

Summary

- a) This session is the ninth of ten sessions that looks at a vital principle that fosters Spirit-led living.
- b) The ninth principle that we will examine is this: As you apply the cross to your soul, especially to your will, greater measures of the Spirit are released from within you.

Introduction

- a) Luke 9:23-24 states,

And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it."

- b) Romans 8:12-13 states,

So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

The Fall of Man

- a) The Lord warned Adam not to eat from the tree of knowledge. His command thundered within Adam's soul: "In the *day* that you eat from it you will surely die" (Gen. 2:17, emphasis mine).
- b) When Adam disobeyed God's direct command and ate the forbidden fruit, death entered his spirit. Even though it took hundreds of years for death to work itself fully into his body, Adam's spirit died instantly. That is why his eyes were opened immediately to his nakedness (see Gen. 3:7). Adam became self-aware in the blink of an eye.
- c) Internally, when Adam's spirit died, his soul, coupled together with his body, ruled him. Adam's mind, will, and emotions were joined together with his mortal senses of taste, touch, sight, sound, and smell. Paul referred to this coupling of the soul and body as the flesh (see Gal. 5:19-21).
- d) Though the devil is a liar, he wasn't lying about the tree of knowledge. He told the truth when he said you "shall be as gods" (Gen. 3:5 KJV). When Adam ate the forbidden fruit, self-exaltation entered the human race.
- e) Self-life was awakened in Adam. Self-awareness, self-consciousness, self-righteousness, self-focus, self-reliance, self-centeredness, self-rule, and self-will defined Adam's life.
- f) Because of the fall, all of humanity after Adam was born with a sin nature, prone to selfishness, pride, rebellion, independence, and lawlessness.
- g) The tree of the knowledge of good and evil awakened self-life in the soul of every man and woman, making us independent from God's leadership and apt to doing what is right in our own eyes.

The Work of the Cross

- a) God has provided a way of deliverance from the effects of the fall through the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- b) All that was of the Adamic race—the good and the evil—was transferred to Jesus Christ on the cross. When Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "It is finished," the self-centered, fleshly nature of humanity, which Adam imparted to us all, was dealt a brutal death blow (John 19:30).

- c) Sin, self, and death went with Jesus into the grave, for God imputed both sin and sinners to Him on the cross. Jesus' death on the cross dealt with the old creation in Adam, so that sin and self were defeated once and for all.
- d) What the last Adam accomplished on the cross is the only solution for the first Adam's transgression in the garden (see 1 Cor. 15:22).
- e) In Adam all are sinners, but in Christ all are righteous. In Adam all are condemned, but in Christ all are justified. In Adam all will die, but in Christ all have eternal life. His finished work has paved a way for us to live by His indwelling life. *This is the work of the cross.*
- f) As you have seen, the work of the cross determines your legal position, for in Christ you are reckoned righteous, crucified, dead, buried, resurrected, ascended, and enthroned.¹ This means you are the righteousness of God in Christ and have died to sin, self, and the law through your union with the Savior's crucifixion and resurrection. This legal position is imputed to you through faith in Jesus' finished work of the cross.

The Way of the Cross

- a) *The way of the cross*, on the other hand, is what the Holy Spirit is finishing in you as He works to harmonize your living condition with your legal position. The way of the cross actualizes the finished work of the cross in your daily experience.
- b) More than being positionally crucified, buried, and resurrected, the indwelling Spirit wants to conform you to the death of Christ, so you might also experience His resurrection life.
- c) Just as Jesus took up His cross in obedience to the Father, the Lord calls you to take up your cross in obedience to the Son (see Luke 9:23). And whereas your crucifixion with Christ was unique, unrepeatable, and something which happened to you, taking up your cross and dying to self is a decision you have to make daily (see Luke 9:23; 1 Cor. 15:31).
- d) Because of the fall, both the work of the cross and the way of the cross are essential. But there is divine order in these two applications of the cross.
- e) The work of the cross is the indispensable foundation making the way of the cross possible. This is why we spent several sessions looking at the work of the cross in detail.

