

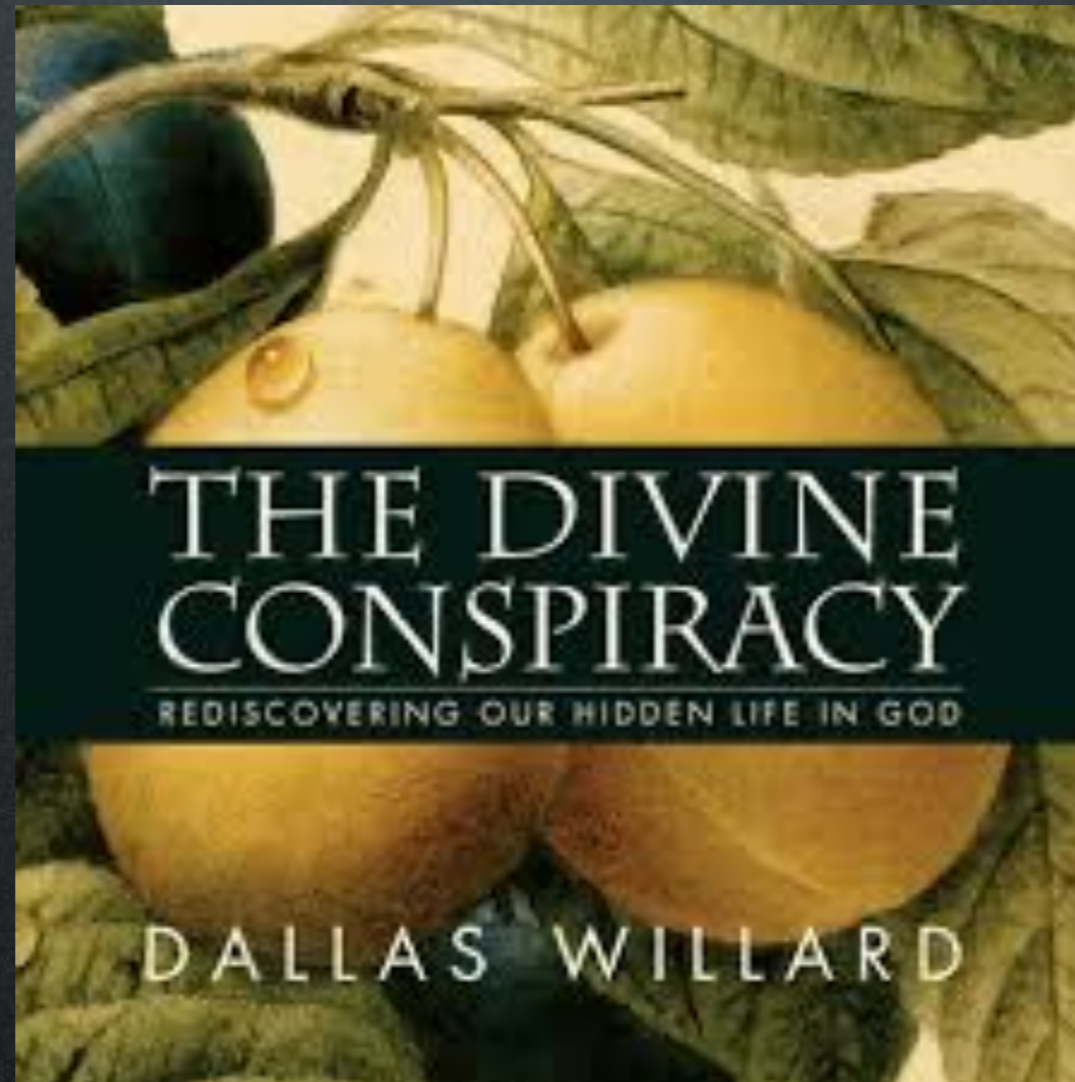
WELCOME to a 31 week Course sponsored by
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College



THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 6 - "Investing in the Heavens:
Escaping the Deceptions of Reputation & Wealth"

Session 18 - "The Bondage of Wealth"



