

WELCOME to a nine week Course sponsored by  
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College





## **The Course Vision**

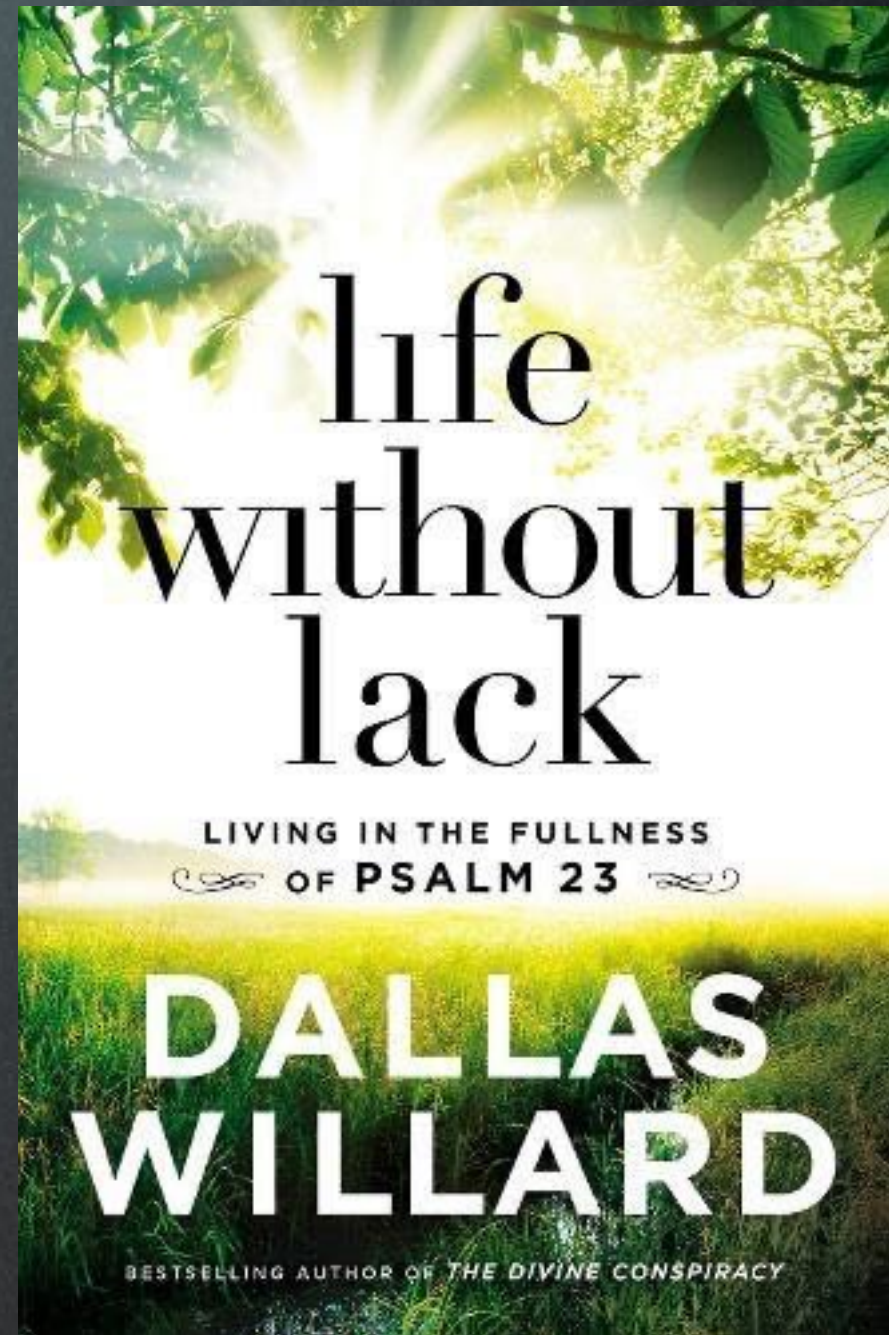
To provide a vision of daily peace with the Good Shepherd Jesus lacking nothing in the full sufficiency of God.

