

# SPIRITUALITY: ARE YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO BE?

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. ARE YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO BE IN LIFE?
  - 1. Whatever your life is like, are you happy with it?
  - 2. If you could have projected ahead ten years ago, would this be what you wanted your life to become?
  - 3. If your life had to remain just as it is now, for the foreseeable future, would you be satisfied?
- B. PROBABLY, MOST OF US WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DONE BETTER WITH OUR LIVES THAN WHAT WE HAVE DONE TO THIS POINT.
  - 1. For some of us, *relationships* are not what we want them to be.
  - 2. For others, our *financial* picture is somewhat shakey.
  - 3. Some of us are not where we want to be in the *job market*.
  - 4. Still others of us have some *health or physical concerns*.
- C. We can probably come up with *all kinds of reasons*.
- D. Probably, most of us *would like to do better FROM HERE ON*.  
***“You can’t go back and have a new beginning, but you can begin where you are and make a new ending.”***
- E. WHAT ABOUT YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE?
  - 1. Is it good, rewarding?
  - 2. Are you where you want to be spiritually?
  - 3. Are you confident of your eternal destiny? These are far more profound considerations than those previously mentioned.
  - 4. “For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”  
**Romans 8:6.** How spirituality minded are you?
- F. Again, most of us would probably like to be stronger spiritually than we are. Most of us would probably like to be more spiritually in tune with what God wants us to be. We would like for our spiritual lives to be better.
- G. SO, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
  - 1. Will you simply wish you could be stronger spiritually?
  - 2. Will you put it out of your mind and let another year go by without any spiritual growth?
  - 3. What will you do?
- H. Will you decide to spritually grow in the coming days?
- I. If you want to grow spiritually, what can you do?

## I. DESIRE IT.

- A. It will not come by accident. You must want to grow spiritually.
- B. As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God. ***Psalm 42:1.***
- C. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled..  
***Matthew 5:6.***

## I. FIND OUT HOW TO ACHIEVE IT.

- A. ILLUSTRATION: I heard about a diet patch that claims you can wear it and lose weight, without dieting, exercise or anything.
  - 1. Sound too good to be true? It probably is.
  - 2. There is no spirituality patch, where you can gain spirituality without effort on your part.
- B. Commit to being at church services every time that you can possibly make it.
  - 1. Don't look for excuses to miss.
  - 2. Making the *spiritual commitment* to be present at every service, no matter what, will make you a more spiritual person.
- C. Read and study the Bible.
  - 1. The Bible thoroughly furnishes us to every good work, (2 Timothy 3:17), including spiritual growth.
  - 2. "But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night."  
*Psalm 1:2.*
  - 3. A spiritual person is one who pursues the will of the Holy Spirit, as revealed in the Word
- D. Pray more often.
  - 1. This is our avenue to talk to the Creator of the universe.
  - 2. How much do you pray? A spiritual person will pray often.
  - 3. When you spend time with someone, you start to become more like them. This is true with friends and family. It will also be true with God. The more time we spend with Him in prayer, the more God-like and spiritual we will become.
- E. Actively participate in the worship services.
  - 1. "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship *in spirit* and truth." **John 4:24.**
    - a. How can our worship be uplifