

# The Pearl Within

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

## **Journey 4 – Your Mind**

*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 4 – THE MIND.....	46



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!

If the key to finding the ***Pearl Within*** is the action or process of exchange, every chapter of this journal will require action on your part to exchange things from your past, present, and future in order to identify the fullness and completeness of who God created you to become. Because God did not wake up today and change His mind about you, or who He created you to become, He desires you to ask, seek, knock as you exchange your entire past, present and future ambitions. This process for the theological at heart would be known as the process of redemption.<sup>(1)</sup> God instituted the process of redemption through many facets including covenants, testaments, and promises throughout scripture. However the full nature of redemption does not reach full value and maturity until we meet Christ in heaven (Ephesians 1:14). This indicates that the exchange and/or redemptive process to be an ongoing transaction of exchange. This is very much what God intended when He said that we would be in His image and progress through stages of ever increasing Glory. *"And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."* (II Corinthians 3:18)

Let's begin the process of ever-increasing Glory in your life by allowing you the opportunity and privilege to exchange who you and others thought you were, with who God created you to be; as this is truly your ***Pearl Within!*** Make sure you write down the **Pearl(s)** that you find within yourself, in the spaces provided called *"Personal Pearls of Wisdom."*

It will excite you to learn that in Genesis 9:13-17 that God made a covenant (agreement of exchange) that he will use a cloud and the rainbow to remind Himself and us of His everlasting agreement of love for humanity. The rainbow that is created by light-rays of reflection and refraction are a great reminder of God's light that is able to reflect and refract of the beauty of who he created you to be. This beauty can be found if you search and decide to exchange with Him.

**Note:** Because this journey is so interactive and requires you to exchange with God we have provided a Blog called *The Pearl Within* Blog at [focusonheaven.com/pearlwithin.htm](http://focusonheaven.com/pearlwithin.htm). Please use the Blog to openly discuss your findings and exchanges. If you prefer to keep things less public, you can email Pam or Mike at [ThePearlWithin@focusonheaven.com](mailto:ThePearlWithin@focusonheaven.com).

**Personal  
Pearls of  
Wisdom**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**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 4 – The Mind

Jesus replied that the greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. ~ Matthew 22:37

“Whatever you hold in your mind will tend to occur in your life. If you continue to believe as you have always believed, you will continue to act as you have always acted. If you continue to act as you have always acted, you will continue to get what you have always gotten. If you want different results in your life or your work, all you have to do is change your mind.” ~ Unknown

**R**eflecting back on the first three Journeys it should be evident that one of the key concepts you are learning is the concept of completeness. God created you to be a complete person who could travel with Him, and He with you. Whenever you travel with God you are automatically forming a completeness that allows you to see things that an incomplete person cannot see. When you travel with God through your past, present, and future you are completing the wholeness of your life. The Great **'I AM'**, who always was, always is, and always will be, is able to provide a completeness like nothing else. There is no medication, no knowledge, no counselor, no therapy, no manual known to humanity that can create an instantaneous completeness inside of the human being, like the author of life can. This is the very reason Jesus is given the title of 'The author and finisher of my faith'. No one can start my completeness, nor end my completeness, other than Jesus Christ. In fact, in Colossians 1:15 -17 God ascribes a completeness and fullness to Christ Jesus that cannot be found in any other subject, object, or person. Listen to the following words of completeness.

*“We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels--[everything] got started in him and finds its purpose in him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment.” (Colossians 1:15-17 Message translation)*

The completeness and fullness of life are indeed held together by God through His son Jesus Christ. This completeness is for each of us to take advantage of during the course of our life. When we take advantage of the very Light (Jesus Christ) that was sent into our world, for our salvation and completeness, we will never be the same again! We become the completeness who God always created us to be. In essence this is the backbone, the foundation of the Born-Again experience. This sounds too simple to be true, but it is the promise of completeness for humanity, through Jesus. *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” II Cor. 5:17.*

It should be noted that many people have cheapened and lessened the 'Born-again' experience by using it as a cliché'. However, let it be known that humanity cannot escape and cheapen the reality that Jesus Christ holds everything together. God made no mistakes throughout the history of humanity, and is now bringing into new revelation the completeness that humanity is longing for. In fact, the medical field has recently unveiled one of the most proven elements of the completeness that comes through Christ within the

human being. This new revelation suddenly removes the cheapness that modern day Christianity created. It clearly pin-points that Jesus Christ is indeed the author, finisher, completeness, and fullness of all things ever created.

Take a close look at the image that is shown in figure 1 below. As you look at this image it looks much like the image of a cross that symbolizes and connects with Jesus Christ.

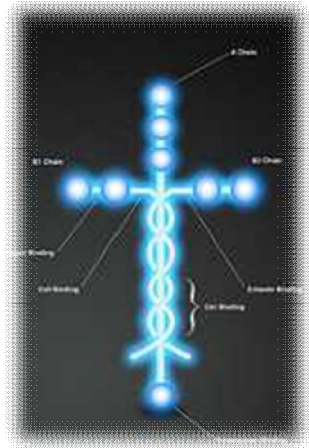


Figure 4.1 – Guess what?

The cross type figure shown in Figure 4.1 is a medical X-ray of a human body molecule called a Laminin. Laminin, in simple medical terms is the glue that holds the millions of human body membranes and cells of our body together. God, who is the creator of human life found it amusing to stitch together every cell of the human body with a cross-like symbol. I am convinced that this was His way of fulfilling scripture that states that in Jesus Christ all things exist and are held together.

*“He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment.” Colossians 3:17.*

You may be astonished at this recent revelation by the medical field, but God was not surprised, nor should we be when we understand that He is the '**I AM**'. He was foreknowing how all things must eventually come together in completeness. The journey of the **Pearl Within** is a Journey of completeness; A journey of finding the **Pearl Within** you. May this simple revelation be another reminder of all the ways that God is beginning to manifest His completeness and carefulness as He designed each and every one of us. The exact medical definition of Laminins is described below Figure 4.2. Please do your own homework and research medical journals and dictionaries to verify that God was way ahead of the medical field. Before the medical field ever existed, God created the image of His son Jesus Christ within humanity.

**Personal Pearls of Wisdom**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

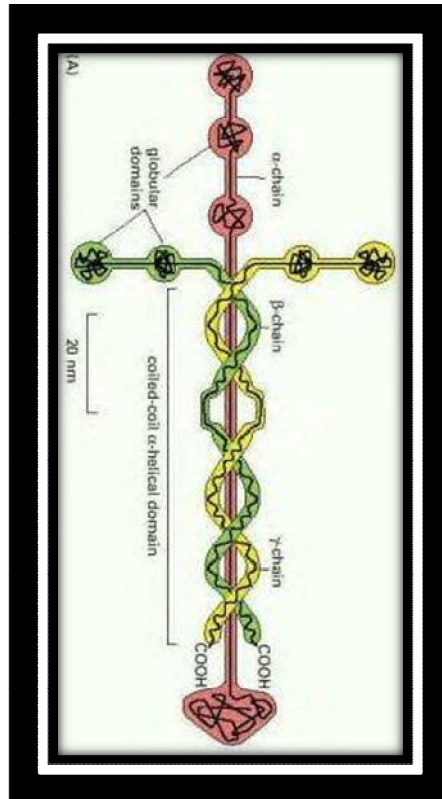
---

---

---

---

---



**Figure 4.2-** Laminin Diagram

***Laminin Definition***

The Laminin protein molecule is the major component that makes up the matrix, which is also called the basement membrane. These are the sheets of protein that form the substrate of all internal organs. Laminin assist in cell adhesion and binds other extra cellular matrix components together.

The laminin molecule is shaped like a cross and has four arms that are designed to bind to four other molecules. The three shorter arms are particularly good at binding to other laminin molecules, which is what makes it so great at forming sheets. The long arm is capable of **binding to cells**, which helps anchor the actual organs to the membrane.

***Challenge Question:***

*What images and thoughts about God were generated as you think about the completeness of Christ in each human being through laminin.*

---



---



---



---

### An exercise on completeness

How do you feel as you pause and realize that within your body is the representation of Jesus Christ who holds all things together, and without Him nothing was created. Please take a moment and complete Exercise 4.1.

Do you see Laminins within your body as another <b>Pearl</b> within you?		
Does knowing that God created this simple representation within human life give you a new and refreshed view of the human body?		
Does this new refreshed view allow you to begin to be thankful for the combined simplicity, yet complexity of your body?		
Could a new thankfulness for God's creation to this fine detail of your body allow you to be healed in a special way; that was not possible before? Remember the <i>Journey on Thankfulness</i> you went through!		
God created us as people who are to feel complete and made whole; but Do you feel you are a complete person yet?		
Do you even know what it is to be a complete person?		
Are you starting to get a sense of the importance of being a complete person?		
Do you realize that completeness only comes through the person/being that exists for the purpose of bringing everything into completeness? Colossians 1:15-17		
Were you surprised that God pays attention to the fine details of life such as the Laminins?		
Do you recognize that God spans the smallest of details such as Laminins, to the greatest of details such as the rotation of the earth around the sun, and the magnetic pull of the moon with the earth to create high and low tides in the oceans?		
Have you accepted that Jesus Christ is the fullness of both the visible and invisible aspects of life? Do you have this kind of child like faith?		
As you continue in your Journey to find the <b>Pearl Within</b> , do you sense a new light of knowledge, wisdom, and revelation being sparked?		
Go back to the Exercise Table 1.3 where you checked off your view of God Attributes. Has your view of God's attributes been changing?		

