

# An Ambition and Agenda to Live and Die For

“Your eyes and heart wide open to the Mind of Christ”

A VFC Victory Visual: #99  
www.venturesforchrist.com

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President

The statements and graphics presented in these few pages will summarize the message and reality that Messiah Jesus has been putting into my being since I found Him as my Savior and Lord in 1950! The root, substance, and fruit of all I seek to be and do is centered in one all-encompassing verse of Scripture that became my life verse in 1952, “Let the same mind, attitude, and disposition that existed in Christ Jesus be found in you” (Phil. 2:5). Living, seeking, and dying to relate our existence to this truth will solve, resolves, and absolve every other issue of life, be it past, present, or future. In my thinking the hunger and quest for this skill and mindset is *the one thing most necessary* that the Lord revealed to Mary and Martha of Bethany (Luke 10:38-42). Because Mary chose *that one thing*, the Savior promised her an eternal possession. I trust the following thoughts will enable us like wise!

## The Essential Vision

The key message of Ventures for Christ as understood and viewed by Yours Truly (Pastor “little shepherd” McCarty) is to clearly make known how people can think and live with the mind of Christ! All that the Great Shepherd intends for our existence is sourced in that one truth! A brief overview of how this process works and the resulting vision is found below. We sense our Lord’s desires and directions for us could be put in the following paraphrases: “Teach My people to think like Me so that they can disciple themselves in taking up My cross and learning its deepest meanings. Let them grasp My Father’s love as I did by laying down My life for our sheep” (John 10:11, 15). “Lead My people to recognize and pursue with vigor the ultimate goal of their creation ... experiencing oneness with Me and the Father as they yield to the gracious guiding of our Holy Spirit!” (John 17:20-26). Is not knowing oneness with the Father the Savior’s definition of what it means to have eternal life? (John 17:3). These words of our Lord, as I read and understand them, have brought three realities into my life: I hope, dear Reader, you can also embrace them for yourself.

“The Sovereign Lord has told me <u>to speak</u> to others.” (Jer. 26:2)	} The Savior has sent all of us into the world just as the Father sent Him – John 17:18, 20:21
“The Messiah King has told me <u>to write</u> for others.” (Rev. 1:19)	
“The Anointed Jesus has told me <u>to go</u> with others.” (John 17:18, 20:21)	

“We are all to become men and women sent from God manifesting His message and presence.”

II Corinthians 2:14-17

## Our Ventures for Christ Mandate

The Ventures ministry is our Spirit initiated attempt to shepherd as many Christians as the Lord might give us into a deeper, liberated, empowered, and impactful cross disciple life of overcoming all things! Our efforts are aimed at those who hunger to become both contented and triumphant cross carrying followers of Messiah Jesus. Our single goal is to teach others, while increasingly teaching ourselves, the precision and practice of thinking, feeling, and acting with the mind of Christ. It is urgently critical that every believer learns how to internalize the practical thinking and presence of the Godhead! Our triune creator Father, redeemer Son, and perfecter Spirit desires our oneness and intimacy. We must learn to respond increasingly, quickly, and precisely to the mystery of our new creation birth in Christ. This can and should be done as we bring His thoughts into our own minds and minutes and then grasp the divine energy of His perceptions and promises! The purpose of our *cross carrying process* is to *capture* His mind, then *embrace* His heart, and finally *sacrifice* for His will!

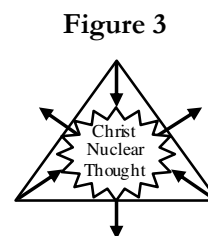
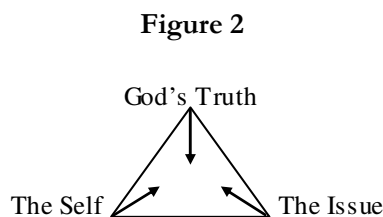
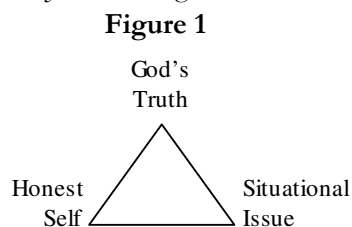
Carrying the Savior’s cross while on our individual earth adventure must begin with a passion to live out one’s existence increasingly directed and consumed with the mind of Christ. It is impossible to follow Jesus unless our mind is one with His. Every impression or conclusion our mind reaches must be drawn from three sources in order to

