

# The Pearl Within

**AN INTERACTIVE JOURNEY ...  
THROUGH YOUR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE  
TO DISCOVER THE PEARL WITHIN YOU!**

**Journey 1 – The Starting Point**

*The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant  
searching for pearls. ~Matthew 13:45*



**Pamela and Michael Mathews**

# THE PEARL WITHIN

A SERIES  
OF INSPIRATIONAL JOURNEYS AND  
JOURNALING

By: Pamela and Michael L. Mathews

**Published by Focusonheaven.com**

**Note:** All Bible Scripture References are from the New International (NIV) version unless otherwise labeled.

**Website:** <http://www.focusonheaven.com>

**Email:** Pamela.Mathews@focusonheaven.com

Michael.Mathews@focusonheaven.com

**Phone:** 715-379-1430


*Copyright by Michael and Pamela Mathews – All Rights Reserved*

*The Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant  
searching for pearls.  
~Matthew 13:45*

# THE PEARL WITHIN

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| PREFACE.....                        | 4  |
| INTRODUCTION.....                   | 7  |
| JOURNEY 1 - THE STARTING POINT..... | 12 |



Are you prepared for the *Journey of your Life* ... by finding out who you were created to be, and who you can become by letting the *Pearl Within* you be discovered? Will you ask, seek, and knock at your own hearts door to reveal that *Pearl Within*? The Kingdom of Heaven is waiting for each of us to discover our beauty, power, and potential.

## Preface

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking for fine pearls!”  
~Matthew 13:25

Welcome to your personal journey through the *Pearl Within Journal*. This Journal is uniquely designed for your life and is like no other journaling experience that you have encountered.

What makes this Contemporary Journal so unique is that it will take you through a personal journey of your life to find the hidden Pearl(s) within yourself. This is the very Pearl that God always intended for your life. The journey will take you through your past, through your present, and help launch you into the future as it illuminates the Pearl that God designed you to be from birth. The journey will blend many experiences and emotions that make you laugh, make you cry, make you rejoice, and lead you through many euphoric moments of thanksgiving as you see your true reflective pearl being extracted from the oyster and irritants of your life. You will soon see the similarities of the miracle of both the Pearl and your life, once you view the completeness God intended for your past, present and future.

### **The Miraculous Birth of a Pearl**

*The birth of a pearl is truly a miraculous event. Unlike gemstones or precious metals that must be mined from the earth, pearls are grown by live oysters far below the surface of the sea. Gemstones must be cut and polished to bring out their beauty. However, pearls need no such treatment to reveal their loveliness. They are born from oysters complete -- with a shimmering iridescence, lustre and soft inner glow unlike any other gem on earth.*

*A natural pearl begins its life as a foreign object, such as a parasite or piece of shell that accidentally lodges itself in an oyster's soft inner body where it cannot be expelled. To ease this irritant, the oyster's body takes defensive action. The oyster begins to secrete a smooth, hard crystalline substance around the irritant in order to protect itself. This substance is called "nacre." As long as the irritant remains within its body, the oyster will continue to secrete nacre around it, layer upon layer. Over time, the irritant will be completely encased by the silky crystalline coatings. And the result, ultimately, is the lovely and lustrous gem called a pearl.*

*How something so wondrous emerges from an oyster's way of protecting itself is one of nature's loveliest surprises. For the nacre is not just a soothing substance. It is composed of microscopic crystals of calcium carbonate, aligned perfectly with one another, so that light passing along the axis of one crystal is reflected and refracted by another to produce a rainbow of light and color.*

### **The Miraculous Birth of the Pearls of Your Past, Present and Future**

The full birth of who God designed you to be is a miraculous event. Unlike perfect people, God creates us into his image with a fallen nature because of the fall of Adam and Eve. Along your life journey many irritants such as disappointments, broken relationships, lack of self worth, dysfunctional family traits, addictions,

financial issues, thoughts of death, self-hatred, loss of hope, parasites, and many other clingy things seem to collect in the closets of your life. As your life progresses, the illusion of fear and failure are combined to force you to escape or resent the memories of your past, which in turn effect your present and eventually hinder your future.