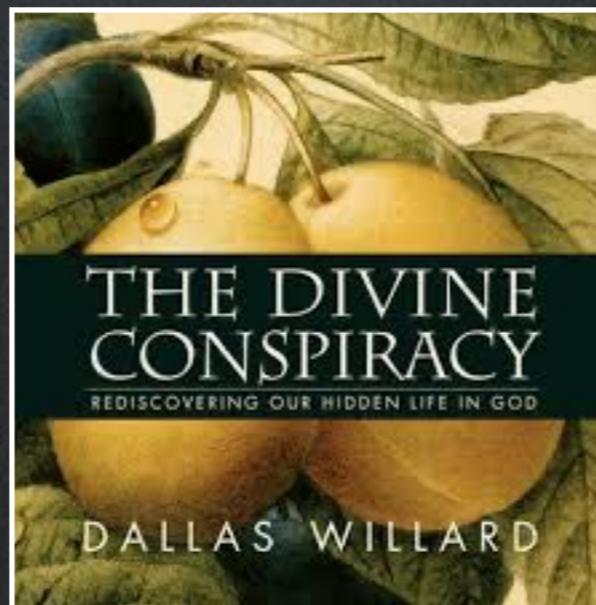
Session 17 Review - “The Respectability Trap”

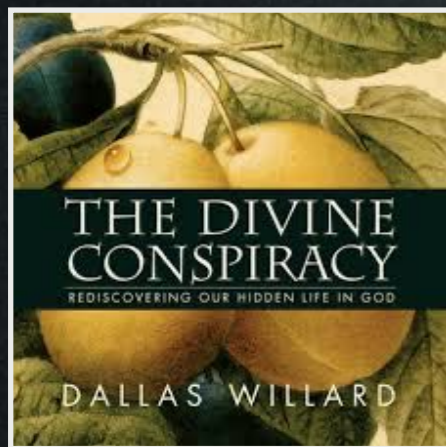
A thoughtful examination of local gatherings of Christian believers may reveal that in this teaching [Matthew 6:1-18 - “acts of righteousness to be seen”]

Jesus lays His finger upon a primary cause of their [our] ineffectiveness as schools of eternal living.

(201)

If our lives and works are **to be of the Kingdom of God**, we must not have human approval as a primary or even major aim. (202)





THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Rediscovering Our Hidden Life in God

“The Bondage of Wealth”

Matthew 6:19-34

The Divine Conspiracy (p. 203-214)

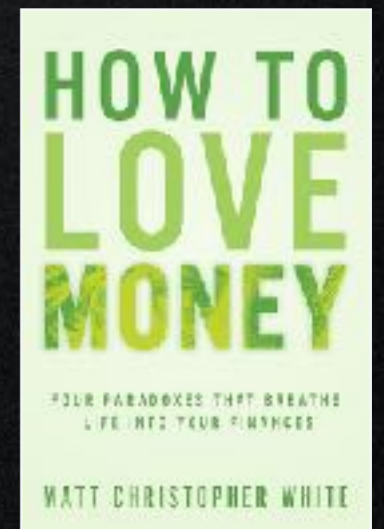
With guest Matt Christopher White, CPA & CFP®

Author, *How to Love Money: Four Paradoxes that Breathe Life into Your Finances*



Tuesday, July 18, 2023

mattchristopherwhite.com



THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 6 - "Investing in the Heavens:
Escaping the Deceptions of Reputation & Wealth"

Session 18 - "The Bondage of Wealth"

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal."

Matthew 6:19-20



Where Your Treasure Is Matthew 6:19-20

Treasure God and His realm more than anything else.

A main part of intimacy between two persons is precisely mutual knowledge of their treasures.

Treasures are directly connected to our spirit, our will, and thus to our dignity as persons. (203)

To discuss our treasures is really to discuss our treasurings. It is to deal with the fundamental structure of our soul.

(204)



What is my greatest treasure?

JESUS

...SIMPLY JESUS

²¹ “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

²² “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; ²³ but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!”

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

Matthew 6:21-24

Life from the Heart

Matthew 6:21-24

A heart rightly directed therefore brings health and wholeness to the entire personality. The person who treasures what lies in the Kingdom sees everything in its true worth and relationship. 6:21-22 (206)

We can not but serve our treasures. 6:24 (207)

The treasure we have in Heaven is also something very much available to us now*. Eternity is now* ongoing.

