

**Are you living your life **WITH** God?**

**Or are you **Under, Over, From** or **For** ... God ... ?**

S K Y E J E T H A N I

Author of *The Divine Commodity*

REIMAGINING THE WAY YOU RELATE TO GOD

*with*

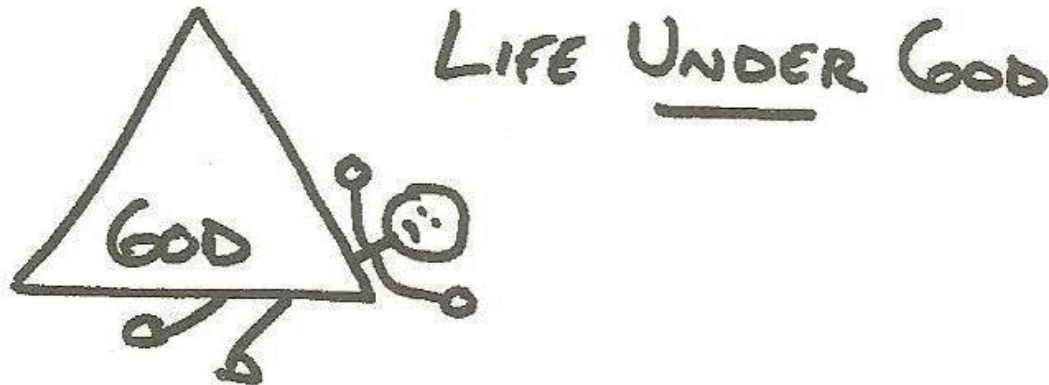
*with*

Skye  
**Jethani**



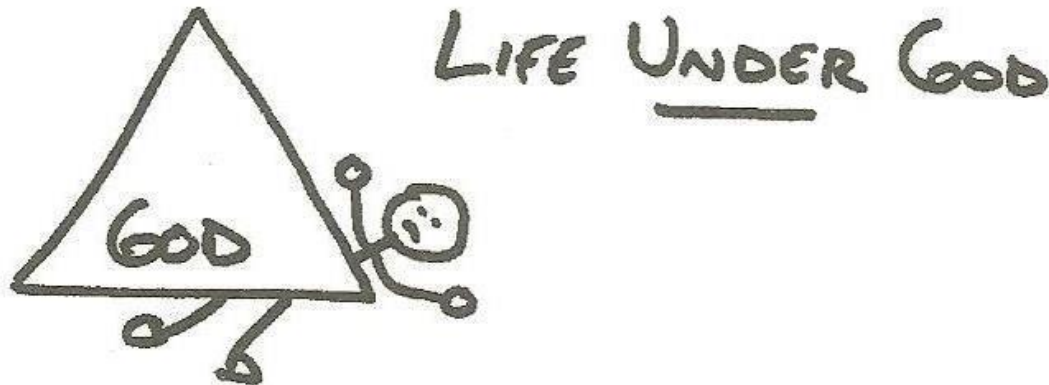
# (a) LIFE UNDER GOD ?

- Living under divine rules to avoid calamity.
- Keeping his rules so that He will bless me.
- Seeking to control God through morality and ritual so He will do our will...
- This becomes a form of legalism trying to live by rules and commands...



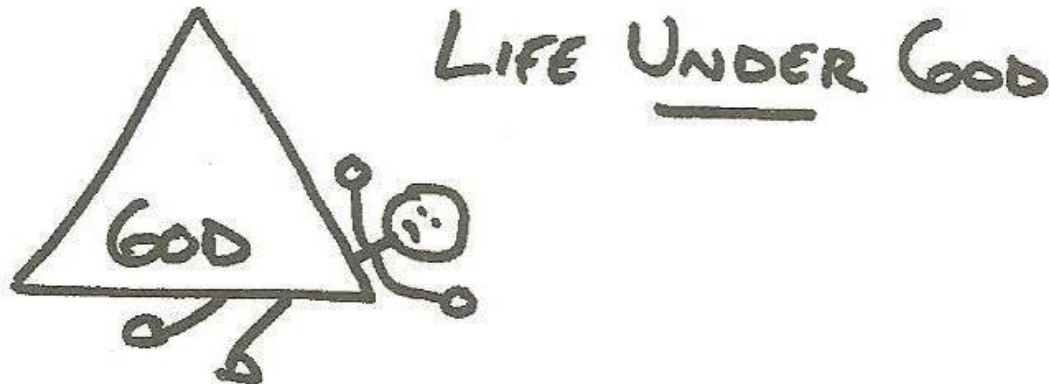
# (a) LIFE UNDER GOD ?

