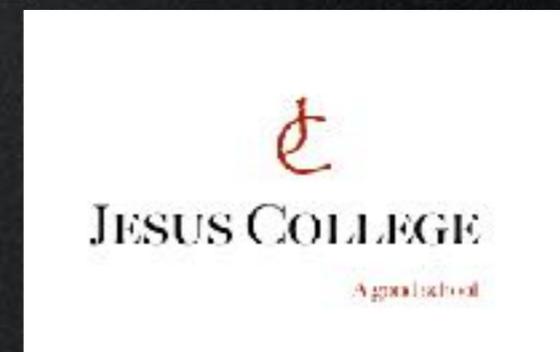
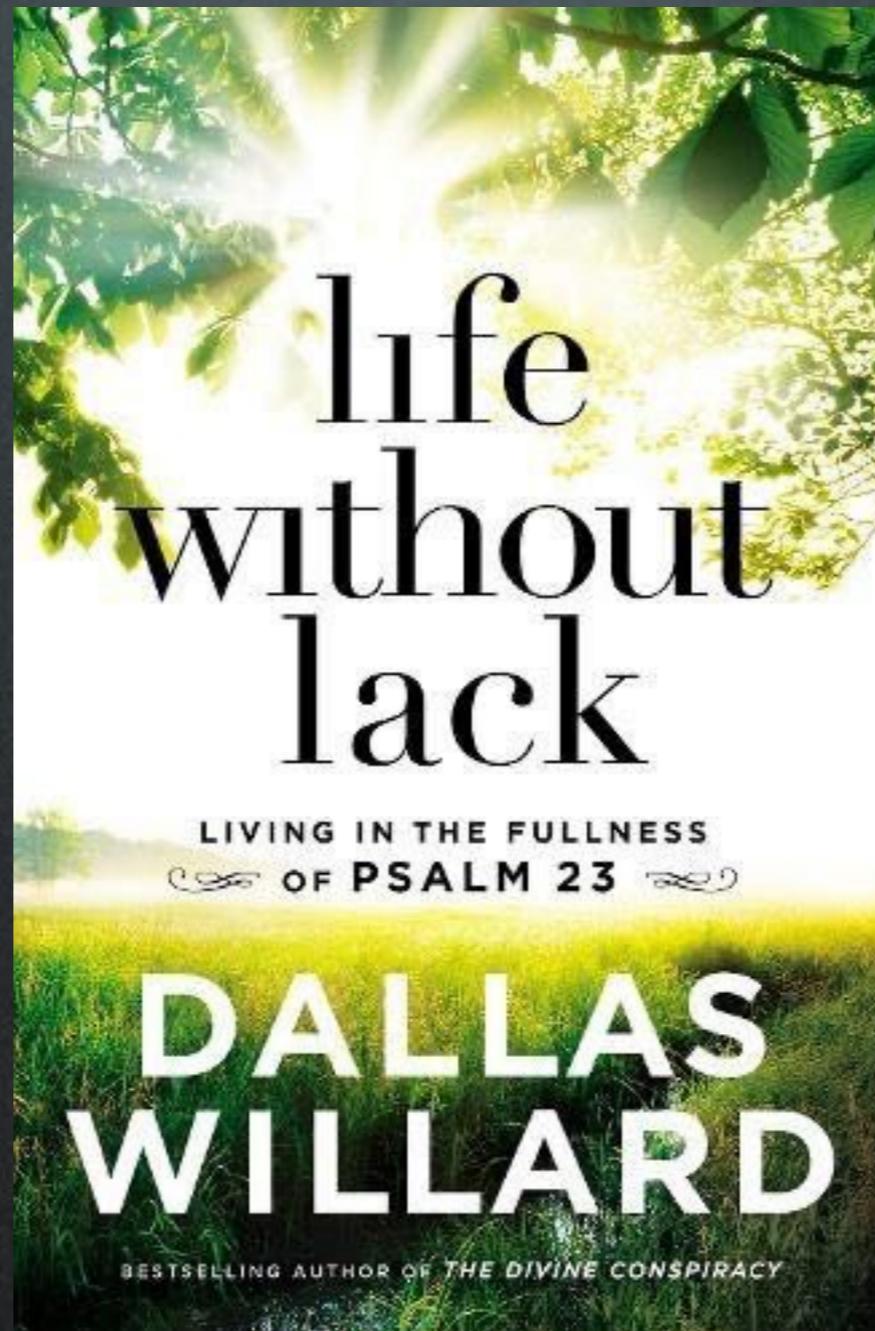


