

HEALING THE HEART AND LIFE BY WALKING WITH JESUS CHRIST DAILY

**A Series Of Studies In
The Reality Of Spiritual Life
Here And Now**

Session II:

**The Human Life Is Increasingly
Made Whole By Living
Increasingly In Interactive
Relationship With Jesus Christ**

We Are Studying How To Do That

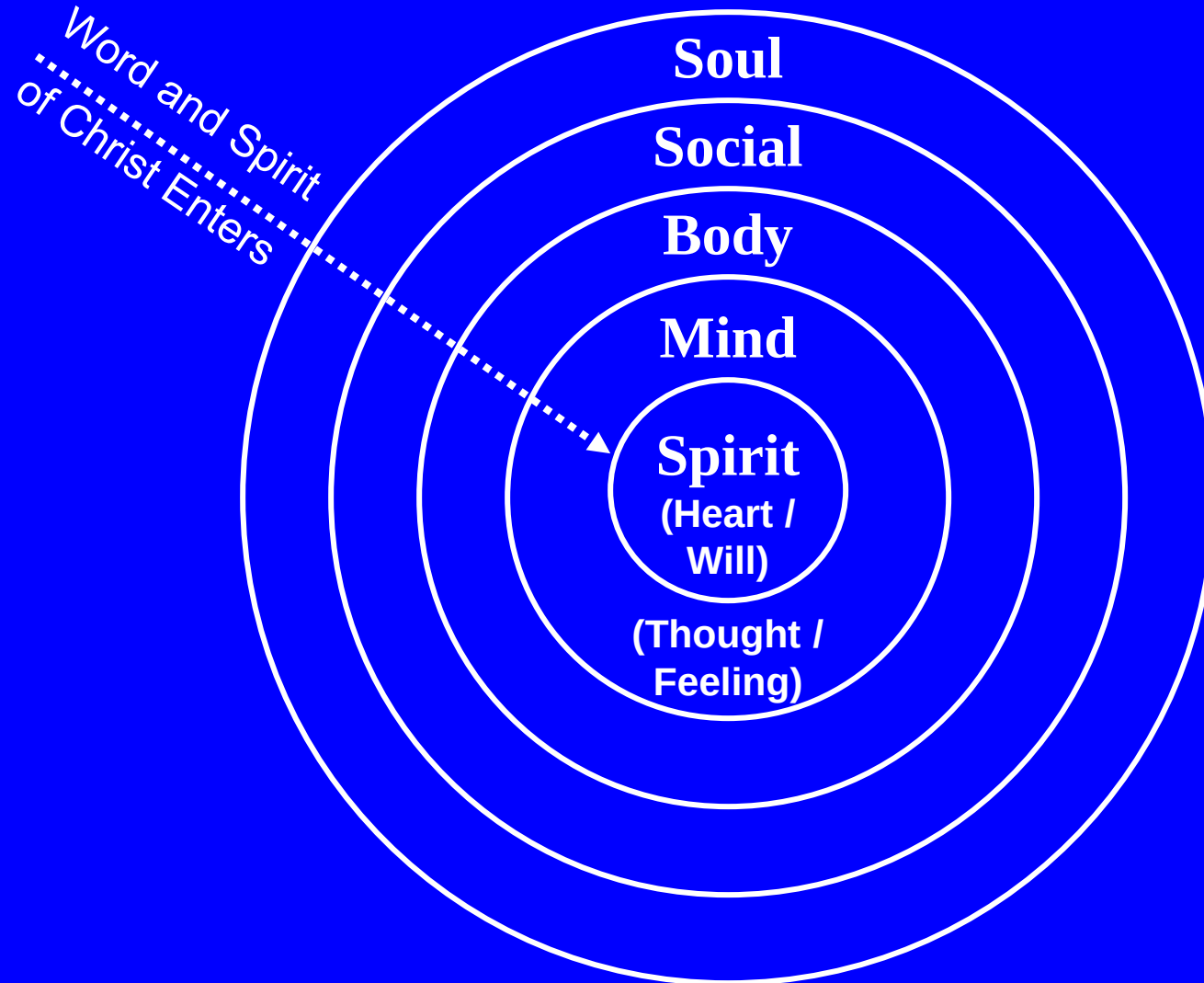
Basic Ideas From Session I

1. The broken character of human existence lies in self-will: Will to have our own way.
2. This results in hopeless conflict, internally and with others and God. (Gal. 5:16:21)
3. Every main dimension of individual and corporate life is permeated with me, me, me....., instead of God, God, God.

