



The Sum of My Call
Workbook

KAREN GAITHERS

BOOK EXCERPT

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Note to Workshop Participant

What an exciting step you have taken by scheduling an appointment with God through the **Sum of My Call God-Encounter Workshop**. I happen to believe that the steps of the righteous are ordered by the Lord (Ps.37:23). So realize, you were led by the Holy Spirit to this workshop therefore, everything that God wants to deposit in your life will likely be found right here. I want you to know today that I am personally committed to you through this encounter. It is also my prayer and desire to see you accomplish your God given dreams. I am a “living witness” of what God can do and I am confident He will do just what He said if you stay aligned to the spiritual framework that will be outlined in this workshop and as a Vision Intercessor.

The journey you have been on may have been challenging, intimidating or just not what you thought it would be. Well, please believe me when I say, “*your days of wondering have now come to an end.*” God’s divine plan for you was never meant to be a mystery. God wants to reveal His purpose to you just as much as you want to know what it is. The question now is, are you ready to walk in full alignment with Him? Are you truly ready to take up your cross and follow Jesus? Are you sincerely ready to be transformed in the image of Christ and become His Ambassador? Well, GET READY! IT’S TIME! Best of all, as a Vision Intercessor, you will have all the love and support you’ll need to weather this journey well.

Know that you are extremely valuable to the Apostolic Institute as a Sum of My Call participant. That’s why your workshop facilitator and I will be personally accessible to you for any questions you may have along the way both before and after this encounter. Feel free to email me directly at: **discipleship@karengaitersministries** if you have any questions or need personal assistance.

Until then, may you be richly endowed with the presence of the Lord during this workshop and may your encounter bring you face to face with the full reality of your divine purpose and the power to walk it out, as God designed.

Abundant Thanks!

~Karen Gaithers

Getting the Most out of this Workshop

1. This book is best described as a personal life assessment in discovering God's divine purpose for your life. In addition, this workshop is in essence, an appointment with God to clothe you with the necessary makeup for an effective journey. It is not a tool to handle casually. Moreover, it should be approached with an attitude of prayer, meditation and searching after God. You might consider this experience, "**YOUR APPOINTMENT WITH GOD.**" It is strongly recommended that you take your time completing this exercise. If you are working independently, you don't have to complete this workbook in one sitting. However, as a word of caution, anticipate the presence of distraction and opposition in various forms that seem to prevent you from completing your exercises. Let me assure you, this is a diabolical assignment of Satan. My suggestion to you is that you prayerfully schedule your time to work on your exercises and make it your goal to complete it.
2. At the end of this exercise you will have a pointed seven item prayer list that will be carefully crafted to mobilize you in faith, be held accountable by your prayer partners and see your prayers answered.
3. You should review this workbook at least once a year and whenever you feel like you've lost focus. This workbook will always remind you of the unique way in which God is calling you and to get back on track with an applicable prayer list. So, the key word here is "completion." If the Sum of My Call is not completed, it is possible you might return to old ways of thinking and a random walk of faith lacking understanding of your spiritual mandate (assignment) and your divine purpose.
4. The second most important feature of the Sum of My Call experience is the role of intercessory prayer. As mentioned, this exercise will culminate with a divinely pointed prayer list. No longer will your daily prayers focus on random life issues and events but on detailed God appointed steps of faith. 1John 5:14 describes the importance for this kind of prayer: *"This is the confidence we have in God, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us, and if we know that he hears us we have what we've asked of him."*
5. Knowing the will of God is essential to answered prayer, experiencing the move of God, and hearing from God. This is what makes the Sum of My Call so valuable. From this exercise you will be encouraged to establish intercessory partners. These prayer partners are different from having a general prayer partner. General prayer partners often pray for random daily needs. Vision Intercessors pray specifically for your divine purpose and that you would fulfill God's vision for your life, just as He intended.

6. The Vision Intercessor is a believer who pledges to stand in the gap for God's vision for you until you overcome obstacles, and walk genuinely and authentically in purpose. This could be a lifelong commitment of spiritual covering for the sake of fulfilling the WILL OF GOD IN YOUR LIFE.
7. Determine now who you might consider partnering with in this way. Consider asking at least two other people. Consider someone who desires this type of prayer covering for their own life as well. Consider someone who will be prayerfully committed, not only to you but to GOD'S VISION for you. You will need to share with them information about the Sum of My Call and what you are doing and ask if they would consider becoming your intercessory prayer partner for the sake of God's purpose for each of your lives.
8. If you are going through this workbook as a small group exercise you will probably go through the workbook more leisurely. A recommended approach would be weekly meetings and covering 2 sections per meeting.
9. After completing this workshop, it is recommended that you begin connecting with your prayer partners right away. For an effective and authentic vision intercessor prayer group design, it is important that you establish your group upon the same tenants that made this prayer group what it is today. The **Next Steps - Vision Intercessor Prayer Group Handbook** will get you well oriented and help structure your group with the framework and the amazing principles that this prayer group was founded upon.

Comments/Questions

History of Ministries in the Making International and The Sum of My Call

Ministries in the Making (MITM) was founded in 1999 by Karen Gaithers. Initially, it was to be a simple intercessory prayer group with a few close friends that was established during one of the most challenging seasons of her life. This is Karen's testimony.

MY TESTIMONY

Since my early teens, I was always one who had a heart for ministry and the faith in God to believe the impossible. However, this time it seemed my devoted faith had deceived me. My life was falling apart. I was in an abusive marriage, unemployed and caring for 2 children with one on the way. I was overwhelmed with school, and it was clear that if I was going to get through this, faith would have to lead me into the deep. I admit I was a rookie in this prophetic journey; I didn't have a clue about what was happening to me. I felt like there was no one I could trust with the secret treasures of my faith. It felt like so few people understood me and those who did, were on the same journey as I was and those who wanted to give me counsel were people whose life issues were no better than my own.

It was strangely apparent that while my life was filled with uncertainty, I was also filled with a fire in my heart to fulfill God's will for my life. All I knew was that this fire was real, alive and growing inside of me. I was so deeply determined to know my purpose that it left me yearning, fully submitted and earnestly searching after God; the only one who could bring clarity to my life and calling; a revelation that I so desperately needed.

"One Sunday Morning"

Early one Sunday morning, I got up to go to church hoping to hear a word from the Lord. As I sat in the sanctuary waiting for service to start, I looked around watching all of the people conversing and rushing to find a seat. Sitting quietly to myself, I was intrigued by the thousands of voices around me, and unexpectedly the Holy Spirit began to speak.

I then heard the Holy Spirit speak as if he were sitting right next to me and say, "LOOK!" His presence was so apparent that I imagined both of His hands gripping my cheeks and turning my attention to the pulpit and all of the people who were on it. "Look at the ministers..." he said. He began to show me that when he called them to ministry, they had the understanding to know exactly what to do. They went to their pastor and shared their story of how they believed that God had called them.

The pastor then would rally around him and give him instructions on how he needed to prepare. He would support and encourage him along the way and provide him with the opportunities for personal counsel and mentorship. Finally, after adequate training, he would be ordained to lead and if the pastor was positioned to do so, he would give the young minister his blessing in pastoring his own church.

The Holy Spirit went on to say, “As with many pastors, it is common to establish a committed prayer force within the church. It is made of many prayer warriors who were at the church long before he was even appointed as pastor. They are the dedicated prayer warriors who were positioned to pray for their pastor, his family, the church and any other aspect of the ministry that needs a prayer covering. They would pray daily or weekly for all the needs that centered around the pastor’s life and the ministry.”

Then the Holy Spirit caused me to also consider the grooming process of the evangelist, elders, deacons and missionaries in the church, all who have clearly defined roles within the church for ministry, grooming, and placement just like the pastor. The Holy Spirit then directed my attention toward the congregation. As I gazed at them, He told me that while the pastor, evangelists, and the missionaries have a clear path of development and a prayer covering to protect and keep them, who is prayerfully covering and preparing them? Who is defining their path? Who is committed to pray for them and to see their call through to fulfillment?”

It was that moment that I realized that I was also one of those many individuals that he was referring to and very likely this was the reason for my unfathomable struggle and the conflicting realities I was experiencing in my own life. I did not have intercessors committed to my call. I did not have mentors who would genuinely invest in me. I did not have spiritual counselors I trusted to share my vision with. I didn’t have a clear path for education and ministry development that was already outlined for me. Other than sporadic prayer partners, I did not have individuals who were praying for me and my family and my call so I might accomplish what God has called me to do. I pondered over these questions with astonishment realizing this is a dilemma that was not only with me but also within the entire Body of Christ and if I were privileged to hear their story...I would realize I was NOT ALONE.