God has allowed you as an individual to review your collection of irritants in a manner that allows Him to shine light into your past, present, and future, simultaneously. This review allows you to be thankful or exchange the irritants for a re-alignment that perfectly connects your past, present, and future via God's light. These light rays into your past, present, and future allow you to view the pearl of your life represented by a full rainbow of light and color that connects your past, present and future into the miracle God always intended.

Are you ready to begin the journey of finding the pearl within, by exchanging the irritants of your life for the miracle God intended! Should you embark on this personal journey you will be challenged to exchange your irritants for personal pearls.

The Pearl Within Journal includes various areas of your life that generally need to be refined, cultivated, and rid of irritants that have blocked the light rays of completeness to shine upon your pearl. In some cases, if you have released or exchanged your irritants over periods of time, the journey may be simple. However, if you have built up your irritants or hidden them through the years, the process could be lengthy and painful, but every bit worth it, as you begin seeing the ***Pearls Within*** you!

We encourage you to read and listen to the song called "Whatever Your Doing ... something Heavenly" by Sanctus Real. We encourage you to purchase the song once you have listened to the lyrics at -- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u\\_t-PaBRSQY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u_t-PaBRSQY)

### **"Whatever You're Doing ... Something Heavenly"**

It's time for healing time to move on  
It's time to fix what's been broken too long  
Time to make right what has been wrong  
It's time to find my way to where I belong  
There's a wave that's crashing over me  
All I can do is surrender

(Chorus)

Whatever you're doing inside of me  
It feels like chaos somehow there's peace  
It's hard to surrender to what I can't see  
but I'm giving in to something heavenly

Time for a milestone  
Time to begin again  
Reevaluate who I really am  
Am I doing everything to follow your will  
or just climbing aimlessly over these hills  
So show me what it is you want from me  
I give everything I surrender...  
To...

(Chorus)

Time to face up  
Clean this old house  
Time to breathe in and let everything out  
That I've wanted to say for so many years  
Time to release all my held back tears

Whatever you're doing inside of me  
It feels like chaos but I believe  
You're up to something bigger than me  
Larger than life something heavenly

Whatever you're doing inside of me  
It feels like chaos but now I can see  
This something bigger than me  
Larger than life something heavenly  
Something heavenly

It's time to face up  
Clean this old house  
Time breathe in and let everything out

**Sanctus Real, EMI/CMG Sparrow Records 2008**

## Introduction

*"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will have been bound in heaven, and whatever you release on earth will have been released in heaven." ~ Matthew 16:19*

*"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We are born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It is not just in some of us, it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others." Marianne Williamson*

Many people seek for greater things such as greater meaning, greater understanding, greater wealth, greater relationships, greater significance, etc. The Bible is clear that we are to seek, we are to ask, and we are to knock (Matthew 7:7). In essence, the Bible encourages all people to improve and become the person God created them to be. Taking this one step further, Jesus begins to encourage people to not only believe upon Him but to expect to do even greater works than He did (John 14:12). Lastly, God states that He has given you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven ... so that you can bind and loosen things in your life, your family's life and other people's life. Let it be known that for everyone that has allowed their past to block their future, feels inadequate, feels a failure, feels dysfunctional, feels incompetent, feels unworthy, feels relationally inept ... God has given you the keys to start finding and unlocking the pearl that is within you!!

Without a doubt, God has designed us to become more than many of us have become. However, few people have realized the simple process in which this takes place. That simple process can be explained in Scripture by stating what the Kingdom of Heaven is truly like. Open your hearts, listen, and pray over the following Scripture passage.

*"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."  
Matthew 13:45-46*

This passage in the Bible is vital to understand a simple process that many people overlook. You will note that in this passage the object of discovery is a **pearl** of great value. You will also note that the subject surrounding the object of great value is the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus was instructing us that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant who is looking for fine pearls, and finally finds a pearl of great value. When the merchant finds the one of great value he is willing to **exchange** all else to get the one of greatest value. Therefore, the Kingdom of God includes an exchange process as we progress through our asking, seeking, and knocking (Matt. 7:7). The doors of your opportunity begin to open and close with the key of exchange!

