

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE COURSE FIFTY SIX

DISCERNING FALSE PROPHETS

How to Use This Guide

This self-study guide is a companion document to the video course “Discerning False Prophets”

This guide will help you understand how to discern false prophets.

Each Glory to Glory Study guide is organized around five areas of learning:

1. **Synopsis of Key Learning** - The synopsis will provide summaries of key points from the video that are important for you to understand and serve as foundational knowledge for the next course in the learning series.
2. **Important Vocabulary and Concepts** - This study guide will provide explanation of important words or ideas that are critical to understanding biblical truth.
3. **Deeper Learning** - The more you know and understand about who God is and how He works, the deeper in love you fall. God wants to have a deep and abiding relationship with you. He desires for you to know Him. This section of guide will give you additional insights into the teaching from the video for you to study on your own. If you have questions, there will be mentoring moments in the online school for you to get your questions answered.
4. **Life Application** - God calls for us to not just be a hearer of His word, but a doer also. (James 1:22). This means that God expects for us to apply what we learn about Him in our everyday lives. This section of the study is to help you think about the ways to apply what you learn from the course to your everyday life.
5. **Memory Scriptures** - Scriptures that support key concepts in the course will be highlighted. We encourage you to memorize these scriptures by meditating on them until they are hidden in your heart. When you hide God's word in your heart, it makes it hard for the enemy to deceive you. In this way, you are less likely to sin against God. (Psalm 119:11)

Introduction to Course Fifty Six

In this Course you will learn how to discern false prophets. Learn the main things to watch for when receiving a prophetic word to know if it is from the Lord or the enemy.

You're also going to learn the habits and behaviors that we have that will cause us to be a target for these false prophets.

Discerning False Prophets	
Synopsis	<p>A misconception in the body of Christ is that the way to tell that someone is a false prophet is that what they prophesy doesn't happen. While this is true and scriptural based on Jeremiah 14:14 and Deuteronomy 18:20-22, it is not the only way to tell a false prophet.</p> <p>If we listen to someone and what they say happens or is true, we then begin to trust what they say and not realize that this was just to pull us in so that they could accomplish what they set out to do which is to deceive you and send you on a path away from Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Since the spirit of prophecy is the testimony of Jesus Christ, only if a prophet leads someone to the Lord or in the direction of seeking Christ through His word, would they be considered a true prophet of God. Revelation 19:10</p>
Key Vocabulary/ Concepts	<p>Greek Strong's Concordance - 4436</p> <p>Puthón: a divining spirit, Python, called after the Pythian serpent said to have guarded the oracle at Delphi and been slain by Apollo.</p> <p>Usage: In the New Testament, "puthón" refers to a spirit of divination or a demonic spirit that enables a person to predict the future. It is associated with the practice of soothsaying or fortune-telling, often linked to pagan rituals and idolatry.</p> <p>Cultural and Historical Background: In ancient Greek culture, the term "python" was associated with the Pythian serpent or dragon that was said to guard the oracle at Delphi. The oracle was a significant religious site where the priestess, known as the Pythia, would deliver prophecies. The spirit of Python was believed to possess individuals, granting them the ability to foretell events, often for monetary gain. This practice was contrary to the teachings of the Hebrew Scriptures, which condemned divination and sought to distinguish the true prophetic voice of God from pagan practices.</p>

Deeper Learning

Based on the definition of the spirit of python, a divining spirit, we see that it works hand in hand with idolatry.

Hence, in order for you to fall victim to a false prophet using this spirit to entrap you, there has to be idolatry of some form in your life. Otherwise, you would be able to break free from it much easier.

Idolatry is anything that you put above God in your life. Our desires can easily become idols when we focus on them more than we do the Lord. There is nothing wrong with wanting to be successful in your business, or purchasing a home, or getting married or having a baby. However, when these thoughts completely take over the majority of our thought life everyday there is a possibility that it turned it into an idol.

The python spirit then brings this information to the false prophet and they use your idolatry against you by prophesying about the very thing that you want. They don't just do this once, they do it over and over again to pull you in deeper to your idolatry. (Read Ezekiel 14)

Before you know it, you are obsessed with getting this more than you are spending time in the presence of the Lord or reading His word. And, little by little you move away from God and start following after the idol. (Deuteronomy 13:1-5)

Then you start sowing financial seeds to the false prophet thinking that this will cause this to come to you even sooner without realizing that you have now created a covenant with a demonic spirit, because money exchanged hands and is used to form covenants.

The easiest way to be free from this is to repent once you realize that you have turned your desires into an idol. Then you have to break covenant with this spirit.

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, forgive me for putting my desires above You. I repent that I have turned away from You and Your word to go after this idol. Teach me how to go back to the basics of spending time with You and reading Your word. I break all covenants that I have made with false prophets, false teachers and demonic spirits that are drawing me away from Your presence Lord, in Your Holy Name, Amen.*

	Then you need to completely disconnect from all of the places that were encouraging you to feed this idol. This is the only way for you to be free from it.
Life Application	<p>Since we can discern false prophets and false teachers just by reading the word of God, how much of your time are you investing in reading the bible?</p> <p>If you spend more time reading and listening to prophetic words compared to the time you spend reading the bible, you could potentially run into a problem with a false prophet.</p> <p>Have you read the bible in its entirety? Perhaps this is a goal you need to set for yourself so that you are equipped should you come across someone who has the intention of deceiving you.</p>
Memory Scriptures	<i>(Jeremiah 14:14) "Then the LORD said to me, "The prophets are prophesying lies in my name. I have not sent them or appointed them or spoken to them. They are prophesying to you false visions, divinations, idolatries and the delusions of their own minds. "</i>
Prayer	
<p>Lord Jesus Christ,</p> <p>We praise You for Your word that has the ability to show us right from wrong, truth from error. Grant us the desire to hunger for Your word and use it to teach us wisdom, knowledge and understanding, In the name of Jesus, Amen.</p>	