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life without lack

Session 7 — “Sufficiency Completed in Love” - Chapter 7, part 1



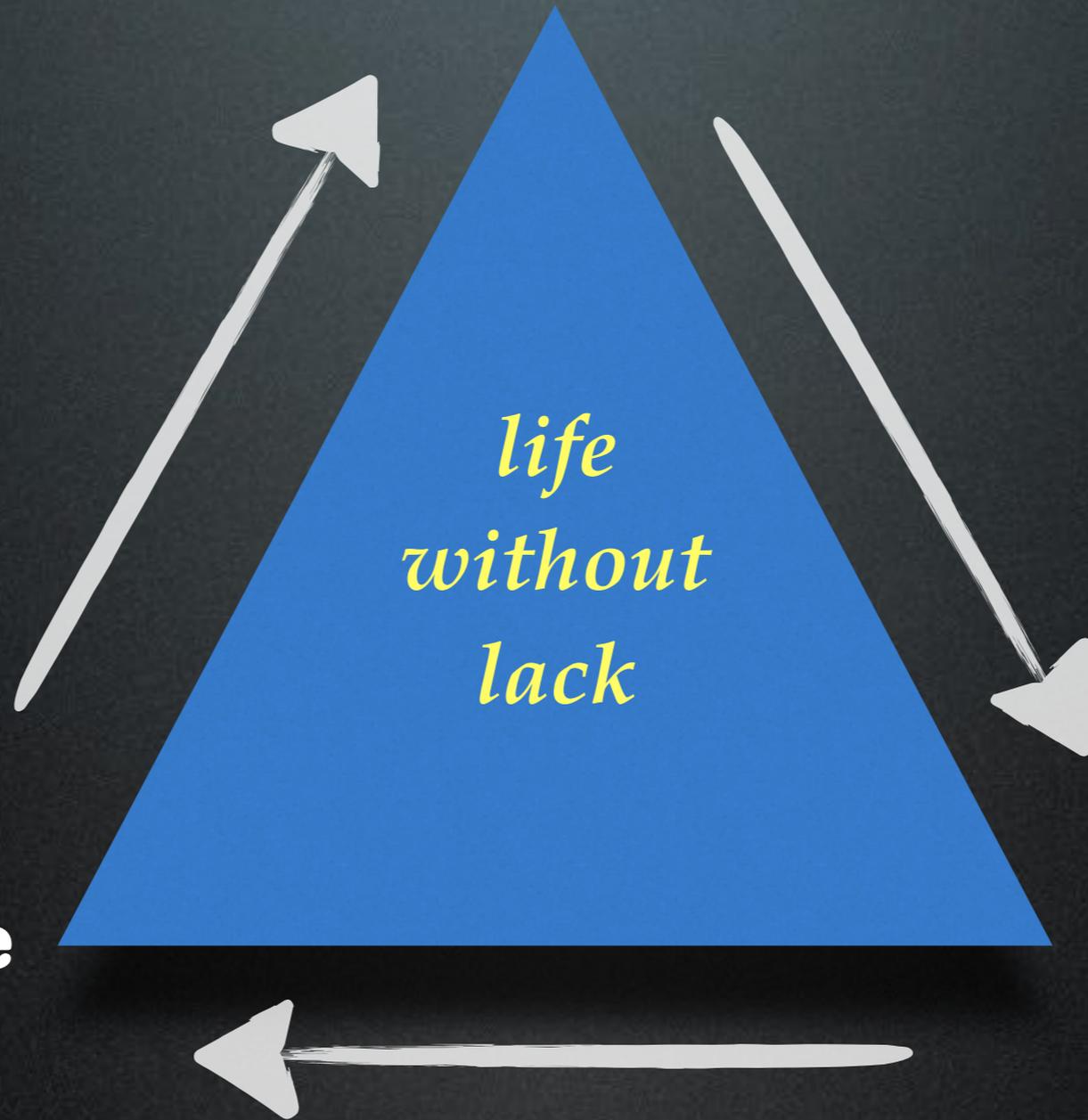
The Triangle of Sufficiency

Faith
“Trust”

*life
without
lack*

Love

Death to Self
“Humility”



life without lack — *REVIEW*

Session 6 Summary

If we are going to live a life of abundant sufficiency, we must be focused and intentional in standing against these dreadful roots of the self life. Until we have done that, we will be incapable of entering by faith into the life God longs to give us.