* “now” – 9 times in 2 paragraphs (208)

“The Kingdom Among Us” Ps. 46:1; Phil 4:19 (208)

- Used at least 37 times by Dallas in the book



25 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?”

28 “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?”

31 “So do not worry, saying,
‘What shall we eat?’ or,
‘What shall we drink?’ or,
‘What shall we wear?’

32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

Matthew 6:25-34

Flashback

Chapter 3 - What Jesus Knew: Our God Bathed World

Session 7 — “Heaven ~ A Human Environment”



With this magnificent God [“joyous being” (62)] positioned among us, Jesus brings the assurance that our universe is a perfectly safe place for us to be.

(66) (“safe” - 12, 30, 84, 90, 208)

Kingdom Hunting

“Seek first** the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.” Matthew 6:33

**Kingdom Hunter's Options:

1. The Kingdom of God
2. The kingdom of darkness
3. The kingdom of (your name)
~ *queendom* for the ladies



Worth in Birds & Flowers and My Worry Torn Life

Matthew 6:25-34

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We have no reason to ever be anxious. This present world is a perfectly safe place for us to be. (208, 66)

“Daily Bread” – The reality of Kingdom immediacy. (209)

You are an unceasing spiritual being
in God's great universe.¹

~ ~ ~

This the true dignity of the Human Being.
This is why they were worth dying for!

“He shall see the travail of His soul
and be satisfied.” Isaiah 53

You are spiritual is substance,
you are never ceasing in duration,
you are ruling or creative in destiny.

Your life as a spiritual being is completed only
by living in and from the Kingdom
government from the Heavens.²

“Repent, for the Kingdom of the Heavens is at
hand”, (“has drawn near”).

1 - *The Divine Conspiracy*, p. 211

2 - “The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”, Session 2 @ 1:10:15



Flashback to Chapter 5

The Kingdom Heart — like Jesus

We do not control outcomes and are not responsible for them, but only for our contribution to them.

By truly loving our adversary, we stand within the reality of God's Kingdom and resources, and it is very likely we will draw our adversary into it also. Things are really different there, and a resolution manifesting the divine presence becomes possible.

See what will happen. Venture on the Kingdom.
That is how we 'seek' it.



(157)

“Seek first the Kingdom of Heaven and His righteousness.”

How do you seek the Kingdom of God?

Find out what God is doing - the Kingdom - and do that.

How do you find out what God is doing?

~ **Observe Jesus Christ.** Look at Him. Listen to what He said. Watch what He did. That’s what God is doing. Now do that where you are and you will find the Kingdom of God and the kind of righteousness that God has. When you find that everything else you need will be provided.

Good night, what a statement that is!

