

# Eight Progressions and The Positioning Model

A Lunch Bible Study Handout  
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September 12, 2013

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## Eight Progressions of the Christ Life

### 1. The Salvation of the Lamb

#### Theolize

We are born again by faith as we repent over what we are and receive the “great good news” of Jesus. We experience God’s love and forgiveness. Yet we are only dimly cognizant of the Savior’s majesty and what He has in store for us. We have barely tasted the graciousness of the Father, but our hearts are thrilled and expectant! We begin to learn all we are, will begin to be, and all He wants us to become! We cannot seem to get enough of the pure, spiritual milk of the Word. We yearn to grow quickly in this wonderful new discovery of forgiveness, freedom, and joy. Billy Graham’s renowned Gospel singer, Bev Shea, was once asked by a reporter how much he knew about God. “Not much,” he said, “but what little I know has changed my life!” (I Peter 2:1-5) At Level One we glimpse and experience the thrilling salvation of the Lamb!



“Behold the Lamb of God Who lifts up and takes away the sin of the world!”  
(John 1:29, HDM)

### 2. The Cross of the Servant

#### Personalize

We increasingly become sadly aware of mankind’s tragic fallenness, addiction to the secondary, and blind attraction to evil. We also sense a new level of sinfulness about ourselves! Our only answer to “the lie” and power over “the lie” is to do what Jesus did – accept the necessity of the cross as His Father gave it to Him. This means we are to seek and to carry the cross Messiah gives us! We must grow in our sacrifice and suffering for Messiah’s purposes to the point of saying with the blessed Paul, “May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the



“If anyone would follow and imitate Me, he must totally disregard himself, grasp, lift up, and carry his own cross and then continue to come after Me he or she must follow in My steps of grace (love) and truth (reality).”  
(Mark 6:34, HDM, Greek)

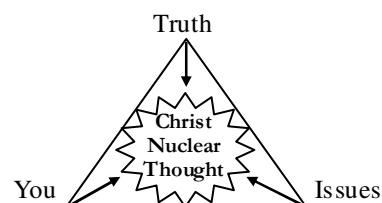
Luke 22:27-28

Phil. 2:1-11

new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God. From now on, let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.” (Gal. 6:14-17) At Level Two we begin our education of the meaning of His cross and the call we have to take up our own.

### 3. **The Triune Thinker and the Mind of Christ** **Triangulate**

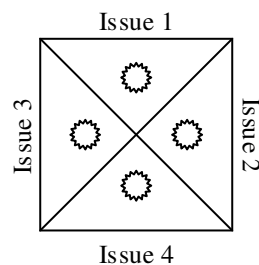
Scripture makes it clear that the Godhead is One in Three Persons. He (They) created the world and mankind in His Triune Image. As He is Three, then the essential reality of what was created is three. To understand and respond correctly to His creation purposes and what He wants of us where we are demands our Triune Thinking. Every resolving thought we have should be a merging of His truth, your honest self, and the facts of the issue. Making and merging a God pleasing one conclusion out of these three constant realities is the essence and goal of Triune Thinking. At Level Three we Triangulate and seek to capture every thought in our mind so that it will please Him!



“I Am the Way all of your issues; I Am the Truth of all you need to know about God and I Am the Life abundant and eternal you yearn to find and keep.”  
(John 14:6, HDM)

### 4. **The Quadrant Options of Disciple Reality** **Quadrisize**

Our lives are all “hemmed in” to our restricted relationships and our small place on earth. We must have God’s thoughts about 1) Who He is, 2) who we are to become, 3) who others are in the scheme of things, and 4) what is going on in this world of Triune realities. Four is the number of mankind’s finiteness/limitations and “forces the choices” we must make. Our lives have four walls in each matter of concern that press us to decide our options, directions and conclusions. There are always four issues, restrictions, or perimeters in every matter that will confront us. These four are placed around us by our Creator to enclose us and teach us His desires.<sup>1</sup> Each of our four “walls” or “constrictions”



“For God has placed all mankind in the prison house [four walls] of disobedience in order that He may show His mercy to them all!”  
(Rom. 11:32)

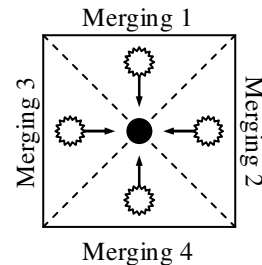
<sup>1</sup> Job was never more accurate than when he said, “The Lord has hedged [hemmed] me in....” (Job 3:23) Truly, the Creator has put restrictions, limitations, and perimeters around our lives. We can only accept north, east, south, west and then choose if we plan on traveling. Unless you are at one of the poles, all must accept 24 hours of day, night, dawn and twilight! The Christ Disciple must consider four “pulls” on his or her every action or reaction ... the Savior, the situation, the souls involved and the self. Philosophers, politicians and theologians must limit their considerations to conservative, liberal, radical or passive! Every speaker, leader, prophet must master four realities of their craft” the man,

must be dealt with but they often vary in major or minor importance and influence. At Level Four we Quadrate and address each matter that confronts us in all its dimensions.