This passage is the key to your personal journey through the *Pearl Within* Journal. The Kingdom of Heaven and the Keys that God gave you to loosen and bind the issues within the Kingdom, is very similar to the journey of finding the great pearl within you. In order to recognize and obtain the great pearl you must exchange the issues of life. Simply put, the

key(s) to the Kingdom of God that allow you to loosen and bind (Matthew 16: 19) is the very process of exchange.

This process is so simple that at first glance it may appear complicated. The great news is that throughout scripture and our everyday life the process of exchange is shown as the key to getting the very things that God intended for us. Below is a long list of exchanges that have taken place that have advanced the Kingdom.

- God so love the world that He **exchanged** His one and only begotten Son so that we might believe and be saved.
- Jesus was on the Cross and **exchanged** His blood and body for our eternal salvation. He set the example of exchange for us to follow. This is why he commands us to also **exchange** by 'taking up our cross, daily.'
- Adam and Eve **exchanged** a life of perfection for a sinful future by eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
- Adam and Eve **exchanged** one more time by shedding the blood of an animal to cover up their new found sin.
- Noah **exchanged** the destruction of his family by having faith that rain would flood the earth even when there had never been any rain. He **exchanged** his role as a shepherd and shipbuilder for the title of a righteous preacher through his act of faith.
- Jacob **exchanged** His name for Israel upon confession of who he really was.
- Jonah **exchanged** his position in the belly of the whale when he committed to go to Nineveh.
- Joshua **exchanged** his lack of hope for victory when he listened to the voice of God to get up from prayer and move forward into action.
- Solomon **exchanged** his inexperience as a King, with the greatest wisdom in the world by acting and believing in His dream.
- Rahab, the prostitute, **exchanged** her faith for a place in the lineage of Jesus.
- The Apostle Paul **exchanged** his position as a martyr of Christians by asking God what He wanted from his life when he fell off his horse on the way to Damascus.
- Joseph and Mary **exchanged** their shame of having a child out of wedlock and became the parents of the greatest prophet and Messiah by believing what the angel of the Lord said to them.
- The Apostle John **exchanged** his fear of isolation and visions and wrote the greatest revelation of all time ... called the book of Revelation.
- Every sinner **exchanged** their life of sin by confessing that Jesus died on the cross for their sinful life in order to become a Christian.
- Many people in the New Testament **exchanged** their faith for a healing; as God said 'Your faith has made you whole'.

#### **Simple and Personal Life Examples**

- I **exchanged** my single life for a married life. The things I used to do with my single friends were exchanged for activities with my spouse and family.
- I **exchanged** marriage vows with my spouse making a commitment to be devoted to my spouse until death.
- I **exchanged** my feelings of a dysfunctional family by confessing that all families were born sinful, and therefore dysfunctional.
- I **exchanged** my college tuition for a college degree.
- I **exchanged** my college degree with a job in the computer industry.
- I **exchanged** my past failings with God's forgiveness by confessing the past failings. In **exchange**, God gave me a future direction.



- I **exchanged** my love for alcohol with a love for God's Word, once I realized I could ask for deliverance.
- I **exchanged** some of my retirement fund for a loan for my daughter's education.

As you can see by these examples, the process of exchange is what advanced the Kingdom of God and my personal life. Old Testament and New Testament people advanced the Kingdom and unlocked doors by exchanging what they had for something better. This is why Jesus stated that we could have the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven to bind, and loosen things on earth. Even though this is a limited list of exchanges, any of us would be hard pressed to find examples where things are advanced or improved without a form of exchange.

Consider the mere fact that Jesus was used as the ransom and sacrifice for my sins. Even though He paid the price through the sacrifice, three forms of exchange had to take place for the ransom or sacrifice to have meaning.

