



# The Life & Ministry of Jesus

## 'Come, Follow Me'

Exhibit 1

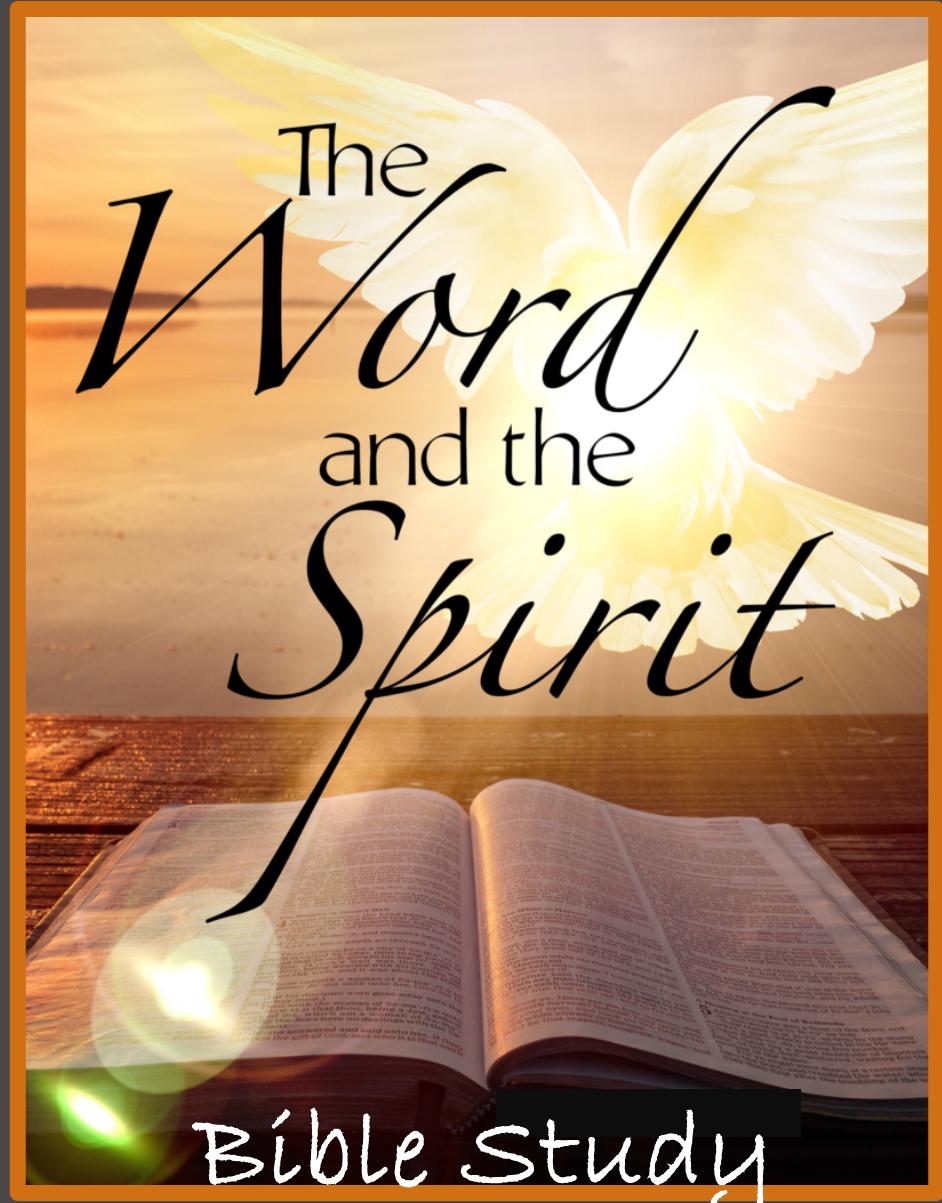
### Desired Outcome for Our Time Together

Welcome to the Bible Study ministry of Church on the Ranch and our series on the Life and Ministry of Jesus.

This is Session 3: The Battle for Your Heart & Soul.

To know Jesus and to be known by Him

John 17:3; Revelation 3:20-21; Matthew 7:21-23



# The Battle for Your Heart & Soul

- The Bible is a Book about God, not the Enemy.
- Satan, the Enemy, is Not our Biggest Problem. (We face three enemies: the world, the flesh, and the Deceiver) Our primary problem: We are our biggest issue!! (Ephesians 2:1-3; and again, 2:1-9; Rom. 7:18-19)
- God Reigns, even over the Enemy. (Col. 2:15).
- The Enemy we Face is a Defeated Foe. (Col. 2:15; Rev. 12:11).
- Warfare is the Enemy's Attempt to Deceive and Divide Believers (1 Peter 5:8) (The enemy wants us to mess up, give up, get puffed up, split up or shut up.)
- We are NOT on the Defensive in this Battle. We move forward in the Power of the Word of God. (Ephesians 6:11-20)
- The Enemy Battles us because we are God's Witnesses to the World...because we Belong to Him.
- The Offensive Nature of this Battle Demands Evangelism and Discipleship – Intentionally taking the Light into the Darkness.
- One of the Enemy's Subtle Strategies is to Entice us to Operate in Our Own Ability (1 Samuel 17:47).

It is the thoughts and intents of the heart that shape a person's life.



Whoever or Whatever has Your Heart has You! It's that Simple!

# The Life & Ministry of Jesus

## 'Come, Follow Me'

Exhibit 3

### Session 3: The Battle for Your Heart & Soul

### How to Meet Challenges to Your Faith

## PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Ephesians 6:11

### Sword of the Spirit

Your only weapon is the Word of Elohim. The scriptures of the Bible. This is how you fight. All the other pieces are armor, but the Scriptures are your weapon so you must know them (Heb. 4:12)

### Belt of Truth

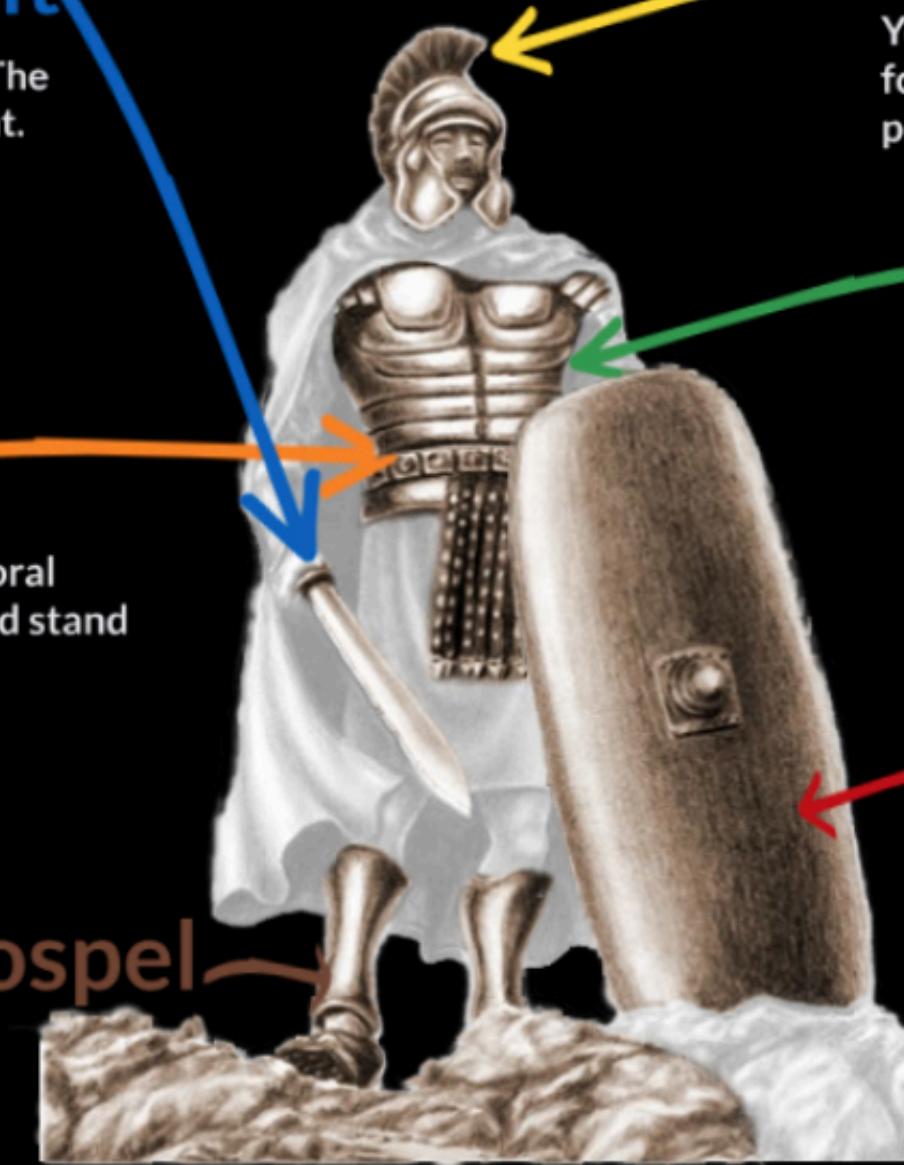
Having this belt means you have the moral courage to stand up for what is right and stand against what is wrong, no matter what

Stand Your Ground (Prov. 23:23)

### The Boots of the Gospel

The shoes prepare you to face the enemy with firm-footed stability and a readiness that is only produced by the gospel

(Romans 10:15)



### Helmet of Salvation

Your salvation should always be at the forefront of your mind. It will keep your priorities in order (Acts 4:12)

### Breastplate of Righteousness

You have an upright heart, morally erect; having the rightness of principles and conduct. Being honest and just. You are seeking to do the true will of the Father (2 Cor. 5:21)

### Shield of Faith

Is lifted up to protect you and to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. You must have your shield of faith because this is what gets tested the most. (Heb. 11:1)

[truthunedited.com](http://truthunedited.com)



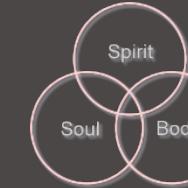
# The Life & Ministry of Jesus

## “Come, Follow Me”

### The Evidence of Consciousness

#### “We are Wonderfully Made”

Exhibit 4

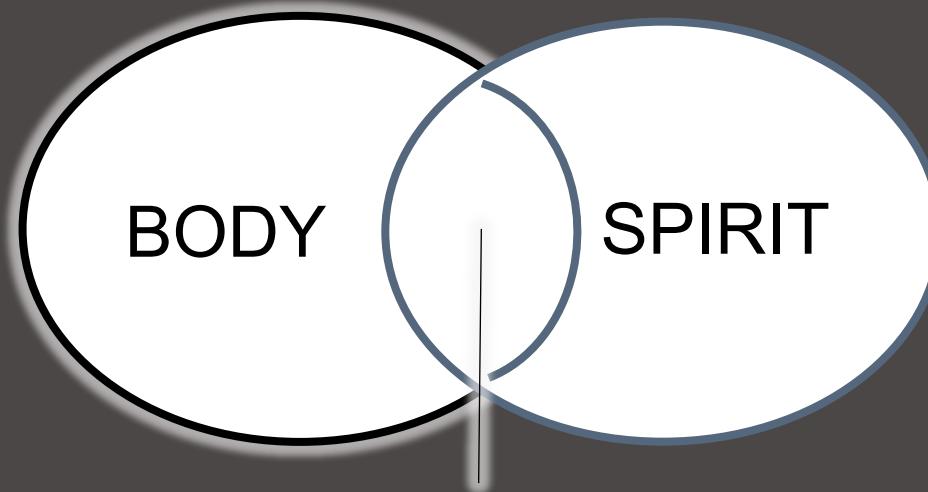


“<sup>26</sup>Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, in our likeness...<sup>27</sup>So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female created He them.’

(Genesis 1:26-27)

“...the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground...

(Genesis 2:7)



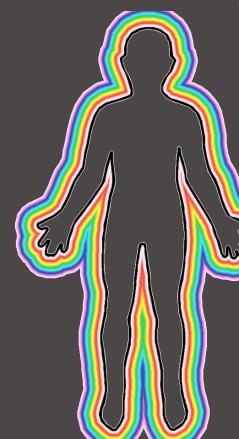
“...and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life...

(Genesis 2:7)

## SOUL

“...and the man became a living being [soul].”

(Genesis 2:7)



“Then God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of man and He brought her to man...a man will be united with his wife, and they will become one flesh.”

(Genesis 2:22,24)

“God saw all that He had made and it was VERY GOOD. And there was evening and there was morning—the sixth day.” (Genesis 1:31)

# The Life & Ministry of Jesus

## “Come, Follow Me”

Exhibit 5

### Session 3: The Battle for Your Heart & Soul

## Spirit, Soul, and Body

- There is **more to you and me** than meets the eye...**something much, much more!**
- It's **a part of us that is like God!**
- ...**made after His image.**
- ...**made for Him!** (We were not made to be independent!)
- It is our spirit!**

### Scriptures declaring The Tri-Unity of Man

I Thessalonians 5:23

Hebrews 4:12

In Jesus' Own Words

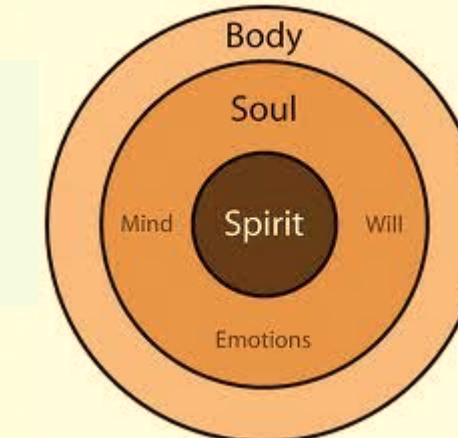
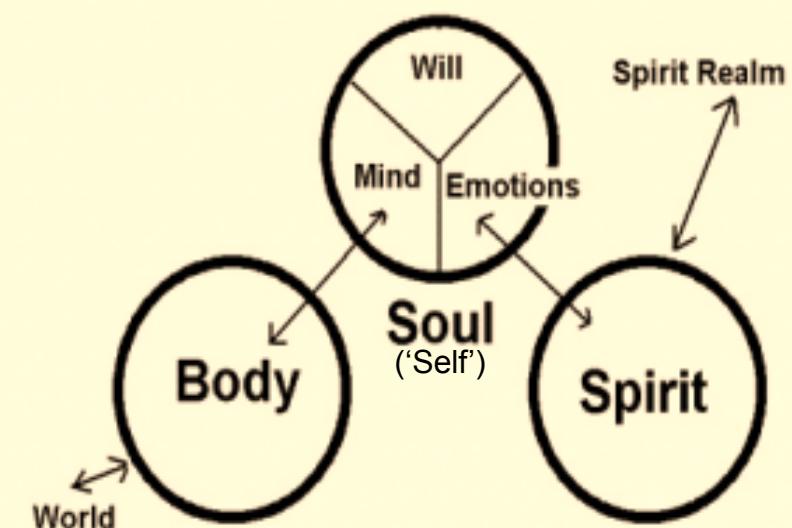
**Body** ('*soma*') – Matthew 26:12

**Soul** ('*psuchē*') – Matthew 26:38

**Spirit** ('*pneuma*')\* – Luke 23:46    \*same for God & man



1 Thessalonians 5:23



## Session 3: The Battle for Your Heart &amp; Soul

**Our spirit - The spirit of Man****What do we know about the human spirit?**

Answer: most people know **very little** about it...if venturing an answer, they might say...

- ‘spirit’ and ‘soul’ are **the same thing**, referring to our “**inner being**”. Or...
- ‘spirit’ means attitude, **gumption**, a display of positive or negative motivation / intention. Or...
- ‘spirit’ is our **Will**. Or...
- ‘spirit’ is our **Mind**. Or...
- ‘spirit’ is a **Higher Consciousness** deep inside that extends beyond the material world.

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*The Hidden Man* by E. W. Kenyon

**What *must* we know about the human spirit?**

- It is **the innermost part of us, the very Life of God**. We are immortal beings. We will live forever.
- It enables us to communicate and fellowship with God. It is **God’s way of connecting with us**. It’s main functions: Knowledge, conscience, intuition, communion, and fellowship.
- It is **co-mingled with our soul**—the soul being the seat of our personality, our selfhood.
- It is **essentially dormant**, “**trapped**”—given a ‘back seat’, quenched by our soul, until quickened by the Holy Spirit when we are born again.
- It is **meant to be DOMINANT, not dormant!**—The principle aspect of who we are...the spiritual man or woman.

# The Life & Ministry of Jesus

## "Come, Follow Me"

### The Battle for Your Heart & Soul

Exhibit 7

• Scripture clearly teaches us that the real issues of life are spiritual and are really matters of the heart, the inner man. Maybe it's for this reason the word "heart" is found so many times in the Bible: 863 in the NASB, 963 in the KJV, and 791 in the NIV). The heart is a prominent concept of the Bible

• According to the Bible, the heart is the center not only of spiritual activity, but of all the operations of human life. "Heart" and "soul" are used interchangeably (Deuteronomy 6:5; 26:16; Compare Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30 Mark 12:33), but this is not generally the case.

• The heart is the "home of the personal life," and hence a man is designated, according to his heart: wise (1 Kings 3:12 , etc.), pure (Psalms 24:4; Matthew 5:8, etc.), upright and righteous (Genesis 20:5; Genesis 20:6; Psalms 11:2; 78:72), pious and good (Luke 8:15), etc. In these and such passages the word "soul" could not be substituted for "heart."

