



GOD'S AAA SYSTEM

PETE DAUGHTRY

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Albany Bible Church
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This book is edited from the lectures of W. W. "Pete" Daughtry.

A list of available recordings and publications will be provided on request.

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Preface

Before you begin your Bible study, you should be sure that you are in fellowship, under the control of God the Holy Spirit, so that He can make spiritual truth understandable to you. You can do this by naming any known sins to God the Father and accepting the forgiveness provided by the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross.

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."¹

If you have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, the issue for you is faith in Him. The Lord Jesus Christ made perfect provision for your salvation and eternal security. You need only tell God the Father that you accept the accomplished work of Christ on your behalf.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

2 Cor. 5:21 "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Eph. 2:8, 9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Acts 16:31 "'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved...'"

¹ This and subsequent quotations from Scripture are taken from the New American Standard Bible.

Introduction

At the moment of faith in Christ, the believer embarks upon a spiritual journey that is designed to carry him to spiritual maturity, the place where he becomes an effective representative of the Lord Jesus Christ. In His faithfulness, God has provided a road map for us to use on this journey so that we do not have to guess which way to go, get sidetracked on some backroad, travel around in circles, get shaken up by potholes, and never pass “go”. This roadmap to the “high ground” where Christ is formed in us and God is glorified to the maximum in our lives takes a route through three major landmarks—the lifestyles of Faith, Hope, and Love. This is **God’s AAA system: Advance by Faith, Abound in Hope, and Abide in Love.**

Your ears will hear a word behind you, saying, “This is the way, walk in it,” whenever you turn to the right or to the left. (Isa. 30:21)

ADVANCE by FAITH

The first landmark we encounter on the road to spiritual maturity is the **Lifestyle of Faith**. Faith produces a lifestyle of power and stability as a result of having the promises and doctrines of God's Word as its object—a lifestyle free from fear, panic, reaction, guilt, and self-pity, a lifestyle of a sound mind, the ability to maintain one's composure in all kinds of circumstances. The primary aspect of a **Faith Approach to Life** is the function of the Faith-Rest Drill, one of the problem-solving devices of the Plan of God². With the Faith-Rest Drill, the believer mixes the promises of God with faith. Failure to do so robs him of his advance in the spiritual life.

Therefore, we must fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they [the Exodus generation] also did; but the word they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united with those who listened with faith. (Heb. 4:1-3)

Therefore, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord [by faith], so walk in Him (Col. 2:6)

For we walk by faith, not by sight (2. Cor. 5:7)

For our momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. (2 Cor. 4:17-18)

ABOUND in HOPE

The next landmark on our journey is the **Lifestyle of Hope**. The **Hope Approach to Life** produces a lifestyle of confidence, comfort, and strength. The believer experiences hope/confidence in three areas:

1. Salvation. Col. 1:5, 23; 1 Thess. 2:8
2. Life in time. Heb. 7:19; 1 Peter 1:13
3. Eternity. Col. 1:5; Titus 2:13

² See the Appendix for a chart showing all of God's Problem Solving Devices.

The key to abounding in hope is the development of the Grace Orientation and Doctrinal Orientation envelopes. This means that the believer has established grace as the policy and pattern for his life and Bible Doctrine as the primary pursuit of his life. This allows the believer to move from hope as confident expectation to hope as absolute confidence. With this hope/confidence, he lives in the reality of his own personal sense of destiny, as Paul states in Phil. 1:21, "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 15:13)

Who [God] rescued us from so great a danger of death, and will rescue us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us (2 Cor. 1:10)

To whom God willed to make known what the wealth of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles is, the mystery that is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Col. 1:27)

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word. (2 Thess. 2:16-17)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, who is our hope (1 Tim. 1:1)

ABIDE in LOVE

Our third landmark is the **Lifestyle of Love**.

