

We Are What We Think
Not
What We Feel !

"For as a person thinks within himself [nephesh - soul], so he is."

Proverbs 23:7

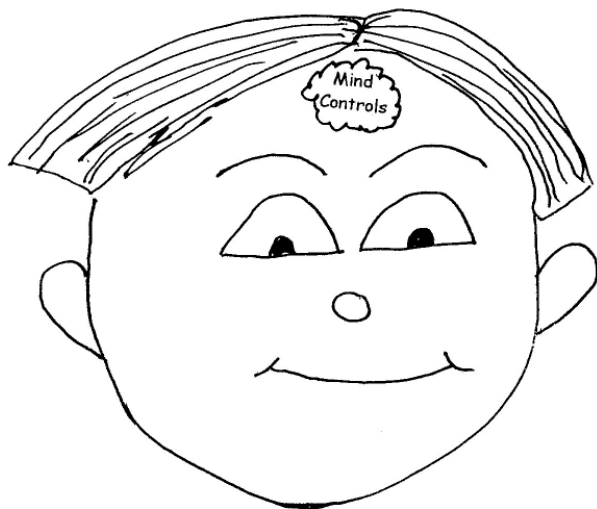
God gave us our minds and emotions; our minds so that we can think and our emotions so that we can respond. Emotions were designed by God to be a source of enjoyment, responding to doctrinal viewpoint in the mind which controls the soul.

"...for where your treasure is, there will your heart [mind] be also." Matthew 6:21



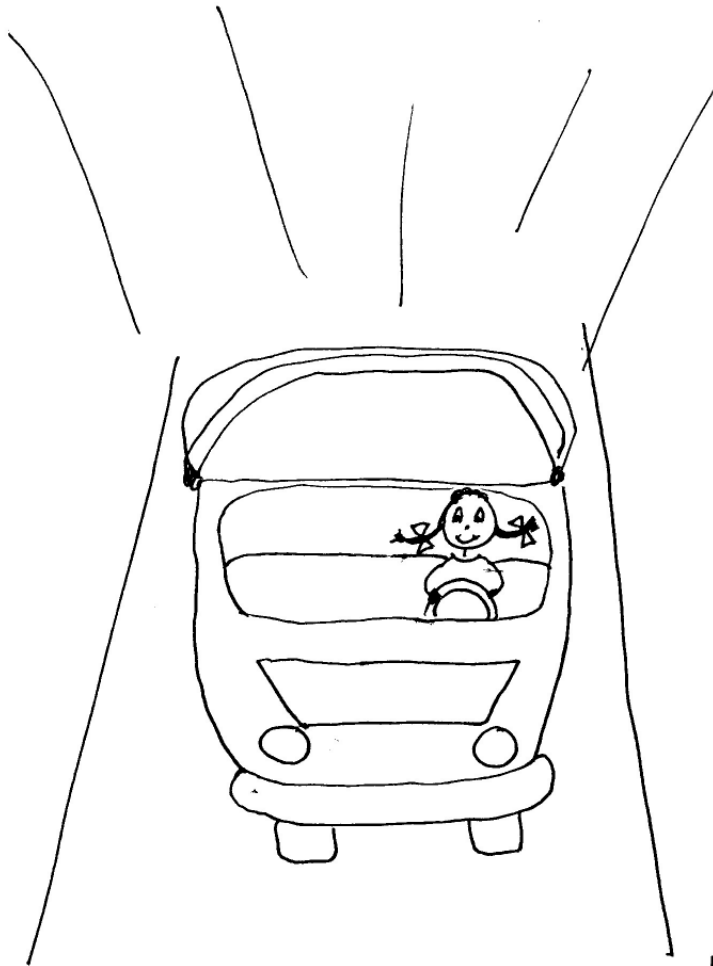
However, the mind, filled with divine viewpoint, needs to be in charge of the emotions for us to function properly. Emotions contain no doctrine, no thought, no common sense, and no ability to reason. What a mess if our emotions are in charge!

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." Romans 12:2



When we are filled with the Holy Spirit and the mind controls the emotions, we're on the right road. We can live and love with good thinking. What do you think?

