

WELCOME to a nine week Course sponsored by
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College



The Course Vision

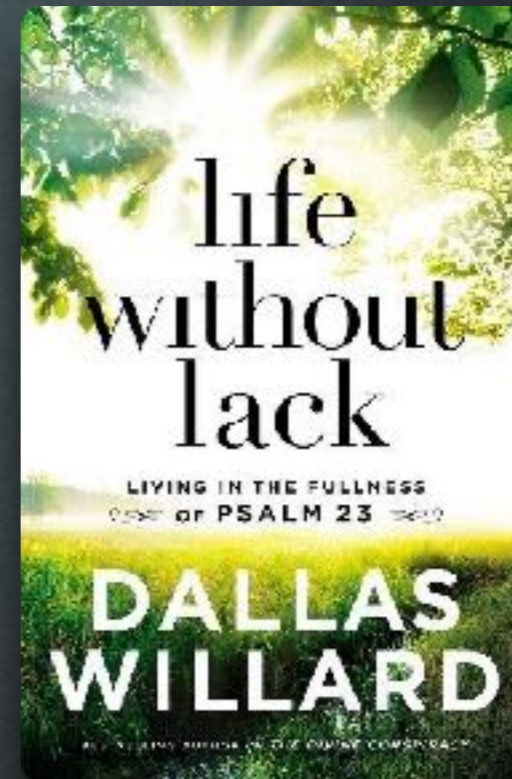
Daily peace with the Good Shepherd Jesus lacking nothing in the full sufficiency of God

The Course Intention

- * Offer profound truth in Psalm 23 and the Bible
- * Teach Jesus' way of faith, death to self, & total love
- * Provide a weekly community of encouragement and accountability

The Course Means

- * 9 interactive sessions with optional, extended Q&C
- * Study Guide with growth practices
- * Global community seeking Christlikeness together



Format - 30 minutes

- Welcome, Focus & Review
 - Session Highlights
 - Your Q&C's
 - Summary & Blessing
- — —
- After: Optional more Q&C

Recorded sessions, slides,
& study guide in the
[Jesus College Library](#)

Your †-Fit Trainer

Doug Webster

- * Following Jesus since 14, serving with Him since 18
- * Vanguard University & Fuller Seminary
- * Met the Jesus Dallas Knew 16 years ago
- * Started Jesus College in 2015
- * Our 19th webinar engaging over 2000 participants from 50 Countries & 43 U.S. states.
- * Lead Jesus College's "Master's in the Master" spiritual training
- * A Blessed Family



2023 COURSE SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Chapter Title</u>
1/10/23	1-23	1	God in Himself: The Glorious Shepherd
1/17/23	24-48	2	God in Himself: Living Mindful of God
1/24/23	49-66	3	Why are there People on Earth?
1/31/23	67-93	4	Why Such Lack and Evil?
2/7/23	94-123	5	Trust in God: The Key to Life
2/14/23	124-156	6	Trust Completed in Death to Self
2/21/23	157-171	7	Sufficiency Completed in Love (part 1)
2/28/23	171-185	7	Sufficiency Completed in Love (part 2)
3/7/23	186-213	8	All the Days of My Life

Opening Prayer¹ by Dallas Willard

Lord Jesus Christ,

We are so thankful to you that you have
said,

*“Fear not, little flock,
For it is your Father's good pleasure
To give you the kingdom.”*²

We are thankful for the ease with which
you walked upon this earth, the
generosity and kindness you showed to
people, the devotion with which you
cared for those who were out of the way
and in trouble, the extent to which you
even loved your enemies and laid down
your life for them.

We are so thankful to believe that this
is a life for us, a LIFE WITHOUT
LACK, a life of SUFFICIENCY. It's
so clear in you, the sufficiency of your
Father and the fullness of life that was
poured through you,
and we're so thankful that you have
promised that same love,
that same life, that same joy, that same
power for us.

Lord, slip up on us today.
Get past our defenses, our worries,
our concerns.
Gently open our souls, and speak your
Word into them.

We believe you want to do it,
And we wait for you to do it now.