## **The Course Intention**

- \* Offer profound biblical truth in Psalm 23 and the Bible
- \* Teach Jesus' way of Faith, Death to Self, & total Love
- \* Provide a weekly discussion point for encouragement and accountability

## **The Course Means**

- \* 9 Sessions of interactive discovery
- \* Study Guide for daily application & personal growth
- \* A new community of support





# Your Shepherd's shepherd

## Doug Webster

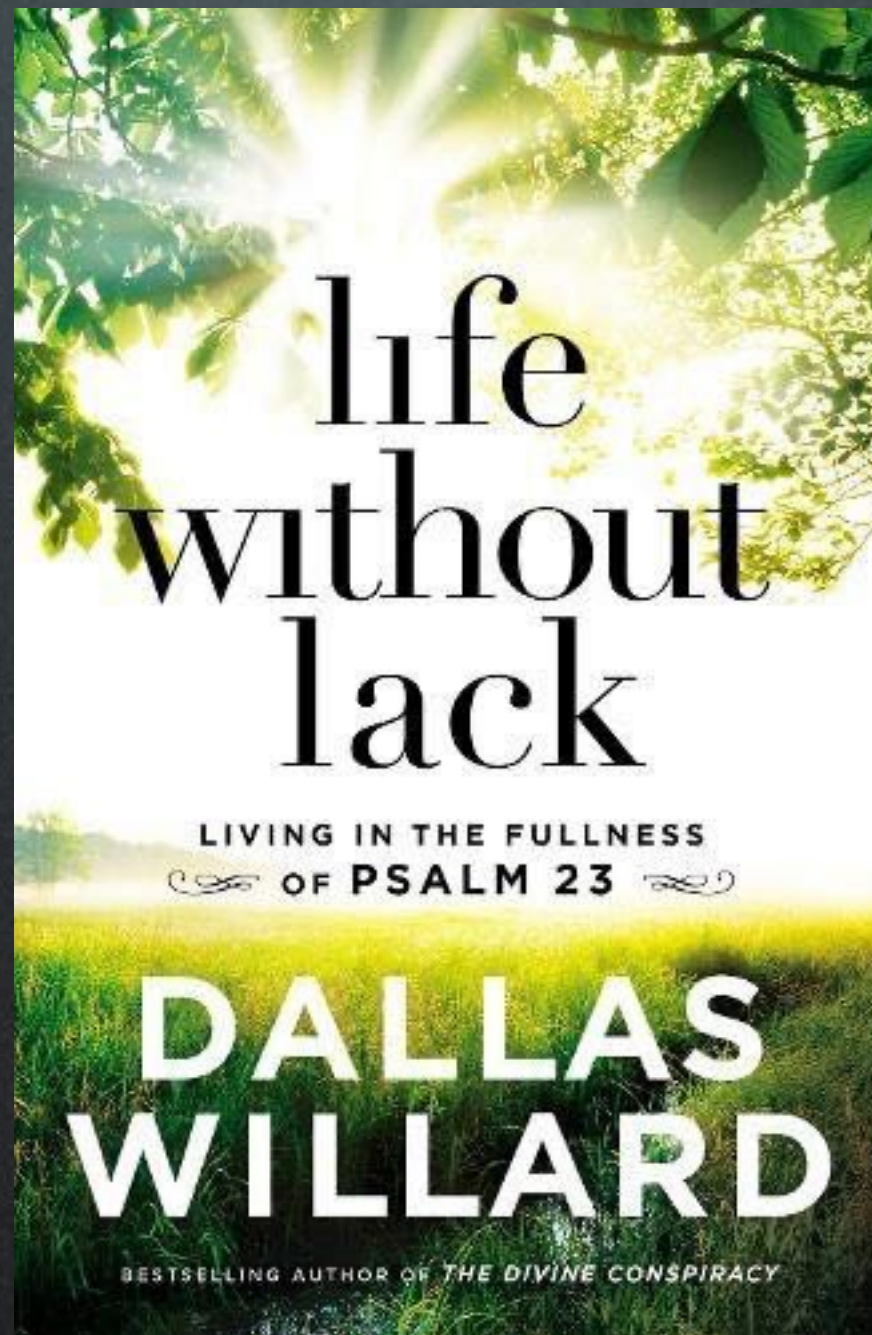
- \* Following Jesus since age 14
- \* Vanguard University & Fuller Seminary
- \* Met the Jesus Dallas Knew 15+ years ago
- \* Launched Jesus College 5 years ago
- \* “Life Without Lack” Webinar is our 5th Course to over 700 participants from 33 Countries
- \* Family Stuff — A Full Quiver





