

ETERNAL LIVING NOW



ELN

FOUNDATIONS WORKBOOK # 1

BY

ROLAND RUFFIN

Roland S. Ruffin 2024 ©

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FOREWORD

The purpose of each Eternal Living Now Foundations Workbook is to provide readers with the basic concepts, vocabulary, and opportunities for guided application of eternal Biblical principles that promote personal growth. Each reader is encouraged to select a Discussion Partner to share interpretations, revelations, personal growth, and testimonies that are received from the information provided in each workbook. *Blessed to be a Blessing* is the outcome we pray for every reader who receives and shares the Eternal Living Now experience with others.

The Structure for each Workbook includes the following Sections:

- **CHAPTER STORY:**
 - Each Chapter presents Eternal Living Now truths, perspectives from the Bible, and Scriptural applications for our life and lifestyle.
- **ETERNAL LIVING NOW SCRIPTURAL VOCABULARY:**
 - Certain scriptures, that help build Eternal Life Vocabulary, are highlighted, and included in this Section for readers to memorize.
- **CHAPTER PERSONAL APPLICATIONS:**
 - Application questions that encourage readers to learn “how to” apply the information that is provided in each Workbook, are included in this Section. Readers are to select a **Feedback Partner** with whom the reader can communicate what they have learned after completing each Chapter. Sharing and teaching others what you have learned provides greater clarity and memory retention for our readers.

Repetition, repetition, and more repetition is required when learning new things. Certain phrases and themes are intentionally repeated numerous times in each Chapter in order to familiarize our readers with Eternal Living Now language, concepts, and points of view. Our Learning through Relearning Model for training through repetition, has proven to be an effective way for people to remember, internalize, and take command of the new materials presented in each Eternal Living Now workbook.

Because God is eternal, He is already having an eternal relationship with us, whether we are, or are not, aware of Him. Each workbook was written to encourage everyone, and especially Believers in Christ, to join in with God's eternal means and methods of communicating with humanity. Divine health, healing, wholeness, and well-being from the Nature of our eternal God, and each workbook focuses on the different components of God's Nature that serve as the eternal solution for mortal and immortal beings in all of God's creations.

Enjoy, and be blessed as you complete and receive revelations from God through each workbook. As you are blessed, the world in which we live becomes more blessed. Blessed to be a Blessing is what Eternal Living Now is all about. Selah!

BLESSINGS,

Roland Ruffin Author/Eternal Living Now
Author/Eternal Living Now

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CHAPTER ONE



BALANCE

Sunday School, Sunday sermons or weekday bible studies have done a great job informing Believers of “one side” of their relationship with God. We have been well informed about our sinful inheritance from Adam and Eve’s Sin. Because humanity is born with the fallen sin nature of Adam and Eve, and because God hates Sin, He must distance Himself from humanity until reunited through the acceptance of Jesus Christ as one’s lord and savior. These teachings are great for new converts and Believers to Christianity because they identify the “side” or perspective of our relationship with God that is based upon the awareness of our sinfulness and the need for salvation through Christ. The question is, “*when do we ever get to learn about the side/perspective of our relationship that resides in Christ beyond Sin?*” A relationship **with** Christ as sinners saved by grace is different from a relationship in Christ where Sin will never exist.

As a Believer, you probably have been told about your secret sins, the identification of your spiritual enemy as the Satan, or the need for daily spiritual warfare against the presence of demonic influences in addition to the emergence of temptations from our fallen flesh nature that was inherited from Adam and Eve. You already know the importance of repentance for your sins and why daily prayer and the study of the Scriptures is necessary for spiritual growth. However, how many sermons, Sunday School or weekday studies have you

received on WHAT RESIDES IN CHRIST? Relationship **with** Christ is based upon awareness of our sinful self that is saved by God's grace. We learn how to identify and resist our sinful proclivities because of our biblical obedience to Christ. However, a relationship in Christ is based upon **awareness** of what resides **within** Christ. The obvious question is, "*what resides **in/within** Christ that differs from just a relationship **with** Christ?*"

WHAT RESIDES WITHIN / IN CHRIST?

With Christ, the Believer is always aware of their sinfulness which tends to dominate the Believer's communication with self and others. Since there is no Sin **within/in** Christ, then awareness of sinlessness tends to dominate the Believer's communication with self and others. Awareness of sinfulness and sinlessness are two very different arenas of spiritual awareness that can greatly affect a Believer's life and lifestyle. Because most Believers are already aware of their sinful self, each of the Eternal Living Now Foundations Workbooks will focus on **awareness** of the Believer's sinless self. Each Foundations Workbook will emphasize the importance of "**balance**" between knowledge of one's sinful and sinless self as a born-again Believer in Christ. Once again, the goal of each Eternal Living Now Foundations Workbook is to inform born-again Believers of their sinless eternal Nature that only resides **within/ in** Christ. Since Believers have been taught about who they are "*not*" in Christ, it is time for Believers to become aware of who they "*are*" eternally in Christ. So, let's begin with awareness of what is **within/in** Christ, that by default, also resides within Believers **in** Christ.

WITHIN / IN CHRIST REALITIES

Each of the Eternal Living Now Foundations Workbooks will creatively explain three eternal realities that only reside **within/in** Christ:

- Whatever resides **within/in** Christ is eternal and everlasting.

- Whatever resides **within/in** Christ is an extension of the eternal and Divine Nature of God the Father in Heaven.
- Whatever resides **within/in** Christ exist beyond Sin.

Of course, each Workbook will provide Scriptural support for each of the three realities in reference to what resides **within/in** Christ. The phrase “**within/in**” Christ will most often be shortened to just “**in**” Christ” with the understanding that both **within/in** Christ and **in** Christ mean the same thing. **In** Christ will refer to what exist, resides, or what is located “**inside**” of Christ, rather than what is around, with, before, or accompanies Christ. Always remember that reality “*around*” Christ can be a reality that is temporary, ephemeral, transitory and non-permanent, whereas reality **in** (*inside*) Christ is always eternal, everlasting, non-perishing and will never pass away. Big difference indeed!

Believers, put your seat belts on because you are about to be introduced or reintroduced, to realities about your identity, behaviors and resources **in** Christ that are eternal, everlasting and permanent. You are about to embrace the untold side of your relationship with God **in** Christ that is beyond the presence, power or personality of Sin or sinfulness. Every Believer, who is born of the Spirit of God, exist as the sinless Nature of God **in** Christ and every Workbook will consistently refer to this truth. Sinlessness **in** Christ is not a possession because possessions can be taken away. The Believers existence as Sinlessness can never be taken away because sinlessness is the very state of the Believers spiritual being **in** Christ. Because your sinless identity is who you are forever **in** Christ as a spiritual being, then education and awareness of your sinless self is extremely important. I know by now you might be wondering why you have been insufficiently informed about your sinless Nature **in** Christ. The strategy of the enemy is based upon keeping Believers from every sufficiently knowing their eternal Nature **in** Christ because the enemy has no weapon, or defense, against what eternally exist **in** Christ. The greatest offensive weapon of the enemy is “*spiritual ignorance*” when it comes to the Believer’s **in** Christ identity and resources. Once a giant become aware of his true size, he will no longer be intimidated by a few ants because of his previous ignorance. Likewise, when Believers are

informed and aware of their eternal identity and resources in Christ, they are no longer intimidated by Sin, Satan, Hell, or any demonic energetic presence, because existence in Christ is beyond all derivations of Sin.

