

Research in Principles of Life

**BASIC SEMINAR
TEXTBOOK**

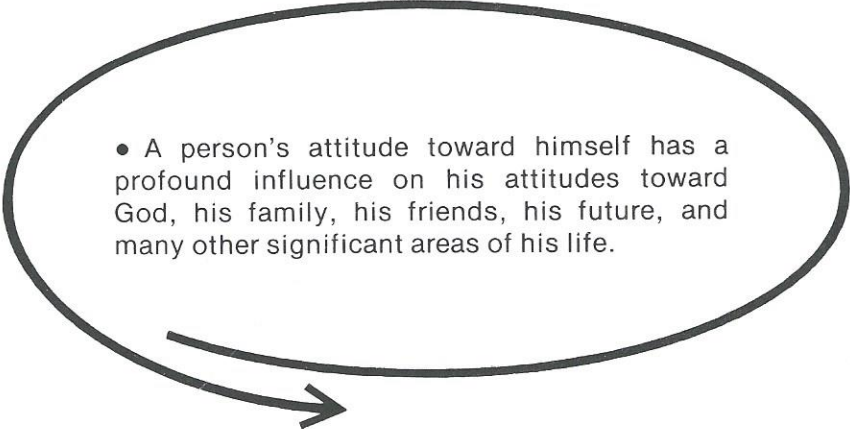
HOW TO USE THIS TEXTBOOK

- * This textbook is only an incomplete supplement to the 32 hours of lectures, diagrams and charts which make up the Basic Seminar.
- * The textbook is designed to be studied along with the many pages of notes which are to be written during the Seminar.
- * The purpose of both the Seminar and this textbook is to encourage a much deeper study and application of Scripture.
- * Each time a Seminar is attended, different areas of personal need usually stand out. Steps of action in these areas should be worked out first. In preparation for this, a time of personal study in the Scriptures should be engaged in. The textbook and lecture notes may become useful in suggesting areas of Scripture to study.
- * This textbook is only a beginning. There are many more truths from the inexhaustible pages of Scripture which can be added. We encourage you to join us in the deeply rewarding process of doing this.

BUILDING TRUST IN OUR DESIGNER

ACCEPTANCE OF SELF

- FORMING ATTITUDES ABOUT OURSELVES
- RESPONDING CORRECTLY TO "DEFECTS"



- A person's attitude toward himself has a profound influence on his attitudes toward God, his family, his friends, his future, and many other significant areas of his life.

FORMING ATTITUDES ABOUT OURSELVES

• One of the major areas of conflict in both youth and adults is that of having wrong attitudes about ourselves. These attitudes affect every other relationship in our life.

- When the most attractive and popular students on a certain campus were asked if they were satisfied with their basic appearance, over 95 percent replied that they were not!
- These students were aware of their basic sin nature and their need for salvation. They had placed their faith in Jesus Christ and had been reborn by the Spirit of God.
- But many were having continued struggles in the matter of dedicating their lives to the will of God. In further discussions with them, it was discovered that they had inwardly reasoned that if what they saw in the mirror was an example of God's love and creativity for them, they couldn't really trust Him with their future.

HOW ATTITUDES ARE FORMED:

• RIGHT DEVELOPMENT:



APPEARANCE

ABILITIES

PARENTAGE

ENVIRONMENT

COMPARING OURSELVES WITH THE INWARD CHARACTER OF JESUS CHRIST IN ORDER TO RECEIVE GOD'S APPROVAL

"How can ye believe, which receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only?" John 5:44

"But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth." II Corinthians 10:17, 18

• WRONG DEVELOPMENT:



APPEARANCE

ABILITIES

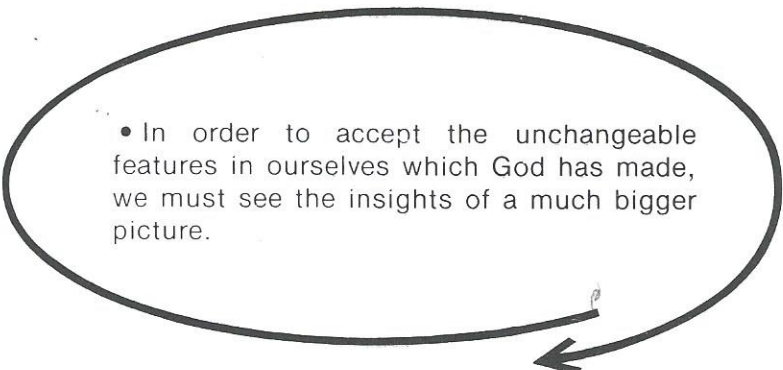
PARENTAGE

ENVIRONMENT

MEASURING OURSELVES WITH THE OUTWARD STANDARDS OF THOSE AROUND US IN ORDER TO GAIN THEIR APPROVAL

"For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves; but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise." II Corinthians 10:12

BASIC INSIGHTS ON SELF-ACCEPTANCE



- In order to accept the unchangeable features in ourselves which God has made, we must see the insights of a much bigger picture.

A. GOD'S BASIC PURPOSE IN CREATING US IS THAT WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, AND THAT WE EXPERIENCE THE FULL POTENTIAL OF CHRIST WORKING IN AND THROUGH THESE BODIES OF OURS.

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." John 17:3

"... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10

"... I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:" Philippians 3:8

SUCCESS IN LIFE

Is not measured by what we are or what we have done, but rather by what we are and have done compared to what we could have been and could have done.

B. SATAN IS AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL WHICH GOD HAS PUT WITHIN OUR LIVES, AND HE DESIRES TO TOTALLY DESTROY IT OR AT LEAST PARTIALLY DIMINISH ITS POTENTIAL.

"But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth . . .

"If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and ready for the master's use . . ."

"Flee also youthful lusts." II Timothy 2:20-22

C. SATAN'S INITIAL METHOD OF OPERATION IS TO GET US TO BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS CHEATED OR WILL CHEAT US OUT OF THAT WHICH WE SHOULD RIGHTFULLY HAVE.

"And the serpent said . . . God doth know that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:4,5

"Beware lest any man spoil you . . . for in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And you are complete in Him . . ." Colossians 2:8-10