The Application of the Cross

- a) How, exactly, does the work of the cross and the way of the cross work together to put self-life to death so Christ's life can be released from within you? A great example of this dynamic is found in Paul's first epistle, when he said, "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me" (Gal. 2:20).
- b) Notice Paul said *I have been crucified with Christ*. This is the work of the cross—a reference to Paul's inclusion in the historic crucifixion of Christ, which in God's eyes, reckoned Paul crucified with Christ at Calvary.
- c) But if you read between the lines, the work of the cross laid the legal groundwork for the way of the cross to operate experientially in Paul's soul. Because Paul knew He was crucified with Christ and died when Christ died, Paul said "it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me."
- d) Paul's backward-looking faith in what Christ already accomplished—his firm confidence in the established fact of his crucifixion with Christ—enabled the indwelling Spirit to make this real in him. That's why Paul no longer lived by self-life in his soul.

- e) The cross had worked in him deeply, freeing him from living by self-life to living by Christ's indwelling life. Paul's legal position was the basis for the indwelling Spirit to put his self-life to death experientially.
- f) We know this because a few chapters later Paul said those who belong to Christ have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires, and he said the cross had crucified his affection for the world (see Gal. 5:24; 6:14).
- g) Here's how the work of the cross and the way of the cross synergize to put self-life to death so Christ's life can be released. Because God sees you crucified with Christ, the indwelling Spirit has the legal grounds to apply the finished work of the cross to your soul's self-life.
- h) This gives you the ability to experience more of Christ in your mind, will, emotions, desires, and actions. If you will partner with the Spirit to put your flesh to death, you will experience greater measures of Christ's indwelling life.
- i) This experience of the cross—the way of the cross or what some call the cross life—is the ninth law of the Spirit-led life, which is this: As you apply the cross to your soul, especially to your will, greater measures of the Spirit are released from within you.
- j) In summary, there are two applications of the cross:
 - 1. The cross applied to your soul;
 - 2. The cross applied to your flesh—the body of sin.

The Release of the Spirit

- a) Jesus said, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).
- b) If you think about it, there is life in a grain of wheat, but a hard, outer shell restricts this life from being released. Until the outer shell is split open and broken, the wheat cannot sprout and grow.
- c) The issue is not whether there is life within the wheat, but whether or not the outer shell is broken so the inherent life can be released.
- d) Jesus continued, saying, "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal" (John 12:25).
- e) The Greek word for *life* is *psychē* and means "the soul." In this verse, Jesus revealed that the hard, prideful, and selfish soul suppresses the life of the Spirit within. The only remedy is for the cross to break your soul so the life of the Spirit can be fully released within you.
- f) Remember the beautiful treasure you have inside of you—Christ as resurrection life, shekinah glory, rivers of living water, creative power, the anointing, power for ability, the truth, and the kingdom of God? Because Christ dwells within you, you already have everything you need for life and godliness.
- g) This means, among many other realities, you have the virtue and nature of Christ within you—His love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, meekness, faith, and self-control. Not only do you have the treasure of Christ within you, but He has already completed the work in your spirit. Your spirit is now righteous, holy, Christlike, one with the Spirit, and a partaker of the divine nature.
- h) Simply put, there is life within you waiting to grow to maturity, but most likely, the hard outer shell of your soul is restricting this life from being fully released. This means your soul is the primary obstacle to living fully by Christ's indwelling life.

Hindrances to the Release of the Spirit

- a) Do you remember in session 4 when you saw the hinderances to the abiding life? To refresh your memory, I explained how natural strength, self-reliance, the rational mind, emotions and experiences, and sin in the body can hinder the abiding life.
- b) Well, if you want the indwelling life of Christ to flow through you like sap, organically producing the fruit of the Spirit in abundance, then these hinderances must be dealt with and removed.
- c) We already looked at several laws of the Spirit-led life that deal with these hinderances, including sharpening and heeding your spirit's intuition, relying on the Spirit for new strength, and renewing your mind. But the cross working in your soul is one of the most important.
- d) Until the soul, especially the will, is broken by the cross, Christ's indwelling life will be suppressed and dormant within you.
- e) Though the cross working in your soul is a painful process, the end result is glorious, for it releases the beautiful treasure of Christ into your heart, soul, and body.
- f) This means, if you don't embrace the cross and allow the Spirit to put your flesh to death, your soul will remain like a hard, outer shell of a grain of wheat, hindering Christ's life in your spirit from being released.
- g) That's why, no matter the temporary pain, embracing the cross is a vital and indispensable instrument to help release greater measures of Christ's life from within your spirit.

