JANUARY 2023 GUIDE NO . 01

# THE NEW CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE



## SEEK TO SEE, BE, AND LIVE AS GOD IMAGINES



THE BEING ACADEMY'S OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP GUIDE UPDATED



you knitted me together in my mother's womb. my soul knows it very well. made in secret. intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes How vast is the sum of them! If I would count them, they are more than the sand. O men of blood, depart from me! They speak against you with malicious intent; And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? I Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead

Psalm 139: 13 - 24

## CONTENTS



### Monsters In Disneyland, p3

Sometimes life feels like a never-ending story of defeating monsters loose in Disneyland.

### A Vision of Life As God Imagines, p6

Experience many transcendental awe-inspiring moments

The Spiritual Wealth Promises of God, p9

Resting in the promises of God

## This Is War: Spiritually Speaking p11

Our sword is The Word of God.

## Intro to The New Christian Experience p14

A new vision for life as a Christian.

## The Birth of The Being Academy p23

Build a life immune to all the monsters in the Disneyland of your heart





## **Building Spiritual Wealth p26**

Practical approach to living life on Earth as it is in Heaven

### Lifestyle of The Spiritually Wealthy p28

Exercise your faithfulness on a day-to-day basis

### Join The Academy p30

An interactive spiritual wealth platform

## **About The Author**

Meet The Academy Founder and Chief Creative Officer: Clarissa Joan Middleton



## **Monsters In Disneyland**

Clarissa Joan Middleton

Sometimes life feels like a never-ending story of defeating monsters loose in Disneyland. You and I, we are here, alive. Our sperm won the creation Olympic Trials. Our egg was not aborted, defective, or pre-maturely produced to a degree of death. Our bodies made it safely through our mother's birth canals, and we breathed our first breath.

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We are human beings living in a space and place of great promise, hope, and pleasure. We've been gifted planet Earth, a gigantic ball with unlimited access to heart thumping wave pools, water slides, merry go rounds, roller coasters, lots of friends to laugh with, and exciting universal adventures to explore. Planet Earth, as created by God, has lots of opportunities for us humans to enjoy this ride called life just like Disneyland and Disney World. Genesis, chapter one of the Holy Bible, outlines God's intent for our experience, as human beings.. We were made to please God. This means, we ourselves must lead pleasing lives. In the beginning, all of creation was made to live well in a resort style destination setup called The Garden of Eden. The word Eden means pleasure, paradise, place of abundance, and Heaven.

Earth was made to be Heaven's garden where the fruit of the spirit has unlimited capacity to grow in a diverse range of shapes, colors, and formations, Earth is the first playground. It was designed for Heaven's joy.

Human beings were created in God's image to take care of God's Heavenly garden. We were placed in Eden to love, learn, grow, rest, play, and have multiple orgasmic experiences supporting one another along the way.



Yet, the year is 2022 and there is war. We just cannot seem to get along and enjoy each other's company. There is poverty. We have yet to properly manage the wealth of the land. There is disease. We struggle to care for ourselves and each other well.