please Him and repeat His life. Each of us must possess knowledge of His truth, of our honest motives, and each situation's contingencies (see Figure 1). The Master was a Triune Thinker Himself, and we must follow in His steps if we are to be transformed into His image! The Lord Jesus fully 1) knew Himself as a person, 2) knew the Father's truth and will, and 3) identified with the Holy Spirit's touch on issues. The Savior manifested all three essences of the Godhead in the person of one human being, Jesus! In His mind the three were One in Himself! (John 17:20-22). These three (3) creation realities of truth, self, and issues must also become *one* (1) in us! This deep wonder and mysterious purpose of our Triune God can only be understood, obeyed, and embraced by triune people reflecting His triune intentions by becoming His skilled Triune Thinkers. "I do nothing [about the issues] on My own [the self] but speak just what the Father has taught Me [the truth]," so declared Jesus in John 8:28. This verse is only one of many examples of our Lord's personal Triune Thinking! This triune concept is the basis of my three point graphic triangle. At the top is the purifying truth of God which we take for balanced merging with the other two points at the bottom representing our self life and the current issue (issues) confronting us. You must continually consider and wisely mix these three constants if you are to make God directed decisions and responses. Authentic God created human beings cannot fully exist or function significantly unless these three realities become a spiritual unity in a person's every day experiences.

Creating a spiritual unity out of your Triune challenge of truth, self, and issues is what I define as a Christ Nuclear Thought. Christ is the highest concept of which human beings can conceive; for it is in Him alone all things exist and hold together. Nuclear is the central part of a reality, first a beginning from which all else can follow or derive, the essence of a positive energy that determines stability. Our Thoughts reflect the mental objects, images, rationalizations, mindsets that will mold our being and determine our ideas of meaning and significance! Hence, creating Christ Nuclear Thoughts is the only way open or possible to pursue the splendor of Messiah Jesus and follow Him in the glory light of His cross resurrection.

All of us are flawed and "miss the mark" (Greek – sin) of balanced Triune Thinking in scores of ways. All we can do about it is to keep coming back again and again and again to the Savior in confession for sin, gratitude for grace, hope for renewal, praise for His cleansing, and determination to learn as quickly and purely as possible our lessons of trial and error!

Still, God's created intention for our existence is that our three realities are consistently merged into triune balances according to His pleasure. Our merged Triune Thought can then be expressed as one decision or response that will increase our maturity, bless others, and glorify our Lord! Remember, God (the Truth)<sup>1</sup> took the man (the you) and put him in his *garden* place to work and worship (the issue) (Gen. 2:15). The Hebrew word for "to labor" can also mean "to worship." The Biblical ideal is that our labor is a way we worship our Creator. Wise disciples find out all too slowly that their sin nature has destroyed that exalted model of Eden. They are guilty of worshiping their work rather than worshiping their Creator through their work! To find that open secret of praising, enjoying, and adoring Messiah Jesus through *anointed triune labor* is one of the most ecstatic liberations in life!



For years I have found that my Graphic Theology diagrams have quickly clarified and given immediate impact to the Triune Thinking process. I hope the following pages will prove that point. In my scheme of thinking with the mind of Christ, the triangle diagram is foundational, and the process I call triangulization or triangulate or trianguliz essential. Let's expand on Figure 1 as used above. In Figure 2 we see the experience, vision, and skill necessitated to move each of our three realities toward the center where they can become one, or single entity that

creates completion and perfection when the Godhead – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – *become One* in Messiah Jesus, and, then, come to earth as the **Word of God made Flesh!** (John 1:14-18). To see Jesus was to see the Father (John 14:9).

