

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 1**  
Homework Assignment #1

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read preface and the beginning of chapter 1 to the bottom of page 20.
2. The premise of the book is basically,
  - A. God wants to set us free to be human
  - B. Being human means having a healthy love for one's self
  - C. True humanity is found in practicing the presence of God
  - D. Our humanness keeps us from fulfilling our destinies
3. One could sum up the Bible's teaching on spiritual experience with what organizing principle?
  - A. Jesus is coming back
  - B. We are made in God's image
  - C. The Bible is God's Word
  - D. All religions but Christianity are false
4. The expression, "the image of God" simply means \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The emphasis on our being made in the image of God is on the fact that man, like God, is a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. True or False? Language distinguishes man from the rest of creation. He can communicate thoughts, ideas, and information to each other and to God.
7. Read at least twice the paragraph on page 14 that begins "All the faculties of personality..." We are like God in that we are \_\_\_\_\_.
8. A definition of human experience flows from the fact that we, like God, are persons. Check off all that apply.
  - God is creative, and so are we
  - God is relational, and so are we
  - God loves, and so do we
9. Note the authors' words, "The 'image' loves because love is of God. And the image's purpose is to love. Here is a definition of what it means to be human." Have you ever thought of it in these terms before? \_\_\_\_\_ The authors compare the love and personal relationships found within the \_\_\_\_\_ to our example.
10. For what 2 reasons should we adopt Genesis 1:26 as our *organizing principle*?

11. List references to NT passages that agree with this conclusion.
12. The first paragraph of the section, 'Sanctification As Affirmation' (page 16), is worth reading twice. Put in your own words the purpose of the Christian life.
13. After the fall, man continued to reflect the image of God by such characteristics as  
 rationality  creativity  morality  love  ability for personal relationships
14. Humanity is "dead" in the sense of being \_\_\_\_\_ from God; but, though separated, we are still \_\_\_\_\_ as humans: we continue to be \_\_\_\_\_, just as Adam and Eve continued to be persons even when they were expelled from Eden.
15. The fall, however, has affected our ability to reflect God's \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
16. Why do we pollute?
17. In the last paragraph of the section 'An Important Distinction' (page 18), we see that the Christian life is NOT to be viewed as dull, dry, rigid, and repressive, but rather as:
18. Why does the "modern man" react against us when we claim there is an objective truth?
19. If one cannot define life, he will not be able to \_\_\_\_\_ life.
20. The authors claim that those guilty of arrogance are those who refuse to acknowledge that God has spoken. Why do you think they refuse?
21. The authors keep referring to 'sanctification' as an \_\_\_\_\_ of life.
22. The basic point of the last section 'The Law of Liberty' is:  
A. We can do better if we try harder  
B. The OT law no longer applies  
C. We are free to follow our own conscience  
D. The Bible is a guidebook, showing us principle and explaining our situation  
E. Liberty can be obtained by ridding ourselves of unnecessary traditions

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 1**  
Homework Assignment #2

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read from page 21 to the end of the chapter.
2. The authors claim we each have a knack for creativity. Primarily, this comes from:
  - A. Observing our parents
  - B. Reading the Bible
  - C. Being surrounded by the creativity of others
  - D. Being made in the image of God
3. What makes a work of art, great?
4. Comment on “Sanctification must be seen within the context of creativity.”
5. The authors claim we each have an ability to love. Primarily, this comes from:
  - A. Observing our parents
  - B. Reading the Bible
  - C. Being surrounded by the love of others
  - D. Being made in the image of God
6. Read the second to the last paragraph on page 22 twice (“For this reason...”). Take note of: “The Bible’s exhortation to love and our choosing to love is...an affirmation of our original nature.”
7. The authors claim we each have a desire for unity. Primarily, this comes from:
  - A. Observing our parents
  - B. Reading the Bible
  - C. Being surrounded by attempts to unify others
  - D. Being made in the image of God
8. The unity among Jesus’ followers is to be like that among the members of the \_\_\_\_\_ — a unity within \_\_\_\_\_.
9. True or False? The prayer of Jesus for our unity reaffirms our original purpose.
10. Do you understand the point the authors make in the last paragraph on page 23? All attempts at unity, even those which ignore God and his purposes, testify to how God

designed us – it speaks of our original nature, being made in his image. We are wired to relate to others, and to enjoy harmony in our relationships.

