BREAKING THROUGH SPIRITUAL BARRIERS
with Dr. Ken Baugh

I. THE PURPOSE OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE:

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.” Rom. 8:28-30

“For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” Phil. 2:13

II. LOVE IS AN ATTRIBUTE OF THE CHARACTER OF GOD:

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Jn. 3:16

“...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Rom. 2:20

As a Christian, I am ________________ with the Holy Spirit to become more like Jesus Christ in His character and the essence of this character transformation is love.

This partnership with the Holy Spirit requires personal ________________.

“... be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Rom. 12:2

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.” Col. 3:1-2

Therefore, what it means to be conformed in the image of Christ is to

______________________________________________________________.

III. LOVE IS THE SUPREME VIRTUE IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE:

My ________________ capacity to love God and others is the primary indicator of my spiritual growth in Christ.
THE GREAT COMMANDMENT: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself.” Lk. 10:27

To love God and others is the ____________________________, ____________________________

and ____________________________ of spiritual growth in Christ.

IV. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LOVE?

Love is: Looking out for the best ____________________________ of others.

“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.” Jn. 15:13

LOVE IS: ____________________________.

1. Sacrificial love is ____________________________.

2. Sacrificial love is ____________________________.

3. Sacrificial love is ____________________________.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”
John 13:34

LOVE IS: ____________________________.

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” Eph. 5:21

JESUS AS OUR EXAMPLE OF SUBMISSION

1. Jesus ____________________________ Himself to doing the work of the Father.

2. Jesus ____________________________ to please the Father.

3. Jesus ____________________________ the Father.

4. Jesus ____________________________ the Father.

REALITY
Most believers are not experiencing the fullness
Of the Christian life that is available
To them right here and right now!
THEY ARE STUCK!
V. THE MISSING INGREDIENT IN DISCIPLESHIP: HOW IS IT POSSIBLE THAT CHRISTIANS ARE SO STUCK?

WHEN JESUS SAID:

“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” Jn. 10:10

“Whoever believes in me . . . . streams of living water will flow from within him.” Jn. 7:38

“If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit.” Jn. 15:5

GOOD NEWS

Every Christian can experience more of the fullness of Christ, more abundance in this life, more of the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control—than they ever thought possible.

The MISSING ingredient in Discipleship is: ____________________________________________________.

VI. HOW TO EXPERIENCE THE ABUNDANT LIFE TODAY!

1. I must learn how to _________________ for my heart!

“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.” Prov. 4:23

THE ANATOMY OF THE HEART

![Heart Diagram]
THOUGHT resides in the heart.

God promised to give his people, “a heart to know me.” Jer. 24:7

“That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.” Rom. 10:9-10

EMOTION resides in the heart.

“My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love.” Col. 2:2

WILL (desire/choice) resides in the heart.

God sent the flood to destroy the earth because, “the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” Gen. 6:5

“Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart.” Eph. 6:5-6

2. I must partner with the Holy Spirit in the _____________________________ of my heart.
Original Sin:

“You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.” Gen. 2:16-17

The Reality of Spiritual Warfare:

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy...” Jn. 10:10

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” Eph. 6:10-12

My Identity in Christ:

1 John 1:7

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another...” 1 John 1:7
MY IDENTITY IN CHRIST  Neil T. Anderson, Victory Over the Darkness, 51.

I am the salt of the earth (Matt 5:13).
I am the light of the world (Matt 5:14).
I am a child of God (Jn 1:12).
I am part of the true vine, a channel of Christ’s life (Jn 15:1,5).
I am Christ’s friend (Jn 15:15).
I am chosen and appointed by Christ to bear His fruit (Jn 15:16).
I am a slave of righteousness (Rom 6:18).
I am enslaved to God (Rom 6:22).
I am a son of God; God is spiritually my Father (Rom 8: 14,15; Gal 3:26; 4:6).
I am a joint heir with Christ, sharing His inheritance with Him (Rom 8:17).
I am a temple— a dwelling place— of God. His Spirit and His life dwell in me (1 Cor 3:16; 6:19).
I am united to the Lord and am one spirit with Him (1 Cor 6:17).
I am a member of Christ’s Body (1 Cor 12:27; Eph 5:30).
I am a new creation (2 Cor 5:17).
I am reconciled to God and am a minister of reconciliation (2 Cor 5:18,19).
I am a son of God and one in Christ (Gal 3:26,28).
I am an heir of God since I am a son of God (Gal 4:6,7).
I am a saint (1 Cor 1:2; Eph 1:1; Phil 1:1; Col 1:2).
I am God’s workmanship—born anew in Christ to do His work (Eph 2:10).
I am a fellow citizen with the rest of God’s family (Eph 2:19).
I am a prisoner of Christ (Eph 3:1; 4:1).
I am righteous and holy (Eph 4:24).
I am a citizen of heaven, seated in heaven right now (Eph 2:6; Phil 3:20).
I am hidden with Christ in God (Col 3:3).
I am an expression of the life of Christ because He is my life (Col 3:4).
I am chosen of God, holy and dearly loved (Col 3:12; 1 Thes 1:4).
I am a son of light and not of darkness (1 Thes 5:5).
I am a holy partaker of a heavenly calling (Heb 3:1).
I am a partaker of Christ; I share in His life (Heb 3:14).
I am one of God’s living stones, being built up in Christ as a spiritual house (1 Pet 2:5).
I am a member of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession (1 Pet 2:9,10).
I am an alien and stranger to this world in which I temporarily live (1 Pet 2:11).
I am an enemy of the devil (1 Pet 5:8).
I am a child of God and I will resemble Christ when He returns (1 Jn 3:1,2).
I am born of God, and the evil one— the devil— cannot touch me (1 Jn 5:18).
I am not the great “I am” (Ex 3: 14; Jn 8: 24,28,58), but by the grace of God, I am what I am (1 Cor 15:10).

“Understanding your identity in Christ is essential for living the Christian life. People cannot consistently behave in ways that are inconsistent with the way they perceive themselves . . . If you see yourself as a child of God who is spiritually alive in Christ, you will begin to live accordingly. Next to a knowledge of God, a knowledge of who you are is by far the most important truth you can possess.”

-Neil T. Anderson, Victory Over the Darkness, 47.