

Living supernaturally

When we consider what it means to be a new creation, to live by the life of Christ, we come to the conclusion very quickly that what we are talking about is living life supernaturally.

As we begin a new year it is important to get this understanding firmly in the forefront of our walk.

- The path we walk in Christ is a supernatural path.
- The life we live in Christ is a supernatural life.

Every time we get into self-effort to achieve goals and visions, we have reverted to the old nature's resources to seek to live this supernatural calling.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and **I no longer live, but Christ lives in me**. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

A passage which was brought to our attention many times last year was **John 15**.

John 15:4-5

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; **apart from me you can do nothing**.

To live supernaturally is to live by Christ, and this means living in a place of continuous present revelation. Many times people only seek revelation when they are in trouble or have run out of ideas of how to work for God.

How Did Jesus live?

John 5:19-20

Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, **the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing**, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does.

How Did Paul Live?

Philippians 4:10-13

I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. **I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation**, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. **I can do everything through him who gives me strength**.

The new creation in Christ is a supernatural being and it is the new supernatural being that the Holy Spirit is developing into maturity.

Romans 8:28-30

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, **he also glorified.**

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, **are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory**, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

It is this 'new creation' that receives revelation, and it is this 'new creation' that experiences and lives in and expresses the life of God. When it comes to receiving and living in the love of God, we very often seek to receive this love in the deprived areas of our old nature.

When we say we are opening our hearts to God, we are often merely exposing the needy old nature to God in the desire to have it mended. The old nature experiences God's love which leads us to Christ and a new creation so that the love of God can be fully experienced.

When we open our hearts to God it is to be the heart of the new creation in Christ which has no sinful, deprived, rejected history. Therefore, we are not seeking to experience healing and deliverance from the past, we are seeking to experience love as a child of God. This is in a Father/child relationship. Love is about the building and strengthening of this relationship. It is about the child and its relationship with the Father.

This being the case, the child's seeking is about how to live with the Father and how to please the Father by being an expression of Him. It is in this realm that the relationship develops.

God's love lives in the new nature

Ephesians 3:14-19

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, **to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge** — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

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Colossians 1:3-8

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints— the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your **love in the Spirit.**

Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because **God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.**

Romans 15:30

I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by **the love of the Spirit**, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

2 Timothy 1:7

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, **but a spirit** of power, **of love** and of self-discipline.

1 Peter 1:22-23

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth **so that you have** sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. **For you have been born again**, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

Conclusion.

When we seek to interact with God our Father:

- Are we asking Him to fellowship with us in our old nature?
- Are we seeking to experience God's love as healing for our old nature, for all its bad memories and experiences, or are we seeking to live in God's love as His child whom He has delivered from the old nature and created anew in Jesus?