# life without lack

Session 1 - Chapter 1 - God in Himself (part 1)  
The Glorious Shepherd





## Opening Prayer<sup>1</sup> by Dallas Willard

Lord Jesus Christ,  
We are so thankful to you that you have  
said,

*“Fear not, little flock,  
For it is your Father's good pleasure  
To give you the kingdom.”*<sup>2</sup>

We are thankful for the ease with which  
you walked upon this earth, the  
generosity and kindness you showed to  
people, the devotion with which you  
cared for those who were out of the way  
and in trouble, the extent to which you  
even loved your enemies and laid down  
your life for them.

We are so thankful to believe that this  
is a life for us, a LIFE WITHOUT  
LACK, a life of SUFFICIENCY. It's  
so clear in you, the sufficiency of your  
Father and the fullness of life that was  
poured through you,  
and we're so thankful that you have  
promised that same love,  
that same life, that same joy, that same  
power for us.

Lord, slip up on us today.  
Get past our defenses, our worries,  
our concerns.  
Gently open our souls, and speak your  
Word into them.

We believe you want to do it,  
And we wait for you to do it now.

In your name, amen.

<sup>1</sup> - *Life Without Lack*, p. xiii

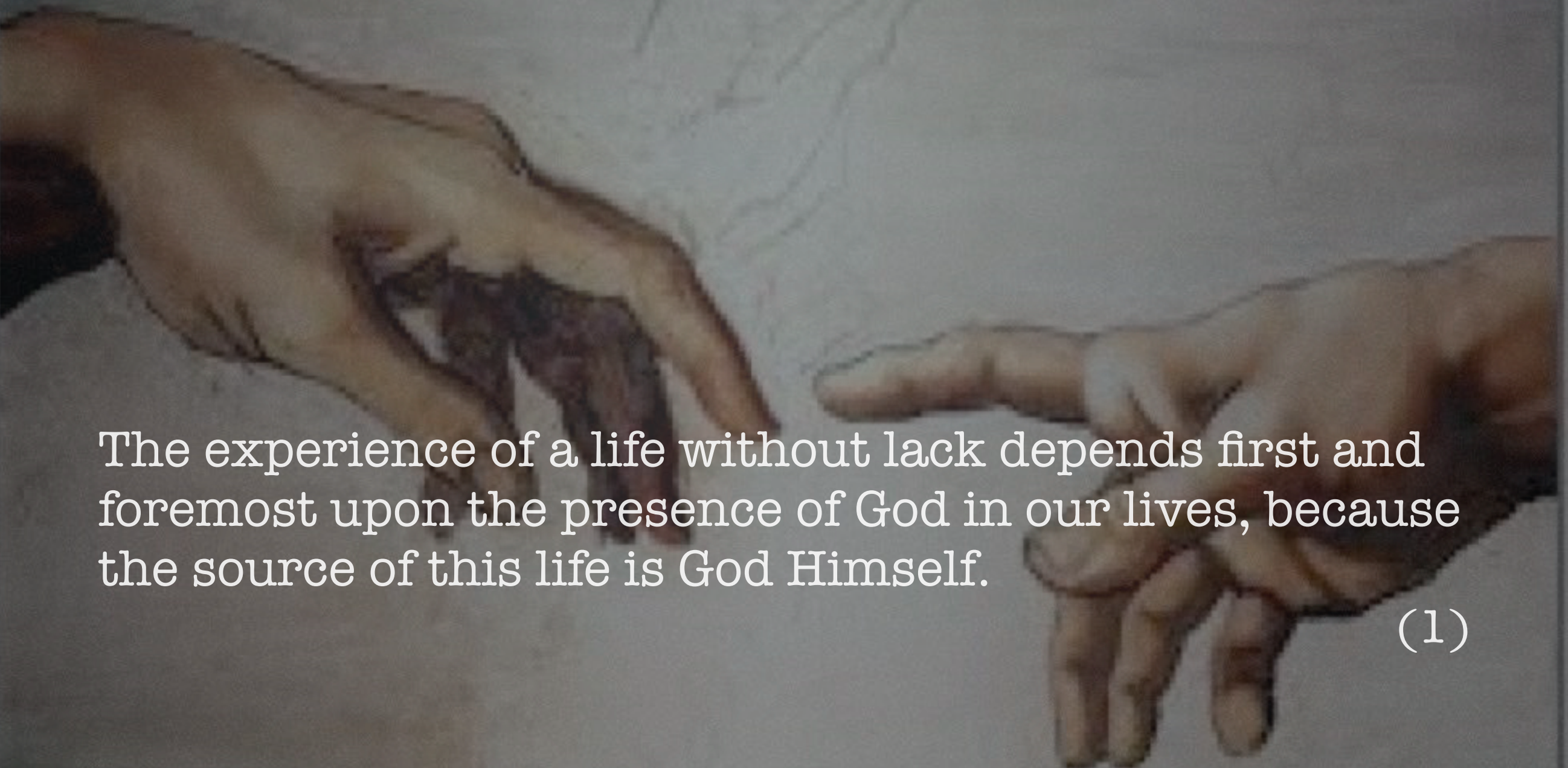
<sup>2</sup> - Luke 12:32



# life without lack

Session 1 - Chapter 1 - God in Himself (part 1)

The Glorious Shepherd



The experience of a life without lack depends first and foremost upon the presence of God in our lives, because the source of this life is God Himself.

(1)



1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leads me beside the still waters.

3 He restores my soul;  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness  
For His name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; For You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil;  
My cup runs over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
All the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, Forever.



## **The Most Important Thing About You**

The ultimate freedom we have as individuals is the power to select what we will allow or require our minds to dwell upon and think about.

(3)





## **The Transforming Power of Ideas** Ephesians 6:12

We have the ability and responsibility to keep God in our minds, and those who do will make steady progress toward Him, for He will respond by making Himself known to us. Our ideas form the belief system upon which we base our actions and decisions, and these in turn determine the trajectory of our lives.

...Replacing them with the idea system embodied and taught by Jesus.

The Critical Practice — “Death to Self”  
will be developed in Chapter 6  
Matthew 10:37–39, Mark 8:34–37, Luke 17:33



## **The Poison of Self-Obsession & The Antidote to Bad Ideas About God**

Imprisoned in self consciousness...a “world of hurt”. (4)

The gospel...was about the Kingdom of God – God's immediate availability, His “with-us-ness” that makes a life without lack possible. (John 10:10) (6)

“The futility of the mind.” (Ephesians 4:17-19)





## **Taste and See the Lord is Good**

*“Can’t God just move in on us and touch us or do something to us?”*

We are not talking about what He can do; we are talking about what we need to do.

\* Nicodemus - “You are a ruler of Israel and yet you don’t know these things?”