11. Read the last sentence of the first paragraph on page 24 two hundred times. Well, at least enough to know it well. “To pursue creativity, love and unity is to pursue not just rules for life, but life itself.”

12. “Christ came not merely to restore the \_\_\_\_\_, but to bring into existence something different, a human experience not subject to even the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_.”

13. Our hope in the future, in the new heavens and new earth, is really one of  
A. Being super-spiritual    B. Being super-human  
C. Living forever            D. True human experience free from sin and its effects

14. “Some of the experiences we have now we shall have then.” (Circle all that apply)  
A. I never thought of it that way before  
B. This is really cool; I can’t wait!  
C. Sounds boring; I am disappointed  
D. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

15. True or False? Our hope is not in the immortality of the soul but in the resurrection of the whole person.

16. After his resurrection and ascension, Jesus  
A. ceased to be human and became a spirit again  
B. remains forever a human, but not physical  
C. remains forever a human, including being physical

17. Read the second paragraph on page 26 again (The point is this...).

18. Read the second paragraph on page 27 again (It is neither...).

19. Comment on the authors’ point about being “ordinary” toward the end of the chapter.

20. Many in our day look to extraordinary experiences to prove their relationship with God. How would you respond to them?

21. What point in this chapter left the greatest impression upon you?

## BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 2

### Homework Assignment #3

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read Chapter 2 up to the top of page 35.
2. In the introduction to this chapter, the authors call us to step back and consider the whole picture before we dive into the particulars. The reason(s) we need to first get a good grasp of the “framework” or “floor plan”: (check all that apply)
  - Put everything in proper perspective
  - Guard against making some issues more important than they really are
  - Make sure we are giving proper weight to those things that are important
  - Everything is given its proper emphasis: not too much, not too little
  - Guard against an understanding of the faith through a false world view

### THE MATERIALISTIC VIEW

3. Basically, the materialistic view is one that
  - A. Denies God and the supernatural
  - B. Emphasizes the spiritual over the physical
  - C. Believes in the “cycle of life”, especially reincarnation
  - D. Promotes God as the creator and upholder of all things
4. Characteristics and ramifications of the materialistic view often include which of the following:
  - Evolution
  - Miracles
  - Religion is a psychological thing
  - Life has no ultimate value
  - Over indulgence in human appetites (food, sex, greed, power...)
  - Humans have no intrinsic value
  - Abortion and euthanasia
  - A strong commitment to the sanctity of marriage
  - A spiritual emptiness which seeks fulfilment in eastern religions and cults
5. Name a few ways in which we see the effect of this view upon Christians

6. The authors warn that some Christians can become like deists. Basically, a deist is one who:

- A. Denies the existence of God
- B. Believes in a God who doesn't relate to his creation
- C. Believes that God is the essence of all things (creation and God are one)

7. A deist, or a Christian who thinks like a deist, would view prayer as

- A. Something very effective
- B. Something pretty much useless

8. The authors warn that Christians, like those in the world, will head in one of two directions to find spiritual meaning:

1). \_\_\_\_\_

2). \_\_\_\_\_

9. Name one problem of seeking spiritual meaning in experiences.

10. List a few examples of seeking spiritual meaning in technique.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

11. Read the paragraph in the middle of page 34 at least twice ("The New Testament writers..."). We are given \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_.

12. The next paragraph on evangelism is equally rich. Offer some comments about the authors' points.

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 2**  
Homework Assignment #4

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read from page 35 to the bottom of page 38.

**THE BIBLICAL VIEW**

2. Unlike other views, the biblical view

- A. Is for the emotionally weak
- B. Is for the mentally naive
- C. Can be tested and proven
- D. Is inclusive of most world views

3. The biblical understanding of the nature of reality begins with God. Make a brief comment about each of His attributes the authors list.

A. He is the creator.

B. He sustains all things.

C. He is spirit.

D. He is a personal.

4. Read carefully the paragraphs that explain the relevance of understanding God as a trinity. This is very important.

5. Read the paragraph in the middle of page 36 at least twice (“We were made like God...”). He made us to relate to him and express his likeness in \_\_\_\_\_ of life.

6. Our problem is not that we are \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, but that we are \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Is there anything *intrinsically wrong* with humanness?

