT OF FAITH

By John Loren Sandford, Co-Founder, Elijah House, Inc.

The Holy Spirit has led Paula and me to believe fully in the simple orthodoxy of the major creeds of the faith—the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds, the Augustinian and Wesleyan Confessions, etc. This means that for us the Lord Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God the Father, which He died on the cross for our redemption, was raised again, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He has given us His Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit that we might serve Him and His Kingdom. We believe we are called to be faithful members of His Church, regularly attending worship and submitted under the care and covering of pastors and elders. To us, the mission of the Church is all-important—to evangelize, teach and heal until He returns. Therefore Elijah

House remains orthodox in all respects, that we might be a faithful part of His mission to prepare God's children to live and fellowship with the Father throughout eternity.

In response to the dual mandates of Malachi 4:5-6 and Matthew 17:11, which is the mission of Elijah House, we are called to be instruments of writing, teaching, counseling and healing. We believe all teaching and healing is an expression of the love and mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ. Neither teaching nor healing is something we do, but rather the work of the Holy Spirit. This is especially true in inner healing—the internal cleansing of our “vessel” by the Holy Spirit.

“Inner healing” is a misnomer and not a term of our choosing. Healing seems to imply that something is broken, so we need to repair it. But God does not intend to fix us—to put new patches on old garments. He means to slay us on His cross and raise us anew in Him. As prayer counselors, this calls us to constant death of “self” on the cross in order that we not lay practiced programs on people, but attempt to allow the Holy Spirit to write His lessons in the hearts of His children. He is not putting His laws in our minds, but writing them deep in our hearts.

“Inner healing” is the application of the blood, cross, and resurrection life of our Lord Jesus Christ to deep wounds and practices in our hearts, setting us free to walk as God intended when He created us. These are applied by counsel and prayer, but it is prayer which is the basis of all our ministry.

“Inner healing” is actually sanctification and transformation. Sanctification is the process in which the Holy Spirit brings us daily to more and more death of “self” on the cross and to the newness of life in Him. Transformation is the process of sanctification in which the Holy Spirit transforms all our degradations to glory, our weaknesses to strengths, and our deserts to gardens of blessing.

This means Satan has won no victories whatsoever. Romans 8:28 is true—“All things do work together for good of those who are called according to His purpose.” Therefore we are not problem-centered, nor do we attempt or want to change our life history. But we allow the Holy Spirit to change history's effect in our lives so all areas of our life can be cherished and valued as we are changed by Christ from one degree of glory to another into His likeness. (2 Corinthians 3:18).

Elijah House is called to “leaven the lump,” until all of the Church is better equipped (Ephesians 4:12) as His instrument for the sanctification and transformation of God's children, and until the Church stands in unity of purpose and faith, prepared and glorified as the Bride of the Lord for His return.