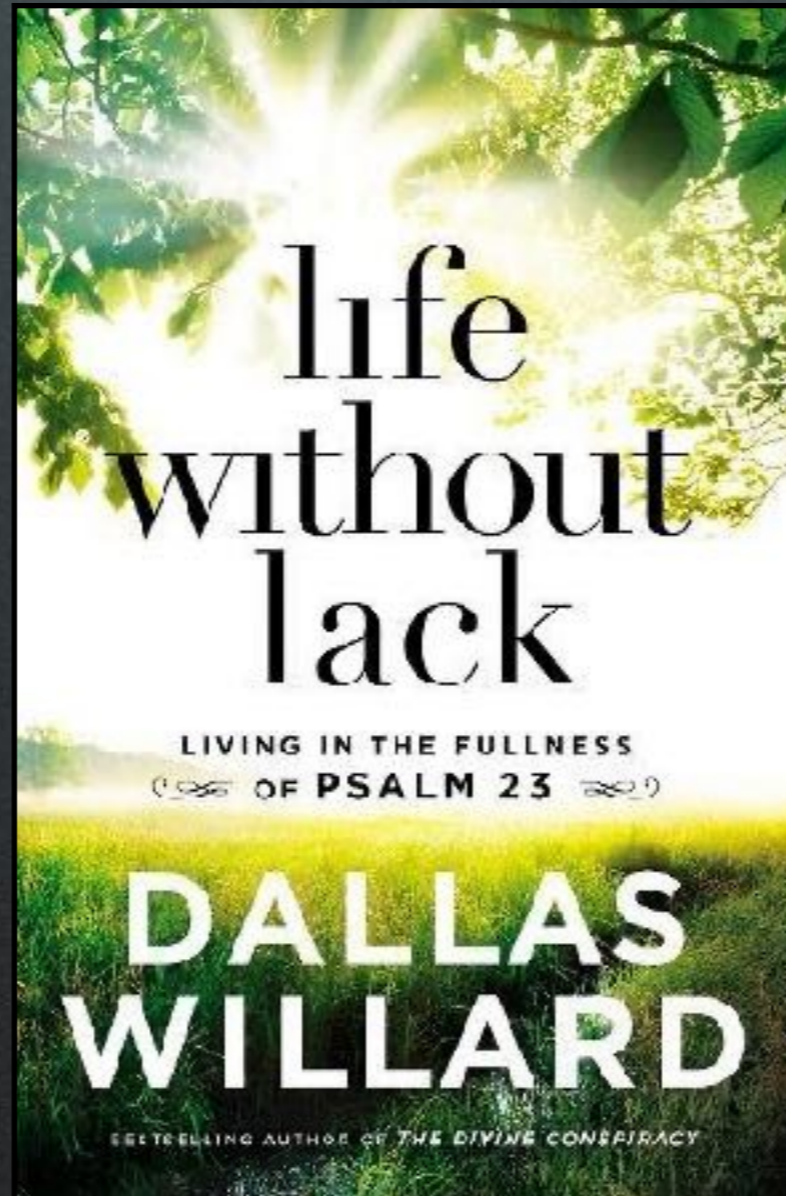
In your name, amen.