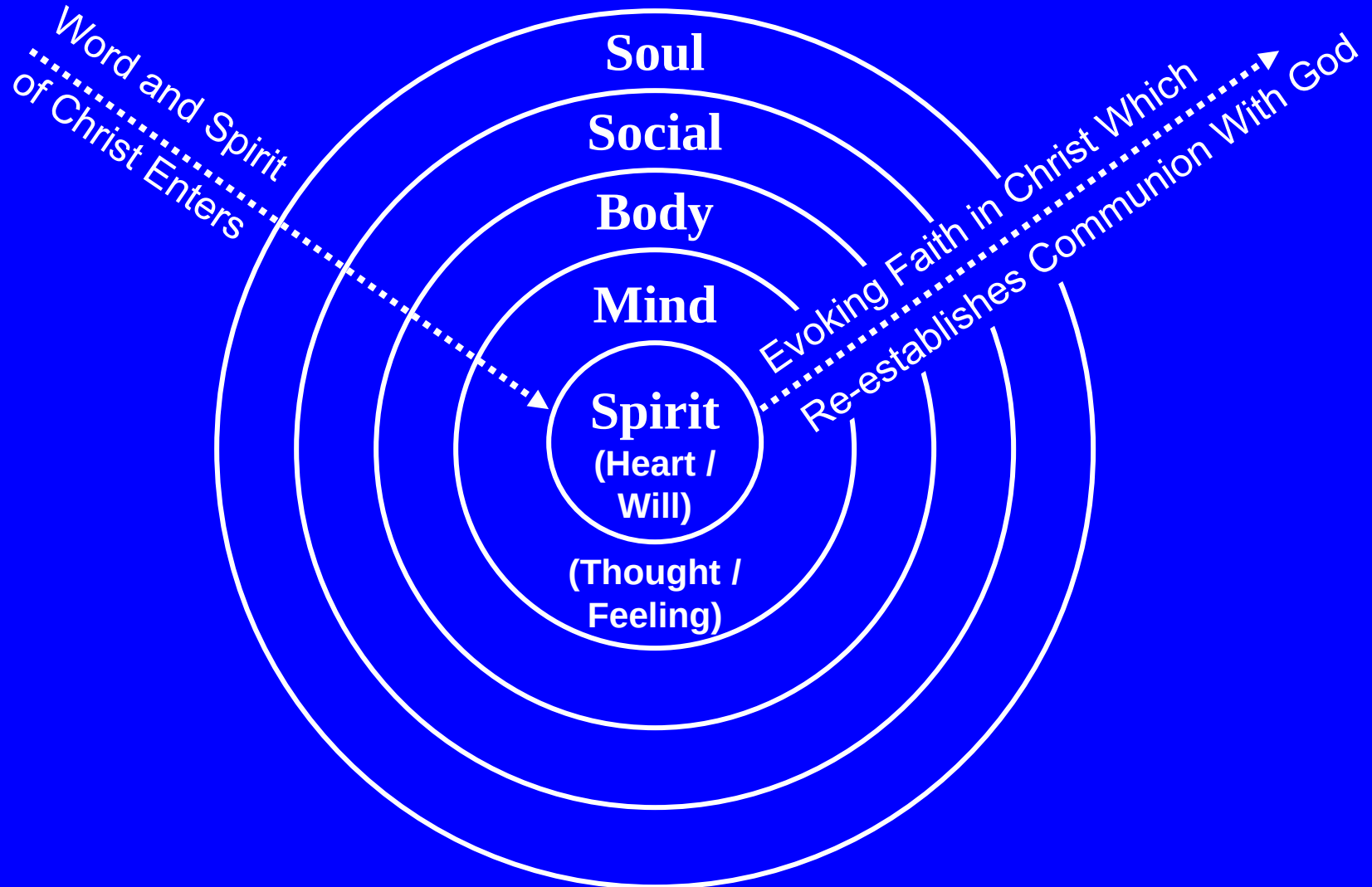
Infinite Environment



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God Constantly Reaches Out To Everyone

- 1. In Nature (Rom. 10:18, Acts 14:17)**
- 2. In personal approaches. (John 4:23)**
- 3. In the presence of Jesus the
anointed one. (John 12:32)**
- 4. In the constant general goodness of
God. (Matt. 6:25-34)**

Our First Movement Toward Healing Is To Call Out To God In Hope And Trust

**“The Lord is kind in all his deeds. The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.”
(Ps. 145:18)**

“Whoever calls upon Him as Lord shall be delivered.” (Rom 10:13)

God Is Now Re-seated Upon The Throne Of Our Life

**For us “who through him (Jesus) are
believers in God, who raised Him from
the dead and gave Him glory, so that
your faith and hope are in God.”**

(I Peter 1:21)

God Is Now Re-seated Upon The Throne Of Our Life

**Now our efforts meet with His Spirit
and grace to progressively redeem
every dimension of the self, so that we
increasingly love God with all our
heart, soul, mind and strength, and
our neighbor as ourselves.**

God Is Now Re-seated Upon The Throne Of Our Life

**This is called “working out our
salvation with fear and trembling;
Because it is God who is at work
in us.” (Phil. 2:12-13)
Not working to our salvation.**

The thought-life and feelings (the “mind”) is the first place of our now Spirit-sustained and Spirit-directed efforts toward internal transformation:

“Change me on the inside!!!”

Our Thought-Life Consists of What Our Mind Dwells On

- ❖ **Of images, preoccupations, beliefs and ways of thinking.**
- ❖ **It must be cleansed “by the washing of water with the word.”
(Eph. 5:26)**