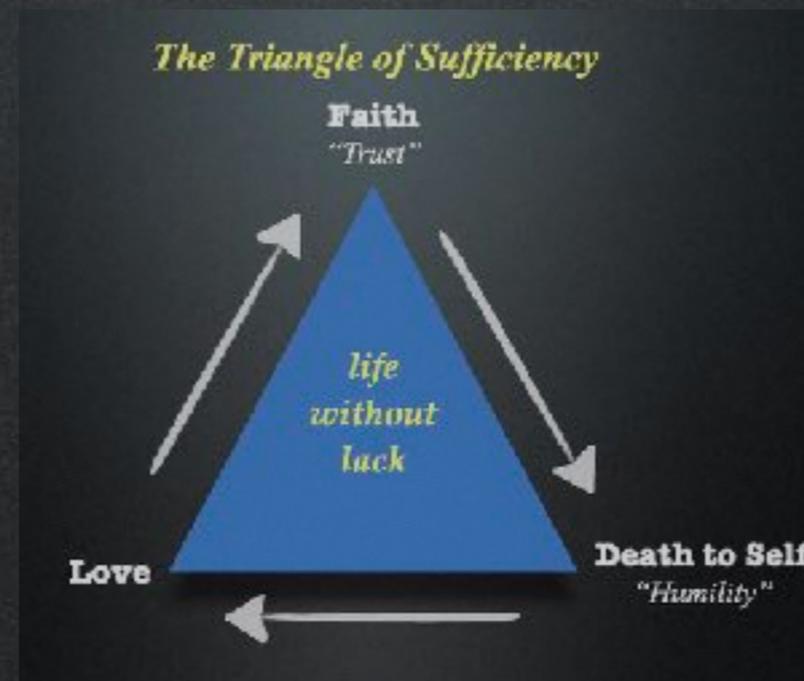
(134)

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Faith (trust), death to self, and agape love support our Psalm 23 life as a triangle of sufficiency. Each is a precious gift of God, who, in His graciousness, gives them to us to enable us to receive them in ever increasing abundance.

(157)



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Faith From Faith...to Death...to Love

Trust in God & Death to Self open up the floodgates for God's Agape Love to flow into us.

Your job is to position yourself so you can receive it.

Faith — Two Parts: Vision and Will

VISION - Willing to see God as He is before God can further reveal Himself to us and give us more Faith.

WILL - Seeking Him and growing in our faith and this attitude of life requires more and more Death to Self as we go along.

Faith From Faith...to Death...to Love (continued)

Death to Self...

...is submitting all your desires to God.

...means in God's hands, we are content for Him to take charge of outcomes.

...becomes the natural daily way with more Faith in God.

...is the Cross - a new way of living in confident fullness in God and His goodness.

...is abandonment to God in Faith "*cheerily*" "*happily*"

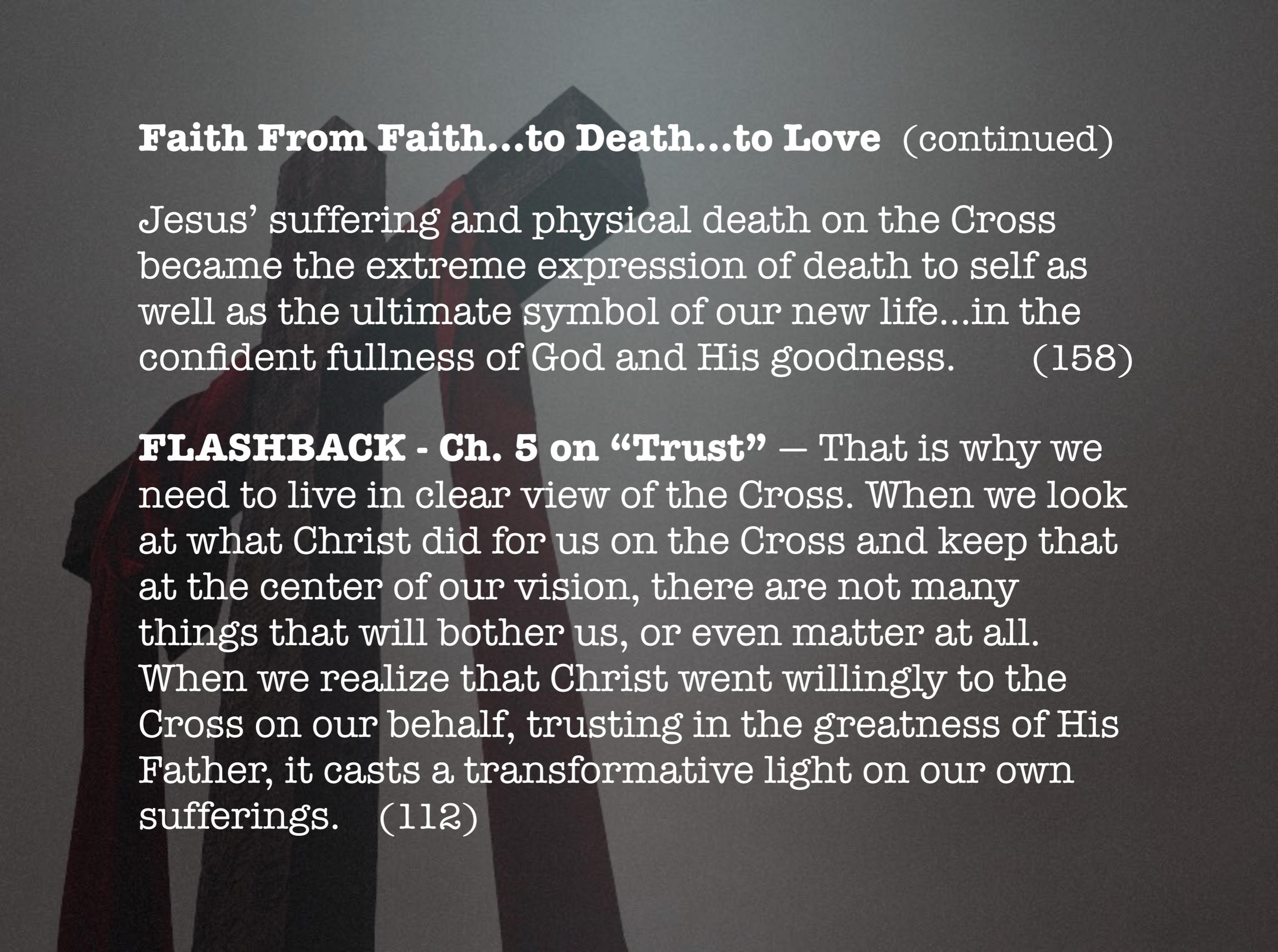
...is practiced through spiritual disciplines such as fasting = practiced surrendering to God.