Needless to say, that Sunday I walked away from service not remembering anything but my morning encounter with God. The revelation was burning inside my heart charging my emotions with passions mixed with anger, frustration, hope, faith and helplessness all rolled into one. I came home immediately needing to share my revelation with a few close friends and family which resulted in asking if they felt the same way and would be willing to partner together as intercessors until the vision of God was birth in our lives. That next week a small group of three got together to begin the journey of what we now call “**Vision Intercessors.**”



The Sum of My Call God Encounter Writing Experience

You may not realize it but you are likely living a busy lifestyle consumed with family, work, school, athletics, church, meetings, medical appointments etc. We use our phones, computers, ipads, calendars etc. to keep us on track with all our obligations and appointments we deem important. However, have you ever considered setting an appointment with God? Have you ever considered that just as the random things in life require an appointment to ensure they get done, there are likely some things pertaining to your relationship with God that an appointment will be needed in order to accomplish it? The Sum of My Call God Encounter sets you up for an appointment with God to discuss one of the most important things in your life, His divine purpose for YOU.

Well, consider for a moment how it is when we have important business matters that can be handled with a simple phone call and then there are others that must be accomplished “Face to Face.” The Sum of My Call God Encounter is one of those “Face to Face” business matters. How do we know this? No doubt you’ve been praying, stood in several prayer lines, possibly had a prophetic word or two spoken over your life. You’ve read books, attended business seminars, prayed, fasted, gone to the alter following several sermons (about divine purpose) with each one challenging you to walk out your divine call and despite all of this, it seems you are still “marking time.” You remain afraid to step out in faith, overwhelmed with LIFE, constantly distracted and losing focus, easily discouraged, uncertain, unclear, lacking direction and feeling overall unproductive in your journey.

I want you to know today that your efforts have not been in vain; in fact, there IS a “Rhyme to the Reason” and consider, they have led you to this Sum of My Call workshop. The Sum of My Call God Encounter will challenge you to consider several pointed features about your life and possibly your divine calling. It will direct you to prayerfully meditate upon every way in which God has been moving in your life. It will confront you to discern the truth inside your heart that you either want what God wants for you or NOT. It will expose if you suffer from a spiritual identity crisis. It will reveal to you why your steps of faith have taken you in circles over the past several years. It will cause you to become more aware of your apostolic call both personally and corporately. The Sum of My Call God Encounter will cause you to discover how God has formed you from the womb. It will cause you to consider what life experiences have been used by God to shape your character and the unique journey of faith you are on. The Sum of My Call God Encounter will uncover the Holy Spirit’s hand of “prophetic discipleship” that has rested upon your life all along and it will reveal what spiritual and natural gifts He has equipped you with and why?

So you see, God considers the matter of your divine purpose to be very important and He requires a face to face meeting with you to discuss it. This encounter will help you realize that

your appointment with God must become a way of life for you and this workshop will guide you into the disciplines that will help you establish that.

Did you know you are ALWAYS in development? Yes! Just as every human being goes through a physiological human development process, so it is for every spirit filled believer. Just like our natural growth process, every believer will undergo a systematic spiritual development process however, with God, it is a lifelong work. Knowing where you are in this process at a given time/season in your life and understanding the effects of God's sculpting hand has a lot to do with how you utilize the current resources in your life for where you want to go. Often, many of these resources are divinely appointed yet they go unnoticed because they come in the form of daily life experiences such as your job, family, relationships, ministry, school and various challenges of life and too often they go overlooked being viewed as random life issues. I suspect the children of Israel had to discover this as well after coming out of Egypt. They too questioned the methodology of God's development approach led by Moses, reasoning "Why this way?" "Egypt was bad, but at least we knew where our provision was coming from." "This structure is too different. Trusting God is hard, and it doesn't make sense." "God's way is too challenging." "Why is there so much sacrifice?" "Moses doesn't know much more than I do so why am I following him?" So, tell me, have YOU ever gone through this kind of self-talk anytime in your life?

While God had promised prosperity to his people, scriptures reveal His deliverance and calling was not solely centered on merely prospering them but more importantly, establishing them as a "People of God." In their case, God's purpose was very clear. He wanted to establish a seed, a people, a generation, a line of descendants, a divine heritage from which the Savior of the world – Jesus Christ, would come. God established a covenant with the Israelites that held within it His promise for purpose, prosperity and a new life. The characteristics of the promise were intrinsically tied to the covenant agreement they made with God. In a similar way God has formed a covenant through His word with every person who becomes a part of the family of God. Therefore, your call, your pursuit after divine purpose will not be much different than that of the Israelites. Also, don't be surprised if your grumblings during your wilderness journey will also begin to sound like theirs if you're not careful, so I caution you...because we all know where that got them!