8. The authors use the following example to prove their point on this:

- A. God became human – physical and finite – in the incarnation
- B. Man likes to dream about time travel and reaching other planets
- C. The disciples asked Jesus who would be greatest in His kingdom

9. Christ's spirituality was expressed in his \_\_\_\_\_ life, not in one little part. When he prayed, he spoke to the father in \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

10. Why was there separation between the Father and the Son when Jesus died on the cross?

11. The basis upon which the whole Christian life is built is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

12. Read the first paragraph on page 38 at least twice ("In light of all this...").

13. Our calling is the same as Adam's was. It is to \_\_\_\_\_ him with our whole life, to \_\_\_\_\_ him, to \_\_\_\_\_ him, to \_\_\_\_\_ his character.

14. Every area of our life in every day is to express the \_\_\_\_\_ we have with him.

15. What ramifications does this have upon how we pray?

16. When Jesus returns (check all that apply)

- The dead will be raised
- We will become infinite
- We will cease to be physical
- Sin will no longer hinder us in serving God
- We will not be subject to sickness or death
- We will be all knowing, just like God
- We will enjoy a relationship with God, face to face
- Our bodies will be replaced with something that is spiritual and nonphysical
- Our bodies will be glorified, imperishable, heavenly, and physical

17. What point in this chapter left the greatest impression upon you?

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 2**  
Homework Assignment #5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. The present chapter (Two) is titled, “The Biblical Framework And Two Alternatives.” The first alternative the authors addressed was \_\_\_\_\_ which over-emphasizes \_\_\_\_\_. We are now ready for *The Platonic View* which over emphasizes the “spiritual.” More attention is given to this one because many Christians tend to see it as true spirituality. Therefore homework lessons 5 through 7 will come from this section.

2. Read from the bottom of page 38 to the middle of page 44. Underline sentences that stand out.

**THE PLATONIC VIEW**

3. The authors suggest that the Platonic view could even be more dangerous than the Materialistic view. Why would this be?

4. In Platonism, reality is made up of what two parts?

- A) \_\_\_\_\_
- B) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Match the following. M = Material B = Spiritual

- |                |               |   |
|----------------|---------------|---|
| ___ Perfect    | ___ Ideas     | ___ More real (than the other)          |
| ___ Transitory | ___ Permanent | ___ Less significant (than the other)   |
| ___ Imperfect  | ___ Divine    | ___ To be more desired (than the other) |

**THE SPIRITUAL IS SUPERIOR TO THE PHYSICAL**

6. According to a Platonist, death is desired. Why?

7. According to a Platonist, we should de-emphasize and devalue the physical realm. On the surface, this *seems* to agree with the teachings of Christianity. The authors will address this more in the coming pages, but without looking ahead, give at least one reason (on your own) to refute the suggestion that the Bible downplays the significance of the material world.

8. Plato taught that beyond beauty is \_\_\_\_\_ beauty; that is, beyond the beauty of this world is the genuine, real beauty of the spiritual world.

9. Ordinary people who work hard, provide for their families, pay their bills, and live quiet lives of contentment are seen by Platonists as lacking. Rather, they would do better to throw off the cares of this world and get in touch with the \_\_\_\_\_ realm. (You have probably heard sermons similar to this).

10. The rest of this section deals with the 4 ways that Plato gave for coming into contact with the spiritual realm.

- A) \_\_\_\_\_
- B) \_\_\_\_\_
- C) \_\_\_\_\_
- D) \_\_\_\_\_

11. We won't spend that much time on these. However, it is worth noting the authors' conclusions. There is an emphasis on the \_\_\_\_\_ of ordinary human experience. The human is \_\_\_\_\_. The mind has no place, creativity is useless, the earthly is \_\_\_\_\_. Especially note the last two sentences of the paragraph that begins, "In all four..."

12. The highest authority for a Platonist is:

- A. Reason                      C. The Scriptures
- B. Hard evidence            D. The inner voice

### **PLATONIC INFLUENCE ON CHRISTIANITY**

13. Why did Justin Martyr think that Plato, who lived 400 years before Jesus, was a Christian?

14. The early church had several mystics that attempted to approach God with hyper-spirituality. For example, Dionysius downplayed prayers that used language; he wanted to transcend language and enter into a super-spiritual state of non-verbal "real" prayer. What would you say to Dionysius about this kind of praying? Use your own answer.

15. Many of the mystics believed that "the way of ignorance" was the path to true spirituality. Such a path means removing both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, by abandoning not only what is \_\_\_\_\_ but also what is \_\_\_\_\_.