¹ - *Life Without Lack*, p. xiii

² - Luke 12:32

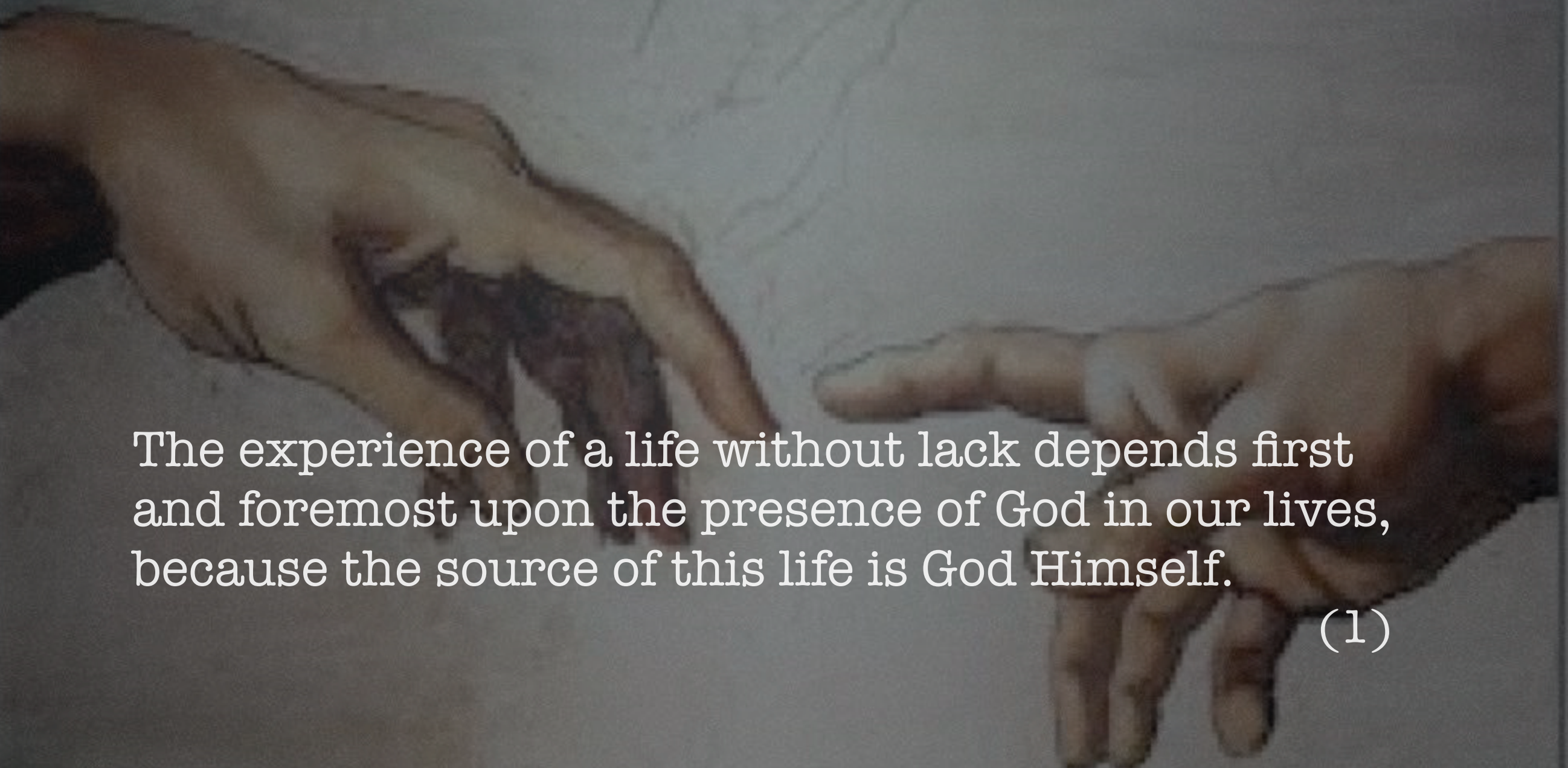
life without lack

Session 1 - Chapter 1 - God in Himself (part 1)
The Glorious Shepherd



life without lack

Session 1 - Chapter 1 - God in Himself (part 1)
The Glorious Shepherd



The experience of a life without lack depends first and foremost upon the presence of God in our lives, because the source of this life is God Himself.

(1)

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still waters.

3 He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup runs over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, Forever.

