

William Branham – Facilitator Notes

Purpose of This Guide

These notes support leaders, teachers, and mentors helping people understand the William Branham movement. This guide follows the structure of the student handout.

1. Who Was William Branham? – Facilitator Notes

Key Insights:

- Many followers trust Branham because of his hardship story.
- His early “visions” are central to his authority.
- The 1946 “angel commission” shapes the entire movement.
- His fame grew during a time of global fear and uncertainty.

How to Teach:

Emphasise compassion without accepting claims untested. Encourage students to test all spiritual claims with Scripture.

Discussion Questions:

- Why do miracle stories attract people?
- How do we test a leader claiming supernatural experiences?

Scriptures:

- 1 John 4:1
- Acts 17:11

2. Key Teachings of Branhamism – Facilitator Notes

Key Insights:

Serpent Seed:

- Creates elitism and fear.
- Contradicts Genesis 4:1.

Anti-Trinity:

- Removes the relationship between Father, Son, and Spirit.
- Contradicted by Jesus’ baptism.

Denominations as “Mark of the Beast”:

- Builds distrust of other Christians.
- Encourages isolation.
- Produces dependence on the group.

Branham as Elijah:

- Gives Branham ultimate authority.
- Discourages critical thinking.

How to Teach:

Let Scripture speak. Avoid confrontation. Invite people to discover truth themselves.

Discussion Questions:

- What emotions rise when a group claims to be the only safe ones?
- Why does the Bible warn against new revelation?

Scriptures:

- Genesis 4:1
- Matthew 28:19
- Mark 1:10–11
- Revelation 22:18–19

3. Failed Prophecies & Contradictions – Facilitator Notes

Key Insights:

- Use calm facts, not emotion.
- Followers rarely know the full prophecy record.
- Failed predictions undermine prophetic authority.

How to Teach:

Ask participants to read Deuteronomy 18 themselves.

Discussion Questions:

- What makes prophecy convincing?
- How do we process disappointment when leaders fail?

Scriptures:

- Deuteronomy 18:20–22
- Jeremiah 23:16–17

4. False Healings & Investigations – Facilitator Notes

Key Insights:

- Many supernatural claims had natural explanations.
- The prayer-card system gave Branham private information.
- Several key healings were later disproven.

How to Teach:

Affirm: “God can heal. But we test claims.” Do not discourage genuine faith.

Discussion Questions:

- Why do miracle claims spread easily?
- What pressures might push a preacher to exaggerate?

Scriptures:

- Mark 1:34
- 2 Corinthians 4:2

5. Control Patterns in The Message – Facilitator Notes

Key Insights:

- Fear is a major control tool.
- Hidden “revelation” creates dependency.
- Strict rules shape identity.
- Isolation cuts people off from help.

How to Teach:

Use gentle examples. Do not shame those who have been involved.

Discussion Questions:

- Why do people stay in controlling groups?
- What makes hidden knowledge appealing?

Scriptures:

- 2 Timothy 1:7
- John 8:32
- Matthew 11:28–30

6. What the Bible Teaches Instead – Facilitator Notes

Key Insights:

- Scripture is enough.
- Salvation is a gift, not a reward.
- Jesus is the final revelation.

How to Teach:

Invite open Bible reading. Highlight the character of Jesus.

Discussion Questions:

- Why is grace better than fear?
- How does Scripture bring peace?

Scriptures:

- Hebrews 1:1–2
- Ephesians 2:8–9
- Galatians 1:8

7. Helping Someone in The Message – Facilitator Notes

Guiding Principles:

- Kindness breaks fear.
- Calm questions open thought.
- Let people share their experiences.

Conversation Starters:

- “Can we read this passage together?”
- “How do you test a prophet?”

Pastoral Warnings:

- Do not attack Branham directly.
- Expect emotional reactions.
- Move slowly and gently.

Final Summary:

Your goal is not argument. It is guiding someone from fear into confidence in Christ. Truth, Scripture, and kindness are your tools.