**[PP slide 1: – Title]**

[Leader:  **“**Please join me now in prayer”]

Dear Heavenly Father, “May the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing in Your sight, our Rock and our Redeemer.” In Jesus name, amen.

**Introduction**

Review:

In our first session, I described a strategy called **No Hold** which is rooted in, and inspired by, Jesus’ statement in John 14.

**[PP slide 2: John 14:30-31]**

We noted that there seems to be a dynamic relationship between reducing influence and growing influence between the two “kingdoms”.

 **[PP Slide 3: Inverse/build graphic]**

We next identified some tactics that the devil uses to produce **places of access and ownership** in our lives.

**[PP slide 4: Ephesians 4:25-28]**

In relation to that understanding, we emphasized the role of the **Holy Spirit** in this dynamic process.

**[PP slide 5: Eph 5:17-18]**

In session **2**, we talked about strategic structure – end point, pathways, and tactics.

We recognized our Biblical end point as full spiritual maturity,

**[PP slide 6: – Eph 4:11-13]**

and discussed a Biblical pathway called “standing firm”.

**[PP slide 7: – Eph 6:13]**

We then looked forward at several families of **tactics** connected to the **No Hold** strategy.

**[PP Slide 8: Outline]**



[Leader: Explain outline: These tactical families include: Forgiveness, Personal History, and Mind Renovation. Forgiveness and Personal History focus our attention on past events into present; then Mind Renovation is oriented to the present into the future. In our last session, we will return to the **No Hold** strategy to investigate its end point in more detail.]

In session **3** we moved forward to focus on the **tactics** of forgiveness connected to the **No Hold** strategy.

We recognized that Jesus’ **criminal justice system** is the context into which the tactics of forgiveness fit.

The next important concept we described in the context of forgiveness, was **sin** (lawlessness/criminal behavior).

The final concept we described in the context of forgiveness was the activity of Satan as the **accuser** of the Christian believers.

We then noted how forgiveness is defined:

**[PP Slide 9: Definition]**

**aphiemi** (NT:863), primarily, **"to send forth, send away"** [regarding] ‎(b) sins…

1. ‎**firstly signifies the remission [dismissal] of the punishment due to sinful conduct…**
2. **‎secondly, it involves the complete removal of the cause of offense**

[Leader: read definition aloud starting with “firstly”.]

We emphasized that a court’s sole purpose is to establish guilt or innocence and dispense justice. Mercy and forgiveness are processes that could be termed **“out of court settlements”**. They are related to the maintenance of social order, but provide alternative processes to actual court action.

We also defined a family of forgiveness tactics included in the No Hold strategy:

**[PP Slide 10: Tactics]**

1. Receiving forgiveness from God
2. Receiving forgiveness from others
3. Granting forgiveness to others

[Leader: read tactics aloud]

In session **4** we investigated **two** of these forgiveness tactics;

* receiving forgiveness from God, and
* receiving forgiveness from others;

**and practiced them**.

We also noted a way of interpreting the definition of forgiveness:

**[PP Slide 11: Interpretation]**

1. **To forgive – a sense of laying aside; getting rid of something; letting something go; sending something away.**
	1. **Opposite of holding onto; keeping something close; grasping onto something**
2. **If it’s laid aside, it’s gone.**

In session **5** we investigated and practiced the third forgiveness tactic, which is granting forgiveness to other people. We also recognized a **warning** that Jesus gave regarding forgiveness: if we forgive, we will be forgiven; if we don’t forgive, we will not be forgiven.

In session **6** we interacted with a set of No Hold tactics oriented toward our personal history. This tactic set is referred to as a Vine Replacement Tool.

**[PP slide 12: VRT]**

Tactics 1-2 enable you, with God’s help, to take back the places (given over to, and owned by, the devil) that give the vine a rooting place. Tactic 3 cleanses those places formerly owned by the Devil. Tactic 4 fills those places with the righteousness of God. Tactic 5 gives the places once owned by the devil to the Holy Spirit. That way, the devil can’t move back in. Tactics 6 and 7 are a way to benefit the people who have used the places to influence our inner man toward the kingdom of darkness strategy. The hope is that our prayer, as the injured person, will make it easier for one or more of those people to come to follow Jesus just as we have.