• The heart is also the seat of the conscience (Romans 2:15). When indulging in sin (evil) (Genesis 8:21), which is often, it contaminates the whole life and character (Matthew 12:34;15:18; Compare Eccl 8:11; Psalms 73:7). Hence the heart must be changed, regenerated (Ezek. 36:26; 11:19; Psalms 51:10-14), before a man can willingly obey God.

• Is the condition of my heart my greatest concern? It should be because it is so determinative of every aspect of life. It ultimately determines our love for God and for others. It determines who we are and what we do.

# The Life & Ministry of Jesus

## "Come, Follow Me"

Exhibit 8

## The Battle for Your Heart & Soul

### -The Heart Needs Guarding-



- (1) We do not naturally think and look at life like God does.
- (2) Like sheep, we are prone to wander from God (Isa. 53:6a). We want to live independently to control and direct our own affairs. We want to be in charge of our own destinies.
- (3) Unguarded, the heart is not just deceitful, it is more deceitful than all else (Jer. 17:9a). We can't trust it because of its natural selfishness, self-centeredness, and self-protective ways and devices (Ps. 81:12-14; Jer. 17:9; 2:13).
- (4) The heart cannot be understood by our own wisdom. Only God can reveal and lay bare our hearts to us (Jer. 17:10; 20:12, Pr. 17:3; Ps. 139:23).
- (5) The heart is the wellspring of life; the fountain of attitudes, values, beliefs, aspirations, and pursuits (Pr. 4:23; Jer. 2:13; Jn. 4:13-14; Matt. 13:34; 15:18; 6:21).

# The Life & Ministry of Jesus

## "Come, Follow Me"

# The Battle for Your Heart & Soul

Exhibit 9

## -How to Guard Your Heart-

Proverbs 4:20-27 (NIV)

'Guard' = 'to set a watchman over' but not just any watchman. It's God. With the Sword of His Word!



The task is simple: We are commanded to keep ourselves in His Word, and He keeps our hearts. (Jude 21; Psalm 18:30; Psalm 119:9; Proverbs 2:7-8 NIV)

## King Solomon's Four Principles of Guarding the Heart

### 1. Recognize the Treasure

The Well Spring of Life (v.23)

### 2. Prioritize the Task

'Above All Else' Guard your Heart (vv.21-23)

### 3. Minimize the Trash

Lips, Eyes, Paths, Feet (vv.24-27)

### 4. Embrace the Truth

Words, Kept\*, Life, Wholeness (vv. 20-22)

\*Where? Within your heart (v.21)

I would add: "Let the Peace of Christ rule in your hearts..."

Colossians 3:15



## The Life & Ministry of Jesus

### Session 3

Exhibit 10

What is your relationship with Jesus? How much of you belongs to Him?

The day will come when your answers to the following questions will be the most important questions you'll ever have to answer

- Do you love Me with all your heart?
- Will you trust Me with your life?
- Will you give Me all that is most precious to you?
- Will you obey Me even unto death?

# SUMMARY

What is the Nature  
of this War for our  
Hearts and Souls?

Depicted as a Fierce  
Battle between  
Satan and God

Plays Out in Our  
Lives and Affects us  
in Many Ways

Our Defenses are of  
the Lord and are  
Strong and Mighty!

## The Life & Ministry of Jesus Session 3: The Battle for Your Heart & Soul

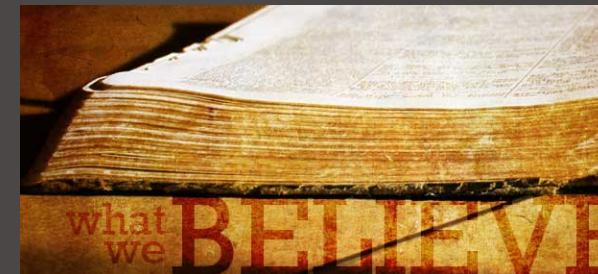
Exhibit 11



“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms” (Ephesians 6:12).



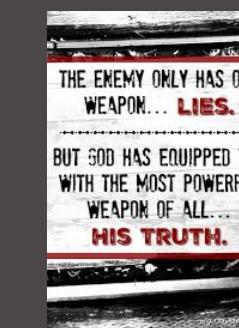
Battle of  
Worldviews



Battle for  
our Hearts &  
Minds



The Full  
Armor of God  
(Ephesians  
6:10-18)



The Word of  
God Hidden  
in our Hearts  
(Ps. 119:11)

Prayer

Abiding in  
the Shadow  
of the  
Almighty (Ps.  
91:1-16)