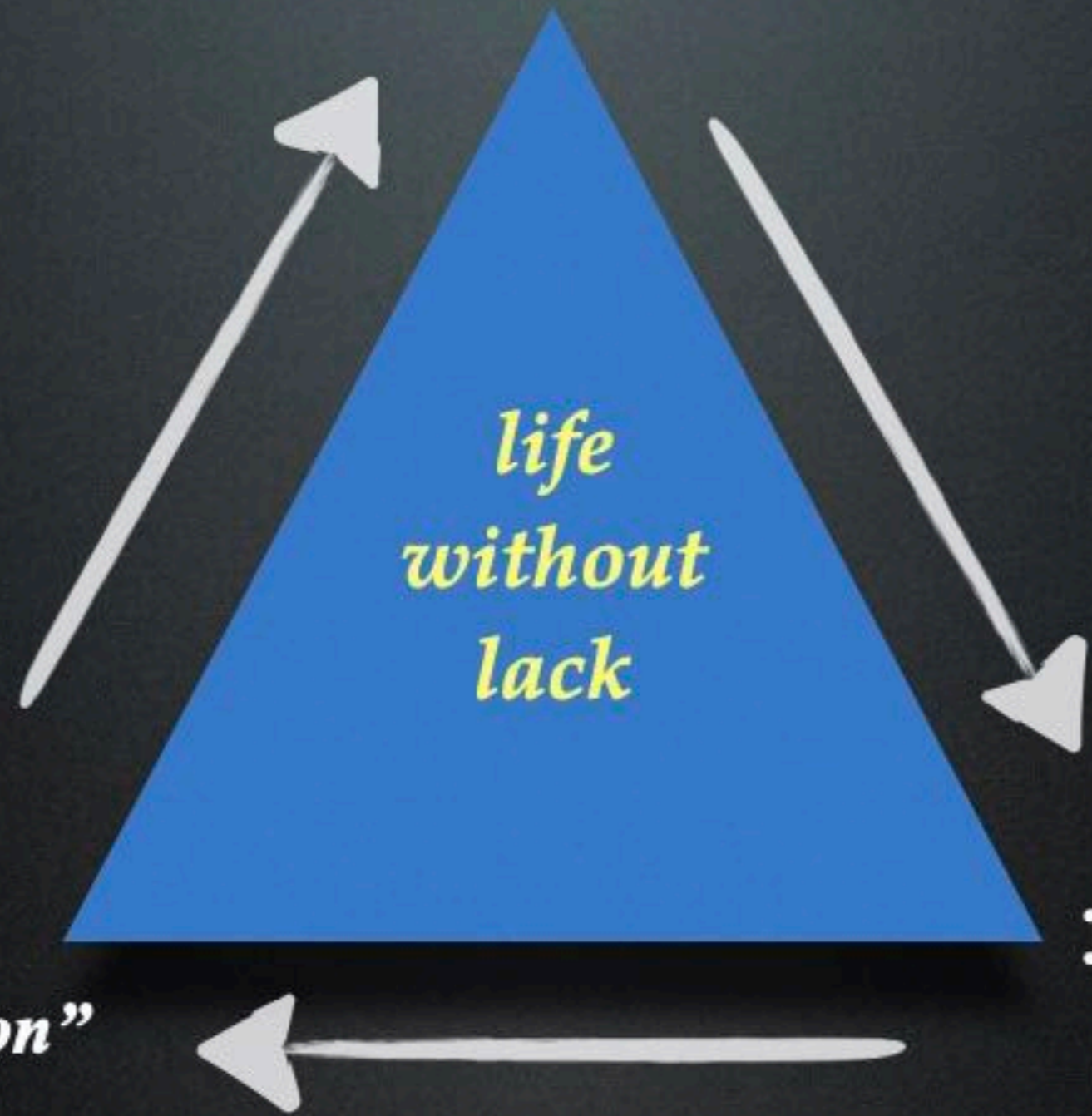
The Triangle of Sufficiency

Faith
“Trust”

*life
without
lack*

Love
“Good Disposition”

Death to Self
“Humility”



The Most Important Thing About You

The ultimate freedom we have as individuals is the power to select what we will allow or require our minds to dwell upon and think about.

Life Without Lack, p. 3

Renovation of the Heart, p. 95 (2002 ed.)

What simply occupies our mind very largely governs what we do. The deepest revelation of our character is what we choose to dwell on in thought.

The Divine Conspiracy, p. 324



The Transforming Power of Ideas *Ephesians 6:12*

We have the ability and responsibility to keep God in our minds, and those who do will make steady progress toward Him, for He will respond by making Himself known to us. Our ideas form the belief system upon which we base our actions and decisions, and these in turn determine the trajectory of our lives.

...Replacing them with the idea system embodied and taught by Jesus Christ.