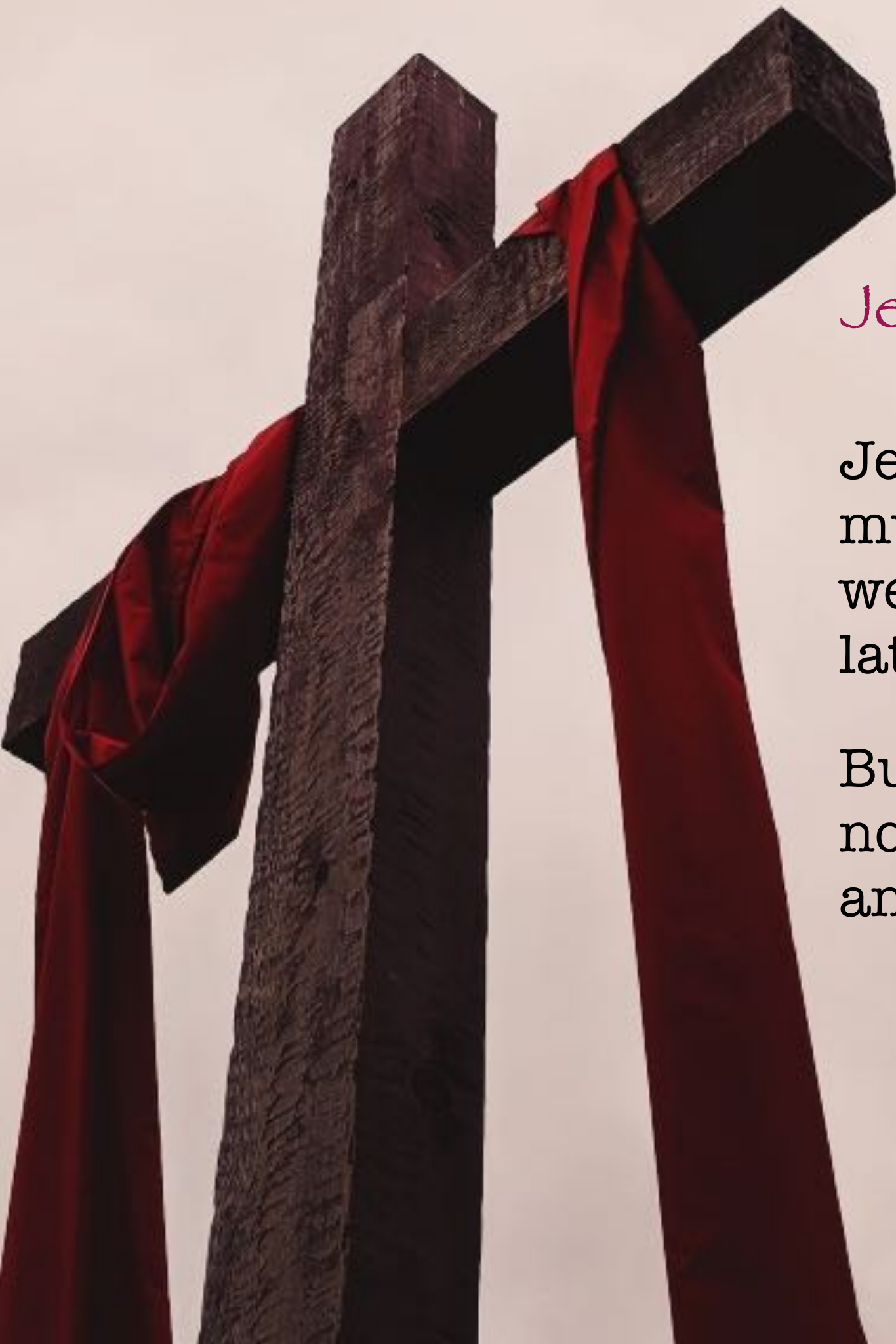


~ **Look at the 23rd Psalm**

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not lack.”

Same thing? Sure! Now we have a face on the Shepherd, a person to point to and say that’s where you can find it... Jesus Christ. We can’t just rest in the name. We have to move to the reality and the presence of the Kingdom.

“The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”, [Session 3 @ 1:11:24-1:13:05](#)



“In this world
you will have trouble.”

Jesus the Messiah John 16:33

Jesus was greatly loved by
multitudes of individuals, as
were His immediate and His
later followers.

But they were murdered
nonetheless...we are not talking
an easy triumphalism.

(213-214)

“Take courage! I have
conquered the world.”

Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

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



Q&A

Meditation — *Philippians 4:4-7*

Application

Q — As a student of myself, what do I treasure and what does it tell me about my heart, my will?

Q — How does my generosity, or lack thereof, reveal whose kingdom reigns over me?

Q — How much of my vocational effort is to invest in the Earth vs. the Heavens?

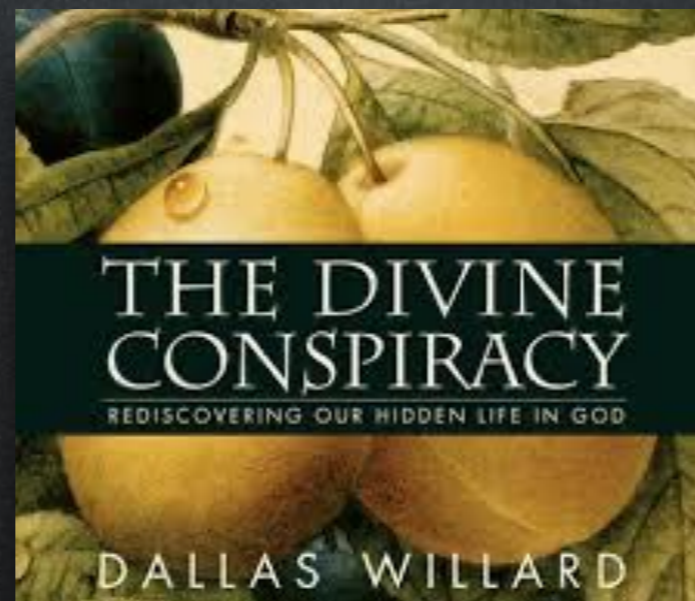
Q — What treasure reveals an idol in my life? How can I fast from it in an easy & experimental way ideally with joy? What is Jesus revealing to me about my life in Him and His Kingdom?