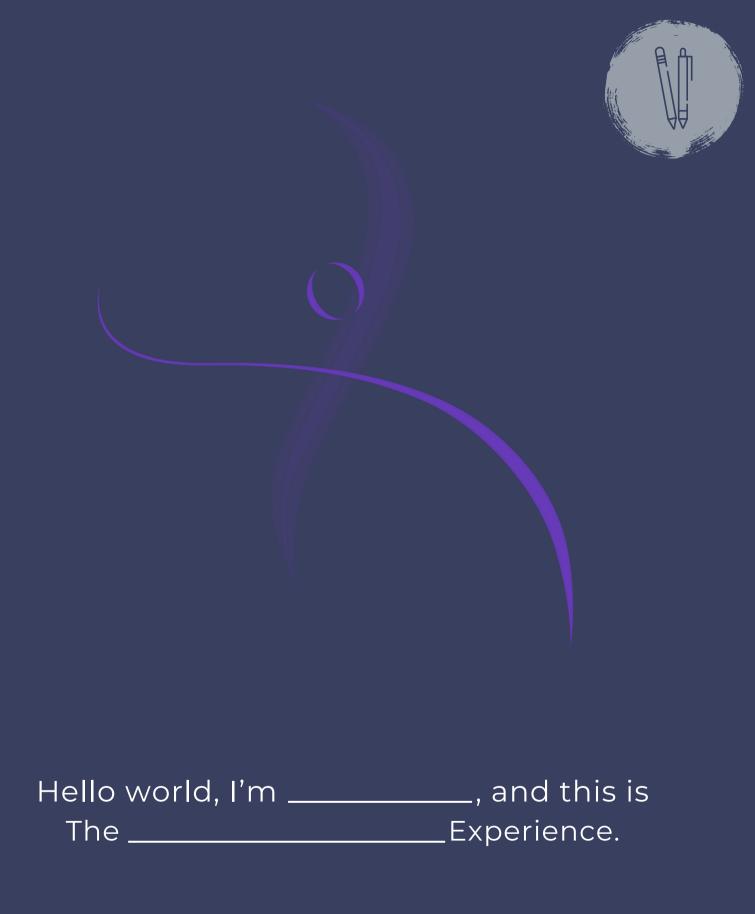
There is rape and sexism. We do not honor women and the holy work of bearing and caring for life. There is classicism and racism. We have not accepted the diverse range of God's image bearers. There is famine physically and spiritually throughout Earth. The bread of life does not reach all tables on a consistent enough basis to maintain global wellness and individual wellbeing. As a collective, we lack the vision, intention, and means to live as God imagines.

I call this monsters in Disneyland! How can we ever enjoy this ride called life in abundance as God intended? How do we build spiritual warfare strategies to love our lives no matter what?

How do we tap into the promises of our Lord and savior Jesus?

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

- John 10:10



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# AVision Of Life As God Imagines

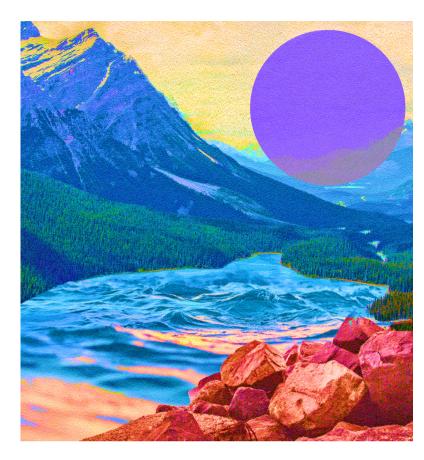
"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

#### - The Lord's Prayer

Are we all in agreement that abundance, goodness, and living a life on Earth that we love always in all ways is possible and a worthy pursuit?

If we were in agreement about this with God, Jesus, and each other, what would life truly be like on Earth? Would it finally be God's kingdom come, God's will be done?

Throughout my lifetime, I've been blessed to experience many transcendental aweinspiring moments. These are the experiences where my heart is pure, I am fully aware of what matters to Heaven whether it brings me joy or grief, and my state of being has full capacity to rise up in loving support of these matters.



#### These sweet moments are identified by:

- 1. Divine Wisdom
- 2. Growth Mindset and Personal Intention
- 3. Provisions/Resources
- 4. Tension Free Physical State
- 5. Dignity & Respect
- 6. Joy & Gratitude
- 7. Increase and Reciprocity
- 8. Community

I truly appreciate every God gifted moment I've been able to walk through the doors of promise and capture a glimpse of Heaven on Earth. Though my days are not perfect or ideal, I do awake every morning to many signs and wonders reflecting back to me how God's fingerprint has molded and shaped my existence. It is also clear to me in what ways I still need to confess my sins, declare my faith, and have more courage to seek to see and be everything God dreamed, imagined, and conceived as me in the Heavens before placing me in my mother's womb. "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:14



## That

# **Spiritual Wealth**

I have not always been privy to this way of being. It has actually taken me over a decade to build a lifestyle acclimated to pursuing the promises of God in my life on a daily basis. I did not even know God cared about how I lived my life everyday sans me not being immoral or heinous. I was 26 years old and at my lowest point when true salvation, the preservation of one's soul not just in the Heaven's but on Earth, began to reveal its plausibility to me. I live, now, as a child of God and a lifelong seeker of unconditional love and divine goodness, the inheritance of all God's children.

If you have faith in the goodness and unconditional love of God, this guide will maximize your capacity to identify, appreciate, prioritize, and rest in the promises of God. These are the blessings our faith declares as the believer's inheritance. At The Being Academy, we call this *Spiritual Wealth*.

# The Spiritual Wealth Promises of God:

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

the ground."

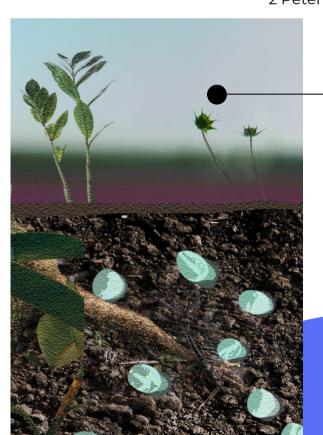
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All things can and will work for your good when you love God and seek to answer the call and purpose on your life.

Romans 8:26 - 31

05. You matter, you are important, you are priceless, you carry a seed of greatness inside you. This greatness comes from God and is a gift to you and others. You loving and tending to the seed of God inside you will make it grow and overflow into goodness for all of creation to experience.

2 Peter 1:3-10



You, male and female, are fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God to live a very good life.

> Genesis 1:26 - 28 Psalm 139:14 John 17

02.

01.

You have no need for worry or anxiety. If you seek 1st the Kingdom of Love, in all your ways, all good things will be added unto you.

Matthew 6:24 - 33

03.

You are loved, you are love, and you were made to love and be loved. Experiencing and relating to love, of God, ourselves, and each other always in all ways is the core principle of all existence.

> 1 John 4: 7 - 13 1 Corinthians 13: 1 - 8

> > Page 9

These are not all of the promises of God, of course they get very personal and specific in granularity as we start to apply them to our unique cultural and individual lived experiences.

These promises are just the beginning, but a very good beginning indeed.

At The Being Academy, we enhance our members efforts to see their life through God's view. Our books, interactive media, spiritual care packages, e\*courses, wellness tools, workshops, and spiritual advisory sessions are all designed to help believers breakdown how The Spiritual Wealth Promises of God are being made manifested through their lived experiences.

What do you do when you've been promised that all of your dreams can come true, and yet the manifestation of these dreams lies on the other side of cutting off a monster's head.

If what we say about God is true, then the whole Earth is The Garden of Eden and good for its inhabitants. Instead of fighting about imaginary lines to determine what is good land and what is bad land, what is a good job and what is a bad job, who are the good people and who are the bad people, we should strive and war only to eat from the tree of life.

This is the tree of love, faith, trust, joy, harmony, goodness, and peace. The fruit of this tree, unlike the tree of Knowledge of Good and evil that brought mankind into judgement and sin, says that all things can be worked for our good when we attune our lives to God's purpose and abide in God's love.

## This Is War: Spiritually Speaking



Are you a warrior? Do you know how to fight? Are you ready for war; because there will be blood. In order to live life on Earth as it is in Heaven, we have to destroy everything in our atmosphere that rises up against God's promises. We have to kill doubt, anger, shame, bitterness, jealousy, fear, envy, rage, chaos, loneliness, sorrow, and pride. The bible says:

Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

The good news is that Jesus already shed his blood for us. All we need to do is believe this and walk into our inheritance. We do this by faith, focus, and obedience to God's Word.

When we began to acknowledge ourselves as children of God and faithfully walk towards the promises of God in our lives, we will face resistance. We will face the monsters of doubt, shame, fear, and frustration as we wrestle to mature ourselves in our faith. In the end, every monster blocking our path must be confronted like David beat Goliath. It's head must be chopped off by our sword.

For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete. - 1 Corinthians 10: 3 - 6

Page 11



## the Word of God

is our sword

Our sword is The Word of Cod. If you take nothing else from this guide, this declaration from Hebrews 4 is our impartation to you. If you become proficient in nothing else in life, master this:

Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two- edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. - Hebrews 4:11 - 16

There is a double-minded subtle trickster running wild on Earth tempting the

children of God daily to walk away from their promises. It's this monster that speaks ill of you, tells you that you are not worthy to live a very good life, that you don't matter, that your dreams are not possible, and that no one loves you or cares enough about you to help you walk towards your God given destiny. These are all lies, and these monstrous influences over the children of God must die. What I'm saying might sound like a very strange horror story, but it is actually the overarching narrative of the life of a believer in the Holy Bible.