The Critical Practice — “Death to Self”
will be developed in Chapter 6
Matthew 10:37–39, Mark 8:34–37, Luke 17:33



The Poison of Self-Obsession & The Antidote to Bad Ideas About God

Imprisoned in self consciousness...a “world of hurt”. (4)

The gospel...was about the Kingdom of God – God's immediate availability, His “with-us-ness” that makes a life without lack possible. *John 10:10* (6)

“The futility of the mind.” Ephesians 4:17-19



Taste and See the Lord is Good

“Can’t God just move in on us and touch us or do something to us?”

We are not talking about what He can do; we are talking about what we need to do. Turn our minds to God.

* Nicodemus - “You are a ruler of Israel and yet you don’t know these things?”

No experience of God and His Kingdom.

(6-7)



Our Minds: The Key to Our Lives

We bring the reality of God into our lives by making contact with Him through our minds... there is nothing mysterious here. The mind, and what we turn our minds to, is the key to our lives.

Of all reality, spirit is the most basic. (8)

The Knowledge of God as a Human Responsibility (8-9)

Romans 1:18-21 - Ultimate, invisible, personal power

How big of a God are we talking about?



A Really, Really Big, Joyous God

Two Fundamentally Important Things:

1.) God is an invisible being with great power and dominion over everything He created.

Genesis 11; John 1:1; Romans 1:20; 1st Timothy 1:17

2.) God is personal. He has personality.

He thinks. He wills. He feels. He values.

Jeremiah 8:21, 9:24; John 14:9; Ephesians 1:4-5

A Joyous God fills the universe. It is precisely because God is like this, and because we can know He is like this, that a life of full contentment is possible.



A God of Energy

Energy is the basic reality. God is energy. Your mind is energy. You are like God. God has made you so you have energy at your disposal, in thoughts and feelings, by these you are able to exercise your will.

* Jesus feeding 5000 Mark 6:32-44

* Jesus in the Wilderness Matthew 4:4

God, a glorious, self-sustaining, eternal being, is both the source of everything that exists and is totally self-sufficient...Incomprehensible, everlasting, unceasing, and never will be exhausted. That being is God!



Humans — $mc^2 = E$

God — $E = mc^2$

“God’s actions transform His energy into matter.”

The Allure of Gentleness, p. 77-79

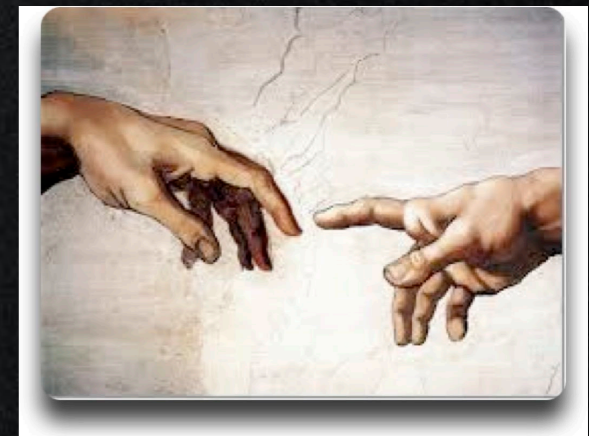
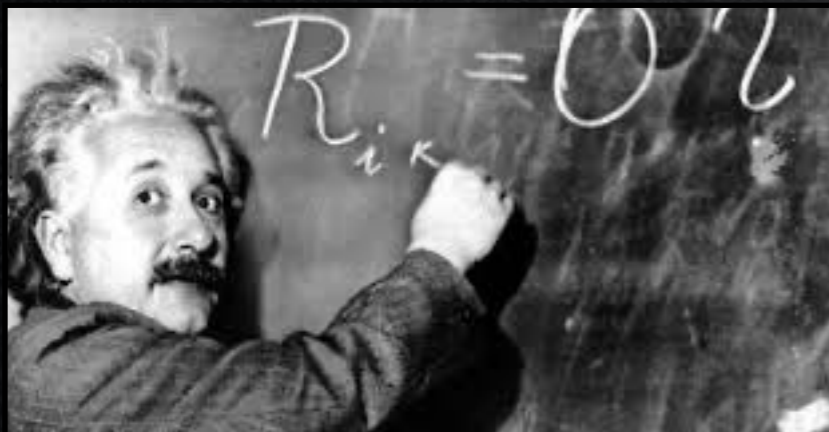
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“The potential power of ‘matter’ — our bodies —
comported by character, our pattern of habitual ways.”

