

# Harmonious coexistence between Christian Faith and Science

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## Two human knowledge

- **The Physical Knowledge ("PK")**, which concerns the physical world. It is essentially the science.
- **The Spiritual Knowledge ("SK")** to be defined here.

A quotation from a spiritual teacher, **Thomas Keatings**. "*The Human Condition*": "All of us have been born and entering this world with three basic needs:

*Security-survival (SS);*

*Power-control (PC);*

*Affection-esteem (AE).*

*Without adequate fulfillment of these needs, we probably would not survive infancy*".

SK is the knowledge of the **relationships** between oneself and one's perception of the nature (for a believer, also between oneself and God), and between oneself and one's fellow mankind. It is SK which enables us to meet our basic needs, and to enable us live a fulfilled life.

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## Today we will focus on "Christian faith":

John 5:39, 4: Jesus told the Jews: You diligently study the Scriptures, because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to **come to me to have life**. So it is not sufficient to simply study the Bible.

John 10:10. I come that you may have **life** and have it more abundantly

Jesus told Nichodemus that: unless one is born-again, one cannot enter the kingdom of God.  
John 3:16. For God so love the world that He sent His only Son, Jesus to the world. Whoever believes in Him should not be perished and have the **eternal life**.

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**What is the eternal life?** My discussion here is based on the work of my sister Elsa Tseng. See <http://www.echousa.org>. The content is based on her book published in 2005 entitled: "**New-life Course 26 Lessons**". This is a spiritual book!

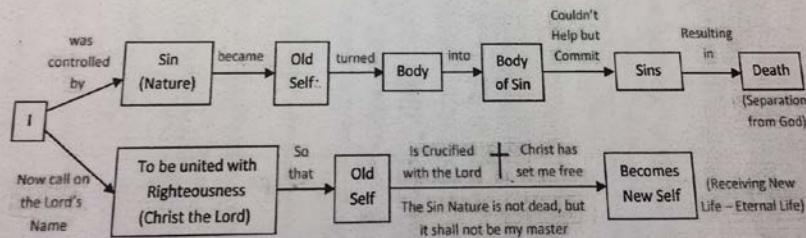
In Christian faith as she explains, when one accepts Jesus Christ as his/her personal savior, the **Holy Spirit** enters into his/her heart and a **New life** begins. Her book is on the birth and the growth of this New Life, the spiritual new life.

The development of the New life, is displayed in next figure, one of the figures taken from the website. For now please note this is given in slide 5. The simplified version is given in slide 6. We will turn to it now.

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FIGURE 2. THE WAY OF "CROSSING OVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE" – THROUGH FAITH

(At the Moment of Our Conversion)



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## Salvation plan involves:

### The plan: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection Believer's faith to unite with Jesus

Here are the steps:

- When "I" accept Jesus Christ as my personal savior, at that moment, "I" is **united with righteousness** (with Christ)
- The "**oldself**" of the person "I", is symbolically nailed to the cross. This "I" was dead and buried with Christ.
- Following the resurrection of Christ, "I" is also resurrected.
  - a. A "**new-self**" emerges which has the new life, the eternal life, or the God-centered life;
  - b. There is also the "**sin nature**" of old-self. This part is not dead. But it should not be a master over "me".

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## Growth of New Life:

- Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." This commandment shows how to handle the residual old-self in us.
- Growth involves a gradual shift from **the old-self, a man-centered life** to **the new-self, a Christ-centered life**.
- Eventually the essence of the Abundant life emerges:  
Galatians: 2:20. 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

Elsa's ministry involve teaching and mentoring different groups mainly in China and some small groups near Thousand Oaks, California where she resides. For oversea communications, she uses Skype for small groups and use Webex for large audience.

Her curriculum has been well received by many. One sees the impact of the new life message. Numerous family conflicts have been alleviated. Many believers now find peace in the family and lead a happier life.

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## Elsa's life story:

Elsa and her husband John Tseng immigrated to U.S. in 1982. John had suffered psychological traumas as a result of religious persecution. He was in prison and later on in labor camp for over 20 years in China.

For years, Elsa had to cope with John's psychological condition which affected Elsa's health severely. Soon after they settled down in US, she found Andrew Murray's book on the teaching of new-life was very helpful to her. Elsa took following sets of Bible verses very seriously.

- **He lives in me.** Gal 2:20 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.
- **My grace is sufficient for you.** 2 Cor 2:19 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.
- **The word is near you.** Rom 10:8 The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim.

These versus became a part of important Bible versus in her New-Life curriculum. Through long distance communication, her work now effects believers in China, in Japan and in California near the vicinity where she resides. I hope if some of you are interested in the future we can occasional a small group study on some selected the new life curriculum.

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