

“Optimal Training Conditions”

This set of questions is based on Mike’s sermon preached February 7.

1. From what you know about the lives of the following people, tell how God used less than ideal circumstances to provide spiritual training.

Abraham

David

Joseph

Daniel

Moses

Mary

2. For the following examples of spiritual disciplines, describe how each differs from the conventional notions of what would be ideal conditions for such activities:

Prayer — Nehemiah 2:1–5

Giving — 2 Corinthians 8:1–5

Worship — Acts 16:19–25

Do you think the “unsuitable” conditions actually may have provided superior opportunities for spiritual training? Explain.

3. What circumstances are you currently facing that seem to make it difficult to focus on spiritual fitness? How could these circumstances be used by the Lord for your spiritual improvement? What could you do to cooperate most fully in this training?

Recurring Questions

- » How have you seen God working in your life or the lives of those around you this week?
- » What prayer requests would you like to share with the group, including prayer for any spiritual struggles you may be experiencing?