The Spirit of the Disciplines, p. 53

“In Him all things hold together...” Colossians 1:16-17

“Byforin” [Webster]



Three Ways to See God's Power & Personality

#1 - God's Nature in Fire & Cloud (12-13)

"Our God is a consuming fire."

Hebrews 12:29, Matthew 3:11, Exodus 14:19-20, 24-25

Envisioning the Invisible — *Hebrews 11:3* (13-15)

— Faith born out of experience is the means by which the mind contacts reality.

* Biblical Creation - came out of God Himself.

* Fasting - *"I have food to eat of which you do not know..."*

John 4 — Fasting is feasting upon God.

What God Can Do, You Can Do...Sort Of (15-16)

Baking a cake — *Genesis 1:26-27*

Pregnancy - *"You're going to make a person!"*



Three Ways to See God's Power & Personality

#2 - God's Greatness Seen in History (16-17)

God is revealed as a spiritual, invisible power that is present and moves in the lives of human beings.

Deuteronomy 4:32-36

(17)

Heilsgeschichte - "Salvation History"



Three Ways to See God's Power & Personality

#3 — What's in a Name? (17-19)

- Elohim • Yahweh • Adonai • El Shaddai — “I Am that I Am”
John 5:26 - “Father has life in Himself so has the Son.”

Self-sustaining, Self-sufficing, All-powerful, Self-determined

God is an immaterial, intelligent, free personal being, of perfect goodness, wisdom, and power, who made the universe and continues to sustain it, as well as to govern and direct it in His providence. (18)

—> That is the Being upon whom a life without lack relies. Such a life is guaranteed for those whose minds are set upon this God in faith. (19)

Three Glimpses of God's Grandeur (19-21)

1 - *Nehemiah 9:6* – An everlasting, eternal party

2 - *The book of Job* – what was going on before the earth was created, the “self-sufficiency” of God to Himself. God’s greatness goes beyond imagination.

3 - *The Lord’s Prayer* - Bountiful sufficiency of God
“Our Father...Hallowed be thy name.”

God’s Ample Supply (21-22)

King David - “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.”

Paul - “Not that I speak in regard to need.” Phil. 4:10-13

Provision of God became for them a life without lack.

They both knew Jesus - the Good Shepherd.

life without lack

Session 1 - Chapter 1 - God in Himself (part 1)
The Glorious Shepherd

A Vision of Glory

(22-23)

Jesus at the Wedding in Cana - The infinite resources of God which knows no lack whatsoever.

God is not worried that He is going to run out.

God is beyond rich.

God loves to gush forth with His goodness.



Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A



You are a steward of 10,080 minutes every week. If you invest 80 minutes weekly in personal study of LIFE WITHOUT LACK and our session, you have 10,000 minutes to to flesh it out in your ordinary life. Each session offers scripture for meditation and questions to guide your V-I-M in daily life following the Good Shepherd.

80:00 + 10K

Meditation — *Psalm 23, Ephesians 4:17-19, 6:12*

V-I-M in your next 10,000 minutes...

VISION — Where is my thinking stuck in self-obsession?

INTENTION — How much will I intend my mind to dwell on God this week?

MEANS — How will I practice thinking about our really, really big God?