WESTERN & EASTERN BALANCE

The original authors of the Bible did not write our Scriptures from a Western/Indo-European perspective. Biblical languages, stories, cultures, and ideologies about relationships with God, originated from Eastern Afro-Asiatic-Mesopotamia perspectives. Western religious perspectives, like Western culture, tends to focus on the peripheral, external, superficial, exclusive, and outward or functional rather than the inner interconnected reality of things. Eastern culture tends to focus on the internal, inward and inclusive integration of the inner reality of things. For example, Western thought bases knowledge of a tree or thing primarily upon sensory observation of its physical form, color, shape, location, and its unique anatomical/biological composition, whereas Eastern thought bases knowledge of a tree or thing primarily upon the ability to “become the tree or thing observed.” Through Oneness with the tree, you can fully know the tree. Eastern thought focuses on Oneness of all things because everything is an extension of One Divine Source. Everything is connected to One intelligent essence at the atomic particle level of existence. Modern science (Quantum Physics) has now confirmed the validity of the Eastern point of view of connectivity through Quantum Entanglement that affirms the presence of intelligence, within every particle/sub-atomic particle that comprise the energetic compositions of all material forms. In simple terms, this means that the Source of intelligence within atoms and energy that manifest trees, is the SAME Source of intelligence within atoms/energy that manifest human forms like you and me. Both trees, things and human beings are intelligent material compositions from the **same** energetic Source. Modern science recently confirmed three- to four-thousand-year-old Eastern spiritual ideologies that center on the Oneness of all things at the atomic/sub-atomic level of existence.

Western spirituality/culture tends to focus on relationships with, and historically around/about Christ. Eastern spiritual/cultural perspectives begin with relationship within, internally inside, or as an exact mirrored extension of an original Source of Being. For example, from a Western perspective, the Image/Likeness of God majors on Adam **representing** God in Heaven on Earth in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2). The Image/Likeness of God from an Eastern perspective begin with the authentic Divine Nature of God's Image (Being) and Likeness (Beingness), precisely **REPLICATED/reproduced** through Adam's human nature as Divine Nature. The actual, authentic and eternal Nature of God in Heaven is authentically re-imaged and expressed as the Image/Likeness of God through Adam/Eve. The Divine Nature of God was the basis for their ruling/reigning posture/position in the Garden, in addition to authorization to exercise Divine authority over "*all of the Earth*" (Genesis 1:26). Adam/Eve ruled the Earth as **genuine extensions** of the Ruling Nature of God in Heaven. In other words, Adam/Eve were authorized to exercise godly rule on Earth, that originated in Heaven. Once again, from a Western perspective, Adam/Eve existed in the Garden of Eden with God as companions and participants in God's Image/Likeness. However, more accurately from an Eastern perspective, Adam/Eve existed in the Garden as an authentic expression of Divine Nature that included God's Image/Likeness. Adam/Eve was One with God in Image/Likeness and Divine Nature through the infusion of God's Spirited Breath of Life within them. Adam/Eve were never completely separated from God after the sinful Fall in Genesis 3, because the **ever-present Spirited Breath of God's Life** remained the **center of animation** within Adam/Eve. It is important to remember, from a Western perspective, the sinful Fall of Adam in Genesis 3 caused spiritual separation between God and Adam. Garden expulsion and separation was initiated by God and remains the present predicament between God and mankind to this very day because of Sin from a Western perspective. However, from an Eastern perspective, the Fall of Adam was an occurrence where Adam's **awareness** of God became less than his awareness of his egoic thoughts towards disobedience to God's command regarding abstinence from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. God's presence in His Spirited Breath of Life within Adam was never rescinded, retracted or separated, but remained with Adam, both inside and outside of Eden. In short, God never left or abandoned or separated Himself from Adam, but

Adam's lack of awareness of God after the Fall was a self-initiated separation from God by Adam. The removal of Adam/Eve from inside to outside of the Garden of Eden, simply mirrored Adam's decision to separate himself from God by choosing egoic thoughts engendered by disobediently eating the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God never left, and never will leave mankind without the ministry of His presence.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone how God's Spirited Breath of Life is inclusive of all of God's Nature, Character, Personality and fulfillment of His Will?

IN CHRIST

Over and over again, the phrase “in Christ” will be used throughout each Workbook to emphasize an Eastern perspective of relationship with what **internally** exist **within** Christ. The phrase “in Christ” refers to the existence of the presence, powers, posture, Nature, Will, Being and Beingness (Image/Likeness) of God the Father, and God the Spirit, that **fully** resides WITHIN Christ (Colossians 2:9). ‘In Christ,’ is an extremely important phrase for Believer's because whatever eternally exist within Christ, **already exist within the born-again spirit-Nature of every Believer in Christ**. This means, as God is Eternal, Holy, Righteous, and Loving, His Nature within every Believer is also Eternal, Holy, Righteous, and Loving. **Connecting the dots means every Believer is already *spiritually* Eternal, Holy, Righteous and Loving in Christ (within Christ)**. The words, “In Christ,” are the most important two words in the Believer's vocabulary in my opinion because in Christ resides our eternal identity, future, destiny and destination. In Christ is everything! A Christian recently told me that “he was nothing in Christ.” I understood he was trying to say that his Sin-infected Earth suit was of no value in Christ. After completing the ELN Foundations Workbooks, Believers will understand that no Sin exist in

Christ to begin with, and that Believers are never nothing, but always “all things” **in** Christ. Everything **in** Christ is of eternal value and necessity. Sin, and our Sin-infected Earth suits are of no value (**in** Christ) because neither of them exist **in** Christ. For Believers to see themselves as nothing **in** Christ, means they are including the nothingness of Sin and their fallen natured-earth suit *within* Christ. This grave misunderstanding of the inclusion of Sin within Christ, has been promoted across countless pulpits. No wonder the Christians/Believers are so confused regarding their relationship with God. Truth be told, Sin will never be within the **resurrected** Christ, and our fallen Earth suit nature will never exist in Heaven or within Christ. Believers, your eternal existence is not awareness of your Sinful earth suit, but a living awareness of the eternal life **OF** Christ, you now exist **in** Christ. Once again, **in** Christ refers to what exists within Christ, rather than what exists about/before/behind or underneath him. **In** Christ is our *internal existence* within the Divine Nature and Person of God-in Christ. **In** Christ thoughts, appetites, attitudes, behaviors, identity, personality, powers, prestige and posture, are already AUTHENTIC expressions of God-**in** Christ by the Holy Spirit **within/through Believers** because of our Oneness (Eastern perspective). A lot has been said, revealed, and released in this, and previous paragraphs. Be encouraged to take a few minutes to meditate on what’s been read and received before proceeding.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone that Sin does not exist **in** Christ, and therefore will never exist within the born-again spirit nature of Believers **in** Christ.

WHY IN CHRIST AWARENESS IS REQUIRED FOR BALANCE

In Christ, in Christ, and again in **CHRIST**, is, and will forever be, the basis, reference point, and foundation for eternal spiritual growth. Therefore, spiritual appetites, behaviors, powers, identity, language, Heavenly throne room posture, sinless existence of being, and spiritual extension as the Image/Likeness of God, **can be known** through an in Christ/Oneness relationship empowered by the Holy Spirit. Knowing what resides in Christ is the Believer's daily research, the realization of identity, guidelines for eternal behavior in our ephemeral/ temporary world, and basis for understanding of the Nature of God that is eternally the Nature of spirit being within every Believer. The enemy's strategy for impeding spiritual growth for Believers was/is to encourage heavy teachings on the fallen nature of our earth suits, the fear of hell with the need for religion as fire insurance, Church-anity, regarding titles, traditions, controls on salvation, exclusive historic/contemporary interpretations of the Bible, in addition to socialization amongst selected-church families, but **never-ever-NEVER educate Believers regarding the eternal realities of their eternal life in Christ during our present NOW!** Christ is eternal both *Now* and *Forevermore*. Whatever resides in Christ is also eternal and because the spiritual being of Believers have their eternal residence in Christ, then Believers are (knowingly/unknowingly) daily living eternally in our present NOW. Information, insights, and revelations regarding every possible eternal reality and eternal resource that resides in Christ, should dominate religious education and training curricula for Believers in Christ. Since information about what exist outside of Christ is sooooo-amply available, while information about what resides in Christ remains hard to find, the goal of this- and all Eternal Living Now Foundations Workbooks will be the explanation, elucidation, and education, of everything that is **stationed and resides in Christ within Believers, in our present Now**. Since "*Christ is our life*," (Colossians 3:3,4), and "*we live , move and have our being*" in Christ (Acts 17:28), then it is vitally imperative that the meaning, function, purpose, and appreciation of our life is understood in alignment with what reside in Christ. Believers will never understand their eternal existence until they are in command of knowledge, relationships, identity and behavioral lifestyle, that already exist in Christ. In Christ, in Christ, and

IN CHRIST is the most important reality that Believers are to embrace, experience/express as everlasting identity/behavior, and the basis for understanding their Heavenly/eternal lifestyle on Earth. **In** Christ is everything the Believer is and will ever become-forever. Hopefully you are now convinced that your understanding of what is **in CHRIST** (*within* Christ) is the most important understanding of self, life, destiny and destination, a Believer could ever have.

KNOW THYSELF ETERNALLY

Eternal Living Now strives to provide a balance, relative to the Believer's knowledge about the fallen sin-natured proclivities of our fleshly Earth suit, in comparison to the *sinless nature* of our born-again spirit **in Christ**. Weekly traditional worship/training services inform Believers about the Devil, Satan, Sin, sinfulness, hell, curses, temptations, the Cross, tithing, and church membership. However, it is amazing how seldom Believers receive information about the eternal Nature of their born-again spirit **in** Christ. For example, how many of the questions (below) could you truthfully and comprehensively answer based upon the teachings you have received:

- What eternally exist **in** Christ?
- Do you have an eternal identity **in** Christ?
- Do you have eternal behavior **in** Christ?
- What eternal realities in Heaven exist within Believers **in** Christ?
- What eternal language do Believers possess **in** Christ?
- What eternal powers do Believers possess **in** Christ?
- What kind of an eternal presence exist within Believers **in** Christ?

How well did you answer the questions above? Honestly, could you answer these questions as easily as you could provide answers for the existence of Sin, the existence of a Devil, the existence of hell, the existence of curses, the Cross, Christmas, or requirements for church membership? Let's face it, the reason why so many Believers struggle with answers regarding their eternal identity, inheritance, behaviors, powers, language, and present state of Oneness **in** Christ, is because we seldom hear about it. How many sermons, Sunday School lessons, or Bible teachings have you heard that informed you about your *present* eternal Identity **in** Christ? How many times were you taught about your *present eternal Nature* in God-**in** Christ? How many times were you informed that the Heavenly Divine Nature of God in Heaven is the *EXACT* Heavenly Divine Nature that exist within your born-again spirit being, **in** Christ. Be honest, do you know a lot, or a little, about who and how you are presently known in Heavenly places?

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone **WHY**, you may not have been in command of biblical information regarding God's eternal relationship that includes God's view of your eternal identity, behaviors, language, powers, presence, Throne room posture, and Kingdom privileges in the present **NOW**?

Knowledge of your natural and eternal identity should be the basis for your behavior. Behaving a question mark (?) results in a confused life and lifestyle. If you do not know who you are, then you are subject to acting out Hollywood/hypocritical roles that provide a poor substitution for your identity. Living **for** Christ, before knowing who you are **in Christ**, is like behaving a question mark, or worse still, behaving religious expectations that may have nothing to do with your eternal purpose and destiny **in** Christ. The inability to command information regarding what is **in** Christ, or what is eternally residing within the spirit being of Believers, or even awareness that you **are** spirit being – housed in an Earth suit, belies the fact that many are behaving an unknown identity, labeled as so-called Christianity. “Fret not,” change is happening!

LIVING IN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT OR WITHIN CHRIST

It is time for the calculated ignorance of our *present* eternal spiritual identity **in** Christ to end. The term ‘*calculated*’ is intentionally used because there is a systemic reason for the majority of Believers possessing much knowledge about themselves as SINNERS ^{saved} by grace, but very little knowledge about the greatness of who they are as eternal spirit beings **in** Christ. There is a difference between possessing denominational and theological knowledge **about** Christ, and “being” **in Christ** as our state of eternal being. Historical knowledge about Christ is great but, existing the authentic presence of Christ through union with the Spirit of God **in** Christ; is better. *Existing* the story, you share, in comparison to sharing a story you read, presents two different levels of authenticity. We need to balance our teachings regarding the historical stories and concepts of Jesus, with **in** Christ lifestyles that manifest the Heavenly presence, powers, and personality of Christ in Heaven on Earth through our ministry, messages, and life-missions in this world. Knowledge about Christ such as his birth, cross & resurrection, and the rapture must become balanced with knowledge of our eternal presence, our everlasting union with the Spirit of God, and our existence as a conduit of Heavenly healing, wholeness and wellbeing in/into this world. Because we don’t survive, but thrive **in** Christ, our knowledge of **surviving** this world through Christianity must become balanced with **thriving** knowledge of the eternal life we now exist. Relationship with Christ for victory in a perishing-temporary world, should be tempered with eternal knowledge residing **in** Christ that is *victorious* in any world or age, including the future new Heavenly Earth. **In** Christ, we don’t survive, we thrive! BALANCE between **knowing about** Christ, and **existing in Christ** should be the beginner’s level of Christian indoctrination in order prevent Believers from behaving what is unknown **in** Christ. Teaching new Believers, the value of knowing what is **in** Christ because of their love for God, rather than using the Devil for scaring the hell out of people into salvation, is more of an effective and sustaining/strategized approach for continued captivating spiritual growth. Behaving unknown being and identity is dangerous for oneself, and others who may be impacted by your presence. Decide while taking this Eternal Living Now Foundations Course, that you are determined to exist as an exclamation mark (!) in—Christ, rather than a question mark (?) based upon just knowledge about or outside of Christ.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone **what** existing “**in**” Christ really means, in oppose to existing **with** Christ?