- ❖ **We are transformed by the renewing of the mind. (Rom. 12:2)**

Our first and most basic freedom, from which all else derives, is the freedom to choose what we will think of, what we will have before our mind.

The story of Frank Laubach's great discovery: How to keep God constantly before the mind. Habit.

But:

- 1. Not everyone has this freedom. Some are in mental bondage, possibly through their feelings, even after the new birth from above. Ministry required here.**
- 2. Not everyone wants a mind filled with God.**
- 3. We have to adopt means and methods to “Retain God in our knowledge.”
(Rom. 1:28)**

Hence:

1. Our use of the 23rd Psalm.
2. The Psalm 1 person. Why this works.
3. How this is “Seeking 1st the kingdom of God and His righteousness.” (Matt. 6:33)
4. Keeping the person of Jesus constantly in mind. Counting on His presence, invoking Him constantly.

Dealing With Our Resistance To This:

1. Wanting to take a little vacation from God. Am I cornered? Can I still sin if I want to?
2. This God-world is not where I have learned to find my comfort.
3. That will all change in time, as habits of life are transformed.
4. But for a while we have to will and pray to think differently than we now think—even if we don't want to.

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- ❖ Here is a huge issue in the spiritual life, which we deal with in our next session.**

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In The Meantime, Let Us Practice Directing Our Minds Toward God As Best We Can

**Use the 23rd Psalm and
the words of Jesus in Matt. 6:25-34.**

**Then: “In everything give thanks, for this is
the will of God for you in Jesus Christ.”
(I Thess. 5:18)**