

# The HEARING OF Faith

LIVING STREAM MINISTRY RADIO NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 68, DECEMBER 2003

*"He therefore who bountifully supplies to you the Spirit . . . does He do it out of the works of the law or out of the hearing of faith?" Galatians 3:5*

## In

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Dear Life-study Listener,

We enjoyed our time in Seattle with some of you during the seminar there on November 9. It's so good for us to get out of the studios in Anaheim to see our listeners in person. How refreshing it was to see the hunger of God's people for the riches of this ministry. We pray the Lord will open up many more doors in the coming days.

Each month in the *Hearing of Faith* we bring you "The Path of Life," our entire fourth page, featuring excerpts from this ministry on matters and practices of the spiritual life as revealed in God's Word. A few of those practices are so vital that we elected to also dedicate three months to focus on them in our article on page one. Calling upon the name of the Lord and pray-reading the Word of God are simple practices, but many believers have not yet discovered them. So we hope you find our "What Is" articles on calling on the name of the Lord (both last month and this month) and pray-reading (next month) helpful in your daily experience of the Lord.

Recently a few the stations that broadcast *Life-study of the Bible* were either sold or changed their format, so we have gone off the air in those places. Some of you have inquired about this, and we can only ask for your continued prayers to keep this ministry on the airwaves. It seems these decisions are out of our control, but we should not underestimate the power of our prayer.

*Living Stream Ministry*

## WHAT IS CALLING ON THE LORD? PART 2

In Acts 22 where Paul recounts the day of his conversion, he repeated the instructions given to him then by Ananias, "Rise up and be baptized and wash away your sins, *calling on His name*" (v. 16). The significance of this particular counsel Ananias gave Saul that day can be easily understood when connected to the record of Saul's conversion in Acts 9. Earlier, Saul had witnessed the stoning of Stephen and heard the cry of this faithful martyr as

*(continued on page 3)*

### **Life-Study of the Bible**

W E L C O M E S

BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

KCPR 89.1 FM

2:30 A.M. DAILY

9:00 A.M.

6:00 P.M.

8:30 P.M.

11:00 P.M.

## CALLING ON THE LORD *(continued from page 1)*

he called upon the Lord, saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” (7:59). In Saul’s determined persecution of the church, he received authority from the chief priests to bind all those who *called upon the name of Jesus* (9:14), and he was known throughout the synagogues as “the one who ravaged those who *call upon this name* in Jerusalem” (v. 21). From this record, it is clear that one identifying trait of the early New Testament believers was their calling upon the Lord’s name. Eventually, as Paul testifies, he also became a lover of Jesus who called upon His name.

In Genesis 4, a record of the progression of the fall of mankind, the concluding verse says, “And to Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time men began to call upon the name of Jehovah” (v. 26). The name *Enosh*

*How great a gift  
is the name  
of the Lord Jesus  
given to us  
believers!*

means “frail, mortal man.” Knowing the meaning of *Enosh* helps us understand the preciousness of this simple practice of calling on the Lord’s name. We who are so frail and who suffer the distresses, troubles, sorrows and pains of human life can simply cry out the name of our Lord Jesus just as the

Old Testament saints called upon Jehovah, the name of God in His intimate relationship with man.

The Lord’s lovers and seekers have always suffered misunderstanding in their pursuit of a closer relationship with Him. There are some who are skeptical about this matter of calling on the Lord’s name, which has a rich history and solid base throughout the Scriptures. They misunderstand and some even misrepresent this precious way to contact the Lord, which is to call on the name of our Savior who is a living Person. We call on the Lord’s dear name because we love Him. Our calling on Him helps us turn our heart to Him amid this evil age filled with distractions.

How great a gift is the name of the Lord Jesus given to us believers! In the words of a beloved hymn, what better way to turn our eyes upon Jesus and cause the things of earth to grow strangely dim than to call upon the name that is above every name (Phil. 2:9)! By the simple act of calling upon His name, we have the most practical way to live the Christian life. No wonder Paul told Timothy, “Flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Tim. 2:22). May we experience the riches and sweetness of the Lord Jesus by calling on His name and say, as did F.W. Faber in his famous hymn, “O Jesus, Jesus, dearest Lord! Forgive me if I say, for very love, Thy sacred name a thousand times a day.”

For further reading on this subject, please see *Enjoying the Riches of Christ for the Building up of the Church As the Body of Christ*, chapter twelve, by Witness Lee, published by Living Stream Ministry.

## DEALING WITH OUR INWARD PARTS FOR THE GROWTH IN LIFE

*by Witness Lee*

*If we read the entire Scriptures carefully, we will realize that they convey only one main item: the economy of God and the mark of God’s economy. The main item of the economy of God is that God’s intention is to work Himself in His Triune person into all the parts of our being. I have the burden to tell the Lord’s children a thousand times, if need be, that in the whole universe God’s intention is nothing else but to work Himself into human beings.*

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