I want to encourage you, the discipleship approach that God used with the Israelites is no different from the way He is moving among his people today and this process is best defined as "Prophetic Discipleship, aka Prophetic Training." Realize biblically, the Jews are every believer's spiritual ancestor (Rom. 11:1-32, Eph.2:14-22). They are like our spiritual big brothers and sisters, cousins, aunts and uncles, grandparents etc. They provide for us a window through the scriptures that gives understanding of the mind and intentions of God. Through their experiences we discover the heart and will of God for his people through the way he loved and dealt with them. The Hebrew people are part of the believer's spiritual family (Rom. 11, Eph. 2), those we are to learn from through the formation of their divine call which includes their

successes and also their mistakes. In a similar way, it is possible that the Sum of My Call has been presented to you by God to play a specific role in unfolding God's divine plan for your life. The fact that you are attending this workshop or have purchased this workbook makes it highly possible that you have been led by the Spirit of God to the Sum of My Call as His response to you asking Him to reveal His divine purpose in your life. So, recognize now how the Sum of My Call, as an instrument, has been positioned in your life as God's chosen framework for defining the call he has specifically for you. Your VISION (like with the Israelites) is your "Promise Land." Imagine that! It is your "land with milk and honey." Therefore, how you honor the terms of the covenant that is being formed between you and God will have a lot to do with how you experience your promise land as well as your process in getting there.

I know this sounds pretty ambitious to presume that the Sum of My Call can be all that to you. What you must realize is that the Sum of My Call is a "framework" ... a **DIVINE FRAMEWORK** and possibly one that God has divinely chosen for your life today. Now that perspective makes all the difference, doesn't it? This really shouldn't be that hard to wrap your mind around because we live aligned to various frameworks in every aspect of our lives such as; our jobs, the educational system, the countless verbal and written financial contracts we sign both socially and professionally, our friendships, marriage, church commitments etc. **ALL THESE** are covenants and distinct frameworks and how you honor and respect them will determine the measure of prosperity (privilege of walking in Divine Purpose) that you will experience through them. Too often, we approach these divinely ordered circumstances, relationships and covenant agreements with such casualty, unaware that God had a plan for them to **TRANSFORM US!**

With all of these frameworks confronting us the question then becomes, which of these, is God actually using in my life? Tell me, which of these frameworks have you chosen merely because it seemed to make sense, it paid well, had an impressive title or it would be impressive to other people? Whose goals are you living out? In what world are you trying to be a STAR? What are the terms of agreement with the frameworks you are aligning your life to? What frameworks have God purposed in your life as instruments for establishing you? How do you know if it is God's plan, or does God even matter to you?

Amidst all the questions, the most valuable thing to realize is that God wants an encounter with YOU. He desires these questions from you. Most importantly, He wants to give you the ANSWERS...if you are willing to consistently seek him. Through the Sum of My Call, God wants to bring the random, worldly, superficial, aimless, gullible pursuit of purpose that you have been chasing after to a crashing end and give you a whole new GAME PLAN. Are you ready? *"Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and the door shall be open unto you."* Matt. 7:7

Comments/Questions

THE SUM OF MY CALL

*“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me,
and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.” Rev. 22:12*

What is the Sum of My Call? The Sum of My Call is a writing exercise designed to be the launching pad for discovering and identifying God’s unique purpose for your life. The Sum of My Call is actually a biblical doctrine, and Rev. 22:12 speaks of a time where every believer will stand before God to give an account for how they have lived their life. Are we really that foolish to believe that God (our creator) did not have something in mind for each of us when He gave us life? Throughout the Gospels are parables that Jesus told to help us understand how God will reason with us about how we’ve lived our lives on earth. The expression “Sum of My Call” simply asks the question: What will be the sum of your life when you stand before God? And how confident will you be when you are held accountable for what God has given you? The truth is, for some, discovering their purpose can be an overwhelming journey. For others, it can be a self-consuming egotistical quest for power, fame, and fortune. Discerning the truth in all of that, as it pertains to you, is part of the Sum of My Call discovery!

The Sum of My Call is also a spiritual mandate and a conviction that rests within the heart of every believer. It is that voice that never ceases to raise awareness that this world is NOT all there is. It is the understanding that God has formed you to be a light in the world and to accomplish a beautiful work with the power of God, in efforts both big and small. It is an ever-beating consciousness that this generation will pass away or that you may pass away, but no matter how the end may come, you will be READY because you have done your part and have finished the race that was divinely designed for you.

