# PREFACE

*How to Read This Collection*

*These pages are not a random stack of studies. They are a path, arranged in the order a new believer walks it.*

WHY THE ORDER MATTERS

## A path, not a pile

Each study picks up something the one before it set up. A word introduced on one page becomes the subject of a later one. Read them in order, and you will watch one idea open into the next until you are standing fully equipped.

*If you just gave your life to Christ, this path starts exactly where you are.*

THE PATH

## Nine movements


**I** — CAUGHT · pages 6–7

**Gone Fishing: Field Guide & Key Card**

This is the gospel you just answered: an inherited condition, the need for rescue, and God setting the terms. It is placed first for a second reason too. The one who was caught is handed the net on day one.

**II** — THE TERMS · pages 8–10

**Trace the Promise · All Roads Lead to "Obey Him" · Key to the Kingdom**

Before we claim the promises, we learn who they are for. Loving God means keeping His commandments. Faith and obedience together open the door. The foundation comes before the benefits.

**III** — THE POWER · pages 11–12

**POWER, Pages 1 & 2**

The Kingdom is not in word but in power, and power meets resistance. This is the hub of the collection. It introduces spiritual food and the three resistances (unbelief, disobedience and pride), which the rest of the path takes up one by one.

**IV** THE PROVISIONS · page 13

**How a Puppy Kills a Lion**

The four spiritual foods named on the POWER page (water, bread, meat and wine) are laid out in full. What you feed grows; what you starve dies. Feeding the spirit man lowers resistance.

**V** THE STRUCTURE · pages 14–15

**The Vine and the Trellis, Pages 1 & 2**

Feeding must become consistent, and consistency needs a framework: the Word, prayer, obedience, discipline, and accountability. The trellis does not give life. It gives the life of Christ room to bear fruit.

**VI** THE FAITH · pages 16–17

**Different Kinds: Mustard-Seed Faith · This Kind: A Closer Look**

Here we confront unbelief, the first resistance named on the POWER page. Prayer and fasting do not change God. They condition the believer.

**VII** THE PRAYER · pages 18–19

**“Whatever You Ask”: Mercy vs. Covenant · A Mousetrap**

With resistance coming down, we learn to pray from covenant. The mousetrap’s five parts (God’s will, faith, obedience, endurance and humility) gather everything taught so far into one working design.

**VIII** THE ENDURANCE · pages 20–21

**Endurance: Through the Fire · The Refiner’s Key**

The mousetrap’s fourth part gets its own study, because the answer does not always come at once. Gold is valuable before it enters the furnace. Obedience does not eliminate the need for endurance.

**IX** THE STAND · pages 22–23

**The Weapons of Our Warfare · The Whole Armor of God**

The believer, now fed, structured, believing, praying, and enduring, is equipped to stand. The quote on the puppy page, that war is won by provisions, quietly prepared us for this ending.


*Page numbers refer to the Teaching Collection.*

THREADS THAT RUN THROUGH IT

## What holds it together

**Creation teaches.** Electricity, the vine, the mousetrap, and the refiner's fire all rest on Romans 1:20: God's invisible attributes are understood through the things He made. These pages train you to read God in the world around you.

**The POWER page holds the map.** Spiritual food leads to the puppy page. Unbelief leads to the faith pages. Disobedience is answered by the covenant pages before it. Pride is answered by humility, the release point of the mousetrap.

**The path comes full circle.** It opens with fishing and closes with the armor, which includes the preparation of the gospel of peace. The one who was caught finishes ready to go fishing.

HOW TO USE THIS COLLECTION

## Walking it together

**If you are new to the faith:** you do not have to master it all at once. Walk it with us in the group, one movement at a time. Bring your questions; they are part of the path, not a detour from it. Scripture references are written short (Ro = Romans, Ja = James, 1 Jn = 1 John), and we will show you how to find them.

**If you are leading:** teach it in order. When a page points back to an earlier one, stop and draw the line for your group, because the connections are the lesson.

*"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

MATTHEW 4:19