

The background features several abstract yellow shapes: a large triangle in the top right, a long diagonal bar on the left, and a large, rounded, wave-like shape at the bottom.

LIFE

2021
CALIFORNIA-WIDE
SSOT

CALIFORNIA-WIDE
SUMMER SCHOOL OF TRUTH 2021

LIFE

Group Time Packet

June 12-26, 2021

CALIFORNIA-WIDE
SUMMER SCHOOL OF TRUTH 2021

LIFE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors wish to express their indebtedness to the ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee in their preparation of this material. They have opened up the word of God and we are entering in. Furthermore, the authors wish to express their appreciation to the Living Stream Ministry, which has graciously granted permission to make use of various quotations in preparation of these outlines for the young people in the Lord's recovery.

All scripture reading verses are quoted from *The Recovery Version of the Bible* unless otherwise indicated. *The Recovery Version of the Bible* is published by Living Stream Ministry, Anaheim, CA.

All Ministry reading portions are taken from the ministry of Watchman Nee or Witness Lee, published by Living Stream Ministry, Anaheim, CA. Used by permission, all rights reserved.

Southern California Young People
1853 W. Ball Rd., Suite 101 Anaheim, CA. 92804
Phone: (714) 485-6565
Email: mail@scyp.com
Website: www.scyp.com
Instagram: [socal_yp](https://www.instagram.com/socal_yp)

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 1: Divine and Eternal Life; Life Being God Himself

Lesson Focus

Only the life of God can fulfill the purpose of God. Through regeneration we have received the divine, eternal, indestructible life of God. This “really” life is God the Father in the Son as the Spirit flowing into us! We can and should experience this life everyday.

Key Verses

1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes into Me, even if he should die, shall live.

2 Cor. 3:6b ...for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Outline

- I. Three Greek words for life
- II. Only the life of God being life
 - A. The life of God being divine
 - B. The life of God being eternal
 - C. The life of God being indestructible
- III. Life being God the Father in the Son as the Spirit flowing into us

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 1

- The Experiences of this Life
- The Maintenance of this Life

Lesson 2

- Life Being God the Father in the Son as the Spirit Flowing Into Us

Questions for Fellowship

1. Why is only the life of God considered life?
2. Share an experience that you have had of God’s life enabling you to pass through difficulty.
3. Briefly explain, “Life is God the Father in the Son as the Spirit flowing into us”, use verses.
4. Take 30 seconds to thank the Triune God for His divine, eternal and indestructible life that now is flowing into you.

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 2: The Growth of Life

Lesson Focus

For us to grow in life means that God grows in us. Two of the most important ways we can grow are by reading the Bible with an open heart and by praying for our growth.

Key Verses

Col. 2:19 ...all the Body...grows with the growth of God.

1 Pet. 2:2 As newborn babes, long for the guileless milk of the word in order that by it you may grow unto salvation

Outline

- I. What is not the growth in life? The increase in knowledge
- II. What is the growth in life? The increase of the element of God.
- III. The way to grow in life

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life—Lesson 5

- The Increase in Knowledge
- The Increase of the Element of God
- The Way to Grow in Life

Questions for Fellowship

1. Pray-read 1 Peter 2:2 with your group for 1 minute.
2. Do any young people or serving ones in your group have some experiences of realizing you have grown in the Lord or seeing someone else grow in the Lord?
3. How can our reading of the Bible result in our growth in life? Do you have any experiences of gaining knowledge from the Bible versus gaining life?

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 3: Experience of Life

Lesson Focus

Everything in the Bible concerning life is for us to experience today. An experience which results from God passing through man and man passing through God is considered an experience of life. The Lord will grant us every experience of life if we seek to experience it.