"The doctrine of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple [foolish]."
Psalm 19:7



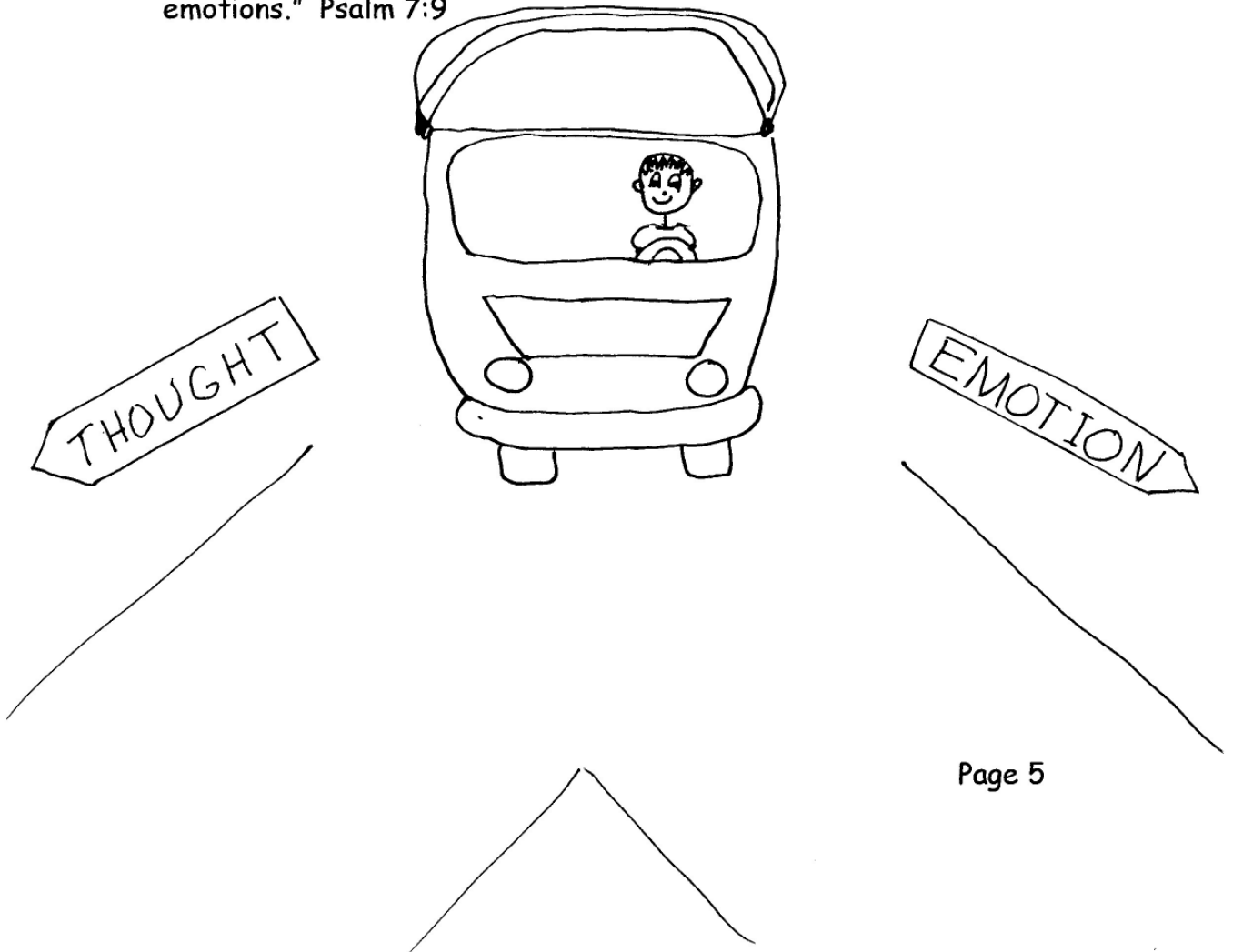
Since emotions can't think, when they control the mind we're headed for a crash! We become arrogant. We can also be fearful, anxious, jealous, and angry! What a bunch of miserable garbage that would be!