16. What sorts of things would be included in the "pure" that one must supposedly abandon?

## BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 2

### Homework Assignment #6

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read **Consequences of Platonic Thinking** and **Platonic Thinking Today** (from the middle of page 44 to the bottom of page 50).

#### CONSEQUENCES OF PLATONIC THINKING

2. The point in the paragraph on page 45 which begins, “The confusion here...” is:

- A. What we know about God must be true, even if it is not exhaustive
- B. Unless our knowledge of God is exhaustive, it cannot be true

3. In the next paragraph the authors refer to neo-orthodox theology as an example of a system that minimizes the significance of language in understanding God. You may or may not be familiar with neo-orthodox theology, but from this paragraph you can piece together some observations about it. What is a danger the authors warn about?

4. The goal of the spiritual life (according to Platonic thinking) is to attain a state of \_\_\_\_\_ wherein one is affected by nothing in the \_\_\_\_\_, or even by \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Note the authors’ point in the next paragraph, which begins, “In the mystical...”

6. Mystical prayer (check all that apply)

- places a high regard on language
- attempts to go beyond the mind and emotions
- attempts to experience the “divine reality”
- appreciates the ability of verbal language to express thoughts
- often repeats certain expressions in order to quiet (disengage) the mind
- strives to communicate thoughts, ideas, words, and truths to God
- strives to achieve union with God

7. The authors compare mystical prayer to the mantra of Eastern religions. How are they similar?

8. William James observes that all mystics, regardless of what “tradition” they come from, all have one thing in common: a devaluation of \_\_\_\_\_. This, in turn, has ramifications on the importance given to doctrine.

9. The basis for our joy in God is: (check all that apply)
- Knowing that we deserved hell, but have been saved by Christ's sacrifice
  - Being restored to fellowship with our Creator
  - Pursuing ecstasy
  - Knowing that God has promised us eternal life through his Son
  - Experiencing the divine reality, union with God on an unexplained level
  - Appreciating the truths in God's Word about His love for us
  - Pondering the truths in God's Word about all his profound attributes
  - Emptying our mind and getting in touch with our divine self

### PLATONIC THINKING TODAY

10. When Carl Jung referred to "Father" or "Son" or "Holy Spirit" he was actually referring to a \_\_\_\_\_ not the God of the \_\_\_\_\_.

11. According to Morton Kelsey, the main human problem is not sin, but the need to be in contact with the \_\_\_\_\_. Extraordinary spiritual experiences are to be pursued because, it is believed, this is how one connects with the mystical. However, Kelsey admits that in this realm, one is open to both good and evil. In this, he is similar to the gnostics who plagued the early church. A gnostic is one who:

- A. Incorporates platonic thought into a religion
- B. Incorporates materialism into a religion
- C. Incorporates a Biblical view into a religion

12. The Holy Spirit is a \_\_\_\_\_ being, not a spiritual realm. The means by which we pursue a relationship with him is through: (check all that apply)

- meditation
- spiritual experiences
- believing in Jesus Christ
- inward silence
- pursuing a divine encounter
- loving God who made us and redeemed us
- obeying God

13. You may not be familiar with Morton Kelsey, but his book has influenced a number of charismatic leaders. In footnote #19 you will see this quote from John Sherrill, "*I met Jesus as an experience. I encountered the Holy Spirit as an experience. Morton urged me to see these personal encounters in the broad framework of history and theology.*" While we would not want to downplay personal experiences, we should be careful about *starting* with an experience, and then trying to read it back into the Scriptures. Many Christians live faithful lives for the Lord, serving him diligently, and never have any sort of extraordinary spiritual experience. The priority has to always be upon the objective truth of Scripture, not subjective experiences of individuals. With this in mind, the authors conclude with this subsection with "The New Testament commands us to test spiritual claims by \_\_\_\_\_."

14. Read 1John 4:1-3 and Galatians 1:6-9.

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 2**  
Homework Assignment #7

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read from the bottom of page 50 to the end of the chapter.

**PLATONISTS UNAWARE**

2. Why do the authors suggest that the teachings of Watchman Nee devalue the human?

3. Nee bases a good deal of his flawed teaching on Galatians 2:20. However, this verse is actually teaching what?

4. In Galatians 2:20, Paul is not making a statement of \_\_\_\_\_ of the self, nor of self rejection, but of our \_\_\_\_\_ upon Christ.