## 5. The Pinnacle Perception Adventure

### Perceptionize

Building on our “four walled” base of knowledge and our revelational foundation we have in Christ (□) we triangulate each of our four factors inherent in every matter as we seek to build a Triune Thought in each area and in doing so construct a thought pyramid. As we increase our knowledge in the four concerns of a matter we gain a more complete perception of our realities. Triune Thinking gives you Christ’s Mind on each of the four issues and their possible options. You “think” through each option as fully and completely as possible ... the issue, the you, the truth ... and merge 1, 2, 3, 4 into the one highest Christ centered decision! In Level Five we comprehend each of the four issues that usually make up every matter.

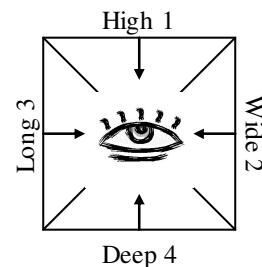


“... I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the sure hope, significance and confidence of the riches of His glorious inheritance. I pray also for you to experience the incomparable power to which He has called you and will fill you with the reality of His resurrection energy as you believe.”  
(Eph. 1:15-23, HDM, Greek)

## 6. The Enlightened Eyes of Christ Reality

### Realize

The experienced Disciple builds a pyramid of balanced and increasingly complete thoughts over the hundreds of matters that press and distress daily life. It is at the “pinnacle of each pyramid” that our eyes finally fulfill Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 1:17-18. We are granted by the Holy Spirit wisdom and revelation to experience the Mind and Vision of Jesus. We begin to access a 360° view of both earthly and heavenly reality, depending on the maturing height of our life pyramid. The building of many little pyramids over the other matters of life train us to construct the great pyramid of our legacy. Our thinking is exposed and our mind opened to the grander purposes, ways, splendors, answers, mercies, and glories of the Godhead! We can say with the beloved John, “We have beheld His glory ....” (John 1:14) We can exclaim to others



It is at the pinnacle “... we have the power ... to grasp how **wide** and **long** and **high** and **deep** is the love of Christ, and to know by experience this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”  
(Paul in Eph. 3:14-19)

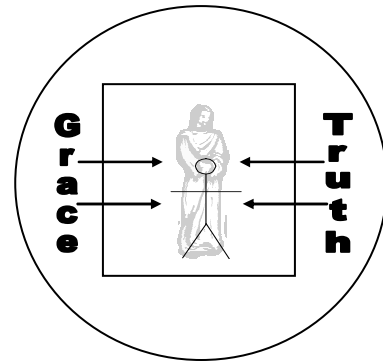
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the message, the manner and the milieu. (This French word is concerned with the surroundings, environment, the circumstances mix, churn, and complexity of something.) The inescapable periods of life are embryo, child/teenager, adult, and older age? Even our Lord had His “four.” He grew in stature (physical), wisdom (mental), favor with people (social), and favor with God (spiritual). (Luke 2:51-52)

Mary Magdalene's thrilling witness, "I have seen the Lord!" (John 20:18) No one can see the genuine magnificence of Jesus and ever be the same again! At Level Six we discover the great liberation of existence – with His Eyes we see things as they really are!

7. **The Hidden Life: Oneness with Messiah**  
**Unionize**

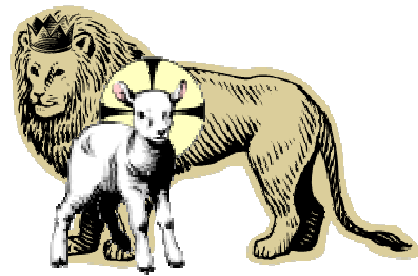
The ultimate Godhead point of our Genesis creation and our Gospel re-creation is "to be one" with our Lord in everything! Seeing all things alike reflects having the same mind, marrow, and mission: Oneness. Those of us who know we have our being from the Godhead's Image and that our total purpose is to reflect that Image will eagerly embrace oneness with Him Who is our Lord, our life, our longing, our leisure, and our love.