"...so then let us not sleep [spiritual sleep] as others do, but let us be alert and sober." 1 Thessalonians 5:6



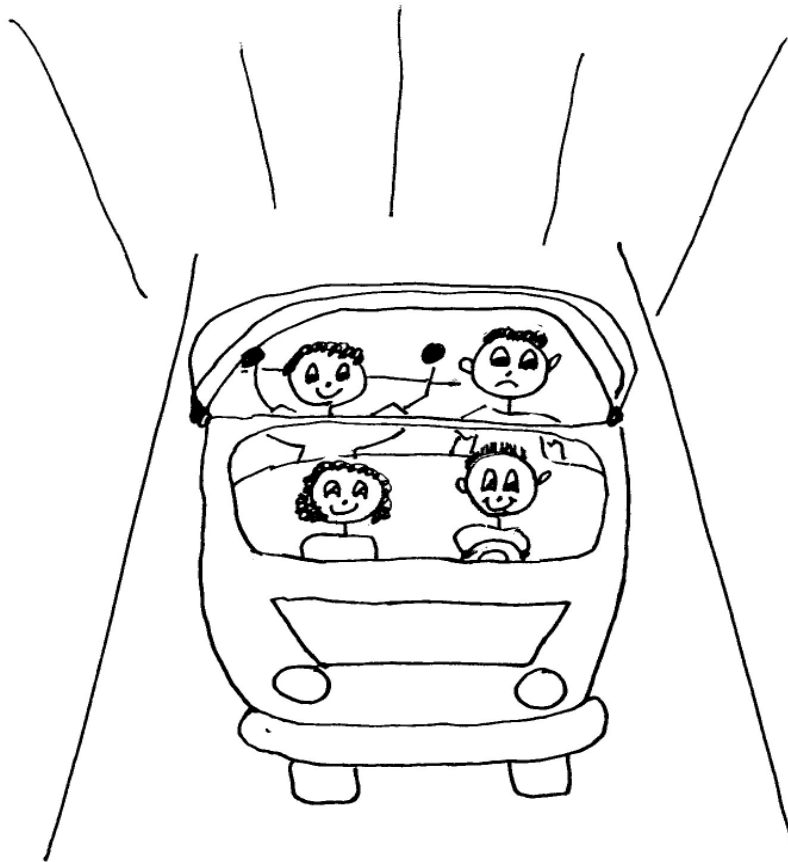
Living the spiritual life is not an emotional feeling. However, Satan wants us to think that the Holy Spirit is in us because of some emotional experience, the way we feel. God will test us to see which way we will go, down the road of thought, or down the road of emotion. Which road are we going to take?

"For the righteous God tests the right lobes [minds] and the emotions." Psalm 7:9



In our day-to-day activities, we may feel emotional, we may not. As long as we are filled with the Holy Spirit and make decisions based on divine viewpoint (good thinking), we're on the right road!

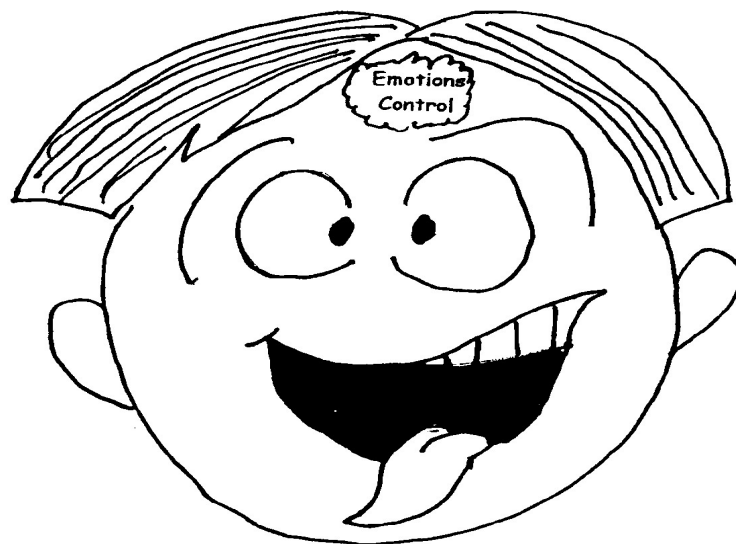
"It is the same God who brings both feast [plenty] and famine [not enough]." Matthew 5:45



If we let our emotions rule our thinking, we'll be distracted from living in the plan of God.