**PHYSICAL FOR ETERNITY**

5. The Platonic view of the human body conflicts with the Biblical view, which teaches that the body is good because (check all that apply)

- God made it
- God designed us to enjoy sexual fulfillment
- God calls us to honor him in our bodies
- We are to offer our bodies as living sacrifices to be used by God
- God himself took on a body when he became a man
- Our hope is not immortality of the soul, but the resurrection of the body
- The Holy Spirit guarantees that we will always be a physical being

6. Read Romans 8:23

7. What is asceticism?

**SEPARATION OF SACRED AND SECULAR**

8. Platonism leads one to become \_\_\_\_\_ of the “world below.” On the surface, this seems to harmonize with the teachings of the Bible to not love the world. However, the word “world” in the New Testament isn’t referring to the physical realm of trees, houses, people, rivers, and buildings, but to the sphere of life that has \_\_\_\_\_ God’s lordship.

9. 1Timothy 4:4 clearly states that we are not to hate, despise, reject, or even minimize life, culture, nature, sex, or other material things. In fact, those who do so are

subscribing to a doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_. Though things of this life can be abused, and even used for evil purposes, this fundamental truth must be still be recognized: \_\_\_\_\_ created by God is good.

10. In the next three paragraphs (pages 54 and 55) the authors lay out other examples of how Platonism can be seen in the actions and attitudes of average Christians. Can you identify with any of their examples and warnings? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, share an example of how you were influenced by Platonism.

11. Read Colossians 3:17. This is a great verse for the subject at hand. Read it 100 times – well, at least enough to let it sink in really good! As a Christian, in all that we do, there is no \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. All is sacred. Read the last paragraph of this subsection (middle of page 55) at least twice. The whole paragraph deserves to be highlighted in yellow.

12. From Colossians 3:17 and other passages, we see that spirituality is to be expressed \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ everyday affairs and relationships of our lives.

13. These principles have deep and widespread ramifications for all of life. They should influence the way we serve our employers, the way we pay our bills, the way we treat our spouses, even the way we enjoy the world we live in. Tomorrow morning, when you go to work, or get up to take care of the home, or prepare to learn in class, remember: nothing is vain; in all we do we are to honor God, from the mundane to the glorious.

### **GIFTS: NO NATURAL/SUPERNATURAL DIVISION**

14. True or False? Those who exercise supernatural gifts of the spirit (healing, tongues, miracles, prophecy) are more open to the Spirit than those who exercise the less flashy, ordinary gifts (serving, administration, teaching, showing mercy, giving).

15. The authors suggest that a Christian could become a practical atheist. What do they mean by that?

16. Meditation, as referred to in the Scriptures, is not \_\_\_\_\_ the mind, but \_\_\_\_\_ the mind. It is content driven.

### **PRAYER**

17. The purpose of prayer is to: (check all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> communicate to God our requests | <input type="checkbox"/> empty our mind, will, and emotions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> practice his presence           | <input type="checkbox"/> give thanks and praise to God      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> express our dependance upon God | <input type="checkbox"/> experience the divine reality      |

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 3**  
Homework Assignment #8

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read to near the bottom of page 67.
2. The primary goal of the Christian life is
  - A. Winning as many people to Christ as possible
  - B. Closing down as many abortion clinics as possible
  - C. Giving as much money to missions as possible
  - D. Being restored to the image of God
3. In the book of Colossians Paul addresses two false paths to maturity:
  - A. Materialism and Platonism
  - B. Asceticism and “higher spirituality”
  - C. Materialism and asceticism
  - D. Modalism and Tritheism
  - E. Antinomianism and Legalism

**ASCETICISM**

4. T / F Asceticism is the idea that Christians can grow spiritually if they restrict or restrain the physical body.

5. Examples of asceticism include: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Anytime a Christian teacher emphasizes spirituality as internal rather than relationships or suggests a rejection of the physical world or encourages direct experience with the Spirit in one’s inner world, we would have reason to suspect asceticism. What passage in Colossians would be applicable? \_\_\_\_\_

7. The goal of the Christian life is to be \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ likeness, to be \_\_\_\_\_ as God is \_\_\_\_\_, to be like Christ in \_\_\_\_\_. It is not primarily to have direct \_\_\_\_\_ of the spirit or to become some kind of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

8. In Eastern religions, the goal is spiritual experience. In Christianity, the goal is (check all that apply):

- Holiness of life     Holiness of life     Holiness of life

9. Christian versions of yoga, diet control, fasting, transcendental meditation, can not bring us closer to God for we are already “there” in his presence, because of Jesus

Christ (theme of Hebrews). This is our starting point in prayer, not some exercise that we perform in order to get Him to come to us. The goal of prayer is not divine experience. Through \_\_\_\_\_ God has become our \_\_\_\_\_ and he simply promises to hear us when we come to him in \_\_\_\_\_.