### We Embrace Three Responsibilities to Our Lord

- Exalt His Triune Being (Matt. 28:18-20) – The Godhead – Creator-Redeemer-Perfecter – We live to manifest and demonstrate our awe, praise, and adoration for who He is, His works, and for His working!
- Explain His Triune Revelation (Rev. 1:8, 22:13) – I Am the Almighty: Alpha and Omega, First and Last, Beginning and End. I Am the One *who* is; *who* was; *who* is to come. Be a Triune Thinker, and tell others the how-to's of this liberating discipline and exciting habit.
- Execute His Triune Reality (Heb. 10:9-10) – You are to be a *body* prepared for His purposes – You are to experience His *coming* with power – You are to achieve His *will* performed.

This was – is – the Triune mission of Messiah Jesus that He has passed on to us! (John 17:18, 20:21). It is the mission He lived out for the Father and manifested before His fallen creation.

The goal of Triune Thinking power is to 1) yield your honest self in every cross way you can to 2) God's truth and righteousness as revealed through Scripture and the prompting of the Holy Spirit, and, then 3) respond to the situational issue in such a way that your mind, heart, and actions are maximally pleasing to the Father allowing you to live continually and increasingly with Christ Nuclear Thoughts and to repeat the life of Messiah Jesus which is His desire and our primary earth duty. Figure 3 illustrates that vision.

### We Incarnate Three Triune Realities for Our Lord

- |   |   |                                      |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAITH that guides my sharpest <i>mind</i> Focus – I see His reality</li> <li>• HOPE that lifts my joy to <i>emotional</i> Heights – I seek His reality</li> <li>• LOVE that creates my <i>will</i> Liberation – I seize His reality</li> </ul> | } | Habakkuk 3:19<br>I Corinthians 13:13 |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|

### We Possess Three Confirmations from Our Lord

- |  |   |                          |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He makes known to me His path – I Am the <i>Way</i> to the Father</li> <li>• He floods me with His presence – I Am the <i>Truth</i> about joy</li> <li>• He grants me His pleasures – I Am the <i>Life</i> at His right hand</li> </ul> | } | Psalm 16:11<br>John 14:6 |
|--|---|--------------------------|

### The Great IF

All of the above cannot be personally possessed, precisely professed, and powerfully expressed unless the Christ believer is a self-discipler! We absolutely must learn how to disciple ourselves, to stand on our own and learn to be taught, aided, and delivered by Jesus only. In the deepest issues of loving and following Jesus, the Holy Spirit Himself will teach us personally all we need to know (John 14:26; I John 2:27). You cannot solve and resolve your great issues of life by only depending on people! The Lord does use many others to feed us His truth as needed, but His primary plan is for each of us to feed yourself (Heb. 5:11-14; I Peter 2:2-3). I enjoy good shepherds *pouring their buckets of truth on me*, but it will never suffice to fill me to my maximum potential for the Savior. I must find my own significant peaks when I can know and experience His voice of fresh truth directly to me! My joy is then doubled when I can pour out the sweet fullness of the Lord's truth on others! (II Cor. 2:14-17). My most fulfilling earth purpose is to demonstrate the thrill of *bearing Messiah's voice and comprehending His mind* on my own! I can then share my personal grace discoveries with proper humility and awe! To be both His disciple and His disciple-maker, I must *dig my own well, drink my own water, and eat my own truth* directly from Messiah Jesus Himself! (Matt. 28:19-20; John 6:48-58). "He who feeds on Me is the one who lives" (John 6:57b). "... I tell you the truth unless you eat My flesh [comprehends My life] and drink My blood [takes up My cross], you have no life in you!" (John 6:53).

The Lord has and always will use others to feed and bless us, but others should not remain our primary source. Each of us must train ourselves to self-disciple, to be in charge of our own seeking and growing! We must

increasingly master the habit and skill of going to the Master on our own!<sup>2</sup> We will always thank God for those who loved us and led us to Christ, who got us started, and helped sustain us in our faith relationship to the Savior! But the time inevitably comes when each of us must conquer life on our own with Jesus only (II Tim. 4:16-18). The New Testament calls believers Christians only three times, but they are called disciples about two hundred and fifty times! All Christians profess the cross, but only authentic warrior disciples press on to comprehend His cross and grasp the cross Jesus has for them and, finally, only the father veterans then spend their lives seeking to carry more and more of the cross!! The word disciple in Greek means *learner*. My thesis is that we start learning our most powerful and revelational cross lessons when we become Triune Thinkers. My deepening conviction and urgent contention is that we begin to *feed on Jesus* best when we become skilled Triune Thinkers. This is our first great step into maturity after we have been *born again* and start seeing the realities of the cross. It is Triune Thinking that puts us on a trajectory of experiencing oneness with God and exposing us impactively to His cross-resurrection mindset. In all Christians Christ Jesus is present! In many He is prominent! But in precious few He is pre-eminent!

