



July 1, 2020

Accessing the Life of God

(1) Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. (2) Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. (3) For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. (Colossians 3:1-3)

Countless people live practically as if God does not exist, and what results is the life of God remains shut off from them. We must understand that we interact with all the sources of power in the universe through our minds. When learning to drive a car, it is through the mind I become knowledgeable about things like the steering wheel, the gas and brake pedals, maneuvering my car on the road, parking, and so on. If I do not choose to use my mind to understand and interact with them, then the power of driving remains shut off from me.

In the same way, it is through my mind that I learn how to make a cake, fix a clogged drain, grow plants in a garden, or develop a new skill at work. I can use my mind in combination with knowledge on a specific subject matter to do any number of practical things. We are not talking about anything mysterious, this happens all around us in the course of our normal life. Recently I visited a cousin who over the course of 10+ years has taken the old farm that my father grew up on and brought about a great transformation to the house, barn, buildings, and whole property. He and his wife did it by devoting their minds to that task. It required great sacrifice on their part, but by setting their minds on that pursuit it organized their lives, and over the course of many years and countless ups and downs, something truly amazing was accomplished.

This is no less true in our knowledge of God. We bring the reality of God into our lives by making contact with him through our minds, and our actions are shaped by the understanding that takes place as we engage Him evermore fully. This is why the mind, and what we turn our minds to, is the key that unlocks our lives. We see it all around us, in numerous ordinary and extraordinary ways in our own experience. The great invitation is to set our minds on things above, to allow who God is and the way He acts in his world to start organizing our lives around him.

Practice: *Consider a hobby, skill, or interest that you view as a particular strength or blessing in your life. As it has developed over time, reflect on the ways your mind played a central role in organizing your life towards this pursuit. Carry this insight into an area of your life in which you need to experience the reality of God. How would setting your mind upon God and His leadership begin to organize your life?*

Your Servant for Jesus' Sake,