No experience of God and His Kingdom

(6-7)





## **Our Minds: The Key to Our Lives (7-8)**

We bring the reality of God into our lives by making contact with Him through our minds... there is nothing mysterious here. Of all reality, spirit is the most basic.

## **The Knowledge of God as a Human Responsibility (8-9)**

Romans 1:18-21 - Ultimate, invisible, personal power.

**How big of a God are we talking about?**





## **A Really, Really Big, Joyous God**

Two Fundamentally Important Things:

1.) God is an invisible being with great power and dominion over everything He created.

Genesis 11; John 1:1; Romans 1:20; 1st Timothy 1:17

2.) God is personal. He has personality. He thinks. He wills. He feels. He values.

Jeremiah 8:21, 9:24; John 14:9; Ephesians 1:4-5

A Joyous God fills the universe. It is precisely because God is like this, and because we can know He is like this, that a life of full contentment is possible.



## **A God of Energy**

Energy is the basic reality. God is energy. Your mind is energy. You are like God. God has made you so you have energy at your disposal, in thoughts and feelings, by these you are able to exercise your will.

- \* Jesus feeding 5000 (Mark 6:32-44)
- \* Jesus in the Wilderness (Matthew 4:4)

God, a glorious, self-sustaining, eternal being, is both the source of everything that exists and is totally self-sufficient...Incomprehensible, everlasting, unceasing, and never will be exhausted. That being is God!



# **Three Ways to See God's Power & Personality**

## **#1 - God's Nature in Fire & Cloud (12-13)**

“Our God is a consuming fire.”

Hebrews 12:29, Matthew 3:11, Exodus 14:19-20, 24-25

## **Envisioning the Invisible (13-15)**

— Faith born out of experience is the means by which the mind contacts reality.

- \* Biblical Creation - came out of God Himself.

- \* Fasting - “I have food to eat of which you do not know...”

(John 4) Fasting is feasting upon God.

## **What God Can Do, You Can Do...Sort Of (15-16)**

- \* Baking a cake - Genesis 1:26-27

- \* Pregnancy - “You're going to make a person!”



## **Three Ways to See God's Power & Personality**

### **#2 - God's Greatness Seen in History (16-17)**

God is revealed as a spiritual, invisible power that is present and moves in the lives of human beings.

*Deuteronomy 4:32-36*

(17)



## **Three Ways to See God's Power & Personality**

### **#3 — What's in a Name? (17-19)**

~ Elohím ~ Yahweh ~ Adonái ~ El Shaddaí ~ “I Am that I Am”

(John 5:26)

God is an immaterial, intelligent, free personal being, of perfect goodness, wisdom, and power, who made the universe and continues to sustain it, as well as to govern and direct it in His providence. (18)

—> That is the Being upon whom a life without lack relies. Such a life is guaranteed for those whose minds are set upon this God in faith. (19)



## **Three Glimpses of God's Grandeur** (19-21)

# 1 - Nehemiah 9:6 — An everlasting, eternal party

# 2 - The book of Job — what was going on before the earth was created, the “self-sufficiency” of God to Himself. God’s greatness goes beyond imagination.

# 3 - The Lord’s Prayer - Bountiful sufficiency of God  
“Our Father...Hallowed be thy name.”

### **God’s Ample Supply** (21-22)

King David - “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.”

Paul - “Not that I speak in regard to need.”

Philippians 4:10-13

Provision of God became for them a life without lack.

They both knew Jesus - the Good Shepherd



# life without lack

## Session 1 - Chapter 1 - God in Himself (part 1) The Glorious Shepherd

### **A Vision of Glory** (22-23)

Jesus at the Wedding in Cana - the infinite resources of God which knows no lack whatsoever.

God is not worried that He is going to run out.

God is beyond rich.

God loves to gush forth with His goodness.





# Q & C

Your Questions & Comments are Welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)





80:00 + 10K

You are a steward of 10,080 minutes every week. If you spend 80 minutes weekly in personal study & group discussion on *Life Without Lack*, you have 10,000 minutes to flesh it out. Each session offers questions to help enthrall your mind with God's Power & Personality and practice habits of the Good Shepherd in your ordinary life with Jesus in His Kingdom Among Us.