Getting Back to the Basics

Within this exercise, there will be several aspects of your life you will be directed to meditate upon in order to help you recognize how God has been moving and speaking to you about your divine purpose. Your purpose is essentially the call of God upon your life. As this revelation becomes clearer to you, it will be critically important for you to keep the following in mind:

Aside from what you are personally seeking God for, realize first that you have been called by Jesus Christ in three distinct ways that will always encompass anything you do in your life individually. These three callings are defined as your PRINCIPAL CALL. This is the first tenet of leadership given to us by God through Jesus Christ. Anything you do with your life individually will always hinge upon the fulfillment of these three callings being incorporated into everything you do. The three calls are:

1. The CALL of salvation. (Titus 3:5, Eph. 2:8)
2. The CALL to disciple. (Matt. 28:18-20)
3. The CALL to be a “light of the gospel”, to witness and be an Ambassador of Christ. (Matt. 5:14-16)

These three callings are given to every believer, and they are accomplished uniquely in many different ways and on many different platforms of expression. Acknowledging this Principle

Call as a Born-Again believer is to realize that there is an “**Apostolic Mandate**” upon your life. Definition, “**Man-date**”: an official order or commission to do something.

What does it mean to be APOSTOLIC? Can we all be apostolic? Apostolic simply refers to the ministry of the apostles being "Sent Ones." The word apostle is Greek for Apostolos. The word simply means a delegate, an ambassador of the gospel, an official commissioner of Christ, and a messenger that He has sent. Mark 16:15-16 suggests that every believer has been sent. Therefore, the overall ministry and mission of every child of God is an "Apostolic" one and that is to establish God's kingdom in the earth; formed in the same way Jesus groomed and commissioned His disciples. These SENT ONES carried out Jesus's will with divine purpose, presence, and power. Consider now, are you an apostolic believer?

SECTION REFLECTIONS

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS

The Believer's Apostolic Mandate

When we become born again through Jesus Christ, we become Apostolic "PROPHETIC BEINGS." This is manifested in the believer's life on the day he or she accepts Jesus as their Lord and Savior. At that moment their bodies become a holy temple and the dwelling place for the Holy Spirit. You see, the Holy Spirit is a Prophetic Spirit. This means, He is prophetic in nature and purpose and testifies of Jesus' first and second coming and He also gives us revelation from God in our present day lives. As a prophetic spirit, the Holy Spirit bestows upon the prophetic children of God a variety of nine supernatural gifts that testifies to their new life in Christ. These supernatural gifts testify to the legitimacy of the believer's walk of faith although many remain ignorant of this reality due to a lack of faith, teaching and quality discipleship. According to Jesus' discipleship plan, the believer's walk of faith should be cultivated by the leadership efforts of a five-fold discipleship team (Apostle, Prophet, Teacher, Evangelist, Pastor). Ideally, this would be found within our local churches, Christian ministries, or apostolic centers. (Eph. 4:11-16, Acts 2:1-47, 1Corn. 12:1-31).

When you acknowledge a call of God upon your life, you will then begin a divinely inspired "prophetic walk of faith" that will train/disciple you through a tailor-made plan of God. It is important to understand that this walk of faith is divinely designed and unique to YOU! From this point on, you will discover there is no failure in God and everything in your life, past and present will be used to shape you into the person you will need to become. This is a time of developing and maturing you. It is a time commonly filled with tests and trials. It is a time for receiving wisdom and revelation from God that is relevant to your call. It is a season in life where you discover who you "REALLY" are and you master a walk of faith and spiritual identity with purpose, conviction and understanding. Now, I must warn you, this stage can take years and too often we ignore the signs that signal that we are being divinely shaped due to walking in fear, lack of faith and impatience. As a result, we live carnal and religious spiritual lives, adapting to secular worldviews and values while despising true spiritual transformation. On the other hand, we might make regretful decisions to hurry the discipleship process along. What is important to understand is that these are experiences you may not be able to avoid and while our ignorance, immaturity and impatience may create a rough and painful journey, the discipleship hand of God will make it a rich one still the same if we continue to trust God and never lose heart.