"Lord, you're quite sufficient for me."

Matthew 6 - Treasure God not goods

(158-159)





Faith From Faith...to Death...to Love (continued)

Jesus' suffering and physical death on the Cross became the extreme expression of death to self as well as the ultimate symbol of our new life...in the confident fullness of God and His goodness. (158)

FLASHBACK - Ch. 5 on "Trust" – That is why we need to live in clear view of the Cross. When we look at what Christ did for us on the Cross and keep that at the center of our vision, there are not many things that will bother us, or even matter at all. When we realize that Christ went willingly to the Cross on our behalf, trusting in the greatness of His Father, it casts a transformative light on our own sufferings. (112)

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Then Comes Love

Faith [trust] has drawn us nearer to God and positioned us to receive His blessings.

Death to Self has made our life a willing receptacle for Him, and now Agape Love flows into us like a river and out into a desperately thirsty world, completing the triangle to fulfill all that is needed for a LIFE WITHOUT LACK.

Your journey in the light & easy yoke of Jesus Christ.

For God so loved the world He gave his only begotten Son.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.



*God is love...
is not an explanation of who God is;
that's an explanation of what love is.*

(159)

“Oh how He loves you and me...”

Luke 6:27-38

John 13:31-35

Romans 12:9-10

Romans 13:8-10

1 John 4:11-21

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

All You Need is Love

“Circle of Sufficiency” (*Renovation of the Heart* term)

Love between a small child and a parent comes closest to seeing and experiencing love in its purest form.

All of these things direct us to the truth that perfect love is only found in God.

Love is a gift from God, who is love.

We can not perform for a gift. (163)

Remember, the call to us is not to do as much as it is to receive. We love because He first loved us. This is why the preaching of the gospel is essential, and why there is nothing more important on the face of the earth than

ministers and teachers of the gospel teaching plainly – *plainly!* – the love of God toward every person. “For God so loved the world” John 3:16

(164)



life without lack

Session 7 — Sufficiency Completed in Love - Chapter 7, part 1

He First Loved Us

The relational nature of Christ reflects the love of God...what it is like and that it is for us.

Romans 5:8, “He demonstrated His love for us...”

Luke 6:35, “Love your enemies, do good to them...
as children of the most High for He is kind to
the ungrateful and wicked.”



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Session 7 — Sufficiency Completed in Love - Chapter 7, part 1

Acting in Love or Just Acting?

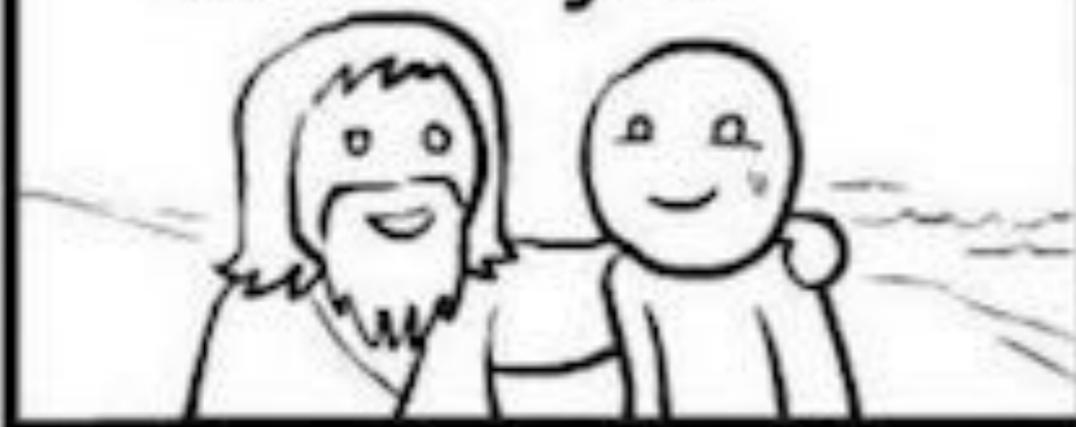
Most people know that love is not just about the things we do. Love is an attitude of the heart. We know we can act in a loving way without really loving. (165)

Service to others is one of the easiest ways to begin loving someone.

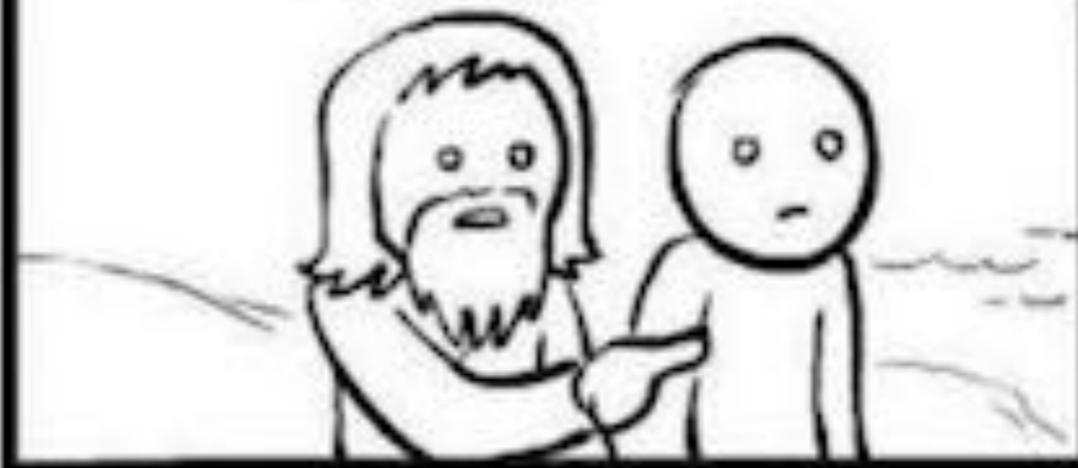
Delight in those who have cursed, hurt, scorned, looked down on us? It is very hard to do. That's where we give up on love. (166)



my child, i never left
you. those places with
one set of footprints?
it was then that i
carried you



that long groove
over there is when
i dragged you for a
while



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Session 7 — Sufficiency Completed in Love - Chapter 7, part 1

Acting in Love or Just Acting? (continued)

We should not try to love that person; we should train to be the kind of person who would love them. Only then can the ideal of love pass into a real possibility and practice. Our aim under love is not to be loving to this or that person, or in this or that kind of situation, but to be a person possessed by love as an overall character of life. Our response to the specific occasions when we are to act flow out of our overall character.

What is Love?

Agape Love is not the same as desire or delight. Desire and feelings are impulse, not considering, choosing.

Love's Three Characteristics (say Jesus & Paul)

1.) Love is in people whose lives are already marked by certain qualities of the whole self, chief of which are Faith in our all-sufficient God and joyful embracing of Death to Self.

2.) Love involves an orientation of the whole self toward what is good and right.

3.) Love has amazing, supernatural power for good as it indwells the individual.

(167 - *"A brilliant summation of human nature"* Doug Webster)

Agape Love is...

...not action; it is a source of action.

...a condition out of which actions of a certain type emerge.

...not an abstract ideal impossible to realize in our day-to-day lives.

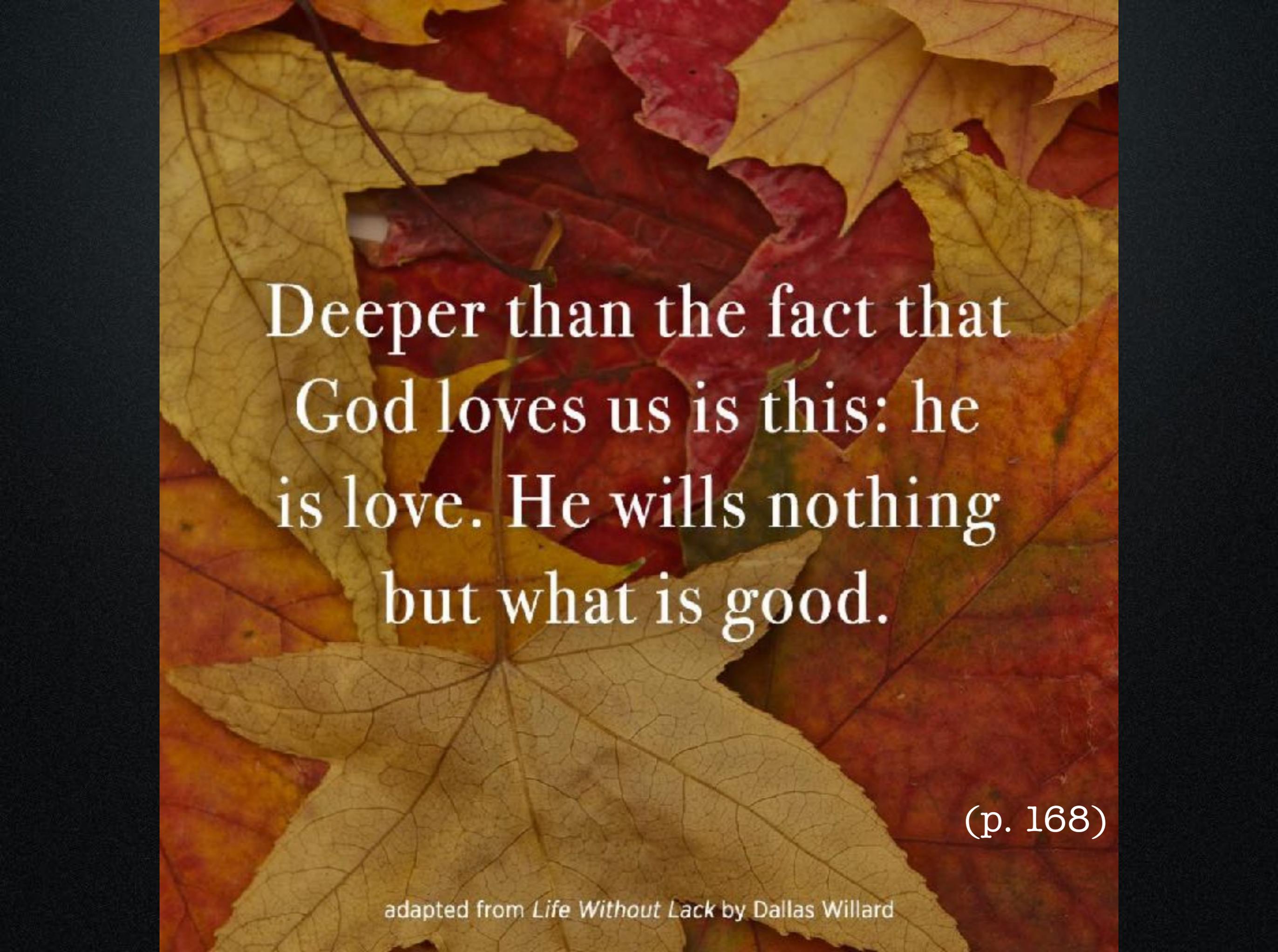
...an overall condition of real people...in the real world...poised to promote well-being.

...an overall disposition...that does justice to the New Testament teaching.

...a coherent idea that can be aimed at in practice and implemented.

...meant to be lived.

...God.



Deeper than the fact that
God loves us is this: he
is love. He wills nothing
but what is good.

(p. 168)

adapted from *Life Without Lack* by Dallas Willard

life without lack

Session 7 — Sufficiency Completed in Love - Chapter 7, part 1

Anatomy of Love [the Nature of Love]

Disposition of Agape Love

“Love from a pure heart, good conscience, sincere faith”

1 Timothy 1:5

—> Not by direct effort

By training and practice of Spiritual Disciplines

—> *Renovation of the Heart* by Dallas Willard

Love - A condition of the will in the 6 Dimensions of Human Nature: The Will, Mind (Thoughts & Feelings), Body, Social Relations and the Soul (170)

Q & C

Your Questions & Comments are Welcome!

