

KNOWING AND EXPERIENCING LIFE

Session One

The Divine and Eternal Life and Life Being God Himself

Scripture Reading: 1 John 5:12; John 3:36, 16; 1 Cor. 15:45b; Eph. 4:16b; John 14:6; 1 Tim. 3:16; John 1:4; 10:10; Col. 3:4; John 6:63; 2 Cor. 3:6; 1 Cor. 15:45b; Rom. 8:2

Outline

I. The divine and eternal life:

- A. There are three Greek words denoting the English word life: zoe, denoting the divine, eternal, uncreated and indestructible life of God, psuche denoting the God created human soulish life, and bios which is the God created physical life of man.
- B. Although there are three types of life for man, yet only the life of God is really life; no other life can be counted as life because only the life of God is divine and eternal—1 John 5:12; John 3:36:
 1. Only the zoe life is divine; being divine means being of God, having the nature of God.
 2. This life is eternal; eternal means uncreated, without beginning or ending, existing by itself and ever, unchangeably existing—John 3:15-16.
 3. This life is also indestructible; it went into, through, and out of death, and it resurrected and ascended to the highest place of the universe.
- C. We have this life and can experience it daily:
 1. We must learn to experience this life every day to cause it to grow in us until maturity.
 2. This life issues in a life that is godly, expressing what God is, and ultimately produces the New Jerusalem, the mingling of the processed Triune God and His chosen, redeemed, regenerated, transformed tripartite man.
 3. Since this life is so crucial to us, we must endeavor to maintain this life; we must deal with the things that hinder us from growing in this life and also apply the life practices to enjoy this life every day.

II. Life being God Himself:

- A. When we receive life, we receive not the life of God, but God as life; not only did God give us His life, He Himself came to be our life.
- B. Just as life is God Himself, so also life is Christ; just as having life is having God Himself, so also having life is having Christ—John 11:25; 14:6; 10:10b; 1 John 5:12.
- C. Although Christ is life, it is difficult for Christ to give you life; it is the Spirit that gives life—John 6:63, 2 Cor. 3:6.
- D. The Father is the source of life, the Son is the course of life, and the Spirit is the flow of life; life is the Father in the Son as the Spirit flowing into us to be our life and life supply.

FOCUS: *The burden of the first lesson is to impress the young people with the need to enter into another realm, the realm of the divine life. Life is really mysterious. You cannot see it, touch it, smell it, or taste it, but it is more real than anything that is in the physical realm. We need to stir up the young people to desire the real experience and growth in the divine life.*

READING MATERIALS:

The Knowledge of Life, Chapters 1-2

Questions

1. What are the three words for life and their meanings?
2. What is the difference between “everlasting life” and “eternal life”?
3. Why only the life of God is life?
4. Find one or two verses for each kind of life.
5. Use some verses to show how we may experience and grow in this life today.
6. When a person receives God’s life, what is it that he received?
7. Why is the Holy Spirit called the Spirit of life?
8. Find one or two more verses that reveal the Spirit is life.
9. Find one or two more verses that show Christ as our life.
10. Try to describe how life being God the Father in the Son as the Spirit is flowing into us.

Memory Verses

- Gen. 1:26** And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.
- 1 John 5:12** He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.
- John 3:16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.
- John 11:25** Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live.
- John 14:6** Jesus said to him, I am the way and the reality and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.
- 1 Cor. 15:45b** The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
- Eph. 3:11** According to the eternal purpose which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord.