

The fellowship to which we are called

- 1. Our calling
- 2. The blessed life

The sort of life that we must live

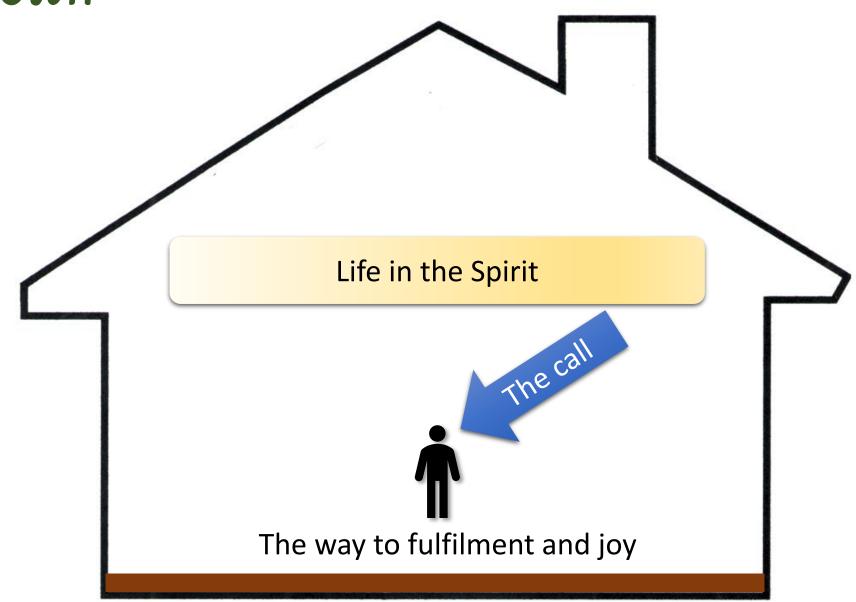
3. The way forward

The road that takes us into that life

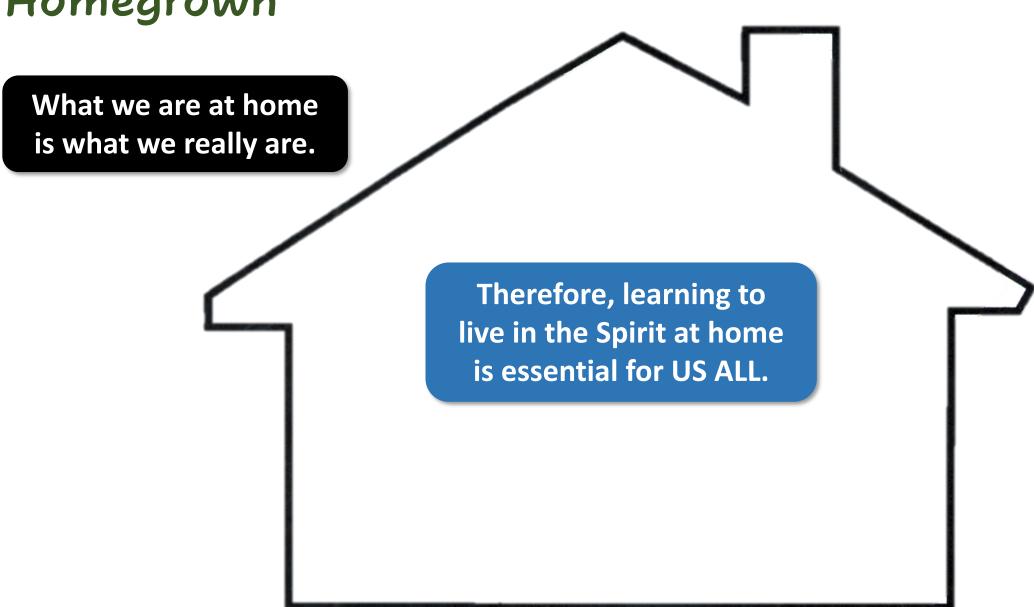
The way to fulfilment and joy

Life in the Spirit









Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus... ...who will also strengthen you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ

> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, - When were you called? **Jesus Christ our Lord.**

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

And writing to the believers in Colossae... (2:6-7)



To take to oneself

As you received **Christ Jesus the Lord**, so walk in Him,

- rooted and
- **built up** in Him and
- established in the faith, just as you were taught,
- abounding in thanksgiving.