Session 18 Summary

Matthew 5:45, 48; 6:33 – The character of divine love, which only those in the family of God actually possess...this is the golden thread that winds its way through the entire discussion of Kingdom living by Jesus, continually correcting our vision and giving us hope.

(212)



Next Week — Session 19

Chapter 7 - "The Community of Prayerful Love"

“No Condemnation”

Matthew 7:1-5

Hardback - pp. 215-227

Paperback - pp. 237-250

For Recorded Sessions + Slides —>

jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-thedivineconspiracy

80:00 + 10K



“The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”

Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel

The Harvey Fellows 2004 Summer Institute

[12-part video series link](#)

Course Session 18 * Recommended Teachings

“Trusting Money” [DC #12 21:10-29:40](#)

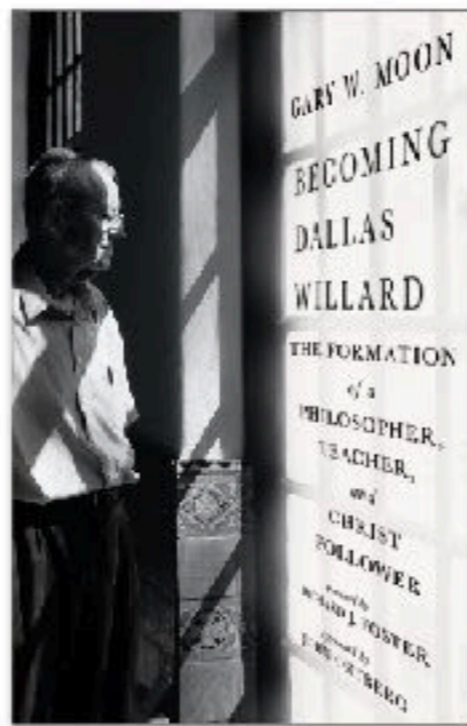
“Seek First the Kingdom” [DC #4 @ 14:00-28:30](#)

(119) pages of lecture notes in the Jesus College Library

<https://www.jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-thedivineconspiracy>

* See the Course reading schedule for related teachings

Inspiring
Friendship
with
Jesus



Started
Last
Week

BECOMING DALLAS WILLARD

Biography by Gary W. Moon

PART 1: The First Thirty Years PART 2: Three Kingdoms PART 3: Finishing Well

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July 12 - September 6, 2023

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Apostle School

May your next 10,000
minutes be worry free as
you make it your top
priority to stand secure
in the Kingdom among us.

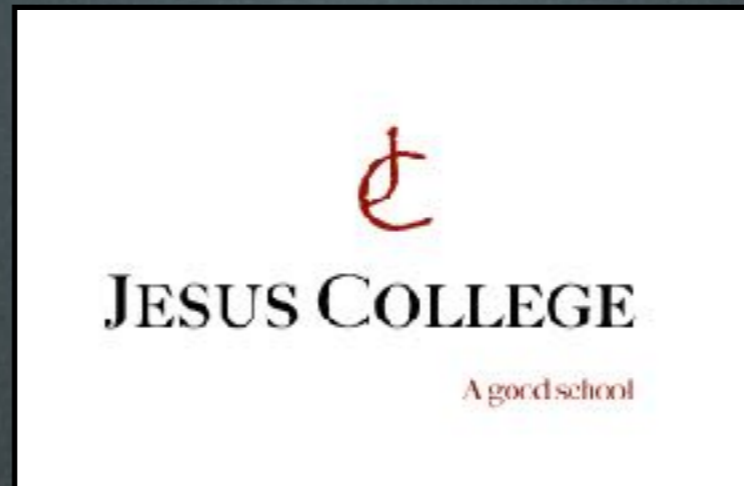
Doug



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”

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