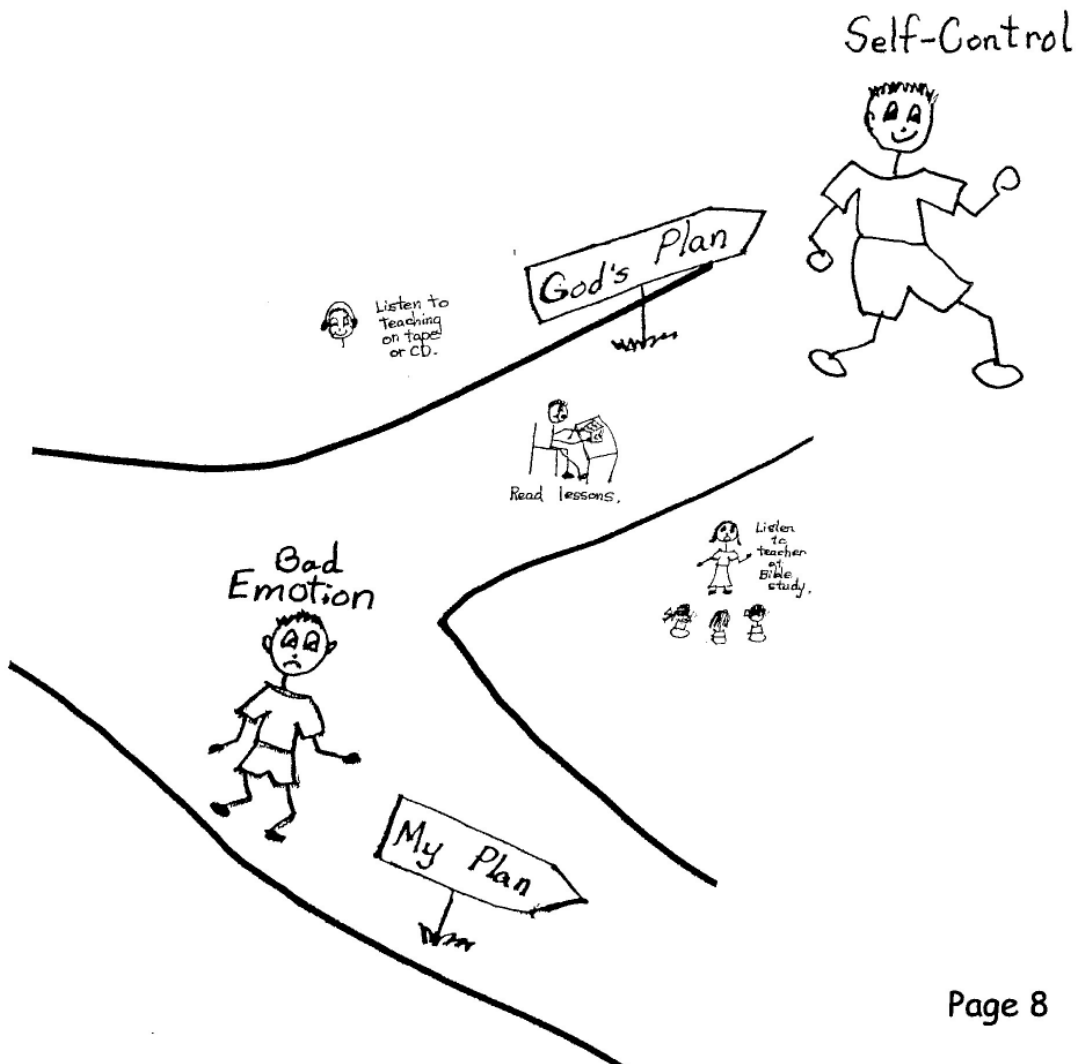
"Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on [be alert to] those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching [doctrine] which you learned, and turn away from them. For such men [believers] are slaves not of our Lord Christ but to their own emotions; and by smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts [stream of consciousness] of the unsuspecting."