Fast; Worship; Read the scriptures in Chapter 1; Celebrate Creation

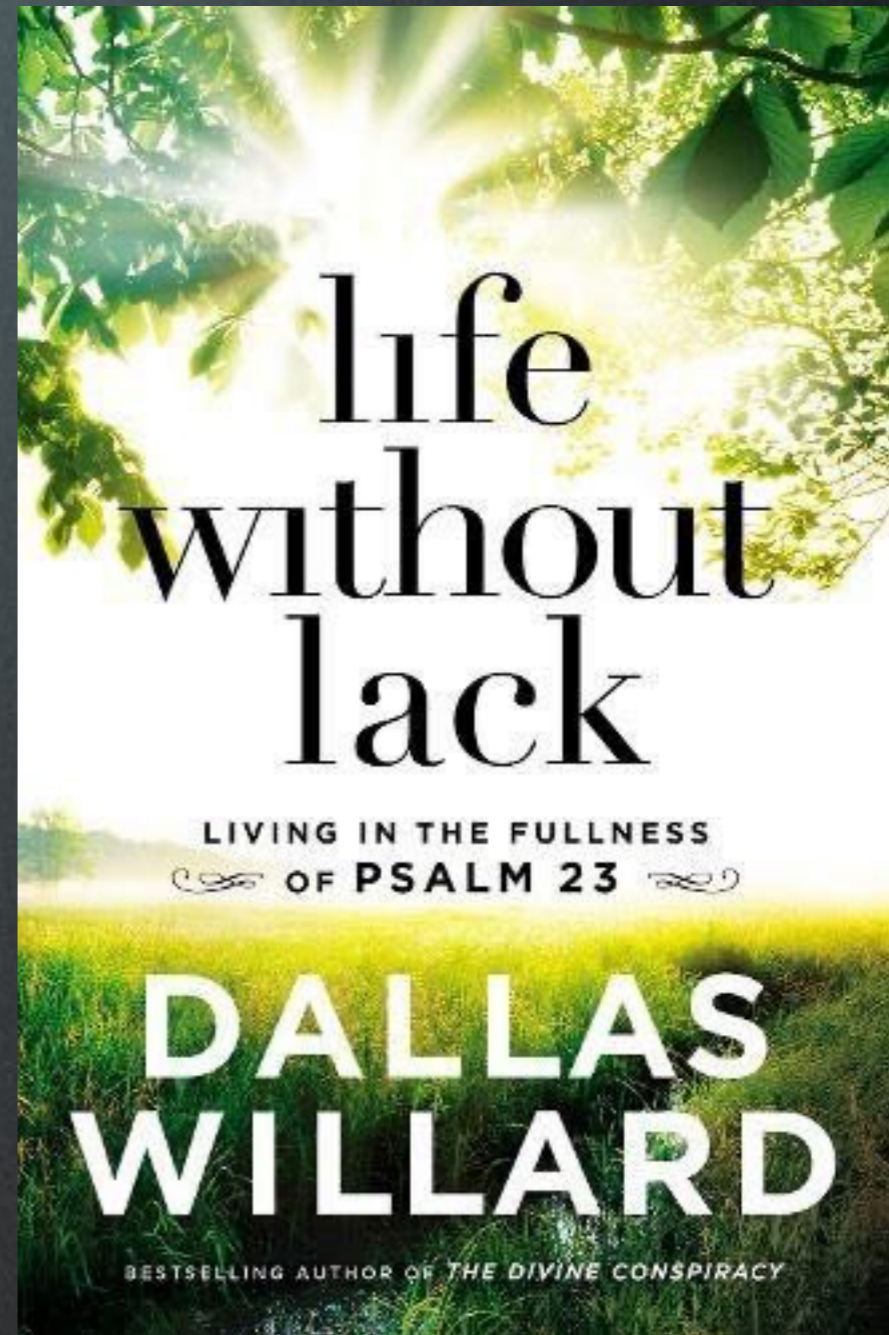


† Cross Fit

Session 1 Summary

God, a glorious, self-sustaining, eternal being, is both the source of everything that exists and is totally self-sufficient, incomprehensible, everlasting, unceasing, and never will be exhausted. That being is God! (12)

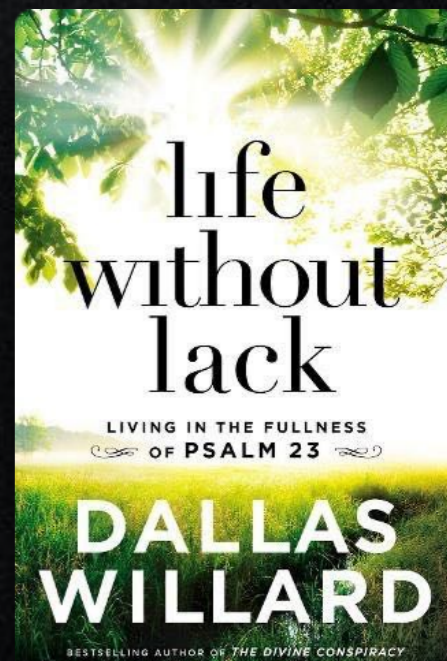
—> That is the Being upon whom a life without lack relies. Such a life is guaranteed for those whose minds are set upon this God in faith. (19)