10. The authors take the opportunity to clarify the purpose of fasting. Put their points into your own words.

11. Another example of asceticism in the church today, found in “rules and regulations” can be seen in such examples as:

Thou shalt not: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thou shalt: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. The problem is that these rules become a poor \_\_\_\_\_ for true spirituality. Have you ever seen this in others? \_\_\_\_\_ Ever in yourself? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Paul goes even further, condemning faith in rules and regulations as counterproductive, creating bondage and fostering rebellion. Read Colossians 2:23 and Galatians 3:2, 5:1.

14. Read the first paragraph on page 67 twice (A false notion...).

15. In the next paragraph (last in the section), the author speaks of our vulnerability to frustration if our spiritual lives merely consist of (or depend on) pursuing rules. Can you share any examples of this in your own life?

16. The points in this section should help free us from any unnecessary guilt that comes pursuing spiritual growth the wrong way. Has any of this been helpful?  
\_\_\_\_\_ How?

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 3**  
Homework Assignment #9

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read from bottom of page 67, “Higher Spirituality” to page 72.

**“HIGHER SPIRITUALITY”**

2. A Christian must

- A. Have his confidence grounded in Jesus Christ
- B. Have special experiences that prove his relationship with God
- C. All of the above

3. The phrase “taking his stand on visions” was an expression commonly used in the first century to refer to

- A. Entering a higher level of spirituality
- B. Seeing a vision of Christ’s resurrection
- C. Longing for the new heavens and the new earth
- D. None of the above

4. The self-emptying that Paul calls for is

- A. Pleasure
- B. Ambition
- C. Pride
- D. Personality

5. In contrast to the arrogance and super-spiritual attitude of the false teachers at Colossae, the true Christian life is one that is marked by \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Questions like “Are you living victoriously?” “Do you feel weak and unspiritual?” “Are you sure the Holy Spirit is dwelling in you?” are

- A. Helpful in determining one’s spiritual growth and relationship with Christ
- B. Unhelpful, if not confusing and damaging
- C. Helpful for younger Christians, but unnecessary for mature ones

7. Emphasizing experience as a test of one’s relationship with God ultimately results in

- A. Diminishing Christ and his finished work on the cross
- B. Motivating someone to get all that God has for him

**GRACE IS SUFFICIENT**

8. In light of the truth presented in the section above, it would be best to

- A. Prohibit the use of spiritual gifts
- B. Work people up in a frenzy so as to have the anointing fall on them
- C. Encourage the exercise of all gifts, while maintaining proper emphasis

9. Personal experiences with God should be
- A. Prohibited so as to guard against pride, abuse, and over-emphasis
  - B. Treasured and enjoyed, so as to help one grow in his faith
  - C. Encouraged and made a priority at the cost of everything else
10. When it comes down to it, the basis for our joy in Christ is
- A. Visions, spiritual gifts, and mystical experiences
  - B. Our eternal salvation
11. Two obvious passages that support this important point are
- A. Paul's thorn in the side and Jesus casting the demon out of the blind man
  - B. Paul's thorn in the side and the disciples casting out demons
  - C. Paul's thorn in the side and his Damascus road experience
12. T / F Spiritual growth comes through appreciating the wealth of Christ's love for us.
13. Paul makes his case to the Colossians using
- A. Theology about Christ
  - B. Personal experience
14. Check off the truths about Christ that Paul emphasizes in his letter to them
- Jesus is supreme over all creation
  - Jesus is the Creator of everything
  - He is eternal
  - He sustains all that exists
  - He is Lord of this creation and the new creation, the church
  - He is God
  - In Him can one find all treasures of wisdom and knowledge
  - In Him all the fullness of Deity lives
15. All \_\_\_\_\_ in the Christian life flows from \_\_\_\_\_ because he is fully God and because he died for us. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ goes beyond Christ. In fact, even the evidence of the Spirit's work is to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ.
16. Observations from this section:
17. What point in this section left the greatest impression upon you?