Romans 16:17-18



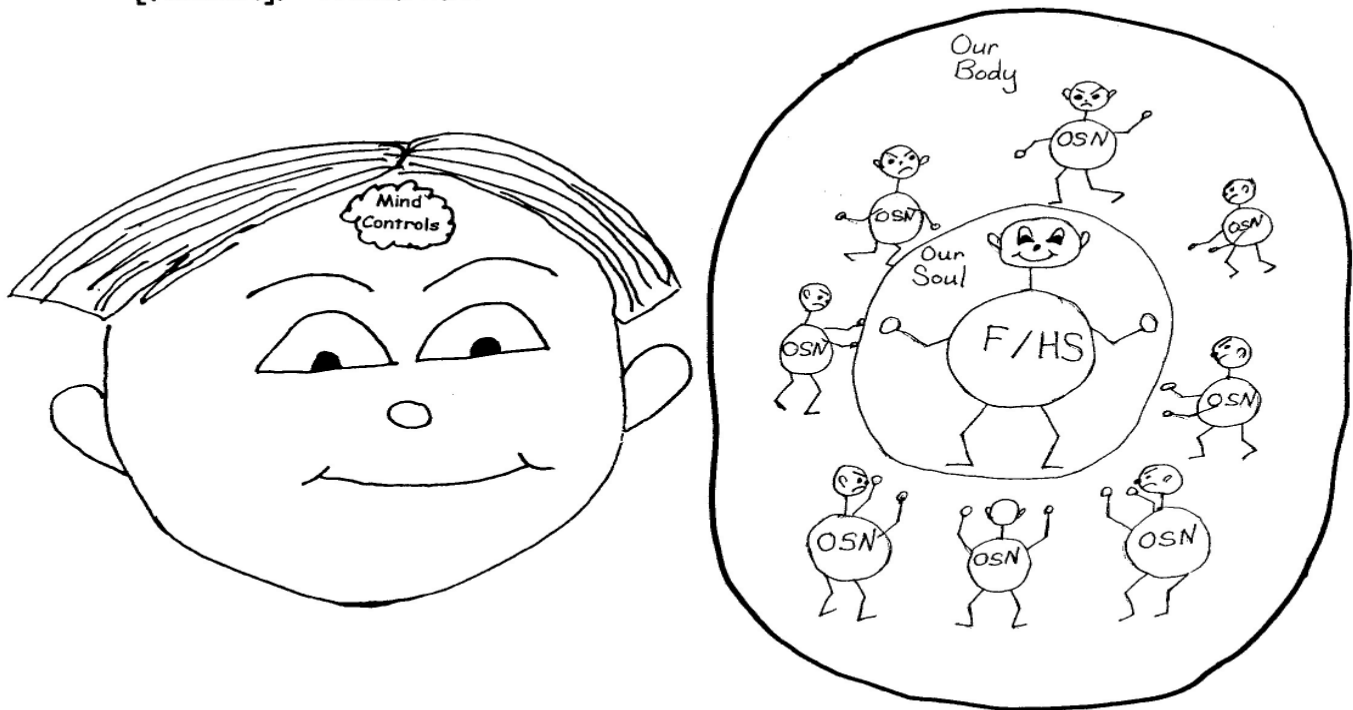
Emotions can even stop the perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine!

"Our mouth has spoken freely to you, O Corinthians, our heart [right lobe] is opened wide [metabolized doctrine]. You are not restrained [in momentum] by us, but you are restrained in your own affections [emotions]." 2 Corinthians 6:11-12



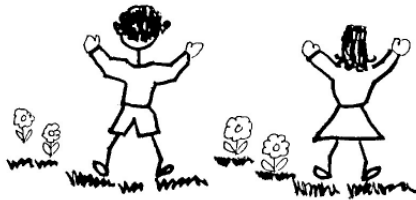
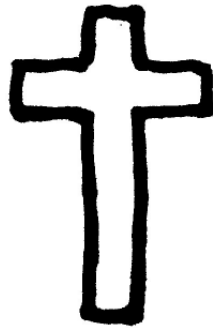
Normal emotional experience results in the emotions being under the authority of the mind! Remember, emotions were designed by God for our enjoyment and expression. They are to respond to doctrinal viewpoint controlling the soul. We must ask, "What controls our souls?"

