

Whoever finds his life will  
lose it, and whoever loses  
his life for my sake will  
find it.  
Mt 10:39

Share the teaching  
Guard the sharing

# Male Call

March 30, 2007

*The Secret: Our culture and our response*

5:55 – 6:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Coffee &amp; Donuts</li> <li>2) Opening Prayer</li> </ul>
6:05 – 6:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>The Secret book, trailer, and promotional tour...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) “The Secret gives you everything you want: happiness, health, and wealth” (trailer)</li> <li>b) “The Secret is the law of Attraction!” (p 4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) “And that principle can be summed up in three simple words. Thoughts become things.” (p 9) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) “All that we are is a result of what we have thought.” Buddha (p 73)</li> <li>ii) Going 3 for 3: Thoughts generate feelings, which cause actions (Oprah interview)</li> <li>iii) Science has told us all is energy that follows defined principled and laws; we have unlimited power within us; an exiting time when spiritual tradition and science are in total agreement (Oprah interview)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>c) The Secret applies to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Money, Relationships, Health, The world, You, Life</li> </ul> </li> <li>d) “The Creative Process used in The Secret, which was taken from the New Testament in the Bible is...three easy steps” (p 47): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Ask (command the Universe—p 47)</li> <li>ii) Believe (if you try to figure out how it happens you emit a frequency that contains lack of faith—p 51)</li> <li>iii) Receive (feel the way you will feel once it arrives...it puts you in the frequency of what you want—p 52)</li> </ul> </li> <li>e) “You are energy, and energy cannot be created or destroyed...the pure energy of You has always been and will always be.” (159) “You are God in a physical body.” (164)</li> <li>f) “Your purpose is to say what [your purpose] is...no one will stand in judgment of it, now or ever.” (177)</li> <li>g) “Now that you have learned knowledge of The Secret, what you do with it is up to you. Whatever you choose is right. The power is all yours.” (p 184)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) <b>The Bible</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) There is some small grain of truth to The Secret <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Thoughts are powerful. Paul tells us to:</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>(1) Take every thought captive <i>to obey Christ</i> (2Cor 10:5)</p> <p>(2) Be transform by renewing our minds <i>in order that we are not conformed to this world</i> (Rom 12:2)</p> <p>b) Some major differences</p> <p>i) Self-centered v God-centered (see Gen 3:5!, Isa 46:5-11, 50:10-11)</p> <p>ii) We simply cannot call into our lives what we want (e.g., Jer 29:11, Ps 139:1-16, Acts 17:24-28)—note how it draws on the teaching of the “prosperity Gospel”</p> <p>iii) Universe is more than energy (Jn 4:24)</p> <p>iv) No ultimate judgment v eternal judgment (Heb 9:27 and MANY others)</p> <p>v) Does not adequately answer the big questions of life:</p> <p>(1) Why am I here?</p> <p>(2) What happens when I die?</p> <p>(3) Why does life hurt so badly at times?</p> <p>(4) How do we know what is right and wrong?</p> <p>(5) Others?</p>
--	--

6:25 – 7:00	<p>Interaction and prayer</p> <p>[Note: on 3/29/07 at 1:00pm, <i>The Secret</i> was #4 most popular book on Amazon.com]</p> <p>1) Should Christians pay attention to this sort of popular culture?</p> <p>2) What does this sort of book tell us about our culture?</p> <p>3) What challenges and opportunities does this sort of cultural movement present to us?</p> <p>4) “The Secret gives you everything you want: happiness, health, and wealth.” What is it that we, as Christians, want?</p>
7:00	Closing Prayer

Further reading:

- The *Bible*