#### Exercise 4.1

The introduction for this *Journey on the Mind* is necessary to give you a background on our need for human completeness. View this particular Journey as a means to become re-adjusted for the modern worldview that Christianity is only about love, or growing the heart. It is important to note that when God desires to work on a person, it is a personal matter between the person and God. Unfortunately, so many of us want to drag others into our specific situations. At the moment that God is sharing revelation and healing me, He does not want you to drag others into the situation; it is your personal moment of healing. For this reason, I ask that you focus on God's revelation for you 'only' during this chapter.

Let's consider the reality of becoming a Christian, then maturing to be a complete person who is balanced between heart, mind, and soul. If I am an overweight person and I accept Christ into my heart one night, I will find that I am an overweight Christian the next day. If I am an emotionally hurt person, and I accept Christ one night, I will find that I am an emotionally hurt Christian the next day. If I am an uneducated person and I accept Christ one night, I will find that I am an uneducated Christian the next day. If I am a lazy person and I accept Christ one night, I will find I am a lazy Christian the next day. Simply by accepting Christ into my heart does not make all issues in my life go away. Accepting Christ allows me

to accept His forgiveness, His Love, and salvation. Accepting Christ is my new starting point that qualifies me as a Christian with the promise of eternal salvation. However, I must start walking out this new experience and begin to learn the ways of the Kingdom, which include growing my heart, mind, and soul. This is the very reason that the greatest commandment is to serve/love the Lord your God with not just your heart, but with everything you are, including your mind and soul. If I want to progress through my Christian life by having a vibrant and personal relationship with God, I need to grow my mind through wisdom, knowledge, education, and training. If I do not grow in my mind, I will be limited and remain the same person all my life; when in fact, God wants me to grow as a complete person. This is the very model Jesus set for Himself. Luke 2:52 states that Jesus grew and increased in wisdom, stature, and grew in the favor of man! Jesus was the light, and love of the world, but he grew in all areas of life.

The need for completeness is necessary in order to find and fulfill the **Pearl Within** each of us. This journey now takes us into the one area of our lives that has the greatest tendency to break apart the process of being a complete person; **The Mind**. When Jesus was asked by the religious people what the greatest commandment was, he stated, "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.*" *Matthew 22:36-27*

This is a straightforward commandment by Jesus, whose goal is to bring us into complete fullness in Him. He is telling us that the greatest concern or commandment is to serve or worship God with the combination of our heart, soul, and mind. These were not idle words being spoken, but truth that was vital for us to live the completeness of life. Even though this commandment was given over 2,000 years ago, many people still get confused. They get confused on the heart-felt, love-sought side of serving God. The heart-felt and love-sought side of Christianity is vital, but only serves one-third of the completeness we are to worship God with. My soul and my mind each comprise another one-third of the equation. By over developing only one-third of the equation, it is easy to become lopsided in my view of myself, of God, and fulfilling my completeness in Christ. This lopsided approach hinders me from being a complete person. Let's take a simple examination of this concept in Exercise 4.2. For the sake of this exercise, please assume your Soul is comprised of both your heart and mind.

**Personal Pearls of Wisdom**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

	Heart	Mind	Soul
Since you became a Christian estimate the percentage of time you have invested in each of the three areas of serving or worshipping God.	_____ %	_____ %	_____ %
<b>(Check High, Medium, Low)</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>
Rate how well developed your heart is toward God.			
Rate how well developed your mind is toward God.			
Rate how well developed your soul is toward God.			
Rate your awareness that Christians are to be exercising their love and compassion (heart).			
Rate your awareness that Christians are to be exercising			



their mind.			
Rate your awareness that Christians are to be exercising their soul.			
	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Unsure</b>
A person's mind will play more tricks on them than their heart or soul does?			
A good or evil thought enters a person's mind before entering their heart?			
You have witnessed more people lose their minds than their hearts?			
You have had moments of loss of mind, versus loss of heart?			
A person's mind is more complex than a person's heart?			
Fear is directly connected to the heart?			
Fear is directly connected to the mind?			
Faith is directly connected to the heart?			
Faith is directly connected to the mind?			
Fear controls the mind more than the heart does?			
Faith controls the heart more than the mind does?			
Fear controls my decisions more than faith does?			
<b>Fear is a controlling element in life?</b>			
<b>Faith is a liberating element in life?</b>			

