

VVM Life Group- Cyclical Lesson 7

Cultivate Good Relationships! “Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don’t see things the way you do. And don’t jump all over them every time they do or say something you don’t agree with—even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently.” (Rom 14.1 MSG)

1. New Creation – (Gal 2:20)

- a. (KJV) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
- b. (TPT) My old identity has been co-crucified with Christ and no longer lives. And now the essence of this new life is no longer mine, for the Anointed One lives his life through me—we live in union as one! My new life is empowered by the faith of the Son of God who loves me so much that he gave himself for me, *dispensing his life into mine!*
- c. (AMPC) I have been crucified with Christ [in Him I have shared His crucifixion]; it is no longer I who live, but Christ (the Messiah) lives in me; and the life I now live in the body I live by faith in (by adherence to and reliance on and complete trust in) the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
- d. (MSG) Indeed, I have been crucified with Christ. My ego is no longer central. It is no longer important that I appear righteous before you or have your good opinion, and I am no longer driven to impress God. Christ lives in me. The life you see me living is not “mine,” but it is lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I am not going to go back on that.

Commented [BC1]: My godless dead human spirit was killed off with Jesus. I rely on my NEW EXISTENCE in Him

Commented [BC2]: His spirit emerged in me and now leads my life. Jesus Himself is inside the core of my being!

Commented [BC3]: The old ego and identity of ME is gone forever. I am in union with Jesus’s Spirit and Life power!

Commented [BC4]: Living the FAITH LIFE is now my lifestyle=Believing the Bible, even though I may not see it

Commented [BC5]: To gain God, I must die to self...let God show me how to live the right way in my mind/will/emotions

2. Soul Renewal /Discipline the Flesh– (Eph 4:13)

- a. (KJV) till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:
- b. (TPT) These grace ministries will function until we all attain oneness into the faith, until we all experience the fullness of what it means to know the Son of God, and finally we become one into a perfect man with the full dimensions of spiritual maturity and fully developed into the abundance of Christ.
- c. (AMPC) [That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the [full and accurate] knowledge of the Son of God, that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in Him.
- d. (MSG) He handed out gifts of apostle, prophet, evangelist, and pastor-teacher to train Christ’s followers in skilled servant work, working within Christ’s body, the church, until we’re all moving rhythmically and easily with each other,

Commented [BC6]: Christian UNITY only comes through discipleship and submission to one another’s gift of ministry

Commented [BC7]: Growth requires soul maturity through LEARNING

Commented [BC8]: Christs’ perfection is attainable. It requires decisions and diligent efforts.

Commented [BC9]: Do you honor Jesus’ kingdom structure? Who is the apostle, prophet, etc...that is TRAINING you?

Commented [BC10]: These offices “fade” as we all approach maturity

efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ.

3. Love Character – (1 John 2:15-17)

- a. (KJV) Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.
- b. (TPT) Don't set the affections of your heart on this world or in loving the things of the world. The love of the Father and the love of the world are incompatible. For all that the world can offer us—the gratification of our flesh, the allurements of the things of the world, and the obsession with status and importance—none of these things come from the Father but from the world. This world and its desires are in the process of passing away, but those who *love to* do the will of God live forever.
- c. (AMPC) Do not love *or* cherish the world or the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh [craving for sensual gratification] and the lust of the eyes [greedy longings of the mind] and the pride of life [assurance in one's own resources or in the stability of earthly things]—these do not come from the Father but are from the world [itself]. And the world passes away *and disappears*, and with it the forbidden cravings (the passionate desires, the lust) of it; but he who does the will of God and carries out His purposes in his life abides (remains) forever.
- d. (MSG) Don't love the world's ways. Don't love the world's goods. Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father. Practically everything that goes on in the world—wanting your own way, wanting everything for yourself, wanting to appear important—has nothing to do with the Father. It just isolates you from him. The world and all its wanting, wanting, wanting is on the way out—but whoever does what God wants is set for eternity.

Commented [BC11]: Be careful what you say you "love". We love God and we love people, nothing else.

Commented [BC12]: Gratification of self, allurements of items, status stability importance...is the world's way

Commented [BC13]: Soul affections must be purposely & systematically set by you. God won't decide for you

Commented [BC14]: Do you know that TEMPORAL and ETERNAL are incompatible? No room for both in your heart

Commented [BC15]: Earthly= Fleeting vapor. Meaningless. Forces God out

Commented [BC16]: Spirit= Lasting winner! Stay with heavenly matters

Commented [BC17]: We feel alone, confined, detached and in solitude *when we have desired earthly matters*

Commented [BC18]: Is ETERNITY the focus of your daily attentions?

Kingdom Stewardship

(Psalms 34:10)

- a. (KJV) The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: But they that seek the LORD shall not want any good *thing*
- b. (TPT) Even the strong and the wealthy grow weak and hungry, but those who passionately pursue the Lord will never lack any good thing.
- c. (MSG) Young lions on the prowl get hungry, but GOD-seekers are full of God.

Commented [BC19]: He is THE SOURCE. Search for the point of supply

Commented [BC20]: Are you passionate about the fountainhead? He is the starting point and author for all you need

Commented [BC21]: The ORIGIN has everything...so when you have Him you can access everything, and lack nothing

Commented [BC22]: When we grasp GOD WITHIN, shortage is not an option! Identify what is lacking and apply God to that area