"BEING" BEFORE BEHAVIOR

Personal commitment to achieving command of information presented in each of the Eternal Living Now courses, is essential if you are to **understand** your eternal "being," before **exercising** your *being* as eternal *behavior* **in** Christ. Having the confidence of *knowing as you are already known in Heavenly places*, will help you to stand strong against accusations based upon perceptions of your flesh nature, but not your eternal spirit being. Your personhood is comprised of two natures. One nature is mortal which is timely and temporary, your other nature is immortal, timeless and spiritual. Learning who and what your spirit being is **in** Christ, is the beginning of immortally living the fulfillment of your life purpose in our mortal world. Corporations, institutions, traditions, family roles, community and cultural expectations exist with their purposes for your life. Daily you must choose between living to fulfill corporate/cultural purposes or eternal purposes. Fulfilling your life purpose for God in alignment with His Will in Heaven for Earth, is most important in your eternal relationship with God **in** Christ. It is God's Will for Believers to know who they are **in** Christ before behaving their identity **in** Christ. *Being* before *Behavior* was the Will of God for Adam to experience/express in the Image (being) and Likeness (behavioral beingness) of God in the Garden of Eden (Gen 1:26,27). God's creation mandate in the Garden of Eden for Image/being, to **precede** Likeness/behavioral-beingness, has never changed, even to this very day. ***Being what we behave***, rather than just behaving what we are told or commanded, is the new standard for the life and lifestyle of Believers **in** Christ.

Let's begin with a fresh understanding of what is eternal in God, in addition to what is eternal in Believers **in** Christ, as a basis for this and all other workbooks to follow in our Foundations Courses.

CHAPTER TWO

START

GOD IS ETERNAL



The term “ eternal” has many definitions. The definition that is most meaningful for ELN workbooks is as follows: *Whatever is eternal, exist before time, within time, and beyond time.* Eternal life is not restricted or constrained by the limitations of time. God declares Himself as eternal because He exist beyond time as its creator, God also exist within time as He is always present in our Now, and He exist beyond time, as the Alpha and Omega of time and creations, are contained within God. In short, God is eternally God, and always will be eternal.

The following scriptures confirm the eternity of God:

- Deuteronomy 33:27 Our **Eternal** God is our refuge.
- Exodus 3:14 I am (forever) who I (forever) will be.
- Revelations 1:8 God exists before the beginning of time (Alpha) and beyond the end of time (Omega).
- Revelation 1:8b The existence of God is eternally “Who is, was, and is to come” God always IS!
- Psalms 93:2 God exists from everlasting to everlasting
- John 1:1 God was already present at the beginning because He existed before the beginning.
- Genesis 1:1 The existence of God preceded the existence of time for creation(s). God was already present during the beginning.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone how the “eternal” is what exist before creations in time, what exist within/through time, and what exist beyond the limits of time?

GOD'S PRESENCE WITHIN EVERYTHING

Since God is eternal, His relationship with humanity occurs as moments of time in eternity according to His Divine lens. The past, present and future, simultaneously exist in the Now of eternity. As the Alpha and Omega, God's interactions with humanity are based upon the complete picture of what humanity was, is and will become. God's timeless presence is perceived in timely ways, revelations, and episodic events throughout our human experiences. Because God exists from “everlasting to everlasting” (Psalms 93:2), His presence resides within every category, particle, space/place within all realities of time. King David testified that if “*he made his bed in Heaven or hell, behold, God is there also*” (Psalms 139:8). Nothing can hide from God, nor escape His presence. Even the night shines as day before the eyes of God (Psalms 139:12), this means that even darkness cannot hide from the presence of God. God knows, understands, and is present within all dimensions of time, and eternity as well. When we have an experience with God, we are concurrently having an eternal moment, an everlasting experience, and a timely episode of timelessness. God's Image/Likeness is eternal because God is eternal. Likewise, God's Image/Likeness within Adam/mankind is eternal because God is eternally Himself, and never changes (James 1:17).

• **ETERNAL LIVING NOW SCRIPTURAL VOCABULARY TO MEMORIZE**

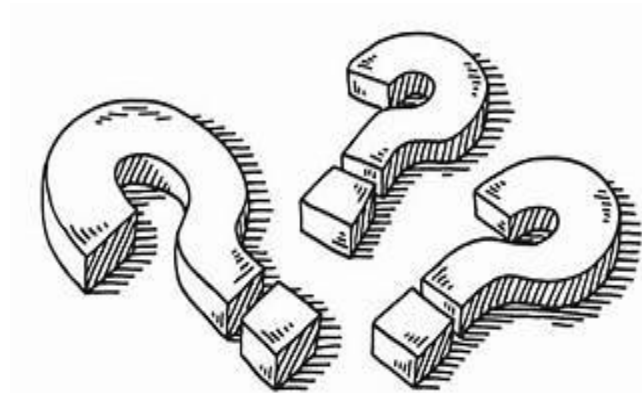
- Deuteronomy 33:27 Our Eternal God is our refuge.
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- Psalms 93:2 God exist from everlasting to everlasting
- John 1:1 God was already present at the beginning because He existed before a beginning.

▪ **PERSONAL APPLICATIONS**

- TASK: Explain your understanding of the following with your Feedback Partner:
 - Why is it important for God to exist eternally when it regards the salvation of humanity?
 - Explain to someone how the Bible established the eternality of God as a fact.
 - Because God is eternal, explain how God is already having an eternal relationship with yourself and humanity.

CHAPTER THREE



WHAT'S IN CHRIST?

WHAT ETERNALLY EXIST “IN” CHRIST

There is a difference between reality **outside** of Christ, and eternal reality **in Christ**. Only what exist within the Divine Nature of God has residence in Christ.

WHAT DOES NOT EXIST IN CHRIST

- Sin, death, hell, Satan, demons, and iniquity does not exist in the Divine Nature of God, and therefore, cannot exist in Christ.
- Extensions of Sin, Satan and death such as evil, hatred, racism, lies, murder, confusion, and strife, also does not exist in the Divine Nature of God and therefore, cannot exist **in** Christ.

WHAT DOES EXIST IN CHRIST

- **In** Christ we spiritually exist as eternal life in our present Now (John 3:15-16- “have” is presented as a Present Active Indicative meaning Believers spiritually exist in eternal life in their present Now).
- **In** Christ, the union of our human spirit with the Spirit of God are united as One Spirit/spirit coexistence forever (1 Corinthians 6:17; John 14:17).
- **In** Christ, the Fruit/Nature of God’s Spirit as eternal joy, peace, righteousness, faith, patience, meekness, and love is a state of our spiritual being (Galatians 5:22). Believers *don’t just have spiritual fruit, but now **exist** the spiritual fruit of Galatians 5:22, since God’s Spirit is now One with the Believer’s human spirit (1 Corinthians 6:17).*
- **In** Christ we spiritually exist as the DNA of Divine Nature as God’s children, sons and family (Romans 8:14-16).
- **In** Christ we spiritually exist as a new, born-again spiritual nature, and new creation or genus, and/or species that originates directly from the Spirit of God (John 3:3; 1 Corinthians 6:17, 2 Corinthians 5:17).
- **In** Christ we spiritually exist as the seed of God’s Nature, forever (1 Peter 1:23; 1 John 3:9).
- **In** Christ we spiritually exist as God’s Heavenly household citizens, on Earth (Ephesians 2:19).
- **In** Christ we spiritually exist as the “*Blessed*” (Ephesians 1:3).
- **In** Christ, we spiritually existed in the heart of God before the creation of the world as God’s Chosen, Adopted family, Holy, Blameless, Blood-washed/forgiven, and eternally Acceptable (Ephesians 1:4-12).
- **In** Christ we spiritually exist as a God-Sealed people forever (Ephesians 1:13).
- **In** Christ, we spiritually exist as the Body of Christ and are stationed in the Heavenly Household Throne room at the right hand of God (Ephesians 1:20-23).