#### Exercise 4.2

It is important to realize that most Christians struggle very little with serving God with their heart and compassion. Rather, they generally struggle with serving God with their mind and soul. One of the main reasons for this is simply that the heart-piece of Christianity fulfills the innate nature to feel and express love, compassion and empathy. No one should argue that Christianity has so many feelings that allow us to enjoy love, express compassion, and be empathic towards each other. However, we must still use scriptural context to build the complete person in each of us, so we can enjoy the fullness of what is available to us in and through Christ. This requires us to balance our ability to express worship toward God with our full heart, mind, and soul. If we desire to be the complete person that God desires us to become, we need to better understand the full make-up of our being, and how we can worship God with that completeness. There are many opinions on the differences between the heart, mind, and soul; and in some cases, the three can include some of the same characteristics. For the purpose of this Journey on the Mind, I want to keep a simple definition that is agreed upon by most scholars.

**Heart** – Our inward affections including love, compassion, and feelings.

**Mind** – Includes our will and desire to move forward in knowledge, wisdom, intellect, and conscience. Interchangeable with the word 'Might'

**Soul** - The living breath and spirit of a man, includes emotions (Jesus say's my soul is exceedingly sorrowful. Matthew 26:38)

Table 4.1 helps illustrates which part of our heart, mind, and soul our personal characteristics stem from. Some of the characteristics may be in multiple parts, but the 'X'

represents the primary area where the characteristic stem from. Where there are multiple 'X's are the areas where it is extremely difficult to separate.

Characteristic	Heart	Mind	Soul
Love	X		
Compassion	X		
Emotions	X	X	X
Conscience	X		X
Fear		X	
Faith		X	
Wisdom		X	X
Knowledge		X	

**Table 4.1**

As stated before, there are numerous opinions on what comprises and makes the heart, mind, and soul uniquely different. As we learned early in the Journey, a pearl is really created by identifying or confessing the irritants within. If you are anything like I am, you may find that Table 4.1 becomes invaluable. The reason it is so invaluable is that I have found in my own personal being that my emotions and fear controlled many years of my life. Even though I was a Christian with a loving and compassionate heart, I struggled immensely with the irritant of fear and emotional reactions. I was a fearful and emotional person who accepted Christ one day, and woke up the next day a fearful and emotional Christian. The next day and for many more years, I remained a heart-felt Christian who had many fears and emotional responses to the issues in my life. I had developed my heart-felt love for God, but did not increase in my mind and soul.

My first 10 years of Christianity allowed me to expand and capacitate my heart, but I never focused on the need to expand and capacitate my mind and soul, which included the very irritants of fear and emotional decisions. I had not yet learned how to renew my mind to bring my completeness to God. Let me take this opportunity to share my **personal** story of reflection and refraction with you.

I grew up in a religious setting and learned many of the attributes of Christian love, compassion, and behavior. However, the truth was that I was an outwardly prim and proper Christian, living the masked life of fear and emotional reaction. Through the masked years of fear and emotional control, God always allowed me to reflect to my childhood and remember that He was pulling me to a deeper understanding and questioning of who He really was. I can now see that my surroundings and mimicking of the Christian world-view allowed me to hide behind a mask, as so many other people hide. I was able to hide behind a deep wall of fear, and yet appear to everyone else that I was as normal as they were. I would say that I lived a double-minded life that allowed me to feel prim and proper, yet fear was tormenting my mind, causing me to make my decisions based on my emotions. The cycle of fear and emotions forced me to want to control the few things I felt I could control. I am now convinced that the more a person fears the more they want to control people and circumstances.

The full view of this torment could not be understood until years later in my life, when God brought other leaders into my life. God began using these leaders to refract his image through. When I say refract, I mean that suddenly God gave me a reflective comparison of who He was through a few leaders of faith who actually walked by faith, change, wisdom, and excitement. Their personal walk of faith was not controlled by the fear and emotion I operated in, behind my mask. God was about ready to pull me through a knothole of complete change to strip away my mask, my fear, and my emotions by exchanging them into a life of faith and change. I had no idea how quick, yet tumultuous this journey would become. Little did I realize at that time that God was reflecting back into my childhood to the days when he was tugging at my heart to come closer to Him! Deep within me, He was pulling me up to a new level of understanding that went beyond my heart, deep within my soul and mind. Through an estimated 6-month window of time, God was bringing me through the greatest transformations of my life. My fear was finally confronted by faith! My emotions finally confronted by Godly wisdom, and logic. During this time, there were moments where I thought I was going to lose my entire mind, my marriage, and my trust in God. During this time of what I will now call a *'cleansing'* came some nasty and spiteful comments that had been hidden behind my prim and proper mask of Christianity; where fear and emotion ruled my inner most being.

