

PNEUMANETICS

ORIGINAL

BOOK 1

INTRODUCTION

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Pneumanetics

Pneumanetics Original

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WORKBOOK

STUDY ASSIGNMENTS

Throughout this 18-session course, assignment lengths will vary from session to session, with some more extensive than others. In most cases, please plan to spread out your assignment work over a five-day period.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Memorize the following verses:

“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit...”

Ephesians 5:18, New American Standard Bible

“...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

Acts 1:8, New American Standard Bible

FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. God desires to _____ Himself in us, and for us to _____ ourselves in others.
2. Hebrews 4:2 indicates that we should act _____ upon the words that God speaks to us
3. The purpose of Pneumanetics is to build confidence in the _____.
4. Godliness is God's ability to _____ Himself in us
5. According to Acts 1:8, God's desire is to make us into His _____ throughout the earth.

6. Becoming a witness involves two things:
 1. _____
 2. _____
7. Pnuemanetics comes from two Greek words:
 1. _____
 2. _____
8. According to Ephesians 3:16, God's Spirit strengthens us with power by revealing truth to the _____.
9. God _____ the outer man, so that the inner man can be _____.
10. Romans 8:29 says that God conforms us to what? (from the New American Standard Bible) _____
11. The human spirit is called the _____ man.

CASE HISTORY

The following case history is intended to help introduce you to real life situations where you'll be able to apply lessons from your training. Please study it carefully; future sessions will refer back to it.

Read the following case history and write your conclusions about how you would diagnose and deal with the problems it presents. This case history is not a single, real life scenario, per se; it is a compilation of many situations, encountered over many years.

CAN THIS MARRIAGE BE SAVED?

Stan and Charlotte have been married for 15 years. Their relationship has been fairly stormy, even from the beginning. They have four children: two together, and two from Stan's previous marriage. Stan's first children are several years older than the

children they have together. Although all of the siblings seem to relate well with each other, lately they have become manipulative around their parents.

At 50, Stan is 15 years older than Charlotte, who is 35. When Stan comes home from work, he looks forward to reading his evening paper and watching TV. But Charlotte, who has been doing housework and caring for the children all day, wants to get out and do something “exciting.” She often tells Stan he’s “old-fashioned” and “boring.”

Stan is not a talker. He prefers “peace and quiet,” away from the kids. He actively avoids confrontation. He tends to be stoic and uncommunicative. Charlotte is just the opposite. She often wants to talk, and she feels frustrated when Stan won’t respond.

Maintaining an active sexual relationship with Charlotte is much more important to Stan than it is to Charlotte. With their personality differences contributing to the tension, this aspect of their relationship has been suffering.

Stan’s ex-wife further complicates their relationship. Although she is very demanding, Stan will not take the lead in dealing with her, leaving that up to Charlotte (which Charlotte resents deeply).

Stan does not have any close male friends. In fact, he tends to be combative with men his own age. Stan’s father was a stereotypical business executive, frequently absent, so Stan was never close to him. Instead, he grew up close to his mother, and he has remained so. Stan’s mother tends to support him in any conflict with Charlotte. She and Charlotte do not communicate unless it’s absolutely necessary. Even so, the children seem to get along well with their grandmother.

Stan reacts with jealousy when Charlotte spends time with the children. He wants the bulk of her attention, and he becomes resentful both toward the children and toward Charlotte if he feels he’s being neglected. This resentment most often manifests in the form of outbursts of anger.

Stan and Charlotte have reached a point where they seldom talk. And when they do, the topic of divorce usually comes up. Stan threatens to kick Charlotte out along with their two younger children. She refuses to leave, often threatening to get a lawyer. Charlotte's pastor encouraged them to seek out a Biblical Counselor—which is what led them to you.

Stan's Story. Although Stan is a large man, just over six feet tall, he tends to be shy and withdrawn. He has an almost little boy manner about him. The first words out of Stan's mouth to you are, "I made a mistake marrying Charlotte. I think I was still on the rebound from my first divorce.

"I love Charlotte, but she's more interested in the kids than she is in me. I hate that. She used to wait on me and do things for me. Now she ignores me and fusses over the children instead.

"She's domineering and controlling, too—just like her mother. She always wants to talk when I just need to relax. She always has to be doing something, or she wants to go out when I really need my rest. I've always provided her with a good home. I've always supported her and the kids. But she never shows any gratitude. I'm sick of it!

"When we were first married, our sex life was fine. But that went downhill pretty fast. Now she says all I ever think about is sex. She's a cold fish, and she won't respond to me. I still have a lot to offer. I know I could find somebody else.

"Now, on her side, she *is* a really good mother, and she takes good care of our house. She treats my kids the same as our two, and she's the peacemaker in our home. Unfortunately, that just means she's a better mother than she is a wife. I think I could do better."

Charlotte's Story. "Sometimes I really feel like I hate him," Charlotte cries through tears. "He's just so set in his ways! I mean, it's like I married my father or something. It's the same routine, day in and day out: home at 5:30, grab the paper, turn on the TV. Then he insists that I bring him supper in front of the TV. He is absolutely, 100% self-centered!

“When I married Stan, I was just sure my faith in Christ would change him. But it hasn’t worked out that way. He refuses to even go to church. He even ridicules my beliefs! And if his kids don’t want to go, he just lets them stay at home. I feel embarrassed going by myself and having to make excuses for them.

“His ex-wife totally intimidates him. Every time she calls or comes to get their kids, he bends over backwards to do whatever she wants him to. She’s demanding and rude. She doesn’t respect Stan at all. And if her alimony payment is ever even just a little bit late, she doesn’t call us herself—she has her lawyer call!

“I always thought marriage would be romantic, but it’s not. The only thing Stan is interested in is sex. I’m pretty sure he’s addicted to it. I almost have to undress in the closet, or he just paws at me. After every fight he wants sex. And if he ever brings me a gift, he always expects sex in return. It’s like it’s some kind of security blanket for him.

“Stan’s mother has babied him his whole life. She still does. His parents were divorced when he was little, and his mother never remarried. Now it’s like he expects me to be his mother.

“All of our kids are really demanding—especially the younger ones. But when I try to take care of them, it makes Stan really angry. It feels like he’s trying to drive them away. I won’t even let him discipline our kids because I’m afraid he might hurt them.

“Several months ago I accidentally found out that Stan has been looking at pornography. I found it on his laptop. I haven’t confronted him about it, but it really hurts me. It makes me wonder what he’s doing when he’s not at home. Sometimes, I think he’s having an affair.

“There are a lot of things I like about Stan. But I think our age difference really hurts us. I wasn’t close to my father at all. When I first met Stan, I remember thinking he might finally fulfill my desire for the right kind of relationship. But it hasn’t turned out that way.

“I hate the thought of divorce—mostly what it would do to the children. His kids have already been through that trauma once. It would just be too hard on all of them. I’ve worked really hard to have a good relationship with them. In a lot of ways, I’m a better mom to them than their actual mother.

“If Stan would just open up and talk, I really believe we might be able to start working some things out. But he never will. He just refuses to open up. He’s like a little boy, sucking his thumb and sulking.”

How would you save this marriage?

YOU AS THE BIBLICAL GUIDANCE MINISTER

1. What is your assessment of Stan and Charlotte’s situation?

2. What would you say is the main problem (or problems)?

3. Do you consider their age difference to be a factor?

4. How would you deal with the pornography problem?

5. What would you do to relate them more to the church and to Scripture?
