



## Student Orientation

Welcome and a hearty congratulations to all of you. Your hunger for truth has brought you to a course designed to equip and empower you for a life that has proved to be more difficult than you ever expected. These next few days are expected to propel your personal, relational and spiritual growth so far ahead, IF you are humble and teachable, and don't already 'know it all', so now is the time to get very focused and encourage yourself that you are not here by accident but by divine initiative. Now to business....

- 1. Start Times:** School commences each morning at 8:55 a.m. – for students and visitors alike. Please get yourself organised to be here on time if at all possible. Lectures run through until 3 p.m. Monday – Friday, with a morning tea break around 10:30, then lunch from 12.15 – 1 p.m.
- 2. Last Day:** The final Friday lectures will run until 1.00 p.m., followed by a pot-luck lunch together, followed by a concert with contributions from any who like to, (or just to confront their unbearable feelings.)
- 3. Graduating:** You will only fail to receive your certificate if you are absent for more than one day or fail to do the daily journaling. No journal means no certificate, no exceptions made. If you get stuck, don't go into denial. Ask me for help.
- 4. Asking Questions:** If you need to know, then you need to ask. However, please phrase your question as carefully as you can. Ponderous, involved questions exhaust everyone, including me. If my answer to your question is inadequate, please persist until you get satisfaction (this is a 'no sulking' zone) or else talk to me later. I will question you from time to time also.
- 5. Projection:** Please be aware of what you might be inclined to project onto me – I am not your father, your ex-husband, your previous boss or your Pastor. I'm not even the school-teacher who used to humiliate you in front of the class, or the VIP who will define your life. I am just a bloke who's trying to make himself useful offering what he has found to work in his own life. If you remember that, then your echoes and projections won't get us both into trouble.
- 6. Books:** A student lending library is available. Sign the borrowed book out, then back in again. It is strongly recommended that you read William Backus' books "Telling Yourself" and "Telling Each Other the Truth" *first*.
- 7. Glossary:** In Section 8 at the back of your Manual – please revise it every evening. We will start each day by questions and answers from any words you want further explanation on. Please also choose a truth coach from the Daily Insight's book and have a comment or question to share.
- 8. Manuals:** Make every effort to read ahead in your Manual before the morning's lectures – this will 'prime' you to 'twig on' to what the lecture is about the following day. It will also give you the opportunity to prepare any questions. (If you want a new Manual at the end of the School, clean of your personal notes, they are available from Rosemary) Please note the 'copyright' sign at the bottom of each page – you are welcome to copy these studies for church and private use; you only violate the copyright when you plagiarise the notes, (pass them off as your own) or if you use them for financial reward without licence.
- 9. Sharing:** Share in class at a level that is comfortable for you. (It's unrealistic to expect complete confidentiality within this room.)
- 10. My Availability:** If you want to book a second counselling session with me if time permits, either for yourself or a member of your family (at school completion) see Rosemary to arrange that. This session would carry a surcharge.