**Personal Pearls of Wisdom**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

In God's grace, He was cleansing me through a very precise and purposeful manner. The problem was ... I had never been through something like this before. It should be noted that fear at its very height-of-control allows a person to stay safely behind a wall of in-decision, minimal change, and lead you to believe that the status-quo is the Godly thing to do. I was on the roller coaster ride of my life and there was no getting off without doing major damage. I now realize that I was transforming my mind, soul, and heart to become set-apart unto God's perfect will. He was renewing my mind. (Romans 12: 1-2)

I am pleased to report that I came through this roller-coaster ride and knot hole experience of transformation a completely different person. I now had to confess that I had all the attributes of a 'heart-felt Christian' but had no understanding in my soul and mind of who I was in Christ. Once God refracted other leaders of faith into my life, I saw that the imbalance of false humility, prim-and-proper female behaviors, as well Christian behavior had robbed me of who God had called me to be since my birth. I realize that I was so close to missing my destiny, by fighting the change that was taking place in my soul and mind. After coming through this change, God called and allowed me to grow my soul and mind in a rapid manner. What normally would have taken me years to complete was now happening in a matter of months. I literally felt like I was traveling with God and seeing things of revelation that were hid for years. God allowed me to study and become a licensed minister who now walks by faith and spiritual confidence versus fear and emotional torment. Through Christ's reflection and refraction process, I came through





1. Can you reflect upon a time as a young girl that God was speaking to you in a special way? \_\_\_\_\_ What was God speaking to you? \_\_\_\_\_ . Would you enjoy going back to that place in time and be reconnected? \_\_\_\_\_ .
  
2. Have you ever put on a mask of the perfect prim and proper Christian woman, wife, mother, and/or Church member? \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Have you ever found times that your life is controlled more by emotion than logic? \_\_\_\_\_. Has this helped or hurt your personal life or relationship life? \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. Do you feel fear controls more of your decisions in life than faith does? \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. Have you ever been challenged by God through the reflection or refraction of another person of faith? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
6. Have you had a similar 'cleansing' experience like I did? Please take your time as you may be able to understand a time period in your life that was purposed by God; but felt like it was from Hell itself: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
7. If you made it through your cleansing, have you been thankful and shared your experience to help other woman? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
8. If you did not come through your cleansing process, but took a detour, do you want to allow God to bring you back through to completeness? \_\_\_\_\_



### Exercise 4.3

As you have probably guessed the completeness that God has for you allows you to reach the greatest command that we stated earlier; *Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind*. The journey to reach this completeness demands that you review what controls your life. This means you must be reflective on your present situation to see what parts of the complete person are easiest to serve God with, versus which parts are difficult

to serve God with. Let's start the process of identification by using a few key scripture passages to connect the worship experience of heart, soul, and mind.

### Scripture Example 1: The Fear Factor

*"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (fear), but a spirit of power, of love, and of sound mind." (II Timothy 1:7)* This scripture passage indicates that God is aware that we need three attributes in our life ... *"Power + Love + A Sound Mind."* These three attributes

#### Challenge Question:

*Read Hebrews 11:6 and Habakkuk 2:5 and list the one thing that God says we will not please him with if we do not possess it?*

---

---

directly correlate to the aspects of *Soul+Heart+Mind*. God knows that these three attributes of power, love, and sound mind will make us a complete person. For this reason, God does not start us out with a spirit of fear. God knows that fear drastically effects our heart, soul, and mind. The fact that God intentionally does not give us the spirit of fear; indicates it has to come from another source. The best way to look at fear is to use faith as its counter-part. The opposite of fear is faith and the opposite of faith is fear. Faith allows us to live in power, love, and sound mind. When we walk out our life in power, in love, and in a sound mind faith rules our behavior and allows us to please God. The more faith we have, the more we advance Christ in our lives. The less faith we have the more fear creeps in and starts pulling us away from the attributes of love, power and sound mind.

The reason the enemy (satan) focuses so hard on putting fear into our mind, is simply that it will hinder our faith; and satan knows that the very thing that pleases God is faith. Hebrews 11:6 states that *'Without faith it is impossible to please God.'* Satan works diligently to place fear in our way to cripple people by putting a mask of fear between a person's heart, mind, soul and God. When fear enters our being it comes into our mind at first, and creates a question or doubt. This is the very process that satan used on Eve; he came into her mind and placed the question in her mind about what God really said about eating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. In fact this is where the '?' symbol comes from. It is a Latin symbol representing the serpents physical figure and what satan did through the serpent. He placed a question in Eve's mind. When questions and doubts are continually lurking in our minds, it soon affects our heart and soul.