Pruning Self-Life

- a) Remember Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:1-2).
- b) The Father is the vinedresser who prunes your soul and flesh. He does this so more of Christ's life can be released from within you, resulting in more fruit being produced through you.
- c) As the vinedresser, the Father applies the cross to self-centered living in your soul, cutting self-life back to the nub, so nothing in you hinders Christ's life from flowing like sap into your heart, soul, and body.
- d) This means the cross is a vital tool that prunes self-life in your soul so more of Christ's indwelling life can be released from your spirit.
- e) This enables you to organically produce an abundant supply of Christlike fruit, which remains.

Your Soul Is the Gatekeeper

- a) Everything so far in this class—including abiding in Christ, relying on the Lord for a strong spirit, meditating on the Word, releasing the Spirit from within you, and fellowshiping with Christ spirit to Spirit—hinges entirely on your will.
 - Your will decides whether or not to renew your mind.
 - Your will chooses whether or not you wait on the Lord for Him to strengthen your spirit.
 - Your will determines whether or not you surrender your heart to Christ, asking Him to possess, purify, and fill your heart.
 - Your will decides whether or not to block out the necessary time to commune with Christ.

- b) Your soul, especially your will, is the gatekeeper that determines if you live by Christ's indwelling life. This means your will—the mental faculty of your soul that is responsible for making choices—has a solemn stewardship.
- c) Your will decides if you live from your spirit, soul, or body. Your will determines whether you are spiritual or carnal.
- d) The Lord has provided a full salvation to your spirit. But your will determines how much of this salvation is released outward into your desires, thoughts, emotions, choices, and actions.
- e) If you resolutely set your will to obey God, your heart and mind will follow. On the other hand, if your will has not been broken and fully submitted to Christ, it blocks Christ's life from flowing outward into your mind, emotions, desires, and actions.
- f) If your will chooses the path of selfishness and independence, your soul will be like a closed dam, hindering the release of the Spirit from within you.

The Will Determines the Measure of Christ's Life Released

- a) Not only does your will choose whether or not you live by Christ's indwelling life, but your will also decides the measure of Christ's life that fills your heart and permeates your soul.
- b) If self-life in your soul is your primary life source, you will have a small measure of Christ's life and not much fruit.
- c) But as the cross deals with self-life in your soul, more of Christ's life can flow like sap from your spirit, organically producing the fruit of Christ in every facet of your life.

Take Up Your Cross

- a) The cross is the only solution for your will. Unless your will is crucified to what you want and desire, self will be enthroned in your heart and self-life will be the life source from which you live. As a result, selfishness, pride, independence, and rebellion will suppress God's life in your spirit.
- b) To follow Jesus requires self-denial and taking up your cross. Jesus said,

If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? For what will a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mark 8:34-37)

- c) If you read this passage carefully, examining the underlying Greek, you realize Jesus singled out the soul. For example, when Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to save his *life* will lose it" and "whoever loses his *life* . . . will save it," the Greek word for *life* is *psychē*, which means "soul."
- d) In addition, Jesus made a connection between *self* and the *soul*, saying, "He must deny *himself*" to save "his *life* [soul]." This shows the cross works to crucify self-life in the soul so the soul can be saved—so the mind, will, and emotions can be transformed into Christ's image and likeness.²
- e) As Jesus' words indicate, the cross is the God-ordained solution to deal with the soul. The soul's mind and emotions—but especially the will—must be dealt with fully by the cross. This is a necessity for all who want to live by Christ's indwelling life.
- f) With all of this in mind, here's my paraphrase of what Jesus was essentially saying:

If you want to follow after Me, then you have to deny yourself. It is impossible to follow Me while remaining selfish and independent. When you live for what you want, when you want it, and

how you want it, you are basically your own god. If you want Me to truly be your Lord, then you must deny yourself and let the cross work in your soul, especially your will, so that you will be able to say in truth, “Not my will, but Yours be done.” As you embrace the cross daily, your soul will be saved—transformed into My image and likeness.