Not one writer in the Bible lived a good life without conquering the devil's murderous attempts on their promises. Heaven on Earth requires daily combat in our inner (womb)man.

From the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelations, God's true design for civilization is a much more grandiose and beautiful macrocosm of the microcosm some of us have experienced at places like Disneyland or Disneyworld, "the happiest places on Earth." We also experience them through other various means of escapism and avoidance culture. This is drunkenness, sex without commitment, substance abuse for hormonal manipulation in our body temples, food addictions, work addictions, selfinduced isolation etc.

Our God ordained natural state as human beings is happy, free, good, and loving unconditionally. This is because greater is the spirit of God in us that inspired all of creation than the afflictions of creation mismanaged.

Do you really think that God intended for the happiness of his children to rely on \$10,000 trips to expensive resort destinations only available in a few places in the world with limited accessibility on a continual basis? That is not God's dream for the life of the believer. Nor is full relief of tension in our bodies being relegated to single moment sexual climaxes with a partner, processed foods, false senses of control through busy work or violence, and mind altering substance abuse.

God's dream as displayed in the Garden of Eden is abundance, goodness, and unlimited access to love and happiness always in all ways. Our whole lives are suppose to be orgasmic and happy. This is why happiness and orgasm is the God ordained method by which we all are to be conceived in the flesh. If you ask Bob Iger, the CEO of Disney, the beautiful scenes filled with magic, love, and the resources to fulfill one's dreams at Disney Theme Parks and Resorts require military style strategic management and human capital reserves. This is to defend its existence from the insurmountable risks, threats, and the series of daily dysfunctions, mishaps, and downright horror stories. There was a precious little child eaten alive by an alligator at Disney World a few years ago.

Yet and still, Walt Disney's theme parks continue to thrive and prosper from the original location in Southern California to the multiple parks serving millions of guests all around the world annually. If a man-made corporation can still fulfill its promises to its constituents over and over again, surely The Body of Christ, The Church, and every believer seeking the promises of God on Earth can win also.

The survival, expansion, and international success of Walt Disney's dream to create "The Most Magical Place on Earth" is a microcosm narrative of God's promise to man and woman when the spirit of life was breathed into our bodies and we were settled in the Garden of Eden.

In the beginning, was the Word and the Word was God. Then the Word, became flesh and dwelled among us for who so ever shall believe shall have life and life everlasting. - John Chapter 1

## Intro to The New Christian Experience

The Being Academy's Official Membership Guide is an outline of a new vision for life as a Christian. It is not based on a different text or a different teacher. It is based on the Gospel, as preached, taught, and suffered for by Jesus Christ. It is an invitation to accept a bolder commitment, intention, and reason for believing at all.



The New Christian Experience is to be a believer who seeks to see and fully realize the promises of God in your everyday lived experience. These are The Spiritual Wealth Promises of God stored up in the Heavens waiting for the sons and daughters of God to get into proper position to receive them. We must seek to be equally yoked, ONE, in union with the God whose image we represent.

> But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

- John 17: 13-23

## What Are You Alive For?

I've been a Christian my entire life. I was born into the faith. Yet, it wasn't until the spring of 2013, when I looked death in the face, several times, that I ever considered my faith to be more **practically relevant in my day-to-day experiences.** 

It was in the desperation of grief and loss and heartbreak that the atmosphere of Heaven became **more than just an afterlife destination resort.** 

It became water in a very dry desert. It fired up my desperation to experience the fullness of the promises of God. It gave me a heart of flesh that humbled me and allowed for **God's will to lead me into purpose on Earth.** 

In that moment, when I reached my rock bottom, my faith in God showed me an open door and **a new way of being on Earth as life is in Heaven.**  But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

### 1 Corinthians 15:10

Prior to this season of my life, Heaven on Earth was not a consideration in how I thought about living. I was a believer, because everyone in my family believed. My personal relationship with God centered around knowing two things:

# 1.) I knew God loved me 2.) I knew I did not want to go to hell.

At the age of six, I had a very personal encounter with the Holy Spirit that convicted me without a shadow of a doubt that God loved me.