The more fear that I operate under, the less faith I will operate within. The personal cleansing that I went through allowed me to remove the fear and doubts in my mind and receive a measure of faith from God. It was then up to me to start building on that faith. I had to live out the passage of scripture that challenges each of us to *"Taste and see that the Lord is good."* I can tell you from experience tasting faith that is pleasing to God is far sweeter and better than the taste of torment that fear brings to a person mind.

*"Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him."  
~ Psalm 34:8*

As you recall one of our challenges is to live a balanced percentage of these attributes. If I live off only a sound mind, and never operate in love, I may end up becoming an intellectual genius, but never experience love. At the same time if I operate only in 'love,' I may be making many bad emotional decisions for my life and family; as a sound mind is required to make sound decisions.

Please use Exercise 4.5 to give an estimation of your balance between Love, power and sound mind



- What % of your life is operated in/from Love \_\_\_\_\_
- What % of your life is operated in/from Power (Soul) \_\_\_\_\_
- What % of your life is operated in/from a sound mind? \_\_\_\_\_
- What % of your life is operated from: \_\_\_\_\_\*? \_\_\_\_\_

(\* ) Fill in the blank with another answer



### Exercise 4.5

Let's assume that if you have a good balance in these three areas, you may be living by faith. This is a logical conclusion based on scripture. Don't panic if you did not rate yourself high in any area except the area of love, as you would be classified as the average person. Let's move into Exercise 4.6, which is the opposite of Exercise 4.5. The two exercises will help you identify how much your life operates in faith or fear.



1. What % of your life is operated from human love \_\_\_\_\_
2. What % of your life is operated from emotional reactions \_\_\_\_\_
3. What % of your life is operated from a indecision and constantly asking other people for advice \_\_\_\_\_



### Exercise 4.6

If you are like most people, you more than likely had more percentages in exercise 4.6 than in exercise 4.5. The whole point of these two exercises is to develop a new focus, new understanding, and transformation in your heart, mind, and soul. If the items in exercise 4.6 were more dominate than the items in Table 4.5 then you have a great need to rid yourself of some fear, and embrace more faith in God.

If you recall back in Journey 1 you were presented with the thought that God was singing and dancing over your life (Zephaniah 3: 17). We also challenged you to sing a song to God. We did this to get you at a higher level of understanding of God's great love for you as a person. Please go back to Journey 1 and reflect on the song .... "I want to sing a song to you Lord," again.

God understands the tormenting power of fear and how important it is for us to have a relationship with Him that allows us to overcome that fear. Read Romans 8:15-17 and meditate on yet another view of how God views you.

*"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of son-ship. And by him we cry, "Abba Father." The Spirit himself*

*testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.” Romans 8: 15-17*

God is so concerned with you that He desires you never to return to being a slave to fear. He would rather have you see yourself as a child of His who like a child crying out 'Abba Father', which means 'Daddy'. Knowing that we can call God 'Daddy' is intended to give you a confidence and faith in Him, which you to escape the spirit of fear.

Let's look at Exercise 4.7 where you will hopefully find out how simple it is to redeem your fear with faith. Faith is the pearl within you; and fear is the irritant. Will you look for your Pearl of faith, and exchange your fear? God gives us opportunity to exchange our fear with faith in Him; what an exchange!



1. When fear has its grip on your mind, you are a slave to it; and fear brings \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 4:18)
2. If fear brings torment, is it your heart or your mind that is tormented? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Once your mind is tormented, the end result is that your heart will \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 21:26)
4. When you walk by faith you are considered a \_\_\_\_\_ person (Habakkuk 2:4, Rom. 1:17; Heb. 10:38 )
5. When you live in fear your mind becomes less \_\_\_\_\_ II Tim. 1:7
6. Faith is the \_\_\_\_\_ of fear; The more faith you have the less fear you will have. The more fear you have the less \_\_\_\_\_ you will have.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is the author of *Faith*
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Is the author of *Fear*
9. If you follow the author of fear, you may find that you do some strange things once in a while, as you are more \_\_\_\_\_ by the author of fear.
10. If you follow the author of faith, you may find that you do some spectacular things because you will \_\_\_\_\_ by the author of faith. And greater works than He did will you do also; your faith will move mountains.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ that is as small as a grain of mustard seed (Matthew 17:20) can remove issues in your life; while a small amount of \_\_\_\_\_ can torment your life for years to come.
12. Considering God is \_\_\_\_\_ over you personally, and He distributes gifts, faith, grace, and love toward you; you can exchange the fears you have with His promises in His word, which will build your faith. (Isaiah 1:18-19)
13. The more you read the Bible and hear Godly messages the more \_\_\_\_\_ that you will begin to possess. (Rom. 10:17)
14. Faith is the pearl within you, while fear is only an irritant that you should not \_\_\_\_\_ too!