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

1.) Why does God love me? What does His love mean to me?
What does His love do to me?

2.) How does love interface with my will? How does my will
work with my whole self?

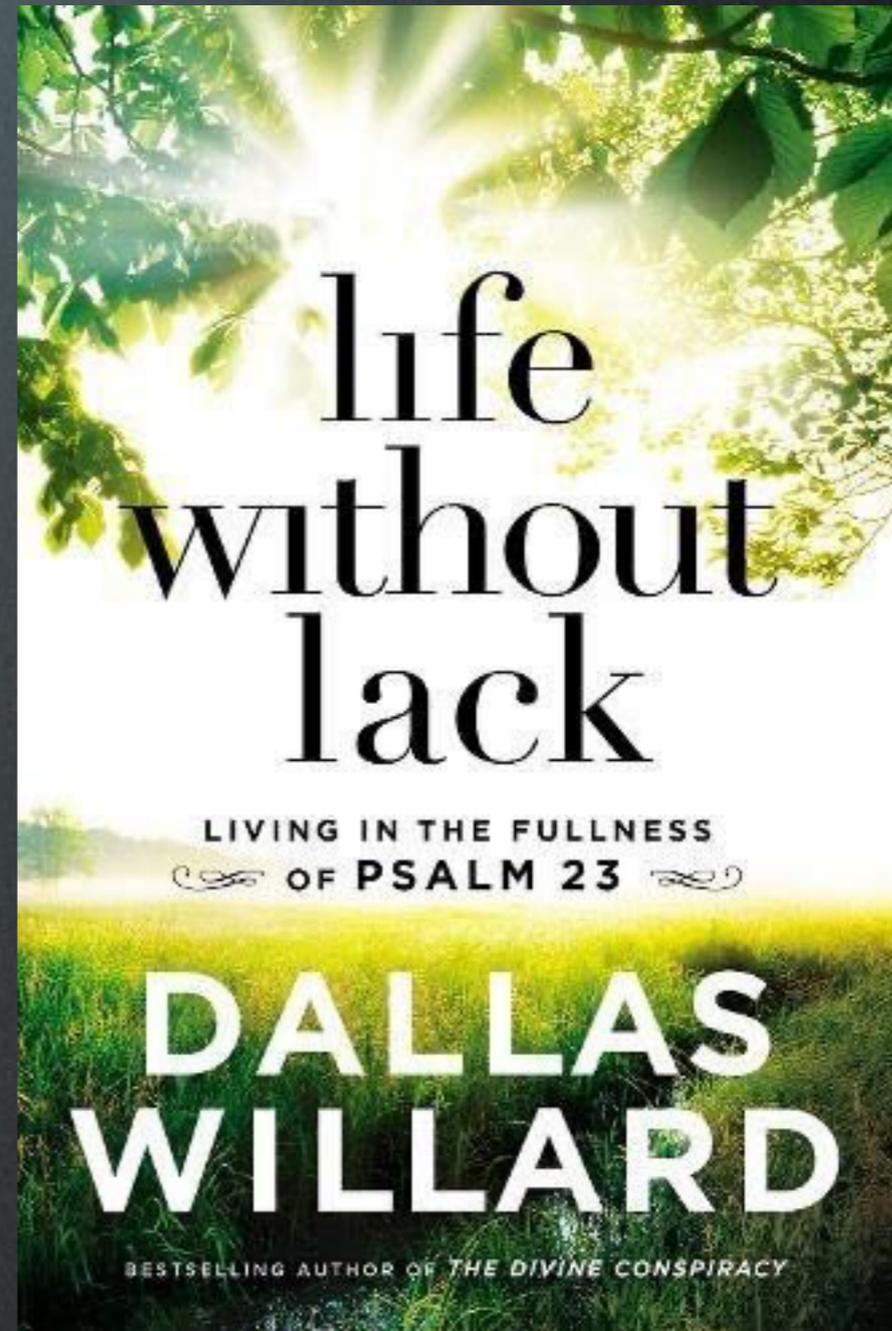
3.) What will I practice this week to develop the “condition”
(source) of God’s love [i.e. God] in me?



Session 7 Summary

Agape Love is in people whose lives are already marked by certain qualities of the whole self, chief of which are Faith in our all-sufficient God and joyful embracing of Death to Self.