In session **7**, we presented some tactics that, if practiced, could help a person walk free of anxiety. We looked at Paul’s counsel found in Philippians 4,

**[PP slide 13: Phil 4:4-7]**

and found three alternatives to walk in instead of being anxious.

**[PP slide 14: Alternatives]**

1. Rejoice always (heavily emphasized)
2. Pray saturated with thanksgiving
3. Choose to walk in the peace and understanding that comes from God

We then identified two tactics to use in order to free ourselves from anxiety.

**[PP slide 15: Tactics]**

1. Use the VRT to remove the vine(s) of worry/anxiety.
2. Keep the worry vine from growing again:
	1. It’s a matter of choosing [changing your mind] to trust God, and continuing to walk out that decision in your immediate situations.

In session **8**, we discovered that our heavenly Father wants us to walk free of slavery resulting from the fear (terror) of death, so He will support every effort on our part that agrees with His revealed will. He will also, if we request it, strengthen our inner man so that we are able to stay free.

The No Hold strategy holds three strategic tactics that together are able to drive out the fear of death.

**[PP Slide 16: Fear Tactics]**

Tactic 1 – Choose, with the Lord’s help, to change your mind-set (repent).

Tactic 2 – Treat the whole history of a specific fear as a vine, and use your Vine Replacement Tool.

Tactic 3 – Walk in the perfect (complete) love that drives out fear.

In session **9**, we interacted with several Biblical passages talking about God’s Mind Renovation process. Paul speaks extensively regarding the process. One of his teachings is found in Romans 12.

**[PP Slide 17: Rom 12:2]**

**Romans 12:2**

**Do not be conformed [fashion alike] to this world, but be transformed [‎metamorphose] by the renewal [renovating] of your mind**, that by testing [examination] you maydiscern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ESV

[Leader: read passage aloud]

This renovation process starts when we first believe, and continues until we reach full maturity. This is a process that we participate in by choosing. God’s part is producing the renovation through His Spirit working through the revelations contained in the Bible.

We have three No Hold tactics acting in the Mind Renovation process:

**[PP Slide 18: Mind Renovation Tactics]**

**Tactic 1:**  use your Vine Replacement Tool and Treat each old habit as a separate vine (or set of vines).

**Tactic 2:** Cooperate with God’s mind renovation process.

**Tactic 3:** Test and approve God’s will. Test His ways of doing things in the fire of experience. Prove to yourself that His ways really are good, pleasing and perfect.

In session **10**, as part of God’s mind renovation process, we investigated what the Bible says about walking in a condition called “Whole Mind”. We discovered that the Bible uses the same or very similar definitions for “mind” and “heart”. These words seem often to be used interchangeably. We discovered that a whole heart/mind would be:

**[PP Slide 19: Whole Mind]**

* Without doubt (opposition/hesitation), (James 1:5-8)
* Cleansed/purified (James 4:8; 1John 1:7,9)

So the No Hold strategic tactics are:

**[PP Slide 20: Whole Mind Tactics]**

**Whole Mind Tactics:**

Tactic 1: Choose to stop doubting

Tactic 2: Clean up our minds

Just a reminder; **all of the No Hold Forgiveness, Personal History, and Mind Renovation tactics support coming into this Whole Heart/Mind condition**.

We also emphasized the encouragement of “asking” according to God’s will.

**Body**

In this session, I hope to help us move into a “stayed” whole mind condition. This opportunity is revealed by Isaiah:

**[PP Slide 21: Isaiah 26:1-4]**

**Isaiah 26:1-4**

**1** …"We have a strong city; he sets upsalvation as walls and bulwarks.

**2** Open the gates that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

**3 You (God) keep [guard] him in perfect peace [‎health, prosperity, peace, safety] whose mind [conception] is stayed [rooted, cabled down] on you, because he trusts [is confident, sure] in you.**

**4** Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock. ESV

[Leader: read passage aloud]

[**DRF note**: Isaiah is prophesying about a time probably still in the future, but the promise in v. 3 says a lot about the character of God. I am choosing (maybe boldly) to appropriate it now as a “foretaste”, or first fruit.]