This is major, because knowing that God loves you is necessary to seek to see and accept how much God loves you and to what degree this can improve your life on Earth. If you don't believe that you're loved, you can't consider why and what for.

So my early childhood experience encountering the love of God anchored me to believe in God's love and that I had a chance to get into Heaven when I died. Desiring to get into Heaven came by way of the scary sermons I heard in church as a little girl. I'm sure you've heard them too. It's the blurry red vision about burning alive while you hang from your tongue over an atmospheric fire that cannot be put out. No thank you! I believe.

Some people think this is amazing. Some people are satisfied to believe in a God whose only intent is to deliver us from all the hell running loose on the Earth by way of an afterlife. I think that is good too. It's a start, for sure, but when God made man and woman, in the book of Genesis he declared our creation to be made in his image and to be very good. Then he placed us in the Garden of Eden with everything we would ever need to live well, love one another, do good, and please our creator.

Genesis' chapters one and two literally detail God's complete agenda for Heaven on Earth. It outlines God's vision not for Heaven after Earth, or Heaven in spite of Earth, or Heaven separate from Earth, but Heaven on Earth.

We are made in Gods image to dwell on Earth in abundance and to have boundless loving intimacy with our creator.

Those two people, Adam and Eve, are now 8 billion plus and expanding. We were made to be naked and free, but it's illegal to walk outside without clothes on. Thanks to the global pandemic of 2020 more of us than ever before have experienced this naked truth and freedom to roam without clothes all day long.

## I can't tell you I know too many believers living in the full promises of God, and this includes me.

What I can say is that I am much more fulfilled with my life from the inside out, because I seek to fulfill these promises in my life. After over a decade of seeking to see, understand, and become everything God created and imagined me to be, I've experienced Heaven on Earth many times. I've seen these truths do enough good work in my life and many others that I now dedicate my whole life to seeking them more and more.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12: 1 - 2

Through my practice of daily confession and repentance by way of prayer and scripture meditation, I've successfully cut the head off of a lot of snakes, made a lot of giants fall, and shouted down a lot of walls to get to my promises. The Bible says in Romans 8 that all of creation is waiting for the sons and daughters of God to reveal themselves in the Earth. They are those who believe in the salvation of their souls on Earth too. They live a life untethered to the flesh they strut, but rather one driven by the spirit of God leading their flesh to God's glory birthed through them.

Living well as heirs to the kingdom of love, as adopted sons and daughters of God, requires daily hand to hand combat against the witches, warlocks, goblins, disease, dysfunction, dismembering, wicked attempts that draw every believer onto the battlefield of spiritual warfare against Heaven on Earth, whether they know it or not.

The happiest place on Earth was never meant to be monopolized by steel and beam rides miles and miles away from most believers, nor was it meant to be exclusive to people who can stomach randomized possibly personally relevant hour-long services once a week. Our capacity to get and stay happy should not be solely dependent upon whether or not you have a charismatic pastor. Just like goodness should not be dependent upon food, sex, drugs, money, and alcohol. We should experience love, goodness, and pleasure, because that's what and who we are in the mind of God, fearfully and wonderfully made.

Our ability to meditate on the relevancy of God's love and truth should not be dependent on what degree we have from seminary. In fact, Jesus' entire message on the Kingdom of God being within our hearts and minds was a revolutionary assault against the exclusivity of purpose, happiness, wellness, and joy commodified by temple worship and priest idolatry during his time on Earth and now commerce. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds," then he adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Hebrews 10:14-17



Jesus would not be happy about how we have marginalized belief, favor, mercy, goodness, healing, preaching, and teaching today. Jesus was a radical in the streets, in homes, in business, and at the club turning water into wine.

The classic Disney song, "When you wish upon a star it makes no difference who you are.. when you wish upon a star... your dreams will come true," sounds a lot to me like "ask you and you shall receive."

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"

Matthew 7: 7-11

Page 20

God cares about how we live on a daily basis. God cares about whether or not our days are filled with dread or joy. God cares about the believer's dreams, because **the believer believing and seeing his or her dreams come true, is God's dream.** 

## We are all dreams manifested from the mind of God, the source of all creativity and master builder of all creation.

It's time we put a stop to the oppression of every believer's right to live a very good abundant life on Earth as it is in Heaven. This is God's promise to all those who proclaim and believe in their hearts that they are children of God.

