

Session #7 – “On Earth As It Is in Heaven: Keeping It Real”
(Matthew 6:1-13)

The Anti-dote to “Selfie” Religion (religious forms/practices with “me” at the center) – Matt 6:1-13

- A lesson/prayer AGAINST something: Unreal, inauthentic “faith” – Is 29:13
- A lesson/prayer FOR something: The end of that un-real world – Matt 6:6,8
 - ...the posture that opens the door to God’s reality: humility – I Pet 5:6
 - ...the perspective gained from that posture: heavenly – Matt 6:10; II Pet 1:3,4
 - ...the purpose: participation in authentic life – Jo 10:10

Unreality on Earth, Inauthenticity in the Church, due to:

- Un-received Life – Jo 1:11,12
- Un-released Life – Jo 1:12; 7:38
 - ...reality, authenticity is the “consequence” of freely receiving and fully releasing the Life of Christ – Col 1:27

First, We Must Receive Real Life: The Eternal Life of Our Father through His Son Jesus Christ – Jo 3:16

- We can never produce what only God can provide – Jo 15:5
 - ...in the kingdom of God we become what we receive – Jo 1:12
- We receive real life by grace through faith – Eph 2:8
 - ...“grace”: God’s activity in behalf of man – II Cor 5:21; Ro 5:10; 6:5-11
 - ...“faith”: our receptivity of God’s activity – Ga 2:16,20; 3:26
- We become “new creations” – II Cor 5:17 (someone not there before!)
 - ...rectified: put back on course – Gen 1:26; I Cor 11:7; Eph 4:24
 - ...fully and perfectly saved – Col 2:9,10; II Pet 1:3,4

(Kingdom citizens empowered by the strength of Christ to live for the glory of God – Matt 6:13)

Then, His Life (in us) Must Be Released – Matt 10:8

- Living authentically is always responsive – Ro 10:17

...we are invited into the “obedience of faith” – Ro 1:5; 16:26; Matt 6:10

...His is a life that “flows” – Jo 7:38

- Calls for:

...the willingness to be adjusted to God’s Truth, God’s Reality – Jo 17:17; Ro 12:2; Col 3:17

...the willingness to release His Life... in the “life” we are in – Ps 118:24; Eph 5:20; Ja 1:2-4; Jo 16:33; Ro 8:28-29

(the daily tension of the “earthlies” is meant to provide our opportunity to release the “heavenlies” – Matt 6:10; Eph 1:3)

An Example: The Release of His Loving Life – Ga 2:20; I Jo 4:8 (“on earth as it is in heaven”)

- **A**ct humbly before one another – Phil 2:3; I Pet 5:5 (No “strutters” in heaven!)

...we drop our “demands” for life on our terms – Eph 5:21

- **B**less one another liberally – Ro 12:10,14; I Pet 3:9 (No “curses” in heaven!)

...gifts of affirmation, open hearts, celebration – Eph 4:27,29

- **C**over one another freely – I Pet 5:8; Ja 5:20 (No one “uncovered” in heaven!)

...we make each other at home in the love of God – I Jo 4:7,11,18,19

- **D**emonstrate the intercessory love of Christ – I Cor 12:31; Ro 5:8 (No one in heaven living for themselves!)

...we identify with God’s interests in others – I Jo 3:16

= the only “story” Satan can write is fiction – Jo 8:44; Ro 1:25

= the only “story” God will write is Truth (a real life story) – Heb 6:18; Jo 8:32; 18: 37; I Jo 5:20