Key Verses

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

1 Cor. 6:17 But he who joined to the Lord is one spirit.

Outline

- I. What is the experience of life?
 - A. To experience God
 - B. To experience Christ
 - C. To experience the Spirit
- II. The first experience of life – regeneration
 - A. Why regeneration is necessary?
 - B. What is regeneration?
 - C. How can we be regenerated?
 - D. The results of regeneration

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life—Lesson 6

- What is Regeneration?
- The Results of Regeneration

Questions for Fellowship

1. What is the definition of an experience of life?
2. What is the first experience of life? Give two reasons why it is necessary. In brief, what does it mean for you to be regenerated?
3. What are the results of regeneration?
4. Sing hymn “We have oil in our lamps – we are burning” (<https://www.hymnal.net/en/hymn/h/1308>) and share an experience of life afterward.

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 4: The Sense and Fellowship of Life

Lesson Focus

Through God's impartation of Himself into us as life, He has given us an additional sense called the sense of life. If we listen to the sense within there's an indicator of where we are, in the spirit or in the flesh, the natural self. By developing this sense we are enabled to fellowship with the Lord and live according to the mingled spirit.

Key Verses

Rom. 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

1 John 1:6-7

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and are not practicing the truth; **7** But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

Outline

I. The sense of life:

A. Where are you living, in the spirit or in the flesh?

1. In the spirit the issue is life and peace.
2. There is a sense within of strength, satisfaction, liveliness, brightness, and comfort.
3. In the flesh the issue is death.
4. There is a sense within of weakness, emptiness, depression, darkness, and pain.

B. The function of the sense of life:

1. Regeneration was its initiation, and the Spirit is its source.
2. Knowing and developing this sense.

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life—Lesson 7

- The Knowledge of Life

Questions for Fellowship

1. What is the sense of life?
2. What is the sense of death?
3. How do we know whether we are in the spirit or in the flesh?
4. How can we further develop this sense of life?
5. Memorize Romans 8:6 and recite it to your group.

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 5: Consecration

Lesson Focus

Consecration, that is, to hand ourselves over to the Lord, is a matter of supreme importance for us to go on in our experience of the Lord as life growing in us.

The basis of our consecration is that we already belong to God because He bought us with the precious blood shed by His Son on the cross. The motive of our consecration is that we love Him with our heart which makes us willing to consecrate ourselves to Him and makes our consecration sweet.

Key Verses

1 Cor. 6:20 For you have been bought with a price. So then glorify God in your body.

2 Cor. 5:14-15

14 For the love of Christ constrains us because we have judged this, that One died for all, therefore all died; **15** And He died for all that those who live may no longer live to themselves but to Him who died for them and has been raised.

Outline

- I. The basis of consecration—God's purchase
- II. The motive of consecration—God's love
- III. The meaning of consecration—to be a sacrifice
- IV. The purpose of consecration—to work for God
- V. The result of consecration—to abandon our future

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 8

- The Basis of Consecration
- The Motive of Consecration—God's love

Questions for Fellowship

1. What does it mean to consecrate ourselves to the Lord? Why is consecration important for us to advance in our experience of the Lord as life growing in us?
2. Why is it important for us to have both a basis and a motive of our consecration?
3. Share an experience with your group when you consecrated yourself to the Lord, either at an important time in your life or in a small situation.
4. Take a couple minutes to pray either as a group or individually to consecrate yourself freshly to the Lord.

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 6: Dealing with Sins

Lesson Focus

Once we are saved, our divine relationship with God is eternal. However, the condition of our relationship (fellowship) with him, could be interrupted by sins. After having consecrated ourselves, the first thing we need to deal with is sins. Even after being a believer for some time, we need to deal with our sins to maintain our fellowship with God. When God exposes our sins, we need to confess and agree, then He forgives and cleanses us so that fellowship is restored. The result is life and peace.

Key Verses

Gen 4:7 ...sin is crouching at the door; and his desire is for you, but you must rule over him.