- Read **Leviticus 26:3-9 & 14-17**
- **Lev 26:3** ... “If you live by my statutes, obey my commands, and observe them... I will bless you.”
- **Lev 26:14** ... “But if you won’t listen to me and obey all these commands... I’ll set my face against you...”



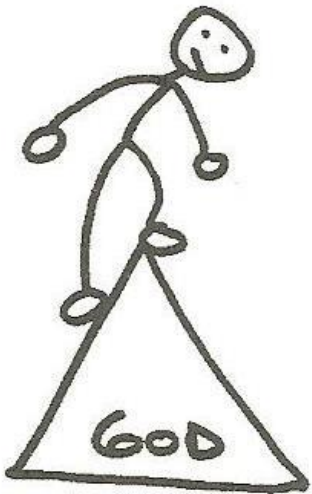
# (a) LIFE UNDER GOD ?

- **Deuteronomy 6:1-3** “Obey the Lord: so you may live a long time... that life may go well for you and that you may increase greatly...”
- **Joshua 1:8** “Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”



## (b) LIFE OVER GOD ?

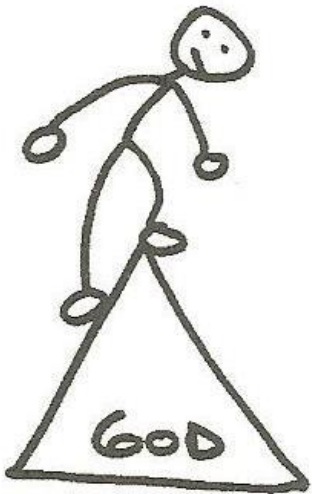
- Using God to carry out my own plans.
- Focusing on principles to be effective, instead of my relationship with a Divine Person.
- Learning how to use general principles in the Bible for a prosperous business, successful marriage, happy family, great career, etc. etc.



LIFE OVER GOD

## (b) LIFE OVER GOD ?

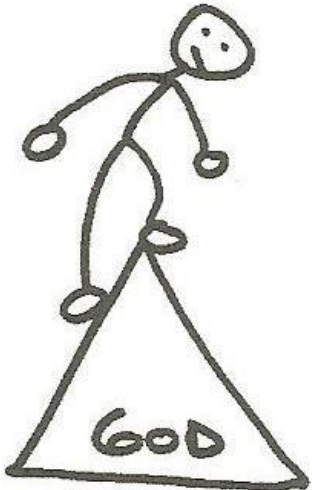
- **Prov 15:22** Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.
- **Prov 16:32** Better a patient man than a warrior, a man who controls his temper than one who takes a city.
- **Prov 27:18** Whoever tends the fig tree will eat its fruit, and whoever obeys his master will be honored.



**Prov 29:17** If you correct your children, they will bring you peace and happiness.

## (b) LIFE OVER GOD ?

- **Exodus 17:5-6** God tells Moses to *hit* the rock so that water would come out...
- **Numbers 20:7-12** God tells Moses to *speak* to the rock to bring out water for the people...
- Moses tried to use God's "water from the rock" method - independently from God...  
... and often so do we...