John 1:14-18

8. **The Magnificence of the Lamb-Lion**  
**Imagize**

Text to be added



Verse to be added

# The Positioning Model of Conflict Resolution

A VFC Victory Visual: #4  
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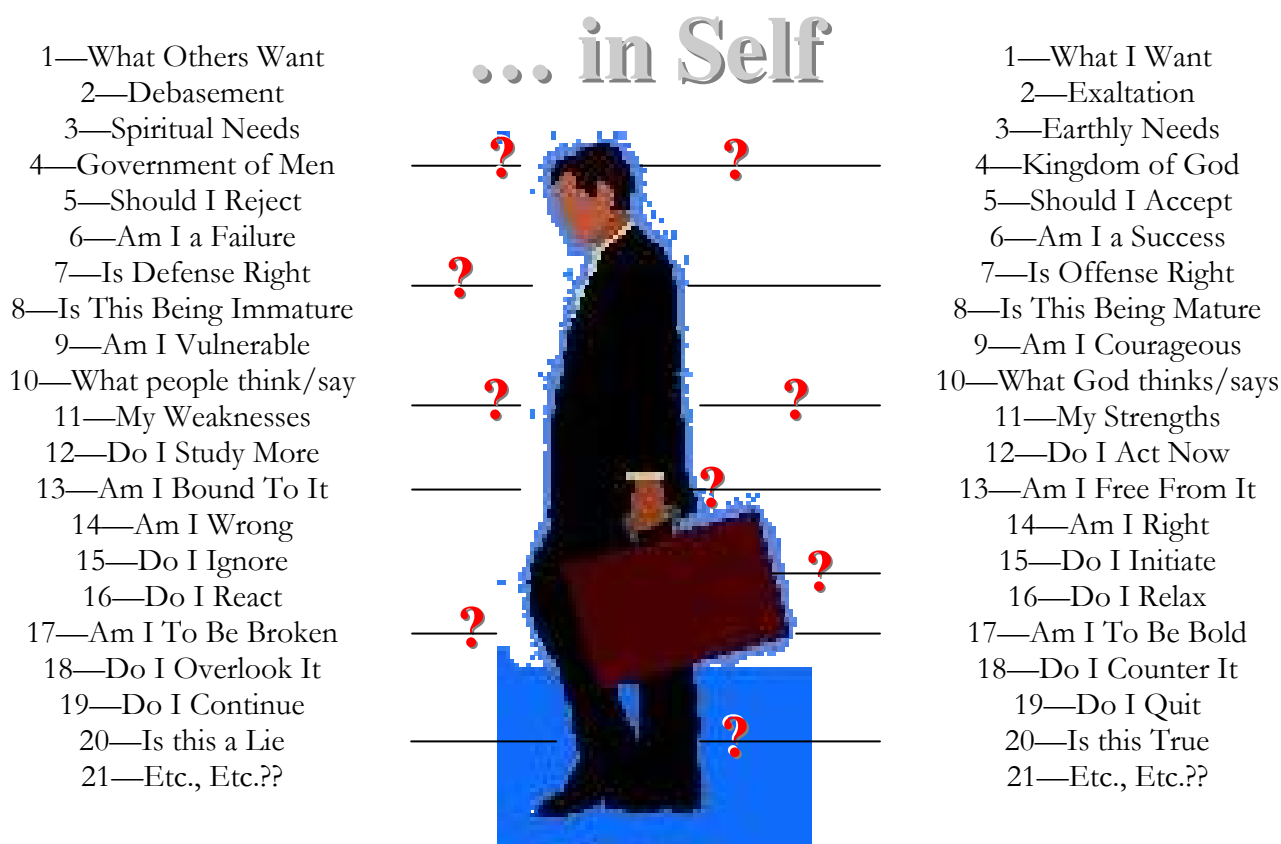
by Dr. H.D. McCarty  
President/Founder

## The PUT Place —“In Christ”

The Extremes of the Flesh Mind Options Constantly Pull Us ...

**HUMANITIES' CONFLICTING CHOICES ARE EVERY PERSON'S CHALLENGE**

How do I resolve and balance my competing beliefs, experiences and choices in order to master my life? “Where, when, why and how” do I “Put” my thoughts into action so that I will become “who” I want to be? The misses, failed actions, imbalances, flaws and partialities of human decisions without Christ will slowly but surely destroy ones potential, joy and significance. The final result is to live and die with regrets and emptiness! It is to “Put” your confidence ...



? This indicates decisions made by you without the influence and revelation of Christ. They are mostly off centered and sourced in your limited reasoning and ignorance of the true situation.

The “flesh mind” cannot live “in Christ” (Rom. 8:5-8). The mind is the normal human responder to every experience, every problem, every event, every difficulty and every circumstance common to life in a fallen world. The mind of the flesh does not turn to Christ as the answer to life’s tensions and conflicts but concentrates on what the individual can comprehend, understand or accomplish on his own. The “flesh mind” tries to balance all the overwhelming conditions and crises of life for his own good or for those he cares for. The sad reality is that our “flesh minds” without Christ are woefully inadequate and too flawed for the pure decisions necessary to master life’s deepest issues!