(Colossians 2:6-7)

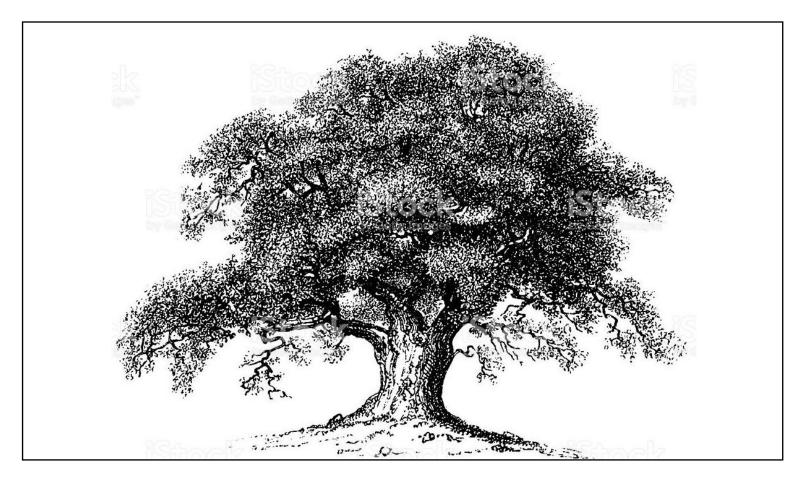
This has happened

This is happening

# God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

(1 Corinthians 1:9)

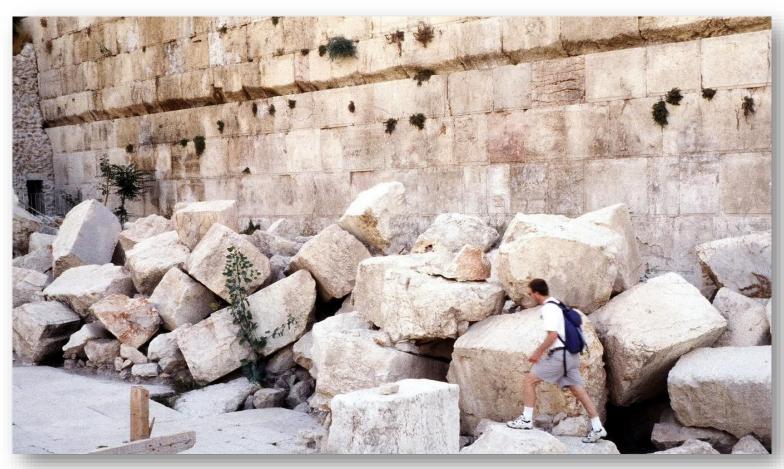
#### Rooted in Him...



# God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

(1 Corinthians 1:9)

#### Being **built up** in Him...



# God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

(1 Corinthians 1:9)

#### Being **established** in the faith...



## God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

(1 Corinthians 1:9)

#### Abounding in **thanksgiving** ...

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. (Psalm 95:2)

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. (Psalm 107:1)

Oh, that men would **give thanks** to the LORD for His goodness... (Psalm 107:8)

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise.
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. (Psalm 100:4)

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
Sing praises on the harp to our God... (Psalm 147:7)

I will sacrifice to You with **the voice of thanksgiving**; I will pay what I have vowed.... (Jonah 2:9)

Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving... (Colossians 4:2)

In everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God... (Philippians 4:6)

# God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Our calling...is to a life lived in fellowship...



As you received **Christ Jesus the Lord**, so walk in Him,

- rooted and
- **built up** in Him and
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(Colossians 2:6-7)

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The sort of life that we must live

3. The way forward

The road that takes us into that life

The way to fulfilment and joy

Life in the Spirit



#### The blessed life

A life being lived in the Spirit

He shall be like a tree

Planted by the rivers of water,

That brings forth its fruit in its season,

Whose leaf also shall not wither;

And whatever he does shall prosper.

