

For some it is food, others money, some pleasure, maybe rest. You may feel that given enough of these things you will find life, but the Bible has a very different answer to give. God himself is the source and sustainer of life. Jesus said, *"I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."* (John 6:33 & 35)

God gave 'manna' in the wilderness and sustained his people for 40 years, today He gives his 'heavenly manna' Jesus to sustain his people, yet many fail to feed on him and in consequence are dissatisfied, hungry and are filling themselves with 'things' that do not give life.

Increasingly I meet Christians who have lost contact with Jesus. They have no intimacy, they fail to read his Word for themselves, and they become spiritually weak and begin to talk as if the fault lies with God.

You and I need a living connection with Jesus, he is our life and we cannot function without – His Word, His Spirit, His direction – all that He is flowing into us. God told Moses, *"Man does not live by bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord"* (Deuteronomy 8:3) Spiritual beings need spiritual food in order to function and remain healthy.

God wants to impart a living word to you on a daily basis – something to feed you, something for you to chew on. I read through the Bible each year and I constantly expect to have new understanding, even of very familiar passages. At times I can spend quality time reading and praying when it is easy and a real joy. Sometimes it is more of a discipline and feels as if I am going

Joyce WRITES



what is your
Life
source?



through the motions, but even then the Holy Spirit will surprise me, speak a verse or phrase into my mind that will buzz around, and become important at a later time.

Some years ago I was at a conference in Scandinavia, and as I looked at the gathered people, all of whom were well dressed and well fed, I suddenly saw skeletal figures, emaciated and half-dead. I quickly asked the Lord about what I was seeing and He said, *"The outside might look OK, but these people are dying of starvation. They are not feeding themselves spiritually with the same care as they do physically."* Later as I prayed with individuals, I discovered what God said was true. These were people who loved Jesus, but had no personal daily feeding time, and as a result had so many unmet needs.

Some of us were taught to have a daily time set apart, preferably early in the day when we could meet with God and tap into his resources. Some felt this to be just boring routine and chose extra time in bed. There are different ways of connecting with the Lord – the how is not as important as the when. I encourage you to read God's Word daily, to expect the Holy Spirit to feed you what you need for today. It says in Psalm 5:3, *"In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation."*

Our youngest grandson has just started on solid food – experiencing new tastes and eagerly opening his mouth to be fed. The results are visible, he is growing, putting on weight and developing.

Don't neglect your life source.

INVESTING IN Children

Joyce and I were invited by Judith Butler, who is the pastor of the Kingdom Faith South West Church in Taunton, to speak to their whole Church on three Thursdays prior to Easter on the subject "Investing in Children." It was more than a parenting course, as Judith wanted all her people to share in the responsibility of raising their children. It used to be said that it took a "whole village to raise a child", but for us there needed to be the understanding that it takes a "whole church to raise a child". We had great fun, the teaching was very practical, and we were able to share the stories of our failures as well as successes. We were amazed by the response to our teaching; what had become familiar to us was revelation to those who attended. This whole teaching series is available on our website to download or to listen on line. If you need a set of CD's these are available from Kingdom Faith SW, you can buy these through their website.

Go today to www.the222trust.org.uk and download this teaching.



WORD



PURPOSE



POWER



LOVE