When I was younger – a child – others disciplined me! (I Cor. 13:11). But, as I mature as a spiritual combatant in the warfare for *grace and truth* and advanced my status in the battle for righteousness, I had to learn the process of how to discipline myself! On my own I learned to *put away* childish toys, immature habits, and trivial pursuits and then draw, polish, and sharpen my sword! You and I alone are responsible for the intensity of our pursuit of the Godhead (Heb. 2:1-3). Worship Him as your Creator! Love Him as your Redeemer! Yield to Him as your Perfecter! King David prayed, “Test me, oh Lord, try me, examine my heart and mind for Your love [grace] is ever before me, and I walk continually in Your truth [standards]” (Psalm 26:2). When we both fill our hours and minutes with Triune Thinking, we live constantly aware of His kind of thoughts, and His thinking is being poured into us!

### **Self Discipleship Demands Cross Continuing<sup>3</sup>**

Once we receive Messiah Jesus as our Savior and begin our first steps to yield to His lordship, we encounter the deeper realities of His cross. The inescapable crosses of a fallen world will diminish and destroy us. Only the hope of Christ’s cross will direct and deliver us! Only our crosses, both mankind’s and God’s, will teach us *what isn’t* and *who is*! If we do not pull back from truth, strive to face our cross issues as they come, and continue to grow by feeding on Christ, we will experience the basic liberation and strength of our cross life journey. As we discover the mystery, brilliance, and power of the Savior’s cross, we will be propelled into seeking and finding more of the Godhead’s eternal intent for our lives – oneness with who He is. Through Messiah Jesus God is reconciling the world to Himself (II Cor. 5:18-19). He is making all things – Creator, creation, and created – *one*! He has given each of us a significant and satisfying part in His drama of redemption. However, we must be one with Him by bonding and binding ourselves to the realities of our Messiah’s incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection, and exaltation example. This is impossible without a serious ambition and precise agenda to fill our mind with the mind of Christ.

“The Lord thy God is one God!” (Deut. 6:4). These are the Lord’s first words to Israel as they entered the Holy Land of promise.

“I pray that they will be one as I Am one with You, Father” (John 17:11). These are the Savior’s last words before He entered His passion of going to the cross and dying for our redemption.

Our own incarnation-crucifixion-resurrection-exaltation process to oneness with our indwelling, risen Lord involves, in my view, eight levels of appropriating and internalizing. Deep and immediate yielding to the Spirit and the Scripture produce eight distinct mindsets that gradually become an instantaneous one. I compare our progress to the eight notes on the piano scale.<sup>4</sup> I have outlined these eight below and suggested spiritual application. The first two levels or mindsets are behind us once we have 1) tasted the Savior’s redeeming salvation and then 2) began experiencing the issues of His cross in a world of crosses. We must not pull back from taking up our cross, carrying, and enduring it while we press on through our next six levels of Christ apprehension (Heb. 10:35-39). Intended and promised oneness with the Godhead is what it means for true disciples to understand their position in Christ and to apprehend our union of being *in Christ*, the result of our new creation condition (Col. 1:24-29; II Cor. 5:16-21). Over

fifty times the New Testament speaks of the discipline of continuing! Check them out! Be thrilled! Our Lord Himself said "... continue with Me ...," "...continue in My Word ...," "... continue in My love!" (Matt. 15:32; John 8:31, 15:9). The disciple who learns, endures, and continues *wins*! We must simply refuse to quit! Determine to always rebound, and nothing can keep you from becoming an overcomer! The next step (level 3) we must intentionally take to continue our ambition to be a cross disciple and achieve oneness with our Lord is to develop the skill of Triune Thinking.

## Our Eight Biblical Growth Progressions

### I. Receiving the Plan and Person of Salvation

Conviction of human failure and sin, as well as a felt emptiness about life, brings a person to repentance about his or her life! Each Christian comes to a point of asking the Savior for forgiveness and to be his Lord in all things. "For as many as received Him, He gave power to become sons of God" (John 1:12).



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

### II. Recognizing the Inescapable Cross Path to Godhead Purpose

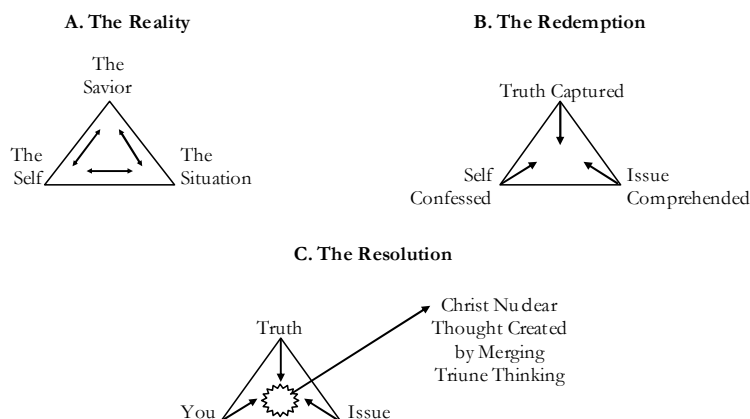
The Father answered the insane, unjust, sin laden, sorrow filled, and demonically instigated crosses of the world with a cross of His own, carried by His Son, as a weapon of righteousness and triumph.



"If anyone would follow and imitate Me, he must totally disregard himself, grasp, lift up, and carry his own cross while continuing to come after Me. My disciples must follow in My steps of grace (love) and truth (reality)."  
(Mark 6:34, HDM, Greek)  
Luke 22:27-28; Phil. 2:1-11

### III. The Developing Practice of *Triune Thinking*

This is the discipline of seeking and releasing His Mind in your mind about every concern in your life. “Let the same mind that was in Christ also be in you” (Phil. 2:5). Your aim is to create Christ Nuclear Thoughts. You see the Discipleship necessity of making every one of your thoughts obedient and captive to Christ (II Cor. 10:5).

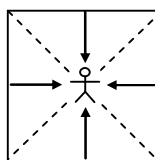


“Let the same mind of Christ Nuclear Thinking control and direct your attitude, disposition, and intention as dwelt in Him.”  
(Phil. 2:5, HDM)

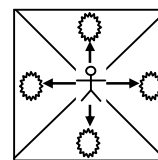
### IV. The Quest for *Quadrant Resolution*

We must create complete and growing Christ thoughts about each and all of our four life options or pressures inherent in every matter we face. See the Lord's *four* in Philippians 2:6-8: His God relationship, His self-subjection, His servanthood to people, and His suffering cross-death issues! You will see and confront the fourfold considerations in every event of life and each matter you must resolve. The four issues must be merged into one God-honoring view and decision.

Our Many  
Fourfold  
Pressures  
and  
Responses



The fourfold issues that pressure you in every matter that concerns you.



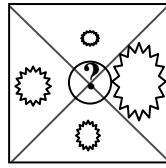
You Triangulate each issue as fully as possible to gain Christ Nuclear Thinking about each one.

“... and Jesus grew in a fourfold way ...” (Luke 2:52) - physical, mental, social and spiritual.

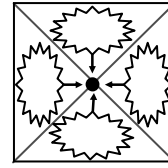


## V. The Discovery of *Pinnacle Perception*

The greatest *pinnacle* of Mary Magdalene's life came in the midst of her deepest grief because she perceived Jesus as He actually was – alive! To say “I have ‘seen the Lord’” changes everything. (John 20:10-18)  
Reaching our *pinnacles* is to be given God's *light of life*. We begin to see all things with the eyes of God.



Unbalanced nuclear thoughts can never merge into a Christ Pinnacle of thought and creates division.



Balanced Christ Nuclear Thinking *moves* issues together in a trajectory that creates oneness.