(Psalm 1:3)



Behold! My Servant whom I uphold...

He will not grow faint nor be discouraged...

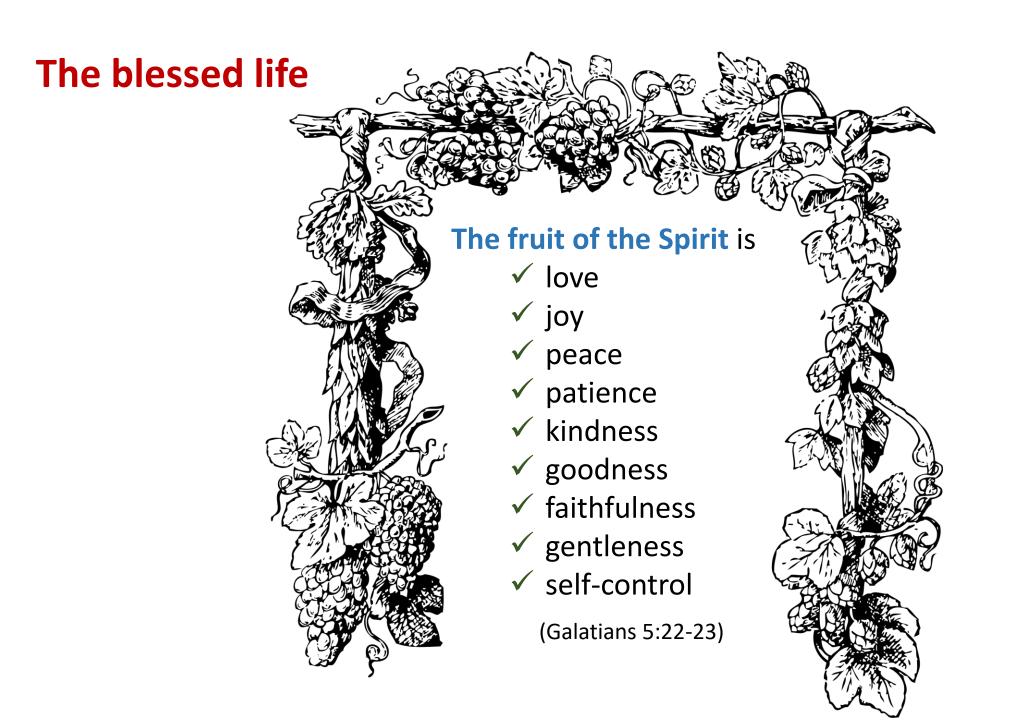
(Isaiah 42:1,4)

### The blessed life

### The blessed home

He shall be like a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper.

(Psalm 1:3)



### The blessed life



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- A. Desire
- **B.** Discipline
- C. Determination





The way to fulfilment and joy

Life in the Spirit

A. Desire



- **B.** Discipline
- C. Determination

#### **DAVID:**

One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek:

That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life,
To gaze upon the beauty of the LORD,
And to inquire in His temple.

(Psalms 27:4)

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect...

(Philippians 3:12)

#### **PAUL:**

#### One thing I do:

forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 3:13-14)

A. Desire



- **B.** Discipline
- **C.** Determination

Your name here...