In this session we again need to understand some terms:

 The first term is “keep”.

**[PP Slide 22: Definition]**

OT:5341 ‎**natsar**; a primitive root; **to guard, as with a hedge of thorns; in a good sense (to protect, maintain)**

Another critical term is “peace”.

**[PP Slide 23: Definition]**

OT:7965 ‎ **shalom**; from OT:7999; safe, i.e. (figuratively) **well, happy, friendly; also (abstractly) welfare, i.e. health, prosperity, peace**:
OT:7999 ‎**shalam**; a primitive root; **to be safe (in mind, body or estate [property])**

[**DRF note**: The Hebrew word means much more than peace of mind or safety. It includes health and prosperity as well.]

How is the term “stayed” defined?

**[PP Slide 24: Definition]**

**Em^s** (OT 5564): **A verb meaning to lay on, to uphold, to sustain…**

How is the word translated in Isaiah 26:3?

* NIV – steadfast; KJV,RSV, ESV – stayed; NLT – fixed on
	+ DRF note: I prefer the sense of stayed
		- Like cables that hold sailing ship masts in place; holding radio towers in place; or guy wires keeping a pole stable.
			* Anchored firmly (rooted)

Let’s start our interaction here:

**(Group discussion 1: Question)**  - 5 minutes

As a whole class, please discuss the following question.

**[PP Slide 25: Question]**

**3 You (God) keep [guard] him in perfect peace [‎health, prosperity, peace, safety] whose mind [conception] is stayed [rooted, cabled down] on you, because he trusts [is confident, sure] in you.**

**What advantages are there to being “kept by God in perfect safety”?**

(Leader: record offered advantages)

* A growing calmness when strange or dangerous events are happening.
	+ As a person’s experience of being kept safe grows, so does calmness
* The earlier adventure of witnessing God reveal Himself, and His ways, becomes a life-style.
	+ Increasing trust produces increasing boldness
	+ Increasing willingness to say “not my will but yours be done”
	+ Sharpened willingness to do scriptural, but personally uncomfortable, things
* An increased willingness and ability to stand firm against Satan and his tactics.

Isaiah reveals a huge hint in this regard.

The path flows through **trust** [be confident, sure].

Jesus touches in a general way regarding trust in his riddle about the growth of His kingdom (which holds “trust in God” in itself).

**[PP Slide 26: Mark 4:30-32]**

**Mark 4:30-32**

**30** And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable [riddle] shall we use for it**? 31 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown [planted] on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, 32 yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."** ESV

[**DRF note**: The key understanding that provides an answer to Jesus’ riddle is this: “The kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:20). It’s an “inner man” condition at the present time. Does that remind you of “Tipping Point”, “Mind Renovation”, and “Whole Mind”? Is this No Hold strategy just another way of viewing the growing process of Jesus’ kingdom? I hope each of us can see the resemblance.]

So let’s view “trust [be confident, sure]” through the lens of the No Hold strategy.

**[PP Slide 27: Inverse Graphic]**



[Leader: point to locations on the graphic as you explain the following paragraph. Time runs from left to right on the graph. Salvation to the left of the Tipping Point, while Whole Heart/Mind and Stayed Mind would be found to the right of the Tipping Point]

[**DRF note**: Trust starts as a small seed when we choose (with our heavenly Father’s help) to trust Him enough to receive His salvation through His son. It grows as we “test and approve” His ways during our Tipping Point stage. It continues to grow during our “Whole Heart” stage. And, by the time we are ready to fully cable our mind down on God, our trust has probably grown into a good-sized shrub.

Having said that; it is my personal opinion that a person is able to *start* pursuing the Whole Mind and Stayed Mind conditions as their trust is growing in earlier stages of maturity.]

Ok: So now it’s time to consider tactics.

 **(Group discussion 2: Question)**  - 10 minutes

Starting with person # 2, please discuss the following question.