Just like God poured the love and goodness manifested throughout the entire universe from their heart, **God**, **our father**, **and Holy Spirit**, **our mother**, so are we, their offspring, designed to accomplish and experience every pure and good thing in our hearts.

Like a parent, seeing their child live out their dreams, God is pleased by us living well and winning in life. God is also hurt when we hurt and struggle, because struggle just to struggle and not to fulfill one's God given promises is vanity in God's eyes, pointless. God doesn't do pointless.

God is purposeful and faithful. God created creation for our good.

## We must never forget this.

God dreamed, imagined, created, and sees all of creation as very good.

God gave us everything we needed to make Heaven on Earth possible, if we believe. We are called not just to believe in our salvation's goodness in the afterlife, but our souls salvation every second of every minute of every hour of every day. In life, we prosper only as our souls prosper.

# This is what spiritual wealth looks like in practice:

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:16 – 24

# The Birth Of The Being Acaemy

by thers (and sisters), I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

#### Philippians 3: 13 - 14

In the Spring of 2013, after cremating my 1st born son, organizing the homegoing celebration of my legal mother, and wrestling with my flesh to honor the life of the biological mother I never really knew, God began to make his purpose for life, love, family, the church, and kingdom living very clear to me.

The work that we do at The Being Academy helps our members build a life immune to all the monsters in the Disneyland of your heart, so that you too can sing "Zip-a-dee-doo-dah, zip-a-deeay My, oh, my, what a wonderful day Plenty of sunshine headin' my way Zip-adee-doo-dah, zip-a-dee-ay!



Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. **Psalm 100** 



E L A H

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## examine yourself

are you moving in faith

Every day we are called to lay down by green pastures of love overflowing from our soul chanting, *"this is the day that the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it."* Psalm 118:24

Learning how to build an altar in our hearts and our minds takes practice. The commitment to dedicate all of life's experiences back to God to be worked for the good of the kingdom comes by way of spiritual maturity.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15

In what areas of your life are you experiencing love and goodness the most? In what areas of your life are you struggling to produce good fruit? What is your conversion rate for turning bad experiences into good soil for growing the goodness of God in your life? How quickly, or better yet effectively, can you purpose your pain for good? Do you have a solid spiritual practice and method for quickly recentering yourself in your faith when the days ebbs and flows rock your boat unsteadily?

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?-unless indeed you fail to meet the test! 2 Corinthians 13:5

When you experience doubt, pain, loneliness, shame, guilt, frustration, or any other unwanted feeling, what do you do? Do you suppress it or do you truly repent, do you transform your mind to see your circumstance through God's view?

Do you know how to throw your hands up and trust God's will above and beyond your own understanding? Do you have the capacity to discern when God is waiting on you to obey his command versus when he is growing your patience to wait for Heaven's promises to mature in your life? How much do you experience the fruit of God's spirit on a day-to-day basis? In what areas are you experiencing the fruit of the spirit most?

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-25

# **Building Spiritual Wealth**

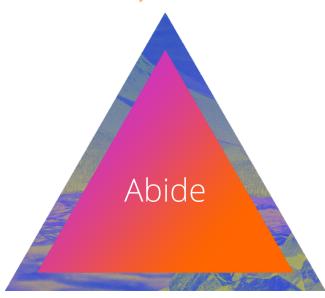
The Being Academy is here to help you create a winning strategy for spiritual wealth building. Our products and services will teach you "how to live life on Earth as it is in Heaven?

I know this, because the work I've done to build this platform was birthed out of my own salvation. The scripture-based wellness resources we provide saved my life.

In the Spring of 2013, I was a 26-year-old newlywed expecting new life to be birthed from my womb any day. After surrendering my long-standing coveted position in the world of finance to care for my newborn child. We even moved from our beloved community in Harlem, New York City to be closer to my great- grandmother while we raised our child. Then on March 27, 2013, monsters showed up in our happy place by way of my doctors announcing the still heartbeat of our son in my belly.

By the world's records, I was carrying death where living waters were meant to flow, but my exercising my faith in God diligently ensured otherwise. The Hebrew word for belly means Heaven, and out of my faithfulness to trust God and worship the Lord anyhow new living waters flowed to quench my dire thirst.