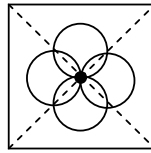
Comprehending the Challenges of Earth Life and Resolving them in the Living Christ

“The Word became flesh, full of love and reality.” (John 1:14)

## VI. The Thrill of *Messiah Enlightenment*

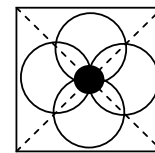
Pinnacle Perception gives you 360° vision. You grasp the earth and heaven realities as never before! You repeat the excited testimony of John 9:25, “One thing I do know, I was blind, but now I see!” Two of the greatest passages in Scripture are found in Paul's letter to the Ephesians. (Eph. 1:15-23, 3:14-21) If there is a key verse here it is Ephesians 1:18, “I pray that the eyes of your heart be enlightened.” His eyes in you begin to reveal the eternity before you! Seeing the glory of Christ's earth cross and His promise of eternal life with the full circle of heavenly vision enables us to follow Him with abandon

### A. Pinnacle Thinking *Ignited*



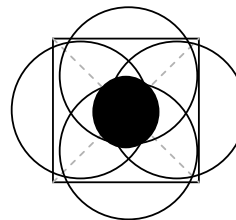
As your four Christ Nuclear Thoughts come together Pinnacle Perception is created.

### B. Pinnacle Thinking *Expanded*



Pinnacle comprehension is increased and the content and consequences of the matter's four considerations are revealed.

### C. Pinnacle Thinking *Dominates*



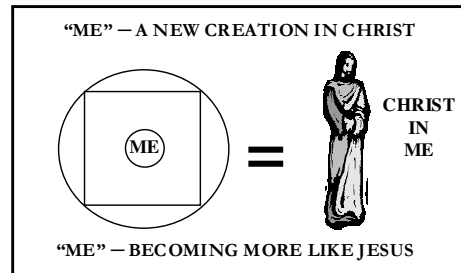
Every matter that touches you is seen through heaven's eyes with the accompanying energy of wisdom, peace, and confidence that whispers and shouts His significance and glory!

“... We beheld His glory ....” (John 1:14)

## VII. Experiencing the Dimension of *Godhead Oneness*

When you are possessing, professing, and expressing “Christ living in you” by His supernatural presence you can say with Paul, “I no longer live, but Christ lives in me ....” (Gal. 2:20) “This is the gloriously rich mystery you must understand, that Christ is alive in you, to become your confidence of significance!” (Col. 1: 26-27 and 2:9-15) You increasingly see yourself as ONE with Messiah Jesus.

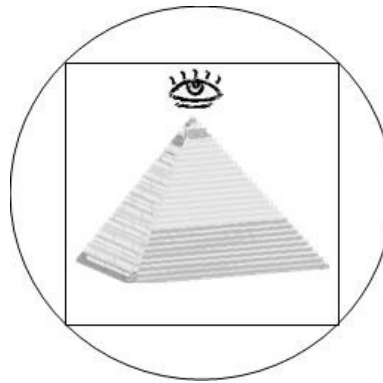
### ME – CENTERED IN HIS GODHEAD ONENESS



You recognize the Transformation Life of Christ Jesus Released in Your life and filling you with the fullness of God! “... of His fullness we have all received ....” (John 1:15)

### ME – INCARNATING HIS MIND, MARROW, MISSION

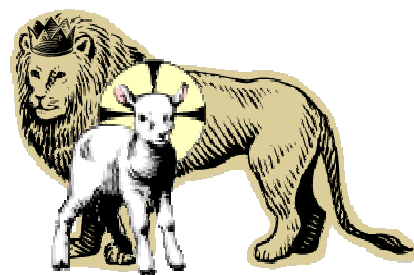
Oneness with the Godhead reveals our culminating recognition of the eternal Lamb and Lion of God from the beginning (I John 2:12-14)



The spiritual foundation of the United States of American seems clear from the beginning. A pyramid building people (△) attaining the all seeing eye of divine wisdom (👁) within the world God has given them (□) envisioning the kingdom of God (○).

## VIII. Increasing the Wonder of *Lamb-Lion Praise*

One of the most thrilling images of the Lord Jesus in Scripture is His designation as the Lamb and Lion of God. The Lamb to redeem us from our sins, and the power of Jesus the Lion to reveal to us the purpose of the ages! The Lamb will lift us from our guilt, and the Lion will open the answers of our destiny. To exist as the Father’s own and be like His Son is to live like a lamb and think like a lion while we walk the earth!