- **In** Christ we are blood redeemed and forgiven according to God ability to forgive/redeem and not our human ability (Ephesians 1:7)
- **In** Christ Believers are and will exist as God's Glorious Praise (Ephesians 1:12)
- **In** Christ, Believers are Anointed and Sealed Believers by the Spirit of God: 2 Cor 1:21-22

AGAIN - KNOW THYSELF

A lot of teaching, religious dogmas, theologies and Sunday School trainings revolve around information about our sins, hell, the devil, daily human failures and realities that do not reside in Christ. We need to balance information regarding realities that are not **in** Christ, with information that **only** resides **in** Christ (like the information above). I repeat, we have been told too much about what is outside of Christ rather than what's within Jesus Christ. Announcement: Believers, **in** Christ, you are eternally valued and special. Who Believers are **in** Christ is so important in God's Heavenly Household, that special royal seating arrangements have been made at the right hand of God's throne room seat for Christ, and his Body of Believers (Ephesians 1:20-22; 1 Peter 2:9-12). Many angels and citizens of the Heavenly Household praise God from a distance, however, Believers have a front-row seat in the VIP section of the Throne room. Believers are too eternally important to remain ignorant of their eternal ID , Throne room posture, and eternal resources **in** Christ. Knowing more about our sinless Nature **in** Christ, rather than the sinful perishable nature of our Earth suit, is an imperative for Believers.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone the following: Because Christ is eternal, born-again Believers exists eternally **in** Christ?

#How would you explain **how** eternal life exists in the present NOW within born-again Believers **in** Christ?

OUT OR IN CHRIST DIFFERENCES

Eternal Living Now Workbooks seek to provide a better balance regarding what's out/in Christ by majoring on the eternal realities of God-in Christ within Believers. The Believer's knowledge of our eternal ID in Christ stabilizes, empowers, and eternally secures in ways that sin consciousness, (teachings that majors on human sins and failures), simply cannot. Enough talk about our deficits, sinfulness, and hopelessness. Time for more teachings about who we are/and are becoming in Christ, since in Christ, we experience our present salvation, and through Christ we experience his eternal life as our own forever. Through an Eternal Lens, exploration of our sins is just reacquaintance with our past, whereas exploration of what is in Christ is acquaintance with our eternal present, and future. We evolve in godly perfection by living in our future, not the mental movies of our past.

Eternal Living Now Foundation and Academy Courses, will explore, inform, and provide guidance regarding the wealth of abundance within the eternal realities of God's Nature, that already exist within Believers in Christ. All of the knowledge of God, wisdom of God, powers of God, presence of God, persona of God, access to/and availability of the blessings of God, presently reside in Christ. Eternal Living Now is committed to educating Believers about their eternal ID in Christ from within, rather than without. Traditional religious teachings have left a generation of Believers devoid of understanding their eternal relationship with God- in Christ on a daily basis. Many are living eternally now with God but have no idea of what eternal living means. Since our eternal God is already having an eternal relationship with His people, it is time for us to consciously join in with God's perspective of daily **eternal communication with His Divine Nature within Believers**. In Christ, we have everything, what we possess outside of Christ is already passing away. In Christ, we exist a life and lifestyle that is everlasting. Outside of Christ, we exist whatever our culture and world define for us. In Christ, we have an eternal identity. Outside of Christ we exist what our culture and institutions tell us we are. In Christ we have and exist eternal truth. Outside of Christ we exist the definition of human philosophies . In Christ, we are spiritually *alive* forever. Outside of Christ, we just spiritually exist forever. If one had to

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain the following statement to someone: Since Christ is eternal, then **resources** within Christ are also eternal.

What eternal resources could you identify and share with someone while/after reading this Chapter?

choose between **in**/out-side of Christ, which should be chosen? I would choose an **in**-Christ existence in our present now, and forever. Which would you choose daily?

- **ETERNAL LIVING NOW SCRIPTURAL VOCABULARY TO MEMORIZE**

- John 14:20 Believers exist within Christ, as Christ exist within Believers, as One.
- John 15:1-8 Believers are extensions of the life of Christ
- John 17: 20-26 Believers in Christ are One

- **PERSONAL APPLICATIONS**

- TASK: Explain your understanding of the following with your Feedback Partner:
- Explain the shortcomings of teaching about the sinful nature of our Earth suit more than the sinless Nature of our spirit being in Christ.
- Explain the relationship between being and behavior in Christ
- Explain what eternal resources, that reside in Christ, look like to your team members.

CHAPTER FOUR

GOD IS (KNOWINGLY OR UNKNOWINGLY) HAVING AN ETERNAL RELATIONSHIP WITH US ALREADY



God declares that His Divine Person and Nature never change (James 1:17; Revelation 1:8). This means that the eternality of God change for no one. As God is always *Eternal*, His relationships with time and creation(s) are forever from His eternal perspective. God is always having an *Eternal* relationship with humanity from His point of view, even when humanity interprets Divine relationships from a limited timely point of view because we are a creation in time. The apex or highest level of relationship with God is based upon viewing reality through His timeless, Eternal Lens, rather than our limited, timely lens. God offers His eternal lens and point of view freely to us, by the Spirit of Christ (John 16:13). God wants us to see the intentions and thoughts of His heart daily. God desires us to see His Divine purposes as fulfillment of our own life purpose. God desires our highest and best in this life, and in every life that we may experience in the phenomena of ageless time. Daily revelations of God's good will for each of us, are revealed to us, and within us by His Spirit. The Spirit of God is in constant communication with our human spirits regarding the *intentions* of God from Heaven to Earth. Salvation, regeneration, spiritual conversion, are all religious terms for an **awakening** between mind and spirit to the ongoing connection between the Spirit of God and our human spirit. Our minds serve like computers to interpret time engendered phenomenon on our Earth. Awakening occurs when our minds re-connect to the communications that occur between Spirit (*Spirit of God*), and our human spirit. Conscious **awareness** of

Spirit/spirit communications, is the mind of Christ, because Jesus was conceived by the Spirit of God, ministered to by the Spirit of God, was led and even raised from the dead by the power of the Spirit of God. Jesus, though human, was fully aware of the ongoing communication between the Spirit of God from Heaven, with his human spirit. To be born-again means the living connection between the Spirit of God and our human spirit, are empirically experienced by our minds. The term “empirically” is intentionally used here because the born-again experience is not just a concept or idea, but an actual transformative spiritual experience that God validates by placing the Divine Life of His eternal Spirit-within our human spirit, in a way that the two Spirit/spirit beings now become ONE Spirit/spirit-union (1 Corinthians 6:17).