- 1.) Where is my thinking stuck in self-obsession?
- 2.) How will I practice thinking about our really big God?

Fasting

Worship

Pray the “Opening Prayer” Daily (p. xiii)

Reading & re-reading specific scriptures in Chapter 1

Take a walk and celebrate the wealth of Creation

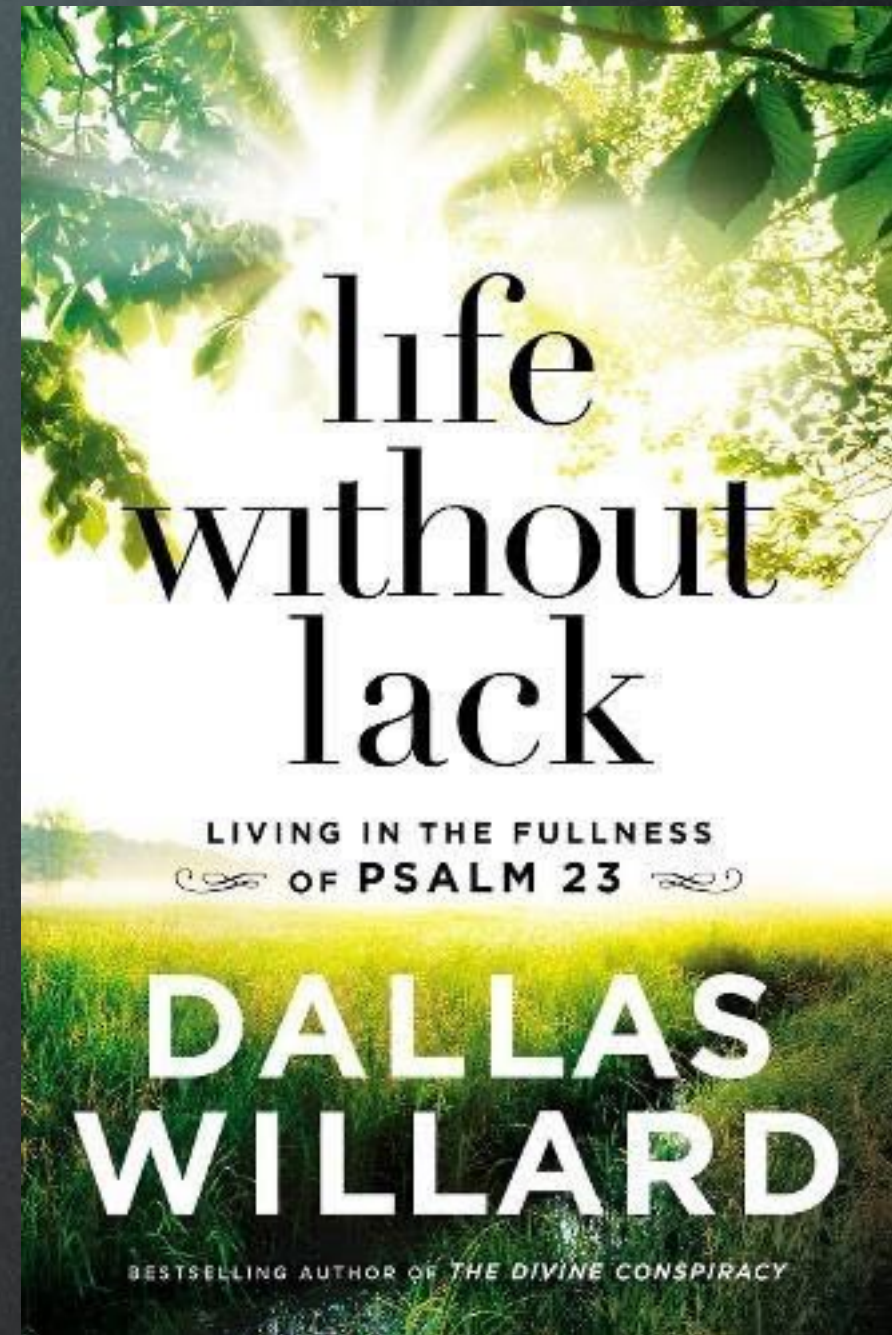




## Session 1 Summary

God, a glorious, self-sustaining, eternal being, is both the source of everything that exists and is totally self-sufficient, incomprehensible, everlasting, unceasing, and never will be exhausted. That being is God! (12)

—> That is the Being upon whom a life without lack relies. Such a life is guaranteed for those whose minds are set upon this God in faith. (19)

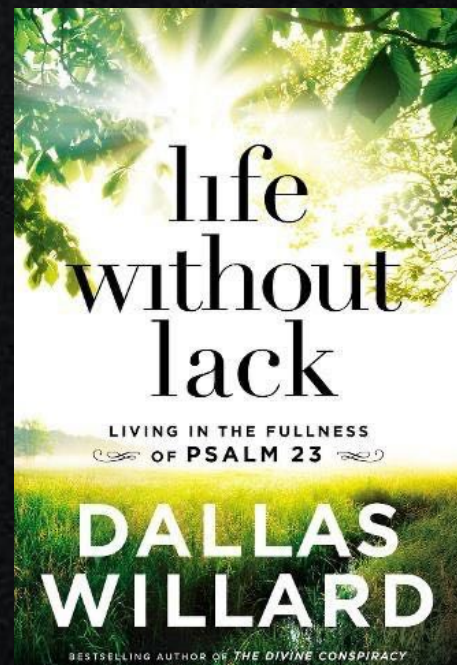




## Next Week — Session 2

Chapter 2 - “God in Himself” Part 2  
(p. 24-48, Hardback)

Know others who might join our Course?  
Register — [info@JesusCollege.com](mailto:info@JesusCollege.com)





