

Lesson 2
Chapter 1- *Life In Fast Forward*
(continued)

1. What two major factors mentioned in Chapter I are being directed at us by satanic forces in an attempt to control our thinking and frustrate spiritual progress.

2. If you're having trouble keeping up with yourself and find that you have no time for the Lord or if you feel you're not growing spiritually, the way you'd like to, perhaps you should check the data you're feeding into your computer. If you're not delighting in doing God's will, if you see yourself constantly yielding ground to the enemy, it may be that you have become a victim of this world's secular agenda that has accumulated in your database and is controlling your life.

Consider for just a moment: What percentage of time do you spend thinking about Scripture and the things of the Lord versus the time you spend focused on the things of this world? Do you see any kind of balance between the two? In this world of sin and corruption, it isn't easy to avoid being completely swept away by the swirl of activity and the rationale of the great deceiver. But to progress spiritually, we need to be aware of what is happening and to take definite steps to combat it. (Pg 21, Par 5 - Pg 22, Par 2)

Take a moment to contemplate what the data base of your *personal* computer might look like. Use the back of this sheet to draw a circle that you can divide into pie shaped pieces that fill your normal day. You may also want to draw one that is an overview of your years as a Christian to determine what your overall data base might look like.

3. You should now have before you, a visual analysis of your life. Apart from necessary activities, what is it that is taking first place in your life? Do you see anything that is competing for your time and attention that might interfere with your ability to pursue a spiritually sound data base?

4. What does this chapter suggest is a practical resource to help balance the negatives that may be diluting your data base, what is suggested to help counter the hemorrhaging of time, morals and eternal perspective that so subtly erodes our lives and our Christian perspective? What is your personal response to this suggestion?

5. Read the testimony of a wife and mother who discovered her own private poustinia (Pg 24) and list the benefits she experienced when she began to memorize Scripture in its full context. Contemplate the benefits that you, yourself, might enjoy from such an emphasis in your life.

6. Consider Jim Elliott's statement: *He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.* Quietly spend a few moments recording your thoughts in the columns below. Ponder this thought for a few days and see what you might add to the list as you consider maintaining your own personal poustinia.

What I Cannot Keep

What I Cannot Lose