

## A. PROFIT

- Making God's Word our Final Word ensures that we're building on the Solid Rock.
- With the Word as our foundation and Christ as our Cornerstone, we'll find stability in our lives and we will begin to become shaped into His image. (Mt 7:24ff; Is 28:16)
- Scripture tells us that Jesus is the Father's final and perfect message to us. In fact, His name is "The Word" and His finished work upholds all of creation: Heb 1:1-3 NLT—Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. <sup>2</sup>And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe. <sup>3</sup>The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven
- The Son's inheritance is our inheritance because we are His coheirs. This frees us from relying upon ourselves or any other outside source: Eph 1:3 NLT--All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ.
- Jesus came to cleanse us from sin and His work is finished! Now we can rest from all of our striving, reasoning, fixing, and controlling: Eph 2:6-7 NIV--God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
- Making God's Word the Final Word is something we must choose for our lives to reap these profits. We can miss these benefits due to unbelief: Heb 4:1-2 NLT--God's promise of entering his rest still stands, so we ought to tremble with fear that some of you might fail to experience it. <sup>2</sup>For this good news—that God has prepared this rest—has been announced to us just as it was to them. But it did them no good because they didn't share the faith of those who listened to God
- Listening to and believing what He says is a decision we make over and over again: Is 48:17--Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I *am* the LORD your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go.
- LISTENING EXERCISE  
*When you are thinking about or acting upon the issues of life, what has the Final Word? (Feelings, other people, habit/ tradition, pros & cons/reasoning, etc.)*

*Are you regularly accessing your inheritance of Spiritual Blessings that Jesus has won for you?*

*If not, is it because:*

- *You are tapping into other sources of provision (which ones?)*
- *You don't know what's there to access*
- *You feel timid or presumptuous*
- *Some other reason*

- Insights:

## B. PEACE

- Jesus, our Prince of Peace, reigns over all things by His final victory over sin and death: Eph 1:21—(Christ is) far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
- Peace can have the last word in our lives as we learn to listen to, believe and obey His Living and Active Word: Is 48:18 NIV--If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your well-being like the waves of the sea.
- Giving God's Word the Final Word is particularly important when life is hard because it is tempting to let your circumstances speak the loudest: John 16:33 NLT--I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world
- Our enemy will seek to rob us of the peace that is part of our inheritance in Christ. In those times let God's promise of overcoming have the last word: Is 54:17 AMP-- But no weapon that is formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise against you in judgment you shall show to be in the wrong. This [peace, righteousness, security, triumph over opposition] is the heritage of the servants of the Lord [those in whom the ideal Servant of the Lord is reproduced]; this is the righteousness or the vindication which they obtain from Me [this is that which I impart to them as their justification], says the Lord.
- Jesus is enthroned in heaven. Let us give Him all rule and authority in our lives so that His peace has the final say: Col 3:15 AMP--Let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state] to which as [members of Christ's] one body you were also called [to live].
- LISTENING EXERCISE  
*Take a few moments to imagine what it would be like if you allowed Christ's peace to act as umpire in all your affairs. How would your life be different?*

- Insights:

## C. POWER

- Jesus "expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command."<sup>(v. 3)</sup> We can experience this power in our lives.
- The Living and Active Word shows us who God wants to be for us in every issue. He provides the power of truth for rising above our circumstances: Zeph 3:17 NLT--For

the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs.

- When we are struggling, we can tap into faith by remembering who He has been for us. This allows us to harness more faith for our todays and our tomorrows: Ps 59:16 NLT--But as for me, I will sing about your power. Each morning I will sing with joy about your unfailing love. For you have been my refuge, a place of safety when I am in distress.
- There is power in the names of God found in Scripture. We can count on Him to act in accordance with His names. Let Him have the Final Word as He acts as your:
  - Redeemer: Is 43:1--Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called *you* by your name; *you are* Mine.
  - Friend: Jn 15:14-15 NIV--You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.
  - Strength: Ps 118:14 NLT--The LORD is my strength and my song; he has given me victory.
  - Wisdom: 1 Cor 1:24--Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
  - Provider: Gen 22:14 AMP--So Abraham named that place The LORD Will Provide. And it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be seen *and* provided."
  - King of Kings: Rev 17:14--They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings
  - Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, & Prince of Peace Is 9:6--To us a Son shall be given; And the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
  - Rock, Fortress, Deliverer, Shield & Stronghold: Ps 18:2—The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
- The names of the Lord revealed in Scripture help us grow in knowing Him and His awesome power on our behalf.
- LISTENING EXERCISE  
*Think of an area of your life where you want God to intervene. Record it here:*

*Which aspect of God's character as represented by the names listed above do you need most?*

- Call upon the name of the Lord! Trust Him to strengthen you and to guide you in which action steps to take: Dan 11:32 NAS-- The people who know their God will be strong and take action.
- Insights:

**D. PERSONAL APPLICATION**

- **ONE THING**

The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

- **PONDER THE TRUTH**

Which verse or principle stood out to you this week? Write it below taking some time to review it often. Be still in God's presence, alert for new insights. Record them here.

- **PROCESSING THE TRUTH**

Prayerfully consider the Listening Exercises from this lesson. Ask the Spirit to guide you into a deeper understanding of the truth and to reveal any specific faith steps He is calling you to take. Write down your insights.