1. God had to **exchange** with Humanity by giving His one and only Son in an earthly form.
2. Jesus had to **exchange** His position, come to earth, and die a sacrificial death.
3. Each sinner has to **exchange** by confessing that Jesus Christ died for their sins, before the ransom or sacrifice is applied to them personally.

Even though we claim that salvation is free, we need to admit that there was a price to be paid, and that I cannot claim my own salvation without exchanging with God my confession that I was born a sinner.

The simplicity of the process of exchange is best explained by understanding the simplicity of a relationship. In every living relationship, there is a process of exchange. There is no healthy relationship where there is no ongoing exchange. This includes relationships with God, spouses, children, friends, family, co-workers, but most of all with yourself. Note again that Jesus said that the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant of pearls who is willing to exchange for the great pearl they have found. Possibly Jesus used this parable to indicate that we must be like a merchant, knowing that a merchant is an 'exchanger' of goods. A merchant is also always asking, seeking, and knocking for greater goods to improve their position. If we are commanded to continue to ask, seek, and knock, we should conclude that we are always finding/learning of greater things that we can exchange with. In fact, we can take all the irritants of our life, and begin to exchange for greater things. This is possible when God's light shines truth and revelation on my irritants, transforming them into the greatest ***Pearl Within*** me.

This process of exchange will be the basis for every chapter within the Journal. In other words, the keys to your personal healing and the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven cannot be used without an exchange that will take place. Are you willing to **exchange** in an effort to see God's full light come into each area of your life to make your past, present and future the full rainbow of perfect light, color, and reflection that God intended it to be? Your ***Pearl Within*** is waiting for the full light of God to be reflected!



**Personal Pearls of Wisdom**

Please start listing some of the things you learned in the introduction: Don't forget to list the Pearls you have found within. Also, please visit the Pearl Within Blog at <http://www.focusonheaven.com/pearlwithin.html> to share your thoughts, questions and breakthroughs.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Please list the things that you already know you want to exchange with God:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Journey 1 - The Starting Point

*There's much more for me included in Christ's salvation than merely a paid ticket to heaven.  
There is victory over present circumstances if I am willing to accept it. ~Matilda Nordtvedt*

*"But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honor, and some to dishonor. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work." II Timothy 2:20, 21*

We hope that the words by Sanctus Real *"Whatever You're Doing ... Something Heavenly"* continue to play in your mind. Specifically, the words below will be at the heart of this chapter.

*Time to face up  
Clean this old house  
Time to breathe in and let everything out  
That I've wanted to say for so many years  
Time to release all my held back tears*

Before getting into the heart of the **Pearl Within** Journal, it is critical that you have opportunity to begin at the correct starting place. Many journeys in life are wonderful experiences, and yet there are other journeys that quickly become misdirected, frustrating, and even devastating. The journeys that are less than enjoyable are usually the journeys that were either unplanned, or the person on the journey was not adequately prepared for the journey ahead.

For me personally, I cannot enjoy taking any journey in life until I know that I am prepared, and that my mind can focus on the journey ahead, versus a mess that I left behind or will come back home to. I find that I must make sure that my starting point is uncluttered, and that I can mentally envision a return to a house and circumstances that are clean and free of clutter. For this very reason, before I go on any type of journey or vacation, I make sure that I go through every room in my house to ensure things are clean and in order. In most cases, I do this a day or two in advance, and yet I do it once again before I finally lock the doors and leave on my journey. As I think about why I do this, it simply comes down to the reality that I realize my house has to be in order, or I will waste my time on my journey thinking about the return to an unclean house. When I return home from a journey, I want to come home to a house that has been cleaned before I ever left it. This gives me a peace of mind, and allows me to thoroughly enjoy the journey as well as the comfort of returning to my own home, free of clutter.

Whether it is the song by Sanctus Real or my own desire to come home to a clean house, this concept of the starting point and cleaning our house before a journey is what the Apostle Paul

### Personal Pearls of Wisdom

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

describes in 2 Timothy 2:20-21. In summary, the Apostle Paul is saying that in order for me to prepare my journey and my life's calling with God, that I must not only examine and clean my house, but also rid my house of clutter that is dishonoring to God. In this passage, we are informed that in every great house (life), there are some things that need to be cleaned and that if we would start by cleaning the rooms or dishonorable things in life, we will be prepared unto every good work God has prepared for us.