- 11. Personal Counselling Session:** Each student is invited to have a counselling session with myself or one of my staff in the presence of an observer of your choice. We will counsel all students in double sessions – counselling one, while the 2nd Student observes the session, then the 2nd Student while the 1st observes. Give careful thought to what topic or issue you want to focus on – the more focused you can be, the more you will get from the Session. (Please bring your Manual to the appointment – it contains the observers report in the back.)
- 12. Journal:** Answer the 6 questions in the Journal each day – spend 15 – 20 minutes on this exercise. This is a Priority Task. Number your answers 1 – 6 to help me when marking it, and please write legibly! Journal is handed in on Friday, then Thursday on the last day. If you would prefer to type it or do this exercise on a Spreadsheet, that's fine - email to [office@livingwisdom.co.nz](mailto:office@livingwisdom.co.nz) or provide it printed out, thanks. No data sticks.
- 13. Christian Jargon:** If you aren't familiar with the Christian terminology, then substitution of words from your own frame-of-reference is quite acceptable, e.g. 'Truth' could be substituted for 'Jesus', and 'Ultimate Reality' for 'God'. I accept that not all attending Students embrace the Christian faith. However, morning worship and prayers are an essential part of this School, so please try to stay off the defensive. There is nothing here to threaten an honest agnostic's approach.
- 14. Memorise:** not compulsory, but highly recommended – four Scriptures: - Genesis 50:20, Romans 12:2, John 8:32, and 2 Corinthians 10:4,5. (King James is the probably easiest translation to memorise). These verses are central to our philosophy. Please note, scriptures are used in this class only to *illustrate* truth, rather than to prove it, which may require a mindset shift for some people.
- 15. Ringing Mobile Phones** are not welcome here! If you need to leave it switched on because of an emotional dependence, you will need to get permission, and we will all pray that one day you will get back the reins of your own life.
- 16. Name Tags:** Please wear them for the whole two weeks – and do make an effort to get to know the names of your classmates. There are some very good friends here just waiting for you to meet them. You have so much in common.
- 17. School Fees:** are now due. Rosemary will give you an invoice in the next few days. (If you are staying onsite please count how many nights you are here, so that figure can be included on the same invoice.) The School fee is \$920.00, inclusive of G.S.T. (Receipts available.)
- 18. Visitors:** Invite as many visitors as you want. There is no limit on how many you can invite on any day, but each visitor can only come once. Children are not permitted unless they can occupy themselves without distraction. I am unable to forecast which topic on which particular day – every school works through the manual at a different speed, but the subject is always wisdom and life-skills. Please introduce your visitor to Rosemary – she will give them a name tag, and loan them a Manual for their use.
- 19. Complaints Procedure:** If you have a problem, talk to me. If you don't get satisfaction, talk to me again. We can resolve it, whatever it is. It's really that simple.
- 20. Housekeeping.** Toilets, Telephone/Photocopier access. Exits and Assembly zone. Kitchen.
- 21. Resources:** are available on the resource Table – please browse there and make your purchases *before* the final Friday. (An invoice can be issued for later payment.) Anything out of stock can be posted to you later.
- 22. Distraction:** Concentration is taken seriously in this class-room, so any distractions will be attended to.

- 23. Jokes & Stories:** read out in class are not available for distribution. Nor do we offer a book list – there’s too many we would want to recommend. However, suggested reading will be given with each topic.
- 24. Sickness:** If you get sick, stay home ‘till you have recovered please. We love you but we don’t love your viruses. See me for healing prayer anytime however – I serve a God who wants to demonstrate His love and power by healing you as soon as we can learn how to invoke His Power.
- 25. Concentrating in Class:** Many find this School quite intense – lectures are delivered one on top of another, and students often report feeling ‘overloaded’. This is quite normal. Get early nights during the School, and delegate as many responsibilities as you can. However, the pace you set is up to you – so be gentle on yourself. If you are not coping, please see me; I may be able to help with coping skills that you are lacking. (Please note; you will be **unable** to process all the information you receive over the next two weeks, within the next two weeks – you are not expected to! You have the **rest of your life** to grasp and apply it.
- 26. Student Expectations:** This Course is not designed to make you a professional ‘counsellor’ (but you will be a much safer caregiver). However, many students have gone into formal training, and have become professional or semi-professional counsellors. This Course will, however, make you a better spouse, mother, father or employee as you put the truths you learn into practice. How much the course impacts upon your life will be entirely up to you. If you decide that you would like to teach this material by running some Living Wisdom Seminars yourself, please let me know so I begin to assess your suitability.
- 27. Level Two Students** – please read the Requirements at the back of the Manual, (in Section 8) and see me as much as you need as you prepare your project. I need to see a draft copy of your Assignment by next Tuesday, then the final draft ready for presentation to the class by the final Friday.
- 28. Breakthroughs:** My expectation is for every student to get a personal break-through. That is my goal, what is yours? Do let us know about your personal discoveries - they are the reason Rosemary & I make the sacrifices we do to be here!

Now it’s time for introductions:

1. Who are you?
2. Where are you from?
3. What are you busy at?
4. Why have you come on this wisdom boot camp?