**[PP Slide 28: Question]**

**…because he trusts [is confident, sure] in you (God)…**

**Within your trusting relationship, what tactics could enable you to anchor your mind onto your heavenly Father?**

Here are the No Hold strategic tactics for anchoring your mind down on God.

[Leader: pass out the Mind Anchor Tactics sheet]

**Mind Anchor Tactics**

Tactic 1: Continue to hide [hoard] God’s word in your heart. (Psalm 119:11; I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.)

Tactic 2: Walk, with God’s help, in God’s ways. (Matt 7:24; Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.)

Tactic 3: Cable down every individual Vine Replacement.

**Completed Vine Replacement Tool**

1. Reclaim the places owned by the Devil. If you haven’t yet done so, confess (freely admit) the sin that gives the vine a place to put in roots. (1 John 1:9 **…**If we confess our sins, he isfaithful and just to forgive us our sins)
2. Ask Jesus to totally destroy the vine. (1John 3:8 … The reason the Son of God appeared wasto destroy the works of the devil...)
3. Acknowledge my sin, and ask Jesus to cleanse/purify the places and traces previously occupied by the destroyed vine. (1 John 1:7 **…**the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin…)
4. Ask Jesus to fill the places and traces of the vine with His righteousness. (Rom 5:17 … If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousnessreign in life through the one man Jesus Christ…)
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to extend his dwelling space to include the area that was once filled with the vine, and to write His word there. . (1Cor 6:19 … your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you,…); (Eph 5:18… be [continuingly] filled [to the brim] with the Spirit,…); (Jer 31:33…" I will put my law within them, and I will write iton their hearts” ….)
6. Formally [before your heavenly Father] forgive all the misdeeds by any of the agents of the kingdom of darkness done in order to maintain the vine. (Matt 6:14…For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you,...)
7. Ask your heavenly Father to bring every person involved in the misdeeds into salvation. (John 6:44 [Jesus said] …No one can come to me unless the Father who sent medraws [drags] him...)
8. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew/renovate the part of your mind affected by the vine. (Rom 12:2… be transformed by the renewing of your mind.)
9. **Cable** the places down on your Heavenly Father.
	1. This is a “whole-man” action that includes both an “inner man” choice and a physical action.
		* I tell God that I choose to cable the replaced places of my inner man down on Him. I also symbolically emphasize my choice by slapping my thigh (or another convenient part of my body). (Isa 26:3… You will keep in perfect peace [peace, health, abundance, safety] him whose mind is steadfast [rooted, propped up]…)
	2. I trust my Heavenly Father to insure that it gets locked down and stays secure. (Isa 26:3…because he trusts in you.)

 [Leader: read through the tactics aloud]

(Individual practice 1:) 5 Minutes

In the next 5 minutes, (even if you are not yet at the Stayed Mind stage of growth) quietly ask God to show you something (or things) that you can, right now, cable down on Him. It may be a word from the Bible that you have already hoarded in your heart, or a vine that has already been replaced. Use VRT Tactic # 9 as a guide.

Throughout the week keep cabling down things that He reveals to you. As you use the Vine Replacement Tool to remove old places of access owned by the Devil, be sure to get them cabled down immediately. If you are journaling, be sure to record your activity.

[Leader: if you have time, ask for questions]

**What questions might you have at this time?**

Again, be encouraged, and ask God to help you

**[PP Slide 29: Encouragement]**

**1 John 5:14-15**

**And this is the confidence [boldness] that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have [hold] the requests that we have asked of him.**

[Leader: read passage aloud]

**Conclusion**

Perfect peace is something only God can provide. This is a promise with a condition. He will perform it when He knows His condition is met.

Perfect peace comes as a result of getting your “whole mind” cabled down on God. Cabling is an ongoing process of getting more and more cables anchored securely. There seems to come a time when enough cables are secured so that peace starts to become noticeable. That doesn’t mean that a person then disregards appropriate physical safeguards – “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” (Matt 4:7). Rather, a person will probably become more humble and trusting and obedient.

In our next session we will focus once more on the No Hold strategic end point of Full Maturity

**[PP Slide 30: End Point]**



[Leader: who would be willing to close us in prayer?]