

# Free From "The Real Problem"



**"All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on him."**

**Isaiah 53:6 (NASB)**

**Part 1: Becoming Relationally Free  
Session 2: Free From "The Real Problem"**

**Freedom**

*Becoming Fully Alive!*



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# Freedom

*Becoming Fully Alive!*

## *PART 1: Becoming Relationally Free*

- |                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Session 1</b> | <b>Free To Be The Real You</b>      |
| <b>Session 2</b> | <b>Free From The Real Problem</b>   |
| <b>Session 3</b> | <b>The Price Of Freedom</b>         |
| <b>Session 4</b> | <b>Free To Forgive</b>              |
| <b>Session 5</b> | <b>Free To Reconcile</b>            |
| <b>Session 6</b> | <b>Free To Confront</b>             |
| <b>Session 7</b> | <b>Free To Love And To Be Loved</b> |



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# I. FREE FROM “THE REAL PROBLEM”

## A. WHAT IS GOD’S PLAN FOR MAN?

“To **know, love, glorify and worship** Him forever.”\*

1. Genesis 1:26-27
2. Isaiah 43:7
3. Romans 11:36
4. I Corinthians 10:31
5. Revelation 4:11
6. Psalm 73:25-28
7. Psalm 95:6-7
8. I Corinthians 1:9

“Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.” \*

(\* Taken from The Westminster Shorter Catechism)

To summarize: **DEVOTION TO GOD**

## B. HOW MAN FELL SHORT OF THE BEAUTY OF GOD’S PLAN

### 1. Sin

- a. Genesis 3:1-6; 7-13
- b. Romans 3:23
- c. Isaiah 53:6
- d. Romans 5:12

### 2. Man’s chief “problem” - sin

- a. The “self-life” or the “**me-first life**”
- b. **Man is not basically “good”** (as the world would have us believe)
  - 1) Jeremiah 17:9

2) Romans 3:10

3) Isaiah 53:6

4) Isaiah 64:6

To summarize: **DEVOTION TO SELF**

**C. “ME-FIRST” HAS MANY “FLAVORS”**

**1. Pride**

Romans 12:3

Proverbs 3:7

James 4:1-10

**2. Fear of man**

Proverbs 29:25

**3. Idolatry**

Exodus 20:3

I John 5:21

**4. Judging others**

Matthew 7:1-5

**5. Jealousy**

Galatians 5:20

I Samuel 18:9

**6. Anger, resentment, bitterness, hatred, unforgiveness, etc.**

Galatians 5:20-21

Ephesians 4:26-32

Colossians 3:8

James 3:14-16

**7. Trying to Control Life**

**D. THE EFFECTS OF “ME-FIRST”**

**1. On one’s self - affects the spirit, soul, and body**

- a. Galatians 6:7-8
- b. Ezekiel 18:4
- c. Hebrews 12:15
- d. Proverbs 14:30
- e. I Chronicles 10:13
- f. Proverbs 11:19
- g. Luke 13:3

**2. On others and relationships**

- a. Rejection
- b. Hurt
- c. Broken relationships
- d. Division
- e. Confusion
- f. Injury
- g. Death

## II. APPLICATION

- A. How would you put into words what you believe God's plan is for man?
  
- B. How would you describe how man fell short of the beauty of God's plan?

*Please fill-in the chart entitled "The Effects Of Me-First" as you write out your answers to the following questions:*

- C. Can you identify any example(s) of "Me-First" in your life? Which one(s)?
  
- D. How do you see this/these example(s) of "Me-First" affecting you?
  
- E. How do you believe this/these example(s) of "Me-First" is/are affecting others and your relationship with them?
  
- F. How do you believe this/these example(s) of "Me-First" is/are affecting your relationship with God?
  
- G. In light of your response to the above questions, would you be willing to turn from the way(s) that your life has been devoted to self and embrace the beauty of God's plan for you - a life fully devoted to Him?  
If so, please write out your prayer of repentance to God.

# The Effects Of “Me-First”

<b>“FLAVORS”</b>	<b>YOU</b>	<b>OTHERS</b>	<b>GOD</b>
<b>Pride</b>			
<b>Fear of man</b>			
<b>Idolatry</b>			
<b>Judging others</b>			
<b>Jealousy</b>			
<b>Anger, resentment, bitterness, hatred, unforgiveness</b>			
<b>Trying to control life</b>			