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 3**  
Homework Assignment #10

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read from page 73 to top of page 78.

**GRATITUDE AND GROWTH**

2. Why is giving thanks to God so fundamental?

A.

B.

3. Once we lose sight that our standing before God is because of Christ's work on the cross, we will try to make our relationship with God rest on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Ingratitude eats away at our lives by producing \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_.

5. What is the contrast the authors are making between centering our lives on Christ and centering our lives on ourselves?

**RECONCILED TO GOD**

6. What point does the author make about our apologizing to God for our sins?

7. Of \_\_\_\_\_ we could do nothing to bring about a relationship with God.

8. Why is it important to see Christ's sacrifice on the cross in light of our broken relationship with God?

## **RESCUED FROM DARKNESS**

9. What are the authors' point about the myth of "hovering between two kingdoms?"
  
10. The argument found in the bottom two paragraphs on page 76 is elaborated on in a book by C. S. Lewis. Name the title if you know it.
  
11. Explain the reason Satan can claim us as his subjects.
  
12. Explain the reason Christ can now refute that claim.
  
13. Why is there no neutrality in the battle between the kingdoms?

## **RENEWING THE MIND**

14. What do biblical expressions like "set your minds on things above", "be transformed by the renewing of your mind", and "prepare your minds for action" tell us?
  
15. What do such passages *not* tell us?
  
16. In the New Testament, the words "earth" and "world" often refer to what?
  
17. Observations from the material covered in this assignment:

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 3**  
Homework Assignment #11

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read from page 78 to the end of the chapter.

**BELOVED CHILDREN**

2. Jesus can help us in our battle against sin and temptation because (check all that apply)

- We are in him, united in his death and resurrection.
- He has authority over all things.
- He is at the Father's right hand interceding for us.
- He gives us the Holy Spirit who empowers us.

3. Until we recognize our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in ourselves, we will not realize how much we need the blessings which flow to us from \_\_\_\_\_.

**NEW LIFE IN CHRIST**

4. Our conversion to Christ results in us being “a new creature” with “a new life.” This is not referring to something that is observable internally, that has taken place in some part of us. Rather it is primarily referring to \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Colossians 3:3 declares that we “have died.” Yet, this is not referring to the nonexistence of our old self but to our \_\_\_\_\_ before God.

6. These points are important because some people expect to “feel new” or “feel that the old self died” and may never necessarily “feel” anything. After your conversion to Christ, were there times you doubted it because of a lack of feelings you were lead to expect to have?

7. Because we belong to Christ, we can say that the new creation within us is our \_\_\_\_\_ identity.

8. Do you understand the point Paul is making in Romans 7:20? \_\_\_\_\_

**THE WEIGHT OF GLORY**

9. Our hope in the future resurrection is based on something objective, the \_\_\_\_\_.

10. The Scriptures exhort us to not only focus on the glory of Christ's return, but also our own future glory. We are to set our minds on this so that

- A. We can exert our power over angels and demons
- B. We can endure difficulty
- C. We can forget about the affairs of this life

11. True / False Though we have been blessed in Christ with every spiritual blessing, and have come to fullness of life in him, there is more we must pursue.

12. Summarize the points of the last paragraph of this chapter.

13. When considering all of chapter 3, what points left the greatest impression upon you?

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 4**  
Homework Assignment #12

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Up to this point, the questions on the homework assignments have not only been pretty thorough, but also meticulous, asking for specific answers. This is because the first 3 chapters are foundational to the whole book. From here on, expect the questions to gradually become more conceptual in nature.

1. Read from page 85 to the top of page 93.
2. Summarize the introductory paragraphs of this chapter in one or two sentences.
3. List some of the different ways the word *law* is used in the New Testament.
4. Note the middle paragraph on page 89 which begins, "*Law*, in this sense, means..."  
Read this paragraph twice.
5. Why does Paul say that the law is spiritual?
6. What is the point of Romans 8:4?
7. Not only are we to resist sin, but we are to also be active in obeying God. What are some of the action verbs found in the New Testament that speak to this?

8. What example does the author give in showing that Paul does not separate the internal work of the Spirit from the written Scriptures?