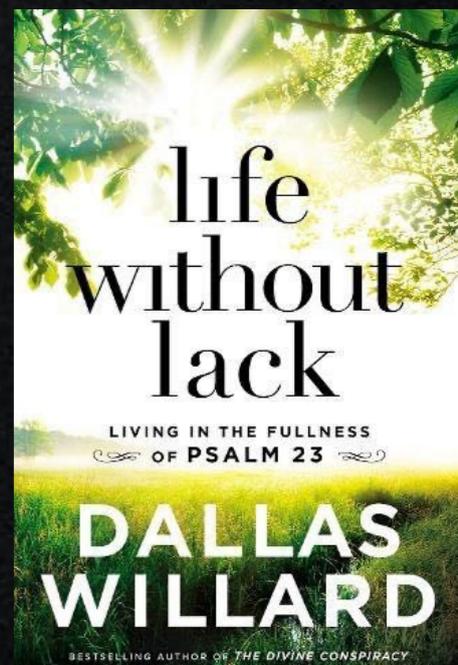
(167)



Next Week — Session 8

“Sufficiency Completed in Love” (pt. 2)
Chapter 7 (p. 171-185)

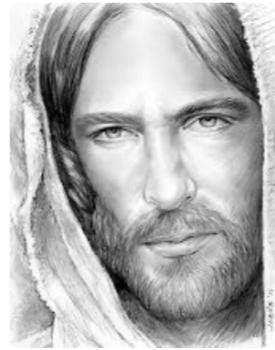
Audio — “Life Without Lack” by Dallas Willard
Session 7 - <https://dwillard.org/life-without-lack>



Who is the **SMARTEST** person you know with the best **ANSWERS** to life's most important questions?

What is REALITY?

Who is a good PERSON?



Who has the good LIFE?

Is there a HUMAN nature?

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love fill your next
10,000 minutes
shaping you to be a
loving kind of
neighbor.

Doug





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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 was 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 timeless!

[God in Himself, Part 1](#)

[God in Himself, Part 2](#)

[Why There Are People on Earth](#)

[Why Such Lack and Evil?](#)

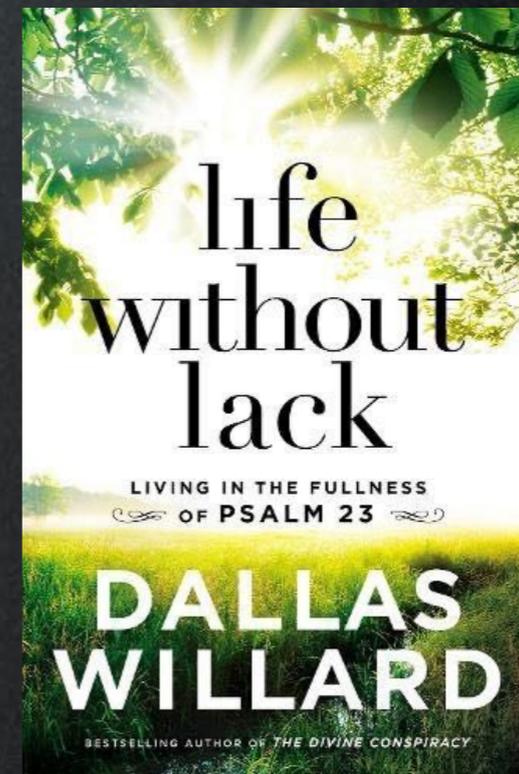
[Trust in God: The Key to Life](#)

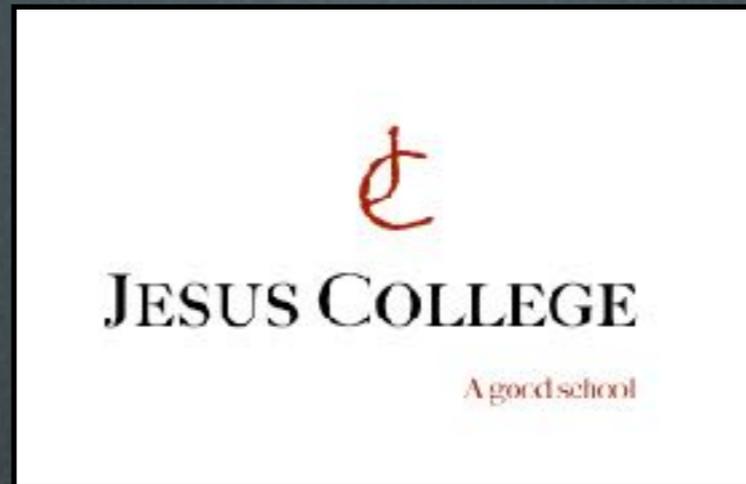
[Trust and Death to Self](#)

[Sufficiency Completed in Agape](#)

[Through One Day With Jesus](#)

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“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”

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