So, these wild and precarious stages in our walk of faith could be defined as "**Prophetic Discipleship or Training.**" These are the years where God is piloting His unique work in your life. Like any training and development process, the aid of mentors and spiritual parents would make this journey less rugged if you are a good student. However, if you are the rare few who are pioneering or starting a new work from the ground up then don't be surprised if mentors or spiritual parents are not at your fingertips. This is because the Holy Spirit has chosen to take up that role in your life. This is the stage where you will truly realize your five-fold anointing and identity. It is the stage where you can identify the spiritual gifts that support your call. This is something that cannot be falsified or learned as one would learn a new skill. This anointing will clothe a believer's entire being. It is expressed as an innate nature and character. It is manifested as their spiritual DNA and more often, it is specific to the anointing that is associated with either one or all of the five-fold leadership gifts. When you identify your anointing, it will clarify how God is uniquely shaping you to walk supernaturally in Him and within your call.

Within God's prophetic discipleship plan, realize your training has the opportunity be enriched by these seasoned leaders of whom you share a common passion and anointing (Eph. 2:20, 4:11-16).

If you are already serving in ministry, then it is even more critical that you make sure you are apostolically aligned. This means you are protected and covered through accountability and your life is continually enhanced by ongoing training and one-on-one personal ministry. The quality of the leaders (both small and great) that surrounds you will reflect the quality of your own leadership. If you feel stuck in your ministry in any way, it is likely because the leadership environment that surrounds you is also stuck. A leader in your life who carries an apostolic anointing (this is anyone of the five-fold leaders) will be helpful in this way. These are individuals or ministries who are positioned to prayerfully cover, train, and counsel those in leadership under their spiritual governance. They are wise and seasoned leaders with experience in walking with God and not solely qualified by their years of service alone. No doubt many of us have witnessed or been a part of ministries that have been around for many years yet lacking spiritual growth within their local body. These are ministries (large and small) who shun the evolving ever present move of God. These are leaders who do not cultivate spiritual transformation or practice pursuing God's will for their own life. Consequently, their ministries are led in the same way. In these circumstances, ministries are run with a philosophy no different than big businesses such as, "so long as we are generating customers and solid revenue, we are good." These leaders and ministries are easy to discern, "You will know them by their Fruit!"

During prophetic training, every potential leader needs accountability. Accountability is not just oversight! These are honorable and respected relationships established among individuals and ministries who bear an apostolic anointing. These are people who will help carry your load and support you in the areas you are still growing, both practically and spiritually. If you do not have this relationship in place, it is certainly something you should be searching out and praying for. An apostolic covering doesn't have to be that difficult to find. Often, God will identify these relationships in our lives, but we mistakenly take them for granted or are too busy to notice them. These individuals or ministries will enrich our spiritual lives much like a refreshing cool glass of water, quenching our deepest thirst personally, spiritually and professionally. An effective covering will often provide you mentorship, counsel or spiritual parenting that is ALWAYS on point. An apostleship (organization) covering will serve as a relevant ministry network. They can be local churches with a ministry framework that provides ongoing lay-leader training, cultivates peer-discipleship, education, fellowship. They are ministries that inspire you and define the nature of your call and the apostolic mandate upon your life. This specialized support and guidance will also impact how you lead others within the framework of your own call.

An apostolic covering may also provide correction, counsel, protection, and professional ministry development which may include ordination and certification. This level of leadership is primarily cultivated by the anointed gifts of an Apostle and Prophet together. (Eph. 2:20, John 5:19-23, Col. 3:15-17). This image of apostolic order is a beautiful illustration of what Jesus had in mind when He formed this discipleship network to build and establish the Church of Jesus Christ, Eph 4:11. However, if God's Church is lacking in their awareness of this divine apostolic order, then it is likely that proper discipleship will also go lacking. As a result, many will step

out in business and ministry too soon, with compromising world views and make themselves vulnerable to prophetic deception. This will cause them to misuse or abuse their gifts and power and go lacking in their full potential as ambassadors of God's Kingdom. Becoming properly aligned is the first step to an authentic and doctrinally sound kingdom work. The assurance that comes from an apostolically aligned work is the difference between a powerful, influential, perpetual work of God and one that is self-consumed, glorifies man or a work that you spend your whole life merely dreaming about. The foundation of Jesus' ministry was in his "divine alignment" with the Father. This example of ministry order and operation is the second tenet of leadership established by God and whereby all true kingdom work should be modeled. Wherever you are in your spiritual walk or calling, let this be the foundation from which you build upon.

SECTION REFLECTIONS

SECTION HIGHLIGHTS