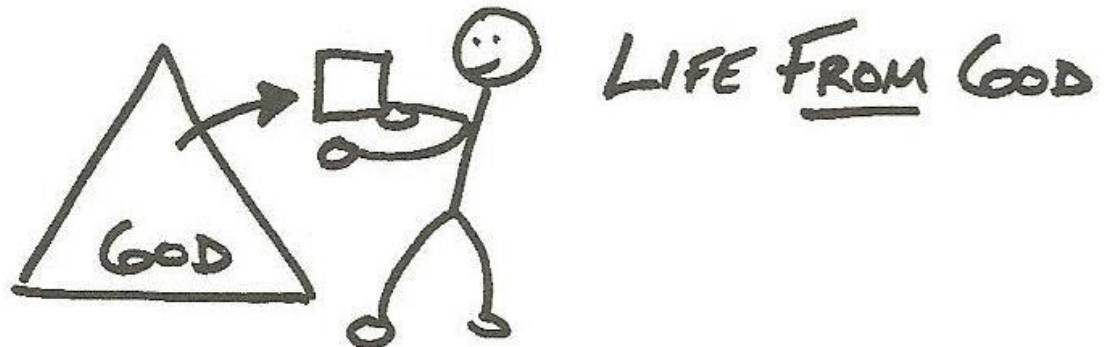
## (c) LIFE FROM GOD ?

- God becomes the divine butler, the cosmic therapist, who gives us what we desire...
- We start loving God's blessings and His gifts, rather than God himself...
- Rather than being transformed into His image, we try to transform God into our own image...
- Prosperity Gospel...



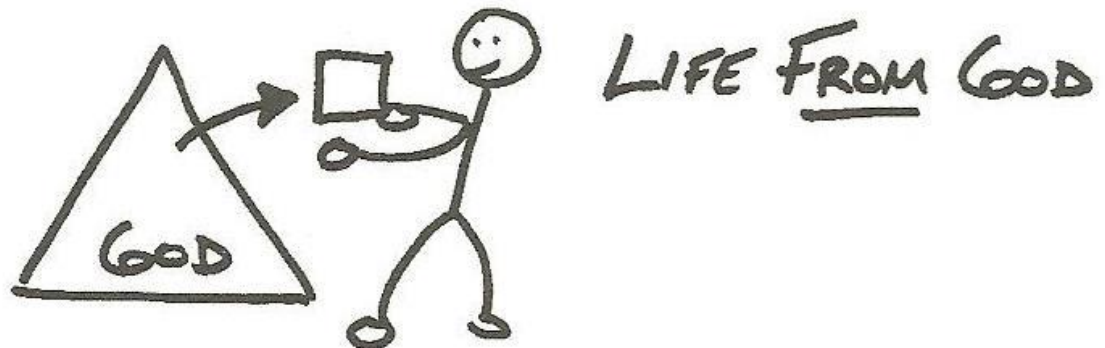
## (c) LIFE FROM GOD ?

- **James 1:17** Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father of the heavenly lights.
- **John 14:12-14** Truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.



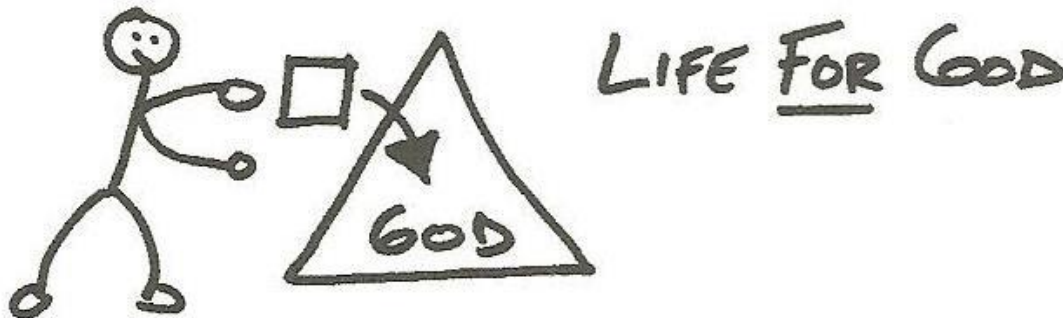
## (c) LIFE FROM GOD ?

- **Matthew 7:10-11** If you give good things to your children when they ask you, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who keep on asking Him!
- **Luke 15:11-16**  
“Prodigal Son” Story = The young son left after taking everything he could get from his father...