In order for you to get the most from your ***Pearl Within*** Journey, it is vital for you to start by examining yourself (house) and the rooms within your house/life. The hope is that when you finish this chapter, you feel you are ready for the journey of a lifetime, by having a clean (self) to come back home to, no matter what you discover on this journey. This chapter is your opportunity to exchange for something heavenly. Many people skip this starting point and never enjoy the journey of life that God prepared for them.

**Personal Pearls of Wisdom**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please take a few days or even a few weeks to process Exchange Exercise 1.1. This is not a race, rather a journey to something heavenly. We encourage you to be prayerful, mindful, and interact with God to hear his voice on the personal rooms of your house. I encourage you to contact us if you are struggling through this exercise by going to <http://www.focusonheaven.com/Pearlwithin.htm>

**Exchange Exercise 1.1**

Using Exchange Table 1.1 please rate from (1-10) the areas (rooms) of your life based on the definitions given in Exchange Rating Table 1.2.

| Area/Room of Life        | Rating | Comments |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| Self Esteem              |        |          |
| Self Worth               |        |          |
| Fear                     |        |          |
| Anger                    |        |          |
| Bitterness               |        |          |
| Faith in God             |        |          |
| Control                  |        |          |
| Sexuality                |        |          |
| Relationships            |        |          |
| My past                  |        |          |
| Emotions                 |        |          |
| My future                |        |          |
| God                      |        |          |
| Religion/Christianity    |        |          |
| Eternity/eternal destiny |        |          |
| My personal Salvation    |        |          |

**Exchange Exercise Table 1.1**

| Rating | Definition of Rating  |
|--------|---|
| 1      | I have complete clutter in this room of my life ... I feel hopelessly lost. I don't even know where to begin to start cleaning.   |
| 2      | I have been so frustrated over this room in my life as I have taken action to clean it up, but it keeps getting cluttered again. I have lost hope at even trying to clean it again. |
| 3      | I realize the clutter in this room of my life, but have started taking small steps to clean it up.  |
| 4      | I have seen significant improvement over the last few years, but need to watch what clutter I let come back in. I feel like I am always on guard in this room.                      |
| 5      | I sense that I have matured and cleaned many aspects of this room. I am trending upwards to having a pure and clean room in this area.  |
| 6      | I have finally kicked the clutter out of this room of my life. I am off to a different room.  |
| 7      | I am going on 2+ years of a completely un-cluttered room in this area.  |
| 8      | I have never had issues in this room of my life and it has always remained clean.   |
| 9      | God sees this as one of the areas that I have surrendered to Him. He is pleased, and I am at peace with this room in my life.   |
| 10.    | This room in my life was once messy, God cleansed/healed it, and now I enjoy helping other people see the clutter in this room of their life.                                       |

**Exchange Rating Table 1.2**

Congratulations on finishing your first exercise. This was your first taste at the possibility of exchanging some of your thoughts, confessions, prayers, and inner feelings. God is pleased whenever we make a choice to voluntarily exchange with Him. In fact, the most basic definition of an Altar is "A place where we meet with God to exchange our earthly possessions with heavenly possessions." When you put this in simple terms, you start understanding and wondering why more people do not set-up a place of exchange more frequently, and more often. The altar has less to do with a physical place than it does a mental place where we openly make a decision to exchange our hurts, pains, sorrows, beliefs, inadequacies with heavenly replacements. As I stated, this was your first taste at the possibility of exchange; developing a list of what I may desire to exchange. At this point you may not be ready to know how to exchange in a simple and healthy manner, but as you progress through the *Pearl Within* journal you will become comfortable with the simple process of exchanging/redeeming your human limitations and clutter for heavenly replacements. This simple exchange is the manner in which we get to go from Glory to Glory as described in II Cor. 3:18. God has always desired that we simplify our communications with Him, which brings us to the next action and exchange exercise; how do you view God?