Prov. 28:13 He who covers his transgressions will not prosper, / But whoever confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Outline

- I. The scriptural basis
- II. Sin versus sins
- III. Why do we need to deal with sins?
- IV. How do we deal with sins?
- V. The practice of dealing with sins

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 13

- The entire lesson

Questions for Fellowship

1. What is sin and how do we know if we have committed sins?
2. How often should we deal with our sins? If I sin too much, am I disqualified from being a Christian?
3. Take a minute on your own to consider if you have committed something sinful before this meeting, yesterday, or this week. If there is something that comes up from your conscience, you can open to the Lord to deal with it. What is the sense of life?

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 7: Dealing with the World

Lesson Focus

The world is a system designed and controlled by Satan to occupy us with human needs, usurping us inwardly from being useful to God.

In order to deal with the world, we must exercise our spirit. One, to see Satan's strategy and two, to love the Lord Jesus and be sanctified by God's Word.

Key Verses

1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the evil one.

1 John 2:15-16

15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. **16** Because all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the vainglory of life, is not of the Father but is of the world.

Outline

- I. What is the world?
- II. The inward content of the world
- III. The basis of dealing with the world
- IV. The extent and practice of dealing with the world

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 14

- A Godless Civilization
- Satan's System
- The Definition of the World
- The Objects of Dealing with the World
- The Regenerated Spirit Overcoming the World

Questions for Fellowship

1. What are man's three basic needs?
2. What was the product of man attempting to meet his need on his own?
3. How is the world designed to attract and occupy us? Can you give an example?
4. What is the result of being occupied by the world?
5. How do we deal with the world practically?
6. Pray-read one of the verses at the beginning of the lesson. If you feel the Lord is touching you regarding a specific item of the world that occupies you, write it down.
7. Ask one of the serving ones to share one experience of dealing with the world, or share an experience of your own.

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 8: Two Kinds of Fruit Out of the Divine Life

Lesson Focus

The divine life as the highest life bears the highest and most wonderful fruit: the fruit of Christian virtues and the fruit of saved persons. If we are experiencing life and growing in life, both kinds of fruit will be borne by us; otherwise, we are not adequately in life. We must deal with the Lord concerning whether we are bearing fruit in a normal way.

Key Verses

Gal. 5: 22-23a

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** meekness, self-control.

John 15:16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and I set you that you should go forth and bear fruit and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give you.

Outline

- I. The life we received at regeneration is a fruit-bearing life; God sowed the seed of this life into us with the goal of gaining fruit.
- II. As we grow in life, the virtues of this life will be manifest in our living as the fruit of the Spirit.
- III. If we are such fruit-bearing believers in the Christian virtues, the second category of fruit—saved persons—will be borne by us.

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 17

- Life Bears Fruit (second paragraph)
- The Fruit of Christian Virtues (first three paragraphs)
- The Fruit of Saved Persons Regenerated with the Divine Life

Questions for Fellowship

1. How can we know whether we are people of life experiencing life?
2. Which one of the Christian virtues touches you? And which one do you feel you are lacking?
3. Have you asked the Lord for a name that you can pray for? Have you asked Him for fruit from among your friends and classmates?

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 9: Maintaining a Strong Spirit by Calling and Praying

Lesson Focus

Right after we are saved, we can exercise our spirit every day to keep it strong. Throughout the Old Testament as well as in the early days of the Christian age, the saints called on the Lord's name. Calling on the name of the Lord is the easiest, the fastest, and the best way to exercise our spirit, to touch our spirit, and to maintain a strong spirit. If you practice calling on His name, you will see that it is a wonderful way to enjoy the Lord's riches. By this enjoyable practice our spirit will be strengthened for us to experience life every day.

Key Verses

Rom. 10:12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord is Lord of all and rich to all who call upon Him.

Psa. 116:2 Because He inclines His ear to me; / Therefore I will call upon Him all my days.

Outline

- I. Calling on the name of the Lord practiced by New Testament believers
- II. We are saved and enriched by calling on the name of the Lord.
- III. Through our simple and honest daily prayer, we contact God, we enjoy God, and we fellowship with God.