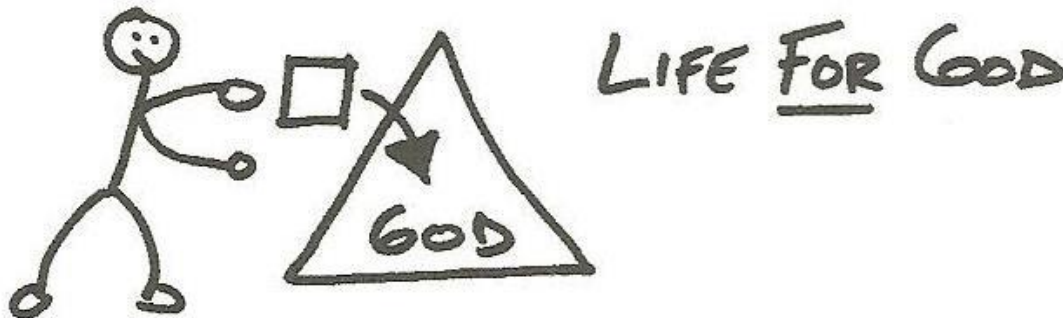
## (d) LIFE FOR GOD ?

- What matters is how much we can accomplish for God and for His Kingdom and the Gospel...
- Otherwise God is disappointed in us and we feel our life ceases to have value...
- Rather than finding our value in God as His beloved children, we try to earn His approval by the work we do for Him...



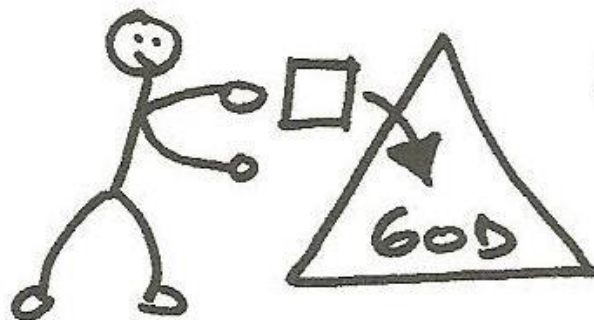
# (d) LIFE FOR GOD ?

- **Matthew 4:19-20** Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men...
- **Romans 1:16** I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...
- **1 Cor 9:20-22** ... I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some...



## (d) LIFE FOR GOD ?

- **Rom 9:3** I would be willing to be damned if by so doing I could save my brethren, the Jews...
- **Luke 10:38-42** Story of Martha & Mary: Martha worked so hard for the Lord, but she became dissatisfied and complained about her sister...
- **Luke 15:25-30** “Prodigal Son” story = The older son who stayed home serving the Father was

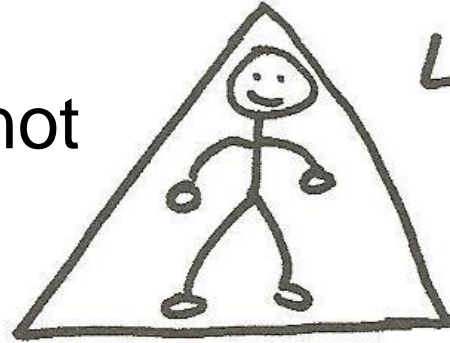


LIFE FOR GOD

dissatisfied...  
resentful...  
actually  
unhappy...

# ➔ LIFE WITH GOD !

- The goal of our life is not to use God, but to live **WITH** God Himself...

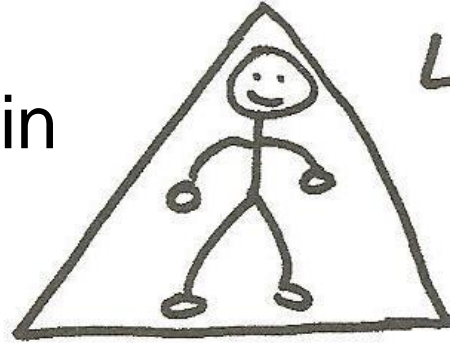


LIFE WITH GOD

- Life's not a matter of being **UNDER** God obeying His commands out of fear, nor **OVER** Him using His principles for success, not only receiving the blessings **FROM** Him, nor even living **FOR** Him:  
→ But living **WITH** God! – Now and Forever...
- God should not be **how** we acquire our treasure, He must **become** our treasure...