Next Week — Session 2

Chapter 2 - “God in Himself” Part 2
(p. 24-48, Hardback)

Know others who might join our Course?
Register — info@JesusCollege.com



<https://dwillard.org/life-without-lack>

Dallas Willard's 8-part series on how to live in the reality of the 23rd Psalm was presented in 1991 as a mid-week evening Bible study at Valley Vista Christian Community, Dallas and Jane's home church. This content been published in, *Life Without Lack*, in 2018. Here is a copy of his [original handout](#).

NOTE: The audio quality is old, but the teaching is ageless!

[God in Himself, Part 1](#)

[God in Himself, Part 2](#)

[Why There Are People on Earth](#)

[Why Such Lack and Evil?](#)

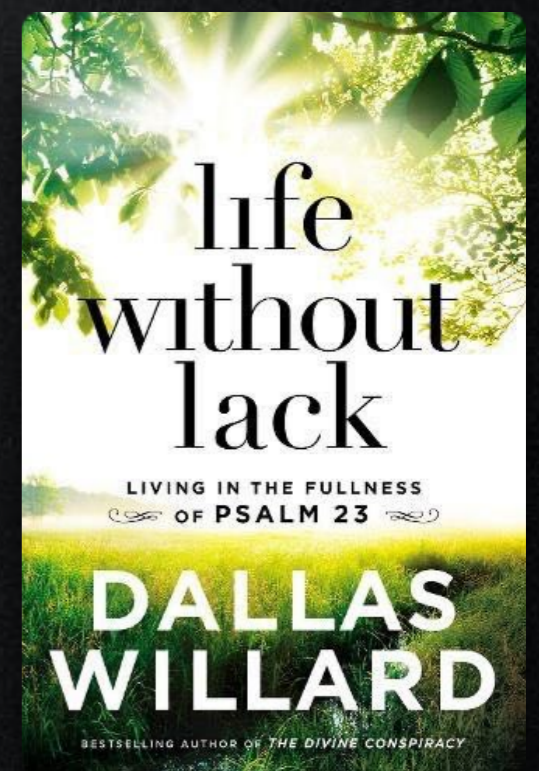
[Trust in God: The Key to Life](#)

[Trust and Death to Self](#)

[Sufficiency Completed in Agape](#)

[Through One Day With Jesus](#)

AUDIO Teaching



May your Vision of
God's Power &
Personality ravish
your next 10,000
minutes!

Doug

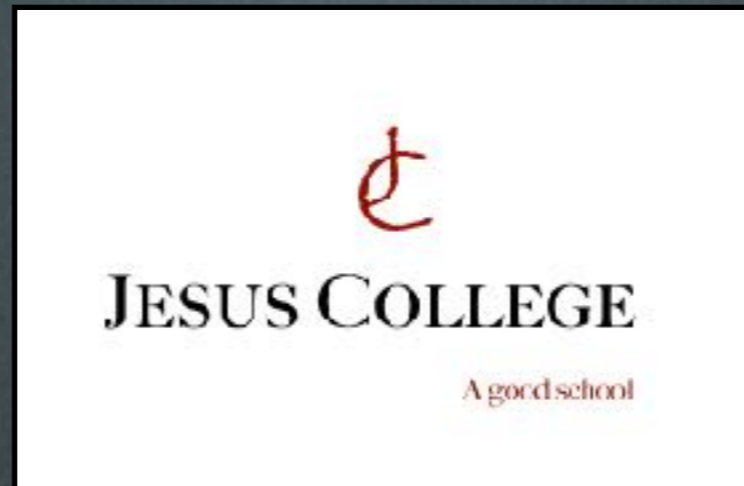
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THE SCHOOL
of
KINGDOM LIVING

Information...Registration — JohnC@dwillard.org



Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns
“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs
“Training to be proficient in willing the good”

The Mission of Jesus College - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

The Vision of Jesus College - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

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