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you share with someone the FACT that our Eternal God observes humanity and especially Believers through an Eternal lens?

How would you encourage others to allow God to reveal Himself from His eternal perspective which is an eternal Self-revelation of Himself within/through His Spirited Breath of Life within each of us?

ONENESS WITH GOD GUARANTEES THE EVER-PRESENCE OF GOD

In Christ, we exist as ONE SPIRIT forever because the Divine Nature of God’s Spirit is *Eternal*, and everlasting. Oneness with God’s everlasting Spirit, equates to Oneness of the eternal presence of God’s Spirit within the nature of our human spirit both now and forever, as God is now/forever. Relationship with God’s Spirit is never defined or circumscribed by human definition of God, but only by God’s definition of the relationship. Remember, God is eternal and is always having an eternal relationship with His creation because of His eternal Nature. Our relationship in Divine Oneness, exists because the Spirit of God, and our human (born-

again) spirit, share One union from God's eternal viewpoint which is not necessarily the viewpoint of genius theologians who are born today and die tomorrow. God the Father, and God the Son, are eternal in relationship with each other. The relationship between God-in Christ is eternal because both God and Christ are eternal. **In Christ, the Believers relationship is also eternal because the eternality of both God/Father and God/Spirit, are resident in Christ.** To exist in Christ is to exist in the eternality of God by default. **You cannot have a born-again existence in Christ without having an eternal existence because whatever is in Christ, is *Eternal*.** It is time for us to know the eternal truths and realities of our eternal identity in Christ so that we can behaviorally live these eternal truths as revealed by the Spirit of Truth, rather than the limited cultural truths of our present society.

ETERNAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS ALREADY HAPPENING

A key point to remember is that God is already having an eternal relationship with us because He is always eternal in Being. We are invited in Christ to become aware of God's eternal viewpoints, regarding awareness of His presence which is always with us, in addition to God's view of us as born-again spiritual beings with spiritual Natures that will never die, and the redemptive interventions and interactions of His Spirit within our world for healing and ultimate wholeness. The Eternal Living Now teachings focus on God's eternal views, as revealed through the Bible for our personal edification, guidance in fulfillment of Divine purposes for our lives, and criterion for "how" to live eternally in our present Now.

- **ETERNAL LIVING NOW SCRIPTURAL VOCABULARY TO MEMORIZE**

- James 1:17; Revelation 1:8 The unchanging Nature of God is the same unchanging Nature within the Believer's spirit.

- John 16:13 The Spirit of Truth (God) reveals all dimensions of Truth to Believers
- 1 Corinthians 6:17 The Spirit of God and human spirit are now ONE Spirit/spirit union within Believers.

- **PERSONAL APPLICATIONS**

- TASK: Explain your understanding of the following with your Feedback Partner:
 - Explain to your team member how God's viewpoint of continuous relationships, based upon God's Spirited Breath of Life within humanity, may differ from humanity's viewpoint of limited relationship with God.
 - Explain why the Believer's existence in Christ must immediately include eternal life.
 - Explain how Oneness with all of God is possible in Christ.

OUR ETERNAL IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD



According to Genesis 1:26,27,and 2:7, Adam/mankind was created in the Image and Likeness of God. The preposition OF is a very powerful preposition as it connects the Nature OF God in Heaven, as His Nature within mankind on Earth. A few parallels between God in Heaven and Adam/mankind on Earth are provided below:

- God is a Spirit in Heaven (John 4:24):
 - Likewise, Adam/humanity was a spirited-being through the impartation of God's Spirited Breath of Life that resided within Adam's Earthen vessel (Genesis 2:7).
- God possess Conscious thought and ability to communicate with His Heavenly environment:
 - Likewise, Adam/humanity possessed Conscious thought and ability to communicate with both God and his environment in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15-20).
- God has Spiritual physics of form that can be seen by the Heavenly household (Revelation 4:9):
 - Likewise, Adam/humanity possessed Earthly physics of form that could be seen and experienced by Earthly inhabitants in the Garden of Eden.

- God exercises power, rule and dominion over his environment in Heaven (Revelation 4:11):
 - Likewise, Adam/humanity was authorized to exercise dominion and rule over his environment on Earth (Genesis 1:26).
- God has knowledge of life and death:
 - Likewise, Adam/humanity had the capacity to know life or death on Earth (Genesis 2:17).
- God exercises the power of choice in the Heavenlies (1Peter 1:16; Deuteronomy 16:7):
 - Likewise, Adam/humanity exercised the power of choice on Earth (Genesis 2:17; 3:6).

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone God's Divine Nature, Presence and authentic personality resided in God's Spirited Breath of Life as the Image and Likeness of God within Adam/Eve and mankind?

ADAMIC AUTHORITY WAS NEVER RESCINDED

An important note: The Image and Likeness of God in Adam and his DNA has never been rescinded or removed. To this very day, the presence of God's Spirited Breath of Life remains within each of Adam's descendants. In other words, God's presence within His Spirited Breath of Life is always with us and never absent. Our ability to breathe in and out requires the presence of God within our Breath of life, and without it, we do not live. Our breath confirms the fact that God is never absent from us. **We may feel like God is absent due to our lack of awareness of Divine presence with/within us.** Jesus Christ sent us the Spirit of God to insure Divine awareness is available for everyone who desires to know God eternally.

EXISTENCE WILL MANIFEST YOUR CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS

Key points to remember is that by default, you are Adam's DNA. Because you are Adam's DNA, you exist as the Image and Likeness of God because God is a Spirit being, and you are a spirit being. Every spirit being

capacity that Adam possessed, continues to be spirit being capacities you presently possess. As the Image and Likeness of God, like Adam, your ability to exercise dominion and rule over Earthly reality has never ceased. Reality on Earth will manifest your Conscious thoughts, just like the animals in the Garden of Eden manifested the Conscious thoughts of Adam as they became the meaning of the names he gave them.

- **ETERNAL LIVING NOW SCRIPTURAL VOCABULARY TO MEMORIZE**

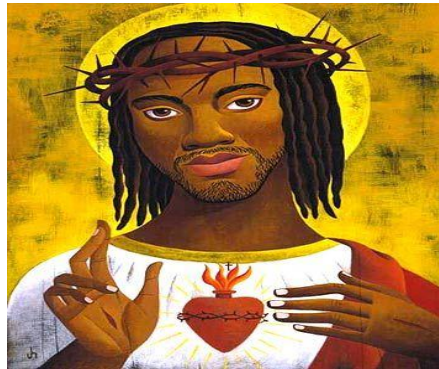
- Genesis 1:27 God created a model in His Image/Likeness named “Man.” From this model of His Image/Likeness God created male and female mankind.
- Genesis 2:7 God creates the Earth suit of Adam/mankind from dust and animates the Earth suit with His Spirited Breath of Life. God, Himself, is the model of His Image/Likeness within Adam/mankind.
- 1Peter 1:16; Deuteronomy 16:7, God exercises His capacity of choice.
- Genesis 2:17; 3:6, Like God, Adam/mankind has the capacity to exercise the power of choice.

