

#10 Welcoming

Paul J. Bucknell

- This Life (1:4) came into the world and identifies this Life and Light as Jesus Christ in John 1:14.

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God” (John 1:12-13).

- God birthed in them His Spirit and brought that new life into existence.

Being a Good Host

- What’s the difference between a good host and a poor one?

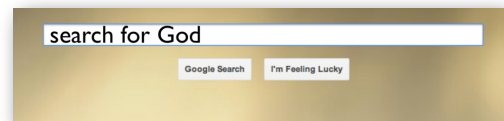
- ➔ Guest-focused
- ➔ On personal needs
- ➔ Of the guest’s plans

- With faith, there is life.

“And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him” (Heb 11:6).

Searching for God

- ➔ Without faith, there is no spiritual life. God said of King Rehoboam, “He did evil because he did not set his heart to seek the LORD” (2 Chronicles 12:14).



Our Lessons

- The believer not only initially welcomes Jesus into His life at its beginning (i.e. salvation) but throughout his life continually seeks to deepen his awareness of Christ Jesus who now lives in him.
- Faith arises from that new nature that God gives us. A growing faith represents our conscious acknowledgement and welcoming of God’s presence and work in our lives.

Our Applications

- ➡ Return your thoughts to when God first opened your heart to respond to Him. Reflect on John 1:12-13 and how you then opened your heart to Him.

- ➡ Think about your past week. In what ways, have you sought out the Lord? How important was it to you?