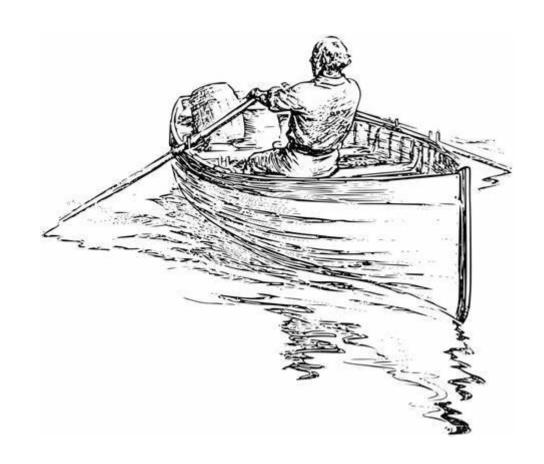
	<b>-</b> :		
One thing		 	

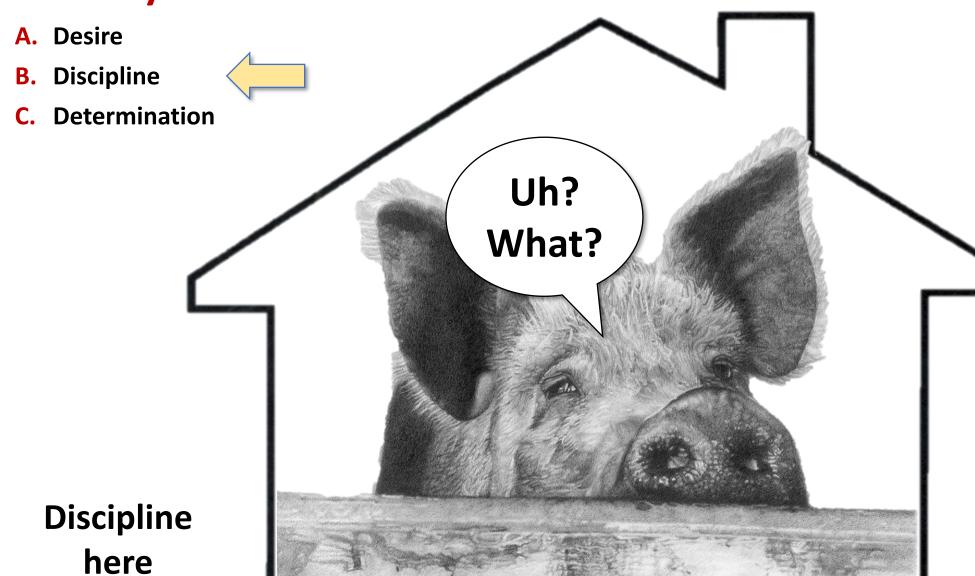
- A. Desire
- **B.** Discipline



or **self-control** – where **you** make the choices

**C.** Determination





Discipline there

- A. Desire
- **B.** Discipline
- **C.** Determination

#### Some useful guidelines

- ✓ Today is your only opportunity
- ✓ Start well to finish well
- ✓ Choices are seeds
- ✓ Expect quiet grace
- ✓ Get up off the mat without delay
- ✓ Lie down in peace

- A. Desire
- **B.** Discipline
- **C.** Determination



or **perseverance** – in which the heart is tested and purified



The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away.

(Psalm 1:4)

- A. Desire
- **B.** Discipline
- **C.** Determination



So many witnesses

...let us **also** lay aside every **weight**, and **sin** which clings so closely, and let us **run with endurance** the race that is set before us...

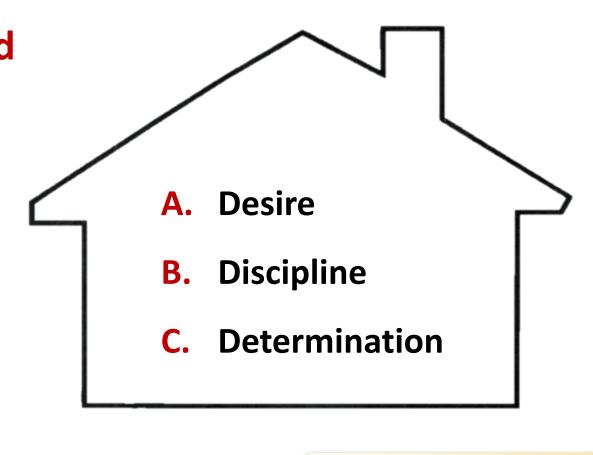
#### ...looking to Jesus,

the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

(Hebrews 12:1-2)

Our calling
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...let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us looking to Jesus...