“... ‘Behold the Laomb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:29)

“... ‘Belold the Lion of Judah, God’s revealer of all things!’” (Rev. 5:5)



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<sup>1</sup> Truth itself touches us in three ways: big Truth, little truth, and half truth. Most people live their life based on an equal number of lies and truth that never produce a life of positive creation progress! Their sin nature uses the lies to imprison them in a life of meaningless frustration at worst or trivial pleasures at best. They live their lives as Disciples of half truth. They live out their years as victims of the lie. They are deceived themselves, live as deceivers, and preach the gospel of deception. Little truth people are in contact with the Lord's creative mandate given in Genesis 1:28-31. Their lives have meaning and purpose as they give themselves in sacrifice to laboring in the "Garden" where they find themselves. Little truth people are the valued leaders in the world of business, medicine, family, government, etc. Their thoughts and actions have enough truth in them to bless others while obeying God's creation mandate. Big Truth people have escaped the half truth life. They appreciate the little truth life and seek to live it themselves. But they go further. They perceive the Truth of God that is the foundation of the truth of man. Half truth people take you nowhere! Little truth people give you the blessings of earth. Big Truth people point you to the magnificence of God! Half truthers never grasp that they were created for a divine purpose. Little truthers accept and explore the wonders of creation and seek to create meaning and value with it that will bless mankind. Big Truthers have found an experience and relationship with the Creator. They have escaped the wilderness of half truth. They have also proved their value to their "Garden" by succeeding in the earthly realm of little truth. But their greatest discovery is their mission from the Godhead: to live out the Big Truth they have received and to tell the world it is a gift to all who yield in love to Messiah Jesus!

<sup>2</sup> I must mention the words of our Lord at this point, but must pass on giving an exhaustive expository illumination. They are "radical words" and many who were following Him quit doing so when they heard Him teach His standards (John 6:68-69). To each and every one of us our Lord speaks: "Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, 'How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For My flesh is real food and My blood is real drink. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood remains in Me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent Me and I live because of the Father, **so the one who feeds on Me will live because of Me.** This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.' He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum" (John 6:52-59, emphasis added). Case closed! Each of us must drink and eat for ourselves, on our own, or we will not have His life in us! Every person who professes to be a disciple of Christ's cross must learn for himself or herself the wondrous mystery of what it means to "feed on Him!" Without this process the *Christian life* is baby talk if not pretense. My contention, and the point of my final ministry and writing (at age 80), is that "to feed on Him" begins (after conversion and cross acceptance) with Triune Thinking!

<sup>3</sup> Self-discipleship begins when you hold yourself accountable to think for yourself about what it takes to be Jesus to someone or to some circumstance. Triune Thinking should activate your mind on how your thoughts, heart, and actions can incarnate Jesus through you to your situation in a way that would please Him. you *think best* by 1) practicing continual triangulation, 2) wise familiarization with Scripture, and 3) yielded and eager listening to the Lord's voice to you. Our default position to have God without dependence on others should be to 1) Tri-think, 2) know the Scriptures, 3) listen intently for His voice! Remember the Savior's words to Peter when he confessed that the Lord Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of the living God, "Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, Peter, but My Father in heaven!" (Matt. 16:17).

<sup>4</sup> The music we know is *built* on an eight note scale. I remember as a young boy learning to play the piano how my teacher insisted I would practice my scales. I would play eight notes in ascending order starting with middle C. When I came to the eighth note it had the exact same tone as the first (middle C) only higher! Going down the scale created

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the same phenomena, only lower in pitch. The *why* of this in music is too complex for our purposes here, but it is a fascinating study. Music is a language in itself, and simply another evidence of the brilliance of our Creator. My point here is to illustrate the reality built into *eight*. Either way I go on the scale I hit the same tone every eighth note only higher or deeper (higher or lower in frequency). Hence, no matter which life experiences hit me I can always hear the sound of Jesus if I keep moving over the keys of existence He has given me. (Quoted from *Victory Visual* #98: *The One Thing Most Necessary*.)