**Exercise 4.7**



### Scripture Example 1: The Meteor Factor

Faith and fear are the opposing forces that cause people to bounce around in their mind if the two are intermixed. When we live and operate with a sound mind and know who and what we believe in, we are walking in faith. The best way to describe faith is to think of it as 'belief in action'. This means I will walk out that which I say I believe. Fear on the other hand will always keep me from walking out that which I believe. The best way to describe fear is to think of it as 'Doubt that causes in-action'. When we switch in our minds to focus on both fear and faith, we become what the Bible calls a double-minded person, who is unstable in all their ways. (James 1:8). James uses strong language to get our attention. However, James is desperately trying to get the attention of Christians to stay focused on 'Faith,' and not waiver back n forth, or they will be unstable. Read below and focus on the highlighted words that James uses:

If any of you lacks **wisdom**, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he **must believe** (have faith) and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a **double-minded** man, unstable in all he does. (James 1:5-8)

James understood the importance of the mind, and how wisdom is critical for each of us. He encourages people to ask for wisdom, but warned them that they must have faith, or they are like the sea waves tossed by the wind. That type of person should not expect anything from God.

#### Challenge Question:

*Have you ever felt like your mind, emotions, faith, hope, and/or belief were just like the tossing waves described by James? Write down your most dominate feeling/aspect of life that is always being tossed back and forth. Then answer the question, does fear, faith, or wisdom control that area?*

---

---

---

Jesus is a little kinder in sharing the same concept that James shared. James uses the metaphor of a tossing wave. Jesus uses a metaphor of a meteor. *"And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind." Luke 12:29 (KJV).* The word 'doubtful' in this passage is the word 'meteorizo' which means to raise in mid-air, suspend, fluctuate, be anxious, or be carried about as meteors moved about with the currents, tossed up and down between hope and fear.

I believe if roller coasters were around in James or Jesus' day they would have used the roller coaster as the metaphor. Jesus and James are giving powerful illustrations showing that a person who doubts and/or does not operate in wisdom and faith will live a life that has many of their thoughts, will, and emotions on a roller coaster ride. I was one of these people who had a meteor shower taking place inside my mind, giving my emotions free reign to react to these ups and downs. However, the outward mask of the "prim-and-proper person" allowed me to appear as the 'average good Christian.'

Once I asked God for wisdom by faith; through time, He exchanged my meteor showers with calm, peace and more patience. I was sailing on a more calm sea, and my life was no longer being tossed about as James describes. Doubt when unchecked, may produce more fear in a person. The fear that enters their mind works directly against faith. Even though doubt, risk, concern, and worry are all part of our everyday life, we must learn how to deal with it, before the build-up becomes a tormenting faith. When I take my doubts, risks, concerns, and worries and weigh them against God's proven track record with me, I generally find that the doubt starts to flee from me. However, when I let my imagination run with the doubt, I begin to let my mind doubt the proven track record that God has already demonstrated through my life. For this reason, the Apostle Paul warns us to cast out all imaginations or pretensions in our mind. These imaginations will allow us to give satan too much attention and too much credit for controlling my actions. These imaginations and thoughts work against the knowledge of God and lead people to be disobedient to Christ. Disobedience in this context, is simply letting fear control my mind and thoughts and not giving God due credit for the knowledge of God's faithfulness to us.

*"We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." ~ II Cor. 10:5*

I can recall that before I gave over (exchanged) my mind, thoughts, will, and emotions to faith versus fear, I would spend hours a day letting my mind operate in fear. For instance, I would pre-mediate in advance how people were going to disappoint me. My favorite target was my husband. I would give him a task to complete and set an expectation before him; and then in my mind 'plan-out' in advance, how I was going to let him have it when he disappointed me. My mind was in control of a negative and fearful pretension. I was playing out and pretending before it really happened. In some cases I was able to lash out at my husband just the way I pre-meditated it, but for the most part I wasted far too many hours operating in doubt and fear for no reason.

It wasn't until years later that I realized that I was a wiser person if I would start praying a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing over my husband, kids, and family versus worrying over them. This was revolutionary to my life. It proved the knowledge of God in my life, while making me obedient unto Christ. I realized that if my husband was not blessed, I could not be blessed. I even went so far as to say, "if my enemies can't be blessed then I can't be blessed." This may help some of you who think that your spouse and kids are your enemies. If I could live my life completely over again, I would live more pure to God's Word and bless those who curse me. This is way too simple of a concept; no wonder God created it.