Just as the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you; remain in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. (John 15:9-10)

We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. (1 John 4:16)

And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Rom. 5:5)

For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died (2 Cor. 5:14)

Abiding in love is the function of the **Love Approach to Life**, which produces a lifestyle that has the following characteristics:

1. The expression of personal integrity or virtue, as described in 2 Peter 1:5-8.
2. The experience of happiness, joy, and contentment, sharing the Happiness of God.

These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full. (John 15:11)

Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full. (John 16:24)

But now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. (John 17:13)

3. A reflection of the character of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and remain in His love. (John 15:10)

This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. (John 15:12)

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts. (Rom. 13:14)

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus (Phil. 2:5)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. (Gal. 5:22-23)

There is a challenge to this **Lifestyle of Love** found in 1 John 4:10-11.

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

The rewards of the **Lifestyle of Love** are expressed in many passages of the Word of God, such as 1 Cor. 2:9, which states, “Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the human heart, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.” Another is Rom. 8:28, “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God,” and 2 Tim. 1:7 tells us that “God has not given us a spirit (*lifestyle*) of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.”

There are two categories of love toward God:

1. Aggressive love which expresses itself in the aggressive and vigorous pursuit of God’s Word.
2. Responsive love which responds to God’s plan of grace with respect and humility.

The **Love Approach to Life** involves living in the Integrity Envelope of Personal Love toward God and Impersonal (Unconditional) Love toward Man, i.e. Virtue Love, which allows the believer to share the Happiness of God and be occupied with Christ in the circumstances of life, thereby glorifying God to the maximum. Personal Love for God becomes the believer’s motivational virtue (why we do what we do). Unconditional Love for Man is the believer’s functional virtue, the expression of his motivational virtue.

There are no shortcuts for the spiritual life, and without God’s AAA System, there will always be something missing. However, using the roadmap of God’s AAA System, passing through and developing the **Lifestyle of Faith**, the **Lifestyle of Hope**, and the **Lifestyle of Love**, produces the lifestyle of the mature believer, a lifestyle that becomes the fulfillment of the Abundant Life spoken of by our Lord in John 10:10:

I came so that they would have life, and have it abundantly.

Appendix

GOD'S PROBLEM SOLVING DEVICES

(Originally taught by R. B. Thieme, Jr. Chart developed by Pete Daughtry)

BELIEVER'S PROBLEM	SPIRITUAL APPROACH (LIFESTYLE)	SOLUTION (PROBLEM SOLVING DEVICE)
PERSONAL SIN	FAITH	REBOUND I John 1:9
PRODUCTION (Spiritual)		FILLING of the SPIRIT Eph. 5:18
POISE (Thinking under Pressure)		FAITH-REST Heb. 4:1, 10-11
POLICY (Pattern of Life)	HOPE	GRACE ORIENTATION James 4:6
PRIORITY (Scale of Values)		DOCTRINAL ORIENTATION Rom. 12:2
PURPOSE IN LIFE		PERSONAL SENSE of DESTINY Phil. 1:21
PERFORMANCE (Motivation)	LOVE	PERSONAL LOVE for GOD Deut. 6:5; 1 Pet. 1:8
PERFORMANCE (Function)		UNCONDITIONAL LOVE FOR MAN James 2:8
PURSUIT IN LIFE (Happiness, Contentment)		SHARING GOD'S HAPPINESS John 15:11
PERSPECTIVE (Overall)		OCCUPATION with CHRIST Heb. 12:1-3; Eph. 3:19



Albany native, W. W. "Pete" Daughtry was called to be the pastor-teacher of Albany Bible Church shortly after the church was formed in 1974. He attended Emmaus Bible College in Chicago, Illinois, and has studied intensively for over 40 years under the teaching of R. B. Thieme, Jr., of Berachah church in Houston. The principle focus of Pete's teaching pastorate has been to clearly present the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and the procedures for living the unique spiritual life provided for believers in the Church Age. Pete has authored a number of publications, including Little Faiths, The Shield of Faith, Mothers are Human Too, and others, all available through Albany Bible Church.



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