May your Vision of  
God's Power &  
Personality ravish  
your next 10,000  
minutes!

*Doug*

@OneAfterJesus



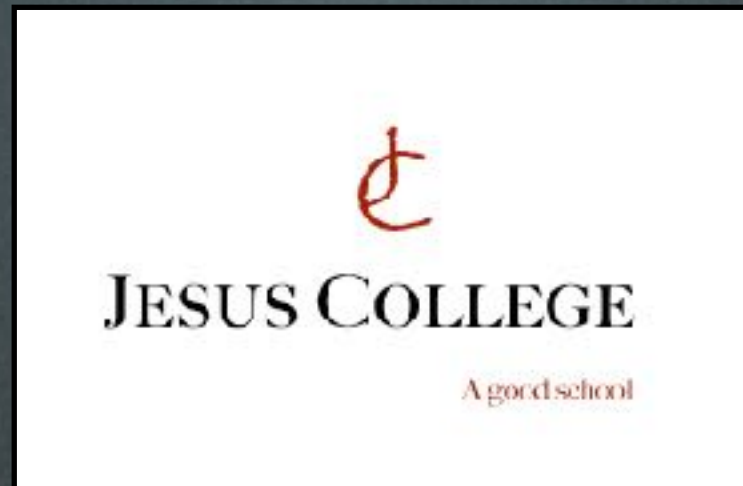




# THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING

**Information...Registration** — [JohnC@dwillard.org](mailto:JohnC@dwillard.org)





Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns  
*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*



**The Mission of Jesus College** - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

**The Vision of Jesus College** - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

**The Storehouse of Jesus College** - Over [150 FREE downloadable resources & links](#) offering the good life in the person, work, teachings & life of Jesus through “Eyes to See” visual resources and “Ears to Hear” audio resources, plus gatherings live & online provided by JESUS COLLEGE, a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.