The release of this guide is aligned with the 9th anniversary of our angel son Joshua Middleton's gift of eternal citizenship into Heaven. What could have destroyed my family, my sanity, our marriage, and our future was purported by God to reroute us to our destiny.



These days I spend my time as a working creative consultant/artist, managing my passion project turned business, The Being Academy, and homeschooling our three beautiful children at The Being Academy Kids. Our office/classroom has the most beautiful view of palm trees and the Pacific Ocean. When I began to write the curriculum we teach at The Being Academy, I was in an empty nursery grieving a baby I never heard cry, a career I resented giving up, my great-grandmother I could not imagine living well without, the cities I once cherished turned into emotional landslides, relationships that no longer felt familiar, and my mother I never fully experienced living well with.

Nine years ago, I was dizzy in a three-month spiral of death that would summons a monster of grief bigger than four godzillas to beat.

Without the healing practical approach to living as God imagines, now underwriting the offerings at The Being Academy, I NEVER WOULD HAVE MADE IT.

#### I met God face-to-face in that season, and Heaven's love carried me through.

That summer 2013, in utter shock and disbelief about how well I was in spite of all the suffering I had endured, I launched **The Clarissa Joan Experience**. This was a multi-media inspirational platform I built to share with my friends and family how the love of God was keeping me and how scripture meditation healed my soul. The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

> Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies —in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:7-11

# Lifestyle of the Spiritually Wealthy

We are called to seek to see everything God irragined us to be. By faith, walk towards it. Through love and hope, water it. By grace, birth it into fruition and rejoice.

The Kingdom of God is surely within, and it is our job to seek the unique ways in which God orchestrated our lives to birth Heaven's rewards on Earth. Victory and triumph truly are ours if we believe and act on our faith every single second we become aware to do so.

Exercising one's faithfulness on a dayto-day basis is the key to living life on Earth as it is in Heaven.

The Being Academy is a spiritual gym with workout tools for your mind, body, and soul. We help believers become mentally, physically, and spiritually fit to flow in the abundant life Jesus promised in **John 10:10**.



The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23

"Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdon And with all thy getting, get an <mark>understanding."</mark>

**Proverbs 4:7** 

Our spiritual wellness plans at The Being Academy are tried and true. They have been tested for over a decade at the intersections of faith, culture, and mental health. We use technology and media as distribution platforms for unlimited access to help you meet your spiritual wealth building goals anytime anywhere.

Abiding in God by faith is not just a Sunday morning declaration. It is a lifestyle. Faith is a lifestyle built on relationship, wisdom, and practice. Being a believer and doing the work to stay in shape as a believer profits the whole (womb)man in this life and the next.

Do you have what it takes to walk by faith into your promised land. Do you have what it takes to give God a return on the gift of life and talents you were blessed with in your mothers womb? Do you want to live and live well?

We have more standard tools of metrics to measure every type of performance in the world except personal fulfillment and human value. We know which movie was the best per category, which car outperforms the other, which natural resource material endures longer under certain conditions, which fashions are in and which are out, what company made the most money last year, and who had the top music record on and on and on, but what about whether or not we are living out the promises of God? For the believer, this is the most important measure.

At the end of the day, the best way to examine the degree to which one is enjoying their own life and has the capacity to just be, is self-examination and daily heart checks. Life is the greatest gift any living person will ever receive; we do our best with it when we understand why it has been given to us. This means understanding the intent of our creator when we were conceived in the Heavens. Socrates said it this way, "The unexamined life is not worth living."

We must know, like the tree, the sun, the flower, the ocean, and all of our counterparts in the natural ecosystem of life, who we are and why we are.

Humanity as a whole suffers when an individual lacks an understanding of his or her own self-worth and does not rise to their greatest potential.
This means that one of God's desires for our collective experience has not been fulfilled. Our graveyards are filled with too many promises from Heaven we failed to realize.

We co-exist to thrive by offering the best of our Christ-minded selves to one another. **Our Spiritual Wealth Building Framework helps individuals examine their lives to gain a deeper understanding about their intrinsic value on the Earth as children of God.** 



At The Academy, our content, products, and services empower members with the space, tools, and partnership necessary to seek to see, be, and live as God imagines.

