



## **Purpose 8**

**Purpose of the Elders Discipleship Group:** To Train and Equip Discipleship Group leaders to lead more effectively.

**Key Theme:** Purpose.

**Key Truth:** Led astray in your minds from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

**Key Scripture:** *2 Corinthians 11:3 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.*

I don't think it gets anymore serious than this in His body. Paul is relating the sinful fall of mankind to the church at Corinth being led astray from the simple but deep fellowship with the Son, where all the hidden mysteries or promises for the church are discovered. The great promise or mystery for the church of Jesus Christ to receive and enter into, is the marriage covenant between Christ and His church, where the church is faithful and obedient to this blood covenant just like He is with us.

For many this bride of Christ promise is still to be entered into in a way that changes us and has us living fully surrendered and wholeheartedly abandoned lives to the one we say we love. It's one thing to have an intellectual understanding of it but an entirely different reality to carry a revelational understanding of it, which creates the demonstration of this life. The difference is in the ability to live this "bride" life out. Both positions can have good robust dialogue about this kingdom promise but only one is positioned to live it.

This is an all consuming reality where all you are concerned about is loving God and fulfilling His will. Nothing else really matters or takes president in one's life over this and when one is awakened to this reality, they passionately seek the Father asking Him to reorder their inner heart posture, turning it completely upside down, shaking all the lives, loves and priorities that have established their home within it out.

Anything less than this and we too may find ourselves like the church of Corinth which Paul was addressing. It's so much easier to accept another Jesus or a different spirit or a different gospel than it is to receive the True Christ, the Real Spirit and a Gospel of power. Why? Because one changes you while the other enables you to remain the god of your own life.

**2 Corinthians 11:4** *For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.*

### **Questions**

1. How easy is it to be led astray in our minds from the Truth that makes us free?
2. Why does this happen and how does this happen?
3. Why is Paul so concerned and in much anguish for the Corinthians?
4. Do we carry this same concern for ourselves and others in relation to this Truth?
5. Great dialogue about the bride isn't enough. Why must we transition from having discussion to demonstration?

**Action:** What is one thing you may need to put in place from going through this resource?