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 20

- The Need to Have a Strong Spirit
- Calling on the Name of the Lord (including C, D and E)
- Praying to Contact, to Enjoy, and to Fellowship with God
- Praying to Exercise God's Authority for God's Eternal Purpose

Questions for Fellowship

1. What is the first thing needed to maintain the life that is in us? Use the example of the "flat tires" to explain this.
2. Where can we see calling on the Lord being practiced in the New Testament?
3. What are some results of calling on the Lord the Bible gives us? Do you have an experience of calling on the Lord?
4. How can we bring our needs to the Lord by speaking to Him in a simple and honest way?

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 10: Being Enriched with the Word by Pray-reading, Reading, Studying, and Memorizing

Lesson Focus

When we come to the Bible, which is God's word, and touch the spirit and life in it, the divine life in us is enriched and strengthened. The key for this is our coming to the Bible by pray-reading, reading, studying it and memorizing it with the exercising of our mingled spirit.

Key Verses

John 6:63a The words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

Eccl. 12:1a Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth

Psa. 119:11 In my heart I have treasured up Your word / That I might not sin against You.

Outline

- I. We grow in life by the Word of God.
- II. The essence of the word is life.
- III. There are four keys to be enriched by the Word:
 - A. Pray-read the Word
 - B. Read the Word
 - C. Study the Word
 - D. Memorize the Word

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 21

- Using Our Spirit and Our Mental Faculty to Receive the Spirit and Life from the Word of God
- By Pray-reading
- By Memorizing

Questions for Fellowship

1. What two items has God given us as an inheritance?
2. Share one verse that has been a source of supply to your Christian life?
3. How should we come to the Bible in order to “strike” the Spirit in the Word and have “fire”?
4. What are the four keys to be enriched with the Word of God?

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 11: Speaking the Word of Christ to Remain in Life

Lesson Focus

God wants His life to multiply and spread on this earth through His believers as the channels of life. We can cooperate with God to propagate His life by enjoying and speaking the word of Christ.

Key Verses

John 15:4-5

4 Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. **5** I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

Acts 5:20 Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.

Outline

- I. The multiplication and spreading of life through the channels of life
- II. The vine and the branches bearing fruit for the multiplication and spreading of life
- III. Speaking the word of Christ for the dispensing of life

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 22

- Being Channels of Life
- Speaking for the Dispensing of Life

Life-Study of John; Chapter 33

- To Propagate Life and to Multiply Life
- To Express Life for the Glorification of the Father
- Not for Blossoms, Not for Material

Questions for Fellowship

1. Why is it so important for God to have channels of life?
2. What does it mean to say that as branches in the vine, fruit-bearing is our destiny? Have you ever experienced the joy of fruit-bearing? Share your experience with those in your group.
3. What challenges do you face in speaking the word of Christ?
4. Pray for one another to be channels of life for God's life to propagate and multiply this coming school year.

Life—Knowing and Experience Life

Lesson 12: Preserving Our Whole Being for Life

Lesson Focus

We must preserve our spirit, soul and body by exercising our spirit, confessing our sinfulness and shortcomings, and by staying away from anything that defiles.

Key Verses

2 Tim. 2:22 Abide But flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

1 Thes. 5:16-19

16 Go Always rejoice, **17** Unceasingly pray, **18** In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. **19** Do not quench the Spirit.

Outline

- I. Preserving our spirit for life
 - A. Exercising our spirit to contact God
 - B. Dealing with our conscience to stay living
- II. Clearing the arteries of our psychological heart
- III. Preserving our body

Ministry Excerpt References

Lesson Book, Level 4: Life—Knowing and Experiencing Life— Lesson 12

- Keeping Our Spirit Living
- Dealing with Our Conscience to Stay Living
- Preserving our Body

Questions for Fellowship

1. What is the main function of our spirit?
2. Have you ever been condemned by your conscience? When and about what?
3. Describe, according to your own experience, what clogs up your three arteries most.