"The doctrine of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony [statement] of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple [foolish]." Psalm 19:7



Jesus is our best example of using thought to control emotion. He never let His emotions get in His way or take over His thought. He certainly was not having positive emotional experiences on the cross and yet He used thought to rule. He led the spiritual life by what He thought!

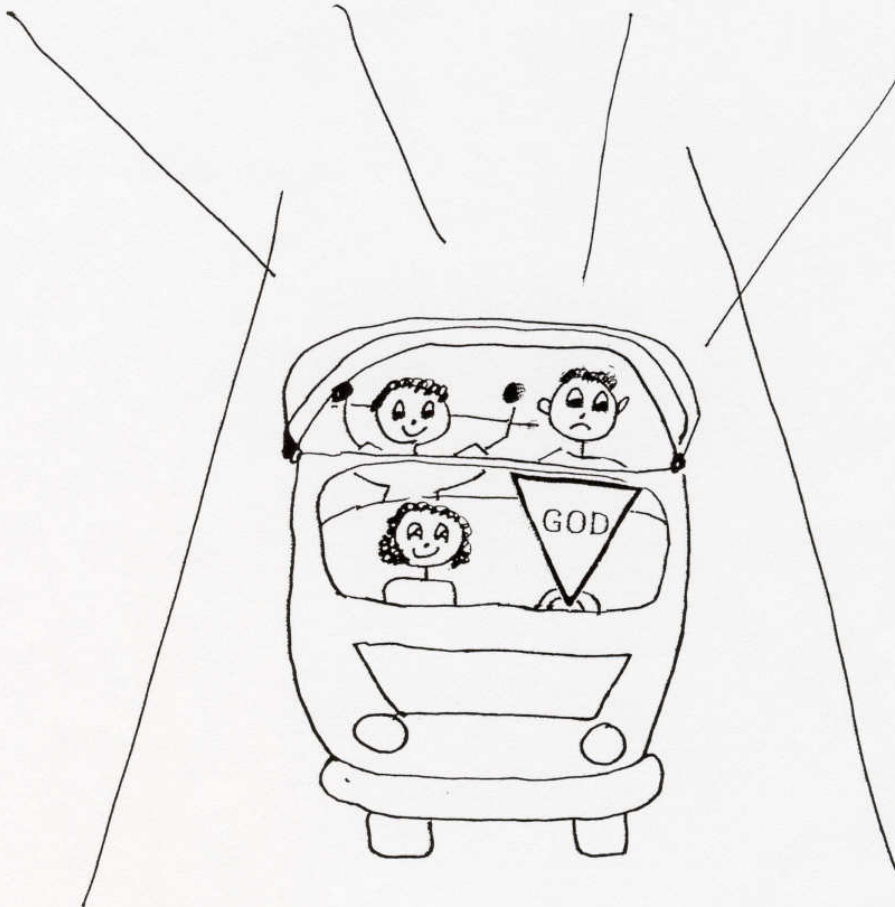
"...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of doctrine, who for the joy [of Him] set before Him endured the cross, despising [disregarding] the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:2



Page 10

Thank You God.

With God controlling our minds, we'll have a safe trip. So, let's put on our seat belts and speed forward with God at the wheel!



Proverbs 4:11 "I guide you in the way of wisdom [Christ's thinking] and lead you along straight paths."

Proverbs 4:18 "The path of the righteous [those having virtue] is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day."

We Are What We Think Not What We Feel

References used: Robert McLaughlin Bible Ministries

www.gbible.org

Lessons: 1-12-01, 1-16-01, 8-22-04, 11-19-04,
11-28-04, 12-01-04

Tree of Life: 11-28-04

Notes from the conference in Riverside, CA,
11-9-04 to 11-11-04