- **PERSONAL APPLICATIONS**

- TASK: Explain your understanding of the following with your Feedback Partner:
 - Explain why the recent MANIFESTING MOVEMENT could find its origin in the Garden of Eden between Adam and animals.
 - The authority God gave to Adam over all of the Earth in Genesis 1:26-27, was never rescinded. Adamic authority continues to be available to Believers in Christ. Explain to your team how Adamic authority can be exercised by Believers to affect changes in our modern day.
 - Explain your understanding of what the Author meant when he stated that *God is ever-present with us, even when we may lack awareness of His presence with/within us.*

CHAPTER SIX

CYCLE OF EXISTENCE-BACK TO THE ETERNAL HEART OF GOD



Through Eternal Living Now, we realize that our journey on Earth affords us opportunities to fulfill who we were within the heart of God before the creation of the Earth. Ephesians 1:4-12, intimates our timeless relationship with God within His Divine heart, long before creation of the Earth. This means the creation of Earth was a necessity for our timeless eternal relationship within the heart of God to have physical expression within a 3-D material world.

BACK TO PERFECTION THROUGH IMPERFECT GROWTH EXPERIENCES

Since God is the Source for everything (Ephesians 1:10; 3:9), existence itself, resided within the heart of God before it was externalized as existence for all creations. Within the heart of God, we existed in perfect eternal

harmony with God. Our existence on Earth, at its best, parallels the harmonious relationship we experienced within the heart of God before the creation of the Earth. Our intrinsic knowledge of beauty, moral awareness, sight, sound and sensations, were all experiences we shared within the heart of God at a higher level of perfection. Once again, through our ever-expanding awareness, we are humanly re-learning what was known within the perfect heart of God through less than perfect 3-D Earthly experiences. Earth was never created as a perfect conception because God said the creation of Earth was “good” but not perfect (Genesis 1:31). Our “good” but not perfect Earth was created with the capacity to include the extremes of dualism for maximum growth challenges. Dualistic extremes, such as boiling hot/freezing cold, or Salvation/Sin, or morally human/non-human behaviors, are inclusive in the Earthly life-lessons every person will uniquely experience for growth opportunities. We must remember that we are spirit beings from the heart of God, who are having Earthly human experiences, so that we can eventually perceive every expression of God’s Love within all dimensions of existence, before returning to God’s heart. Perceiving and **understanding God within His heart** before the existence of Heaven or Earth, or **within His celestial household** in Heaven, or even **understanding God on/under the Earth**, is the ultimate achievement of our existence. It is one thing to *perfectly* know God within His heart, however, it’s another thing to know God *imperfectly* as an Earth suit creation. Both *perfect/imperfect* relationships with God evolve expanded awareness and growth through knowledge of different perspectives of God’s eternal Nature. In short, we exist to experience God, regardless of the dimension, realm, or ephemeral/eternal station that we may find ourselves. We are always experiencing God through existence within our spirit being, even if our minds don’t have a clue, due to the inherited fallen nature of our Adamic DNA.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone the personal comfort and assurance of knowing you existed within the heart of God before your birth on Earth?

DIVINE SPIRIT- TO HUMAN SPIRIT- COMMUNICATION IS CONTINUOUS

Divine Spirit-to-human spirit-communication, is continuous, even though the mind may be absent from the spiritual conversation. Since God is a Spirit (John 4:24), our internal/eternal communications within his Heart before Earth were accomplished Spirit to spirit. The timeless Spirit/spirit communion and communication that was celestially experienced within the heart of God, continues as Spirit/spirit communication on Earth in Christ. For example, living by the Spirit (Galatians 5:25) is a lifestyle governed by Spirit/spirit (*Divine Spirit/human spirit*) communion/communication, that is interpreted by our mind perceptively and behaviorally. The Spirit of God is eternal, therefore a human lifestyle that is governed by the eternal Spirit of God will progressively manifest a Heavenly/celestial eternal lifestyle, on Earth. We live eternally now in Christ because the Spirit of Christ mirrors the eternal thoughts, insights, intentions, desires, identity, causes & meaning of the life of Christ, within and through our life and lifestyle. In Christ/eternal experiences, that are expressed as eternal behaviors, are actually timeless experiences/expressions that originated within God's heart with our spirit being. The Spirit of Christ came to Earth to reveal the eternal Nature of God within and through Believers who are conduits/extensions of Christ in Heaven-on Earth.

*BELIEVERS EXIST AS A PROGRESSIVE FULFILLMENT OF WHO WE WERE ETERNALLY IN GOD'S
HEART*

Never forget that the origin of your spirit being was never on Earth, but beyond it. Always remember, whether we exist in Heaven or Earth, we will always continue to exist as a progressive fulfillment of who we were in the

heart of God before the creation of the celestial or terrestrial Heaven and Earth respectively. Back to the Future within the heart of God is really the reality of our celestial or terrestrial journeys.

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ETERNAL LIVING NOW SCRIPTURAL VOCABULARY TO MEMORIZE

- Ephesians 1:10; 3:9 God is the Source for everything that exist.
- Ephesians 1:4-12 Revelations of our state of existence within the heart of God before the Earth was created.
- Galatians 5:25 Living in the Spirit of God is the experience/expression of Divine Spirit-governed thoughts and behaviors that originate from eternity.
- John 4:24 Since God is a Spirit, communion (worship) with Him must occur between Spirit/spirit.

PERSONAL APPLICATIONS

- TASK: Explain your understanding of the following with your Feedback Partner:
 - According to Ephesians 1:4-12, explain to your team what was our state of existence within the heart of God before the creation of the Earth.
 - Explain to your team how the dualism we experience on Earth, is ultimately for our benefit.
 - How can Believers experience *perfect/imperfect* knowledge of God, while on Earth?
 - Explain your understanding of why the Author said, *“Back to the Future within the heart of God is really the reality of our celestial or terrestrial journeys.”*

CHAPTER SEVEN

POINTS TO REMEMBER:



GOD HAS NEVER ABANDONED US

Ephesians 4:6, denotes the presence of God within and through everything. Therefore, God is always present with us and never away from us. Genesis 2:7 confirms that the presence of God in His Spirited Breath of Life ***within*** mankind, makes us an animated being, therefore God is never absent, but always present within every human being as His Breath of Life animates us moment by moment. Without God's presence, as, and within our Breath of Life, we cannot move or have mobility of being. The concept of Sin separating us from God, should be better interpreted as a lack of awareness of the presence of God that is already with and within us. Lack of awareness is sinful separation from God based upon human perspective, but never from God's perspective as His life continues to be the essence of our animation. **Salvation is simply re-connection with Conscious awareness of the Divine presence of God already with/within us.** A cruel parent is one who separates themselves from their child. No way will the child grow in a healthy manner when separated from the parent. God is not a cruel Divine Parent in that He would separate or allow the separation of Himself from

his own children/mankind. God is always with us, and even Sin is not big enough to control the love of God for his children/mankind. Growth in relationship with our Divine Parent comes through growth in spiritual awareness that is globally initiated and sustained by the Spirit of God.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

How would you explain to someone how God's Divine Nature, Presence and authentic personality is ever-present in God's Spirited Breath of Life within humanity?
How would you explain to someone that Sin is simply a "*lack of Awareness of God*" and is overcome through "in" Christ Awareness?