# ➔ LIFE WITH GOD !

- **Matthew 1:23** The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and



LIFE WITH GOD

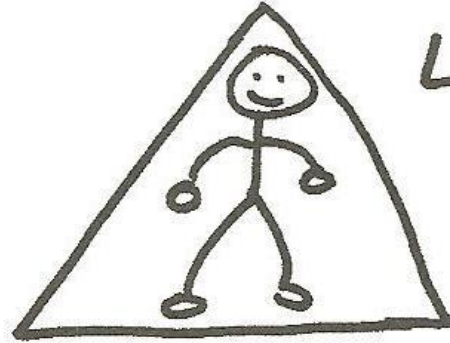
- they will call him Immanuel, which means “God with us”. ➔ God took the initiative to be **WITH** us.
- Do we desire above all else to be **WITH** God?!
- **Philippians 3:8** What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ...



# ➔ LIFE WITH GOD !

- **Ephesians 3:14-19**

I pray that Christ may  ***dwell*** in your hearts...



LIFE WITH GOD

that you may understand the width, length, height and depth of Christ's love; and that you may experience this love that surpasses knowledge...

- **John 17:24** Father, I want those you have given me to be ***with me*** where I am and to see my glory, the glory you have given me...

➔ So Jesus desires us to be ***WITH*** him...  
Do we desire to be ***WITH*** Jesus?!

**➔ WITH FAITH HOPE & LOVE**

**Living WITH  
God, involves  
these basics...**

*Faith*

*Hope*

*Love*

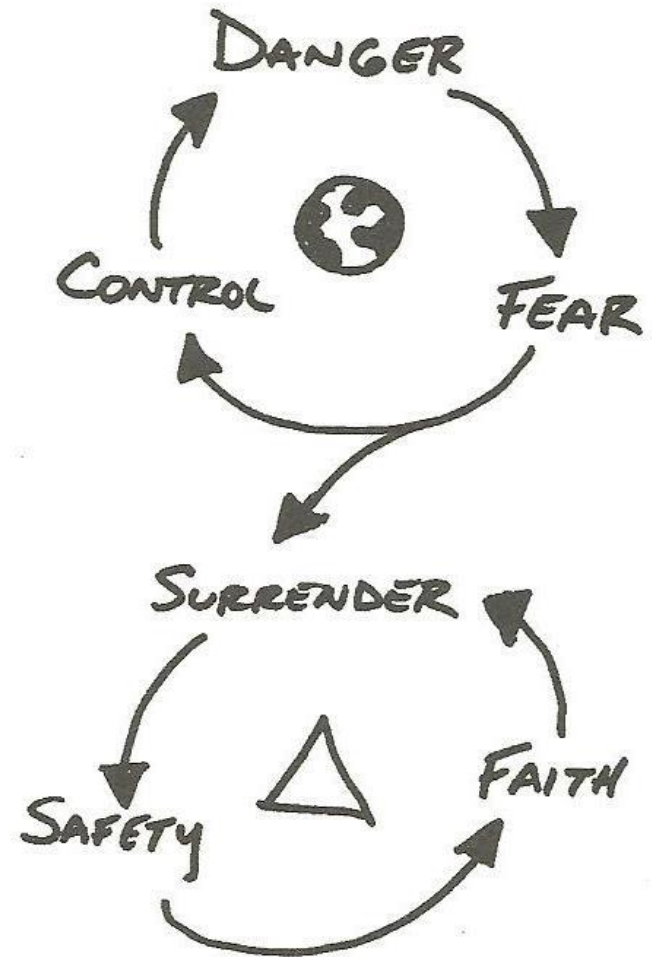
# ➔ WITH **FAITH** HOPE & LOVE

**John 14:1** Do not let your hearts be troubled. **Trust/believe** in God; **trust/believe** also in me.

➔ I need to place my **faith** firmly in Christ, as my **Loving Saviour**.

