

FRUITS COOL 1/8

MAY 10TH // PS. FERDY

“LOVE OF THE WORD AND NEW BIRTH”

Tie-In: The overall focus of Part I of SWORD is why and how to meditate on the Word. The overall focus of the “Fruits” COOL is the fruit of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit is our evidence of new birth, but before learning about this fruit, this session shows us why we instinctively know that we need new birth. If we understand that we need new birth, we’ll understand why we must take whatever journey it takes to get there.

Takeaway: In this session, we learn that everyone of us, as human beings, need to experience new birth. We all have different reasons, but we all instinctively believe that we must be transformed from who we are. We have the opportunity as believers to experience this because we have the promise that Christ lives in us and not our old selves. We can experience new birth, but we must listen to Christ to experience it by meditating on God’s Word.

Original notes in black.

Notes taken during COOL in orange.

1 WHY DO WE NEED NEW BIRTH?

- How can the Word bring us new birth?
- Before we can answer that: Do we need new birth in the first place?
- **Let’s say you are rich, you have everything you could possibly want out of life, do you still need new birth?**
 - Yes, humans need to grow and change and learn
 - Yes, there exists a hole inside us that can only be filled by God.
 - Yes, we are spiritual beings and our spirit needs new birth to be fulfilled.
 - Yes, because the world and sin pull you back unless you are being born again.
 - Yes, because we want to go to heaven.

2 WHAT DOES THE WORLD SAY?

PSALMS 1:1-2 (NLT)

“I Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers.

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2 But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night.”

- The wicked world thinks that wealth gives us joy.
 - The wealthy think that they win, but they really lose big time.
 - You may get ruined in the process of being “blessed” financially.
- **What type of value do you actually want to bring into your life?**

3 CHRIST LIVES IN YOU

GALATIANS 2:20 (NIV)

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

- What does it mean to have Christ live in you?
 - You no longer live to benefit yourself.
- If you are a believer, your life isn’t really yours to live anymore.
- **We need new birth because we are supposed to live like Christ now lives in us.** The value we bring into our life should be measured by the standards of Jesus.
- We need new birth because we want Christ to live in us.

4 LISTEN TO HIM: LOVE OF THE WORD

MATTHEW 17:1-5 (NIV)

1 “After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

2 There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

3 Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

4 Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

*5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “**This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!**”*

- God tells us plainly here: Listen to Jesus. Jesus is the Word of God made flesh. We listen to Jesus by listening to God’s Word.
- If we truly believe that we need new birth, then listen to the Word.

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- **By meditating on the Word, we listen to what Jesus wants from us, and we start living as if Christ lives in us. That is the only way to achieve new birth.**