

## ***Session 4 The Paradox of Grace: Dark but Lovely*** ***Additional Study Materials***

### **I. ANSWERS TO THE FILL-IN THE BLANKS FOR THIS SESSION**

The Bride's spiritual journey begins with what I refer to as the "paradox of grace" because as she discovers **HER SIN** she sees that she is **LOVELY TO GOD**.

How we respond to this crisis will determine if we will **GO FORWARD** to grow strong in the Lord or **DRAW BACK** in shame.

A foundational premise to understand is that spiritual immaturity is not the same as **REBELLION**.

I believe that the most powerful longing of the human heart is for the **ASSURANCE** that we are enjoyed by God.

A hypocrite is not one who says one thing, but does another thing; rather it is one who says something about obeying God without **SEEKING OR INTENDING TO OBEY IT**.

She felt ashamed by those staring at her **BECAUSE OF HER FAILURE**.

She served Him **AT A DISTANCE** instead of drawing near.

Spiritual burnout does not come from hard work as much as from **WORKING WITH A WRONG SPIRIT** — by seeking to gain approval from people and by not connecting with the Spirit in the work.

Taking care of her own vineyard speaks of nurturing her **PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP** with Jesus.

She longs to be **SATISFIED WITH JESUS**.

Many sincere, repentant believers expect to be **REBUKED** after seeing their sin and weakness.

The Lord promised to give Jerusalem **DOUBLE HONOR** in place of her shame (Isa. 61:7) and commands us to speak **COMFORT** to her after her many years of shame (Isa. 40:1-2).

The Lord gives a new name to His people to show He **DELIGHTS IN THEM** (Isa. 62:4-5).

***Instruction #1:*** "Follow in the footsteps of the flock" by being **INVOLVED** in a church (1:8c).

***Instruction #2:*** "Feed your little goats" by **SERVING OTHERS** in a local church (1:8d).

***Instruction #3:*** "Besides the shepherds' tent" by honoring **SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY** (1:8e).

***More additional Study Materials to come soon.***