- g) Denying yourself and taking up your cross is all about the crucifixion of your will. You lay down anything and everything hindering you from obeying Jesus and following Him wherever He goes.

The Cross and the Will

- a) In Hebrews 10:7-10, you see a beautiful picture of how the cross works to crucify the will. Speaking of Jesus, the author of Hebrews wrote,

Then I said, “Behold, I have come (in the scroll of the book it is written of Me) to do your will, O God.” After saying above, “Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin you have not desired, nor have you taken pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the Law), then he said, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He takes away the first in order to establish the second. By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- b) At first reading, this might sound a little confusing, but the author of Hebrews is basically saying Jesus embraced the cross because He fully submitted His will to the Father.
- c) *By this will*—the will of Jesus wholly submitted to the purpose and plan of the Father—we have been sanctified through *the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all*.
- d) Jesus first embraced the cross not on the hill at Golgotha but when He yielded His will fully to the Father’s will in the garden of Gethsemane.
- e) Just as Jesus died to His will in Gethsemane before He died on the cross at Calvary, the same is true with you. The cross you bear is not a Roman cross. It is self-denial for the purpose of full obedience to God’s Word and God’s voice.
- f) If you want to live from your spirit, you must die to what you want when you want it. Every day you must choose to yield your will entirely to Jesus, becoming a living martyr who lays down your life to obey and follow Christ.

The Salvation of the Soul

- a) To be clear, you don’t take up your cross to earn salvation. You take up your cross in order to deny yourself what you want, so you can do what God wants. This is how your soul is progressively saved (see James 1:21).
- b) As your will is broken by the cross—as your self-centered dreams, hopes, and plans are placed on the altar and then into the grave—God’s life in your spirit is released in greater measure into your soul, body, and behavior.
- c) Paraphrasing Jesus, what does it profit if you gain the whole world—money, houses, fame, success, and influence—but your soul is bankrupt and devoid of God’s life?
- d) The only way for God’s life to permeate your thoughts, choices, emotions, desires, and actions is for the cross to work in your soul, breaking your will, until like Jesus, you can say in truth, “Not my will but Yours be done.”
- e) Whereas the work of the cross is how your spirit was saved, the way of the cross is how your soul is saved.

The Salvation of the Soul Explained

- a) The sinful nature you inherited from Adam, still residing in your soul, must be experientially crucified. This means any residue of selfishness, self-focus, pride, independence, rebellion, and lawlessness must die.
- b) But only the Holy Spirit can do this work of applying the cross to self-life in your soul, putting self to death, so the mind, will, and emotions won't be hijacked to do what you want.
- c) The way of the cross is Christianity 101. It's how your soul is transformed. But unlike your once-and-for-all inclusion in the historic death of Christ, dying to self is a daily act. Paul said, "I die daily" (1 Cor. 15:31). Jesus said to take up your "cross daily" (Luke 9:23).
- d) As you embrace the cross in your soul day after day, asking for and allowing the Holy Spirit to crucify your self-life and resurrect you in a greater union with Christ, your soul will be delivered from the effects of the fall.
- e) This is how you are transformed from the Adamic nature, implanted into all of humanity through the tree of knowledge, into the image of the Lamb.

The Way of the Cross in the Soul

- a) The way of the cross is how the Lord deals with your soul, making way for a greater release of Christ's indwelling life.
- b) As the cross works in your soul, you are transformed from a lover of self—filled with pride, independence, and rebellion—into a lover of Christ, who is humble, meek, and obedient.
- c) The way of the cross is how your soul is conformed into the image of Jesus Christ.
- d) To be clear, crucifying the soul does not mean killing the soul's faculties—the mind, will, and emotions. Nor does it mean killing your personality. The Lord wants both to express Christ's beautiful life within you.
- e) Instead, crucifying the soul means putting to death self-life in the soul.
- f) The *you* in the soul who still wants to live. The *you* in the soul who makes everything about getting what you want when you want it. The *you* who uses the mind, will, and emotions to live for yourself.