**THERE IS A BETTER WAY TO DEAL WITH YOUR CONFLICTS AND OPTIONS ...  
... “PUT THEM IN CHRIST”!!!**

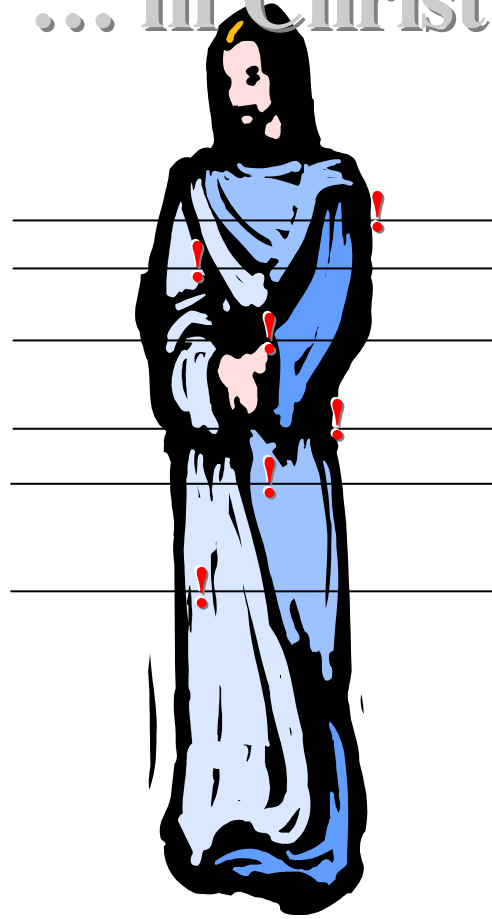
## The Balance and Assurance of the “In Christ” Mind Constantly Leads Us...

### CHRIST'S CONFIDENT DIRECTION IS EVERY DISCIPLE'S SOLUTION

I must deal with competing beliefs, experiences and choices by my Five Marks response to everything! I must immediately “PUT” every issue and relationship where the Father wants them to be. If my decision touches the Jesus balance it will either hit or come close to a full Five Marks response. When you make full measure decisions they will give you 1) the maximum of His will 2) for that moment 3) at your level of maturity. It is to “Put” your confidence ...

... in Christ

- 1—What Others Want
- 2—Debasement
- 3—Spiritual Needs
- 4—Government of Men
- 5—Do I Reject
- 6—Am I a Failure
- 7—Is Defense Right
- 8—Is This Being Immature
- 9—Am I Vulnerable
- 10—What people think/say
- 11—My Weaknesses
- 12—Do I Study More
- 13—Am I Bound To It
- 14—Am I Wrong
- 15—Do I Ignore
- 16—Do I React
- 17—Am I To Be Broken
- 18—Do I Overlook It
- 19—Do I Continue
- 20—Is this a Lie
- 21—Etc., Etc.??



- 1—What I Want
- 2—Exaltation
- 3—Earthly Needs
- 4—Kingdom of God
- 5—Do I Accept
- 6—Am I a Success
- 7—Is Offense Right
- 8—Is This Being Mature
- 9—Am I Courageous
- 10—What God thinks/says
- 11—My Strengths
- 12—Do I Act Now
- 13—Am I Free From It
- 14—Am I Right
- 15—Do I Initiate
- 16—Do I Relax
- 17—Am I To Be Bold
- 18—Do I Counter It
- 19—Do I Quit
- 20—Is this True
- 21—Etc., Etc.?

! - This indicates your decision is more Christ centered than self centered.

Christ's Voice will tell us how to harmonize and balance the divisions that confront us. His Heart alone is our “Resolver”! The Key to this integrating (PUTTING) of every conflicting value or experience “into Christ” is continuous yielding to the will of God. We measure this yielding by the frequency of V Mark responses supported by 1) being alive to that moment in the NOW of His Presence, 2) our focus on how to be Jesus to the person or in the issue and 3) our attitude of praise. (Colossians 1:24-29, Ecclesiastes 7:15-18)

It is to understand and seek the cup He wants you to drink ... It is to embrace the cross He wants you to lift up ... It is to obey the commands He wants you to fulfill ... It is to relax in the comfort of learning Messiah Love.

It is to praise Him for the brokenness that is necessary to be an agent and/or instrument in His Hand.

It is to lay down your life ... to bury the seed of your ambitions and resources in His agenda ... to die daily for Jesus' sake. It is to find the spiritual blessings that are promised from the “cup choices” the Father offers you. “Unless the seed dies it abides alone! If possible let this cup be taken from Me ... but if not ... let Your will be done!” (John 12:24; Matthew 26:39).