### **Exercise 1.3**

Most people grow up with an image and perception of God that is specific to the combination of their parental and church teachings, their personal experiences, and their feelings. It is important to identify how you view God in order to receive the full light of who He is. Just as your image and perception of your kids, spouse, boss, or family members effects how you relate with them; so does your image of God. If I want to have a personal relationship with a living person, or a living God, I need to evaluate how I perceive them. Exercise Table 1.3 allows you to check off all the views or images of God that you presently have. As you complete this exercise, remember that there is no right or wrong answers, just

a simple visual reaction of how you view your God. Considering the fact that God is light, and if that light is properly perceived and reflected on your life, you may eventually identify the **Pearl Within** you. However, if your view of God is tainted or tinted away from His true light, your true value may be hiding behind the tint. You will be asked a few times during the **Pearl Within** Journal to come back to this table to see if your reflection is changing. In the table below, we have included a check mark at the starting point (now) and one when you finish the Journal.

| Check Mark at Starting Point | <b>Reader's Check List of God's Attributes</b>                      | Check Mark at Starting Point |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
|                              | 1. Majestic   |                              |
|                              | 2. Forgiving  |                              |
|                              | 3. Loving   |                              |
|                              | 4. Merciful   |                              |
|                              | 5. Just and Fair in His Judgments                                   |                              |
|                              | 6. Caring   |                              |
|                              | 7. Creative   |                              |
|                              | 8. Humorous   |                              |
|                              | 9. Light  |                              |
|                              | 10. Approachable  |                              |
|                              | 11. Provider of our needs   |                              |
|                              | 12. Ever present and available for individuals                      |                              |
|                              | 13. My personal Healer  |                              |
|                              | 14. Worker of Miracles  |                              |
|                              | 15. Has angels assist Him to carry out his work                     |                              |
|                              | 16. Gave His Son Jesus as a means to allow me to approach Him       |                              |
|                              | 17. Father to the Fatherless  |                              |
|                              | 18. Truthful  |                              |
|                              | 19. He is my closest friend   |                              |
|                              | 20. Desires to communicate and exchange with me on a daily basis    |                              |
|                              | 21. Sees humanity as the apple of his eye                           |                              |
|                              | 22. Too good to send people to hell                                 |                              |
|                              | 23. Judgmental  |                              |
|                              | 24. Demanding   |                              |
|                              | 25. Mean  |                              |
|                              | 26. Unapproachable  |                              |
|                              | 27. Cruel   |                              |
|                              | 28. Unfair  |                              |
|                              | 29. Hurtful   |                              |
|                              | 30. Distant from humans or myself                                   |                              |
|                              | 31. Provides no means for me to interact with Him                   |                              |
|                              | 32. Is always angry at humanity                                     |                              |
|                              | 33. Just waiting to prove everyone is a sinner to send them to hell |                              |
|                              | 34. Loves wealthy or good people but not me                         |                              |

|  |                        |  |
|--|------------------------|--|
|  | 35. Has given up on me |  |
|--|------------------------|--|

**Exercise Table 1.3**

Your view of God as well as your evaluation and rating of the rooms/areas of your life will be considered your starting point. One of the main intents of the **Pearl Within** journal is to shift your starting point as well as your views of yourself to find the **Pearl Within** you. This means you will be challenged and motivated to see things as they really are; based on the true life, true light, and true source of life.

Your first challenge will be to understand how God desires to be viewed, in reference to His relationship with humanity. There are many views, but I desire to challenge you to one-end of the spectrum to expand your thinking towards God. Let's begin:

*Imagine for a moment a relationship between you and your fiancé or spouse where they sang a personal song over you. In return, you wrote a song and sang it to them. If this type of intimacy actually occurred, you would feel very close and intimate with this person. In fact, you may start interacting and exchanging with them on a close and personal level. The emotional and spiritual aspect of writing and singing a song for each other and personally singing over the other person may be the open door for further intimacy that carries the relationship into new realms of understanding, appreciation, and exchanging intimate feelings.*