Put Your Flesh to Death

- a) When you live by self-life in your soul, you will inevitably produce the works of the flesh, which Paul said were "immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these" (Gal. 5:19-21).
- b) On the other hand, if you live by Christ's indwelling life in your spirit, you will naturally produce the fruit of the Spirit. This is why embracing the cross daily is a matter of life or death.
- c) Paul said, "So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die" (Rom. 8:12-13). The NKJV translates the last phrase as *you will die*.
- d) If you live by self-life in your soul, your life will be characterized by sin, selfishness, and sadness.
- e) Paul's urgent cry to those living by the flesh is *you will die*. How, then, do you reverse this trend towards spiritual death? Paul explained how in the next verse, stating, "If by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live" (Rom. 8:13).

- f) Where does the power come from to apply the cross to *the deeds of the body*? Paul said it is *by the Spirit*. To actually crucify your flesh, rendering it powerless to produce the deeds of the flesh, you must rely upon the indwelling Spirit to translate your historic, legal, and positional co-crucifixion with Christ into personal experience.
- g) This requires faith. You must believe that the indwelling Spirit will administer the death of the cross to everything in you that needs to die. If you appropriate the cross in this way, you will be liberated from the power of the flesh and will live by Christ's indwelling life in an ever-increasing way.

Apply the Cross to Your Flesh by the Spirit

- a) You must partner with the indwelling Spirit to apply the cross to your flesh.
- b) As you yield to the Spirit and rely on Him each day, He will help you crucify self-life in your soul and the sinful deeds of your body.
- c) If you surrender your will entirely to the indwelling Spirit and ask Him to apply the cross to your flesh, you will experience more of Christ's indwelling life. Or in the words of Paul, *you will live*.
- d) If you integrate this practice into your prayer life every day, not only will you experience Christ's indestructible life in your soul, but "the Spirit . . . who raised Jesus from the dead . . . will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you" (Rom. 8:11). What a glorious promise!
- e) You don't have to wait until the final resurrection of the dead, at the second coming of Christ, to experience life in your mortal body. You can experience this right now because of the indwelling Spirit.

Sexual Sin Is Serious

- a) The Mike Bickle/IHOP scandal has me thinking a lot about how causally the church treats sin. If leaders, like Mike Bickle, called to be a forerunner who makes the bride ready, don't treat sexual sin serious, how much less will the larger body of Christ?
- b) As a leader, teacher, and shepherd, I've been convicted recently of not being as clear as I should about sexual sin. No matter what the culture or much of the lukewarm church believes, sexual sin is very serious to the Lord.
- c) In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus warned that if you look at a woman with lust in your heart you have committed adultery (Matt. 5:27-30). He said to pluck your eye out and cut off your hand in your war against lust. If you don't fight lust, it's possible your whole body could be cast into hell.
- d) Jesus was clearly warning that sexual sin, even as subtle as looking at a woman with lust, can put your eternal salvation in jeopardy. How much more the actual act of adultery, fornication, immorality, or acts of homosexuality?
- e) The Bible is crystal clear: Sex is only permissible in the context of marriage between one man and one woman for life.
- f) To commit any type of sexual sin, whether looking at pornography, immorality, adultery, homosexuality, or fornication—is to put your eternal salvation in jeopardy. This is exactly what Jesus warned against.

Your Flesh Was Rendered Powerless

- g) Unfortunately, many believers don't experience victory over their flesh. Even though the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead dwells within them, they are enslaved to one or more of the deeds of the flesh, whether lust, jealousy, anger, drunkenness, arguing, etc.

- h) Without oversimplifying complex issues, one reason people are enslaved by the flesh is they believe their flesh is too strong to overcome. As a result, this lie gives their flesh more power than it actually has.
- i) To combat this lie, read how Paul described your body of sin if you are born of the Spirit. He said, “Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves of sin” (Rom. 6:6).
- j) The Greek word for *might be done away with* is *katargeō* and it means to “render idle, unemployed, inactive, inoperative, to cause a person or thing to have no further efficiency, or to deprive of force, influence, or power.”³
- k) To keep it simple, let’s just use what the NASB translation puts as a footnote to this phrase, which is *made powerless*.
- l) In short, the cross and the indwelling Spirit have made your body of sin powerless.