This May 2023, we will premiere The New Christian Experience Wellness App, offered via monthly subscription. This is a personalized Bible-baed wellness experience responsive to each members individual spiritual needs. By way of the first interactive sanctuary, Being Academy members will have 24-hour access to a private altar designed to maximize the believers capacity to examine their own HeartSpace according to their divinely ordained measure of faith.

We were called into existence to leave a mark. There is something inside of all of us that exists in the Heavens, and God desires for its birth on Earth. We are (womb)man, holy temples, and seed bearers for the love of God made manifests in various forms.

<u>The word sin: means to miss the mark.</u> <u>We miss the mark by co-creating waves of unbelief that cannot last</u> <u>beyond our short time here on Earth.</u>

You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life..

nthianss 3: 2 - 6

Page 31

Making our mark births the eternal into the realm of Earth to serve the greater good of the kingdom of Heaven for all.

At The Academy, we call this love always in all ways, and there is a method to seeing this flower of life bloom.

Join us at The Being Academy this Spring 2023 to maximize your God-gifted right to live a very good life!

Come forth into your greatness in Christ. Blossom and bloom into the New Christian Experience, which is Heaven on Earth realized through you.

Claim your place in the Joshua Generation that seeks to enter God's promised land.

There is GREATNESS on the inside of you! Let us help you unlock it. Let us help you leave your mark.

# About the Author

Clarissa Joan Middleton is an artist, believer, and social entrepreneur. Her work lives at the intersection of spirituality, technology, and human development.

Mrs. Joan is the Founder and Chief Creative Officer of The Being Academy, a faith-based media tech company focused on the health and wellness of the believer. We use technology to extend the impact of faith into the everyday lives and hearts of God's children

Her research "Cognitive Science, Belief, and Interactive Media as a Distribution Platform for Experiences that Enhance Human Development" has been published by the USC Digital Libraries for public viewing.

Clarissa's work in virtual reality, non-linear storytelling, SAAS applications, digital publishing, and massive open online courses has been supported by the USC Office of Religious Life, the USC Creative Media and Behavioral Health Center, The Max De Pree Center for Leadership, IntraVarsity Christian Fellowship, the 2019 USC Games Expo, and the IndieCade Games Conference 2019 at Santa Monica College.

In the Fall of 2019, Clarissa's digital health and entertainment platform, The Being Academy, demoed at the 2019 Missiology Lectures conference: "Techno- Sapiens in a Networked Era: Becoming Digital Neighbors" hosted by Fuller Theological Seminary.

The Being Academy's mission is to create safe spaces for spiritual growth, wellness, and human development. The Academy offers interactive experiences for mental clarity, spiritual healing, and transformational wellness practices.

#### Acknowledgements

Justin Heap, Artwork Joe Thackwell, Chief Spiritual Officer Roshanda Johnson, Content Review Team Samantha Johnstone, Content Review Team The Middleton Family The Being Academy 2021/2022 Braintrust



As a Mellody Hobson Scholar, Clarissa's graduate studies were graciously supported by the George Lucas Family Foundation Endowed Student Support Fund for Diversity. From 2017 - 2018, Clarissa also served as a scholar-in-residence at the USC Media Institute for Social Change.

Prior to her career in media, She worked as a senior financial analyst as AXA Equitable and a business strategy consultant for Impact America Fund (2009 – 2016). She is a 2008 alumnae of The Sponsors for Educational Opportunity Career program. In 2019, she became a visiting scholar at the USC Creative Media and Behavioral Health Center under the direction of Marientina Gotsis. In 2020, she was a featured guest on The Theology of Work's podcast, "Making It Work" highlighting her professional journey from Finance to Media Arts.

Clarissa is a talented writer, performer, and director. Her creative portfolio can be viewed at www.cjmiddleton.com Her editorial work can be appreciated on Moguldom Media's digital publication MadameNoire, a lifestyle publication catering to 9 million African American women monthly.

Clarissa lives in Newport Beach, California with her husband, Theodore, and their three children Genesis, Viva, and Theo III. She received her B.S in Finance, Cum Laude, from The Tobin College of Business at St. John's University in 2009, and served as a 2008 – 2009 President's Society Honors member. She received her MFA in Interactive Media in 2019 from the USC School of Cinematic Arts. Fight On!