9. Why does obedience to God's law bring freedom, blessing, life, and peace?

10. Summarize this section in two or three sentences.

### **THE STRUGGLE**

11. Even though we have been filled with the Spirit, it still takes effort to obey God. This struggle is due to what?

13. What point in this section left the greatest impression upon you?

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 4**  
Homework Assignment #13

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read the rest of the chapter, page 93 to 101.

**PUT THE OLD MAN TO DEATH**

2. In battling temptation, how is the counsel given in this section different than other counsel you may have received in the past? Be prepared to share some examples.

3. At the bottom of page 94 he speaks of the sin nature being “natural” and yet “unnatural.” What does he mean?

4. The point the authors make about modern psychology here is this:

- it is to be preferred over the counsel given in the Bible
- it is to be completely ignored for it has everything wrong
- it is often wrong when it comes to how one is to deal with sin

5. If a fellow believer comes to you asking for help in resisting a particular temptation that he struggles with, what points would you leave him with (from this section)?

6. Note the last sentence in this section, “Only as we actively obey God’s commands to put away sin and do right do we learn to appreciate truly the love of Christ and grow in our dependence on his Spirit.” Be prepared to share an example of this in your own life from the past week or so.

## **PUT ON THE NEW MAN**

7. Note the bottom paragraph of page 96.

8. In the paragraphs that follow, the authors continue to address this key thought of putting others above ourselves. Explain how this point is anchored into our understanding of the Trinity.

9. The point the authors make about modern psychology here is this:

- it is to be preferred over the counsel given in the Bible
- it is to be completely ignored for it has everything wrong
- it is often wrong when claims that we are what we are and cannot change

## **COMPASSION, THANKFULNESS AND OBEDIENCE**

10. We are called not simply to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ, but to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

11. Comment on the paragraph on page 100 which begins, "Furthermore, notice..."

12. Comment on the last paragraph.

13. What point in this section left the greatest impression upon you?

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 5**  
Homework Assignment #14

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read chapter 5.

As you have noticed, each chapter is divided into smaller sections. As you read each section 1) jot down comments and observations, 2) write out any questions you might have, and 3) make note of personal examples that would apply.

2. THE PERSONAL SPIRIT

3. THE SOVEREIGN SPIRIT

4. WHO CAN RESIST GOD?

5. THE SPIRIT AND SANCTIFICATION

6. List 3 points from this chapter that really stood out to you, leaving a definite impression.

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 6**  
Homework Assignment #15

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read chapter 6.

As you have noticed, each chapter is divided into smaller sections. As you read each section 1) jot down comments and observations, 2) write out any questions you might have, and 3) make note of personal examples that would apply.

2. Comments on the introduction to the chapter:

3. AFFIRMING THE SELF, NOT THE SINFULNESS OF SELF

4. AFFIRMING THE SELF AND REDEEMING THE WORLD

5. FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL

6. List 3 points from this chapter that really stood out to you, leaving a definite impression.

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 7**  
Homework Assignment #16

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read chapter 7.

2. SKEPTICISM

3. REASON CHALLENGED

4. THE VALIDITY OF THE MIND

5. TRUTH, BELIEF, AND WISDOM

6. THE MIND AND THE WILL

7. List 3 points from this chapter that really stood out to you, leaving a definite impression.

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 8**  
Homework Assignment #17

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read chapter 8.

2. Comments on introduction to this chapter:

3. NO MECHANICAL SOLUTIONS

4. THE EXPLICIT WILL OF GOD

5. NO FAITH, NO GUIDANCE

6. DECIDE FOR YOURSELF

7. MANY WAYS OF GUIDANCE

8. List 3 points from this chapter that really stood out to you, leaving a definite impression.

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 9**  
Homework Assignment #18

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read chapter 9.
2. Comments on introduction to this chapter:

3. THE STARTING POINT IS CREATION

4. AUTHORITY IS NOT THE ANSWER

5. AUTHORITY – A MEANS, NOT AN END

6. PARENTS AND CHILDREN

7. List 3 points from this chapter that really stood out to you, leaving a definite impression.

**BEING HUMAN – CHAPTER 10**  
Homework Assignment #19  
FINAL ASSIGNMENT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read chapter 10.

2. Comments on introduction to this chapter:

3. EVIDENCE OF FAITH

4. JUDGMENT

## 5. HOPE AND JOY AND CROWN

7. List 3 points from this chapter that really stood out to you, leaving a definite impression.

8. Take a couple paragraphs to summarize how the principles in this whole book have helped you.