WE WORSHIP GOD, NOT WRITINGS ABOUT GOD

The Spirit of God uses the Judeo-Christian Scriptures as an avenue to create an appetite for spiritual awareness but is never limited, or confined, to any created substitution for Divine Spirit-to-human/spirit communication. Spiritual physics are different from hand-written material physics. The Spirit of God is never limited to the writings of any human being, regardless of how sacred we believe they are because the Spirit of God is unlimited in communication abilities. Our scriptural writings were written to assist us in our spiritual journey, but never for deification, or worship of writings, or to serve as controlling chains for God. Writings only testify of the presence and workings of God to a limited degree. Only the Spirit of God can testify to our human spirit, the immediate presence and workings of God moment by moment, beyond the limitations of all sacred human writings. We use sacred writings as a tool, and not worship them as a means of controlling God by telling God what He can and cannot do, or be and behave. The Spirit of God gives life to sacred writings about God, therefore the life of the Spirit of God, that can only be revealed by the Spirit of God to the human spirit, is our compass, and governing criteria. The previous sentence is scary because of the risk of misinterpretations that could be detrimental if not controlled by dogma or doctrine. However, "*walking according to the Spirit*" of God is the **reality of Spirit-to-spirit communication**, regardless of which version, language

or age of sacred scripture we may have that originates from godly inspiration (Romans 8:4; Galatians 5:25; John 16:13).

BELIEVERS ARE SOULS, WHO RESIDE IN CHRIST

Every chapter in every Workbook of the Foundational Course, is based upon the assumption that the reader is a Believer in Christ. Our definition of a Believer, is a person, who has accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Traditionally, acceptance of Jesus as one's savior, includes confession of receiving Christ AS your life from one's mouth, and belief from one's heart that Christ is the Son of God according to Romans 10:9. If you have never confessed Jesus, as your Savior and Lord, as an expression of belief from your heart, then why not do it now? Confession of Jesus as your Lord and Savior does not have to be a complicated feat. Let's exercise a confession of heart-belief as we sincerely pray the following prayer:

Dear Jesus. I believe you died on a cross for all of my sins. I believe you rose from a grave with victory over all Sin and death. I receive your victory over Sin in my life, and your ever-abiding presence, in my heart right now. Thank you for your Spirit opening my eyes to your presence, as you now reside within my heart by faith. Thank you, Jesus, for giving me your eternal life in exchange for my broken life. Jesus, from this moment on, I choose your life to be my life, both now and future. According to Romans 10:9 in the Bible, I am now **saved in Christ** by faith. Jesus, because you now live within me, I also live within you-forever. Thank you for my new life, **in Christ**.

Be encouraged to take a few minutes for reflective praise after making this confession of faith. God loves your faith and your praise. Be sure to begin reading the Gospel of John for biblical grounding, in addition to uniting with other Believers for growth through spiritual support.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

- How would you explain to someone why John 3:15-16 means that eternal life is immediately activated upon confession and belief in Christ as Lord/Savior.

LIVING THE ETERNAL LIFE OF CHRIST IN OUR PRESENT NOW

An important note to remember is found in John 3:16, “*For God so loved the world until He gave His only begotten son, so that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.*” The Greek language was the original language for the passage of scripture in John 3:16. The phrase “**have everlasting life**” in both John 3:15,16, was grammatically rendered in the *present active participle* tense in the Greek language. This means **everlasting life becomes an actual spiritual reality in your life, upon confession of your belief**. You begin to exist everlastingly **in** Christ upon belief and confession of him from your heart as your Lord and Savior. Awareness of *Eternal Living Now* is activated within your spirit and eventually revealed through the bible and the Spirit of God, to your mind. Eternal living in Christ, does not begin after your physical death, but begins the moment the Spirit of God honors your confession of belief in Christ by converting your existing spirit into a living spirit of God’s living Nature. The conversion of your existing spirit into a living Spirit is done solely by the living Spirit of God. Your spirit being is born-again, **OF** the Divine Nature of the Spirit of God-**in** Christ (John 3:5-8). No human being can take credit for this spiritual conversion experience, as this occurrence only takes place between the Spirit of God and your human spirit, alone. Because you are now born-again by/of the Spirit of God, then God’s Spirit is the Person who is ultimately qualified to provide Spirit/spirit (Divine Spirit/human spirit) guidance to your born-again spirit moment by moment. The bible and your spiritual support family may be a resource of biblical knowledge and wisdom for you during your spiritual

journey, but the Spirit of God-in Christ, will always provide the ultimate guidance throughout your journey from Earth to Heaven. Spend time with God daily through prayer and meditation to learn how to hear and obey His voice. Prayerfully read your bible daily for personal inspiration and increased awareness of how the Spirit of God is fulfilling the Scriptures through your life, and lifestyle.

BORN-AGAIN EXISTENCE AS DIVINE RIGHTEOUSNESS

As a born-again Believer, you now exist as a **new creation** and a new species in Christ. Old things have passed away, and now all have become new from God's point of view because you are a new creation/species to God in Heaven (2 Corinthians 5:17). The new species and creation that you now exist, has become the Divine Righteousness of God as a state of your being (2 Corinthians 5:21). It is important to remember that **you now "exist" what is right** in the sight of God, therefore you now have the capacity to behave God's righteousness as you obey the daily promptings of God's Spirit. Don't be overwhelmed by the mistakes that you might make because you are born-again/*growing, not knowing* everything. Know that God's eternal Spirit is committed to guiding you in your everlasting journey throughout and beyond this world. Maturity in Christ requires time, experiences, biblical application, and spiritual revelation that leads to inspiration, and motivation to surrender to guidance from the Spirit of God daily. The Spirit of God guarantees your growth in Christ (John 10:27-29). Trust God to guide you, sustain you, and complete you in Christ. God is Faithful, as your eternal companion in every way.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

- Ephesians 4:6 God is present in everything
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 You spiritually exist as a new creation/species/genus **in Christ**.
- 2 Corinthians 5:21 Divine Righteousness is the new state of your “spiritual being” in Christ.
- John 3:5-8 Believers are spiritually born-again of the Nature of the Spirit of God.

PERSONAL APPLICATIONS

- ASSIGNMENT: Explain your understanding of the questions below with your **Feedback Partner**:
 - Explain to your team why John 3:15-16 means that eternal life is immediately activated upon confession and belief in Christ as Lord/Savior.
 - Explain to your team how Believers “*exist*” as Divine Righteousness and is therefore able to behave Divine Righteousness.
 - Prepare to explain what you learned that was new from reading this workbook with your team and during the next Foundations Online Forum. Don’t be shy, just be honest because your words will encourage growth in others who are growing **in Christ**, just like you.

- To view a video message regarding this Workbook, follow the link below:



END OF THE 1ST THINGS 1ST ELN FOUNDATIONS WORKBOOK...