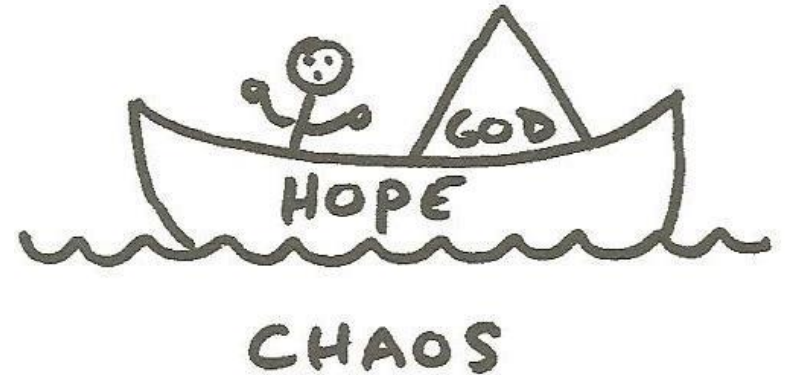
➔ I must surrender control of my life and **trust** God completely, as my **Sovereign Lord**.

➔ I learn to **trust** Jesus daily as my **Good Shepherd** who will take good care of me.



# ➔ WITH FAITH **HOPE** & LOVE

**Rom 15:13** Now may God, the source of **hope**, fill you with all joy and peace as you believe, so that you may overflow with **hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.



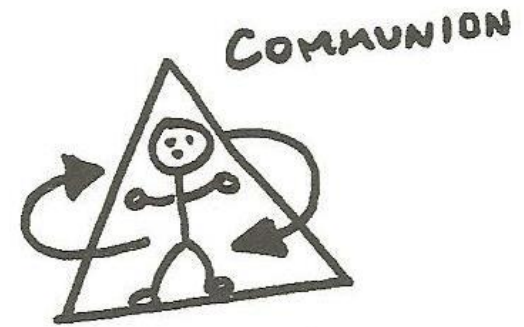
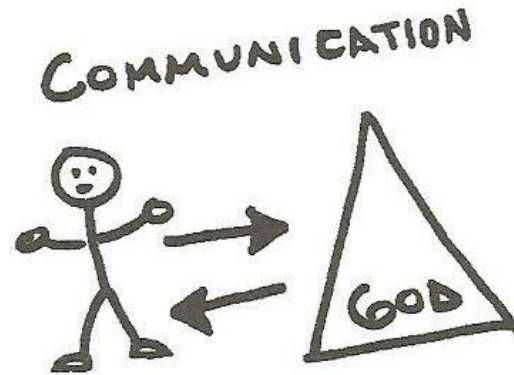
➔ My **hope** does not depend on the storms or external circumstances that surround me, but on the ONE who is with me.

➔ I have **hope** for eternity, but also hope for my daily life – today and every day!

# ➔ WITH FAITH HOPE & LOVE

**1 Corinthians 12:31**

And now I will show you the most excellent way... the way of **love**...



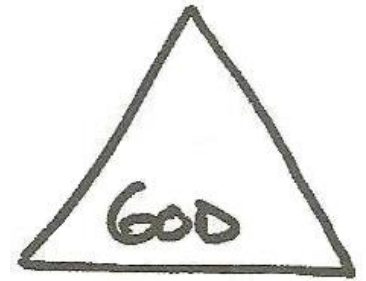
**Zephaniah 3:17** The Lord your God

is with you... He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with his **love**, He will rejoice over you with singing...

**1 John 4:19** We **love** because He first **loved** us...

**1 Cor 13:13** And now these three remain: **faith**, **hope** and **love**. But the greatest of these is **love**...

# ➔ IN CONCLUSION...



What's at the centre of the Cosmic Story?

**(a) LIFE UNDER GOD // Divine Will?**

➔ The divine and inscrutable will of God?

**(b) LIFE OVER GOD // Natural Laws?**

➔ Natural principles God built into creation?

**(c) LIFE FROM GOD // Personal Desire?**

➔ Myself with my desires & wants?

**(d) LIFE FOR GOD // Global Mission?**

➔ The mission of God to redeem the world?

**LIFE WITH GOD // Relationship with God Himself !**

➔ God's desire for us to live with Him forever!

# ➔ IN CONCLUSION...

What is my **Core Identity** as a person?

**(a) LIFE UNDER GOD** – a sinner?

**(b) LIFE OVER GOD** – a manager?

**(c) LIFE FROM GOD** – a consumer?

**(d) LIFE FOR GOD** – a servant?

➔ **LIFE WITH GOD** – a child of God!