This simple example of imagination probably has you feeling desperate for a relationship like this. Well, there is great news for you! The very person who treats you like this, and views humanity in the same way is God -- Himself. That's right. Listen to the words in Zephaniah 3:17 *"The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing."*

I am not sure how you checked the list in Table 1.3 on your view of God, but I challenge you to start stepping up your perspective to view God for everything He is. The more you see of God (who is light), the more of His nature and attributes are reflected and refracted in you. This is the very concept in Genesis that God intended when He said *"Let us make man in our Image, so God created man in His own image"*(Genesis 1:27). This means that we are a lot more like God than we think because He decided to create us in His Image. His image can truly reflect from and in me, when I find the light of His image in me. So, your challenge going into Journey 2 is to imagine God singing over you; therefore, you desire to write and sing a song back to God. In other words, the simple imagery I gave you can become real between you and God. To help you along, below are the lyrics of "I want to Sing a Song," by the group Third Day.

**Personal Pearls of Wisdom**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



**Song by Third Day**

We encourage you to purchase this song once you have listened to the lyrics at:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iae86AVBdK4>

**Sing a song**

I want to sing a song for You, Lord  
Lord, for You I want to sing a song  
And I want to lift my voice to Heaven  
And listen to the angels sing along  
A song of Your faithfulness  
A song of Your grace  
And of Your loving kindness  
To the glory of Your name

With everything that's in me, Lord  
Listen to me say  
I want to sing a song for You  
I want to sing a song

And I want to live my life for You, Lord  
Lord, for You I want to live my life  
And I want to praise the name of Jesus  
And Pray above all things You're glorified

A song of Your faithfulness  
A song of Your grace  
And of Your loving kindness  
To the glory of Your name

With everything that's in me, Lord  
Listen to me say  
I want to sing a song for You  
I want to sing a song

I sing about Your mercy  
I sing about Your love  
Your goodness, Lord  
Your righteousness

I want to sing a song of Your faithfulness  
A song of Your grace  
And of Your loving kindness  
To the glory of Your name

With everything that's in me, Lord  
Listen to me say  
I want to sing a song for You  
I want to sing a song

Song of Your faithfulness, Lord  
And of Your loving kindness

Personal Pearls of  
Wisdom

Lined writing area for personal reflections, consisting of 25 horizontal lines.

To the glory of Your name

With everything that's in me, Lord  
Listen to me say  
I want to sing a song for You  
I want to sing a song

And we'll sing holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, are You Lord almighty?

So, your starting point is to see how you have been viewing God, examine the clutter in the rooms of your life, and start seeing God sing over you and you over Him. If He is singing over you, are you hearing God's music and voice? Or, have you only heard what your parents and church told you about God?

### Personal Pearls of Wisdom

Don't forget to list the Pearls you have found within. Also, please visit the Pearl Within Blog at <http://www.focusonheaven.com/pearlwithin.html> to share your thoughts, questions and breakthroughs.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Things I want to exchange with God after this Journey:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# The Pearl Within



*Ministers Michael and Pamela Mathews*

What makes the Pearl Within so unique is that it will take you through a personal journey of your life to find the hidden Pearl(s) within yourself. This is the very Pearl that God always intended for your life. The journey will take you through your past, through your present, and help launch you into the future as it illuminates the Pearl that God designed you to be from birth. The journey will blend many experiences and emotions that make you laugh, make you cry, make you rejoice, and lead you through many euphoric moments of thanksgiving as you see your true reflective pearl being extracted from the oyster and irritants of your life. You will soon see the similarities of the miracle of both the Pearl and your life, once you view the completeness God intended for your past, present and future.

---

Michael and Pamela have been ministering in marriage for 23 years, and as licensed ministers for over 12 years. They have been affiliated with numerous denominations and parachurch ministries. Their background and hunger for God's truth and wisdom has allowed them to develop a systematic perspective that combines biblical history and future revelation to illustrate a modern-day understanding that enlightens truth for many.

Michael and Pam Mathews live in Ozark, Missouri. They have two wonderful daughters, Jessica and Tiffany