Power in You to Overcome the Flesh

- a) Because you were included in Christ’s crucifixion, your old self was crucified with Him. The old self that was crucified with Christ was your entire being—spirit, soul, and body. But since your spirit has been resurrected and made alive by the indwelling Spirit, your old self is now just your soul and body.
- b) Here’s Paul’s logic. Before your spirit was resurrected and infused with Christ’s indestructible life, whenever your senses were stimulated and various lusts stirred up, you were compelled to act in an ungodly way.
- c) You had no greater power preventing your body from craving, demanding, and getting what it wanted. You were a slave to the sin in your body.
- d) But now, since you have been crucified with Christ and your spirit is alive from the dead and joined to the Holy Spirit, your sin-dominated body, which used to overcome your ability to resist, has been made powerless. You now have a greater power within you to overcome the lusts of your body.

Your Flesh Is Not Too Powerful

- a) There is a memorable scene in the 1939 American classic movie *The Wizard of Oz* that can be applied to the present condition of your flesh. I summarize it below.

Dorothy, the Cowardly Lion, the Tin Man, and the Scarecrow are standing bewitched before an enlarged projection of a wizard, whose voice is amplified and mingled with light effects and smoke to simulate an actual wizard. As these four are enchanted, Dorothy’s dog, Toto, discovers a side chamber and sneaks behind a curtain. There Toto sees what is really happening. An old man is talking into a microphone while pulling levers and pressing buttons. When the wizard’s true identity is revealed, the aged man yells into the microphone, “Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain!”

- b) The only reason your flesh has any power is because you can’t see behind the curtain.
- c) Like the four characters mesmerized by the wizard, you have believed the lie your flesh is too powerful to master.
- d) But the truth is, your body of sin has been made powerless through the cross and the indwelling Spirit.
- e) When you replace the lie that your flesh is too powerful with the truth that your body of sin has been rendered powerless, you will begin to overcome the sinful deeds of your flesh.

The Exchanged Life

- a) Many teachers have described Galatians 2:20 as the exchanged life—an exchange of self-life for the indwelling life of Christ.
- b) You exchange selfishness for Christ's love, pride for Christ's humility, anxiety and gloom for Christ's peace and joy, and doubt and unbelief for Christ's faith.
- c) As you do this, the Spirit of Christ in you becomes the love, humility, peace, joy, and faith you live by, express, and exhibit.
- d) Since these attributes of Christ are already in your spirit, you don't need the Lord to give them to you. Instead, you need the cross to work in your soul, putting self-life to death, so Christ's glorious nature and virtue can be released from your spirit in greater measure.
- e) This is how your desires, beliefs, motives, thoughts, emotions, choices, and actions are formed into the image and likeness of Christ.
- f) As the cross works in your soul, aligning your living condition with your legal position, greater measures of Christ's indwelling life are released from deep within you. This is how you experience the exchanged life, where you live by the life of Another, the very life of Christ in you.
- g) Simply put, your living condition is determined by the measure of Christ's life released into your heart, soul, and body. It is determined by the measure of Christ living in you instead of you living.
- h) Like John the Baptist said, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30).
- i) As the measure of Christ's life increases within you, self-life in your soul naturally decreases, enabling you to experience the glory and the beauty of Christ living rather than you.

Choosing Your Life Source

- a) As we conclude this session, remember that applying the cross to your soul, especially to your will, releases greater measures of the Spirit from within you.
- b) Your soul—the gatekeeper controlling the life source by which you live—must be broken by the cross so you don't hinder the indwelling Spirit from flowing freely through you.
- c) As the soul is dealt with by the cross, self is dethroned from the heart and Christ is enthroned.
- d) As a result, His indestructible life becomes the life source from which you live.

¹ See 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom. 6:3-6; Col. 3:1; Eph. 2:6.

² The Greek word for salvation is *sōzō*. After analyzing the various definitions and meanings of *sōzō* in *Strong's Greek Lexicon*, *Thayer's Greek Lexicon* and *Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, it becomes clear *sōzō* means "redemption from the negative effects from Adam's fall and restoration back to God's original intention," which is Christlikeness. Therefore, *sōzō* means "deliverance from the penalty of sin, the power of sin, disease, sickness, and demons and restoration back to Christlikeness in our spirits, souls, and bodies."

³ "G2673 - *katargeō* - Strong's Greek Lexicon (nasb95)." Blue Letter Bible. Accessed 27 Jun, 2022.
<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/g2673/nasb95/mgnt/0-1/>.