

**LEADING FROM THE THRONE ROOM PART 3
BRINGING THE ATMOSPHERE OF HEAVEN INTO THE
CIRCUMSTANCES OF EARTH**

I. Introduction: Thoughts about spiritual atmospheres and environments

- A. Leaders are atmosphere _____ (thermostats).
You are to be light that makes things brighter, help people see God.
You are salt that bring a taste and flavor that make people thirsty for God.
(Matt. 5:13-16)
- B. They understand that having the right atmosphere is as or more important than _____.

The atmosphere is like healthy or unhealthy soil. It is the tide that the ship is floating in. Whether in parenting or teaching how you set things up for people to receive will determine how people receive. It doesn't matter how well you preach if you haven't removed the money changers from the temple.

Application

1. Why are first impressions so important?
2. People will forget most of what you say; they won't forget how you made them _____.

What is your strategy to help people feel the way you want them to feel, so they will be able to receive what you want them to receive?
("Funest", safest, Most God-Filled)

MLK Jr. was successful in seeing laws changed because he was able to shift the atmosphere of America.

"If you want to be successful as a parent teaching your kids, don't focus as much on what you are going to teach them as the atmosphere's you want to set for the kids to learn." (Through things like fun and strategic association).

- C. Because leaders are aware of the importance of atmosphere, they are always seeking to _____ the atmosphere and God's wisdom for there to be a shift. (Jesus washing feet)

D. They understand that the key to shifting atmospheres is leading from the _____ . We have authority to align with God and ask that He moves us in our spirit and heart so we can bring the atmosphere of Heaven into the circumstances we are facing.

1. The throne room of Heaven is not only a dimension; it is an _____ .

“But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world” (I Jn. 4:4 NLT).

“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit” (Romans 14:17 NIV).

Moses and Aaron set an atmosphere for Joshua to win a battle. In a heavenly atmosphere the operation of the angelic is allowed to overwhelm the presence of the demonic.

2. The more we take and know our position in Christ on _____ in prayer, the more we are able to influence the atmosphere on the outside.

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of the dark world and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God...” (Eph. 6:12-13 NIV)

II. How can we effectively be used by God to change atmospheres?

A. Realize that atmospheres don't shift automatically; they shift _____ .

1. Leaders know that in this world atmospheres naturally head in a negative direction.

To get a positive atmosphere is to go _____ .
“Don't be surprised by the fiery trial that is to try you.”

2. The first atmosphere/environment that leaders continually work on is their _____ . It's not the seed that you plant that determines how much you grow as a leader but how your soil is prepared.

3. Leaders know that it is only by responding in _____ that you won't react to negative things in the flesh.

Jesus taught this in the Sermon on the Mount, “Don’t be overcome by evil, but be prepared to overcome evil with _____.”

B. Leaders understand that change in the atmosphere around them always starts with the _____ within them. We don’t get to choose what happens to us; we can choose what happens in us. You can never produce a positive atmosphere with a _____ attitude.

1. Positive attitudes diffuse negative people, situations, and moods.
2. We have to relentlessly take _____ for our choice of attitude. Paul and Silas shifted the atmosphere of a prison with praise.

“If you want to know the temperature of your church, put the thermometer in your mouth.” –Rick Warren

III. What are some steps I can take to impact and shift atmospheres?

A. Choose what atmosphere you will and won’t _____ with.

You do this by:

1. _____ what is the atmosphere that you are feeling. Generally, the atmosphere is what spirits the people in a certain place or arena have partnered with (hope, heaviness, victimhood, complaint, envy, political manipulation, religion).
2. Discernment needs to include my own reaction. Is the mood I’m feeling a burden God is placing on me to pray, the negative emotions of other people that I’m to shake off, or a work of the enemy _____ me or the group with such as strife, hopelessness or some other emotion.

B. Claim your _____ in Christ.

Our authority in Christ is the right and _____ we have through Jesus finished work to refuse to partner with, come in agreement with, or give access to the negative moods, attitudes, emotions, or spiritual powers of the world, the flesh, or the devil. Putting on the armor of God is a way of taking that stand.

“I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me” (John 14:30 NIV).

Because I am crucified with Christ I don’t have to and I refuse to partner with _____ in this situation.

C. Be _____ with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the environment changer. He is God's breath of fresh air. He is the water on the dry and weary land. How?

1. Change my _____.

In the middle of hard times leaders " _____ - _____ " so they can reflect God. They believe that God is in a good mood and wants to share that with us.

My feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold.

For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked... Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand... My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever..." (Psalms 73:2-3, 23, 26 NIV)

Look around and be distressed, look within and be depressed, _____ - _____ and be blessed." –Corrie Ten Boom

Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." -Jacob

2. Exercise praise with _____ (Eph. 5:18-20).

D. Recognize the power of _____. (James 3:6-9)

1. We change the atmosphere by deciding to respond with words instead of _____ with words.

"By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established."
(2 Corinthians 13:1 NKJV)

"Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, because of Your enemies, that You may silence the enemy and the avenger" (Psalms 8:2 NKJV).

We must recognize that our words make decrees that can _____ one atmosphere and allow the other.

2. The first thing to do to change an environment is to speak to _____. Declare continually to yourself who you are and what you partner with.

3. The single most powerful way to shift an atmosphere in relationships with others is through words of _____.

People have a good side and a bad side. When you recognize and call out the good side with words of encouragement, you empower them to be who the _____ of them wants to be.

“Encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness” (Hebrews 3:13 NIV).

Encouragement is not flattery; it is partnering with the Holy Spirit in calling forth who _____ them to be. Encouragement is oxygen for the soul.

E. Get others to come in _____ with the atmosphere you are called to create.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them” (Matthew 18:18-20 NIV).

F. Strategically act in the opposite spirit of the environment the enemy is trying to create. You don’t change the atmosphere by yelling at the darkness, but turning up the _____.

If you get the right environment the rats and cockroaches will leave.

“Perfect love casts out fear.” The Bible doesn’t say ignore those who curse you or use you; it says bless them. You have to get to the high ground.

“If you will consistently sow seeds of kindness in your city you will create an environment in your city where people will continuously come to Christ.” –Steve Sjogren (Conspiracy of Kindness)

If you ask, the Holy Spirit will always give a strategy to break the power of an oppressing atmosphere.

(Answers: I. A. changers B. working hard, feel C. discern D. throne room, atmosphere, the inside II. A. intentionally, against the grain, own heart, prayer, good B. attitude, negative, responsibility III. A. partner, Discerning, attacking B. authority, privilege, _____ C. filled,

focus, look-up, look-up, thanksgiving D. words, react, block, yourself, encouragement, best part,
God sees E. agreement F. light)