**Personal Pearls of Wisdom**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" ~Matthew 5:44-45*

When I started blessing people and thanking God for them and their circumstances, the things that were once my irritants became a **Pearl Within** me!

Please take some time and complete exercise 4.8 that will help summarize what we just discussed.



1. Faith can be described as Faith in \_\_\_\_\_; Where I act out, or walk out that which I claim to believe.
2. Fear can be described as doubt in \_\_\_\_\_; where I worry or doubt so much that I never take action on the things I believe.
3. God desires all of us to have wisdom, but we must ask for it in \_\_\_\_\_. If I do not ask in faith, I should not expect to receive anything from \_\_\_\_\_. (James 1:5-7)
4. When I doubt about what I ask God for, I am like the waves of the sea driven with the wind and \_\_\_\_\_ about. (James 1:5-7)
5. Our minds are powerful tools that allow us to take our false thoughts and imaginations captive; and bring ourselves into the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.



#### Exercise 4.8

#### Summary

This Journey on the mind has included a lot of thought provoking information. Some of it may take time to process, and may be worth going over again. The Journey was a revelation to expand your understanding that we must be balanced and worship/serve God with more than a heart-felt system. We must be willing to develop our mind, soul, and heart and serve God with them. The Apostle Peter adds his thoughts on the balance of the things we are to obtain in order to live a clear life. Listen to this portion of scripture that almost reads as a quote:

*"For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith, goodness;  
And to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control;  
And to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;  
And to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.  
For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you  
from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus  
Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind,  
and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins."*

*~II Peter 1:5-9*

Notice in this passage that there are seven steps that arrive at love, but it has to start with faith and pass through the knowledge of the mind. These seven steps validate much of what has been spoken of in this Journey. It closes with mentioning that we need to possess all the qualities in increasing measure, or we will be ineffective, unproductive, nearsighted, and blind. If we start with love and only grow in love, we will be very lopsided, ineffective, with no self-control.

To try and help identify with the importance of growing in all areas, specifically our mind through knowledge and wisdom, I want to leave you with a few things to consider.

1. The Bible shares that people may die or be destroyed by lacking two things. The two things are knowledge and vision. knowledge and vision stem from our minds. This means that I risk a whole lot if I choose to be of a limited mind and grow only in heart-felt things.
  - a. *"Where there is no vision, the people perish..." Proverbs 29: 18 (KJV)*
  - b. *"My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge." Hosea 4:6*
2. God desires us to walk worthy of Him. In order to walk worthy of Him I must increase in bearing fruit and knowledge of God.
  - a. *"And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God." Colossians. 1: 10*
3. If I desire to have a stable and peaceful mind then I need to keep my eyes focused on God; showing that I trust and have faith in Him.
  - a. *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Isaiah 26:3 (KJV)*

Please reflect on the following question in exercise 4.9 and then spend some time journaling your notes and thoughts from this Journey on the Mind.

	True	False
A person who doubts everything they do will live a stable and peaceful life?		
A person who attempts to control people and circumstances is living a life of faith?		
A person who lives in fear is listening more to God than the voice of the enemy?		
A person who lives by faith is listening more to God than the voice of the enemy?		
A person who switches between fear and faith on a regular basis is considered a double-minded person?		
A person who switches between fear and faith will do great things at times, and strange things at other times?		
Heart-felt Christianity by itself is a lopsided view of the whole Christian person who is to grow in heart, mind, and soul?		
Without faith, it is impossible to please God? (Hebrews 11:6)		
A fearful person is generally a controlling person? Think hard on this.		
A faith driven person is generally a 'blessed' person?		
When emotions rule your life, you may not be living a balanced life with your entire heart, mind, and soul?		
There must have been a good reason that Jesus said the greatest commandment was to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul.		
Possibly God puts the command in place to provide a way to make sure we are developing the whole person, so we could live a balanced life?		
If your mask were removed today, would someone find a person of		

complete faith, with just a few wrinkles of fear?		
If your mask were removed today, would someone find a person who is controlled by fear, worry, and doubt?		
If you asked your family to be completely honest with you, would they say your life is ruled by faith more than fear?		
Do you believe the concept of the following quote: "Whatever you hold in your mind will tend to occur in your life? If you continue to believe as you have always believed, you will continue to act as you have always acted. If you continue to act as you have always acted, you will continue to get what you have always gotten. If you want different results in your life or your work, all you have to do is change your mind." ~ Unknown		
Through this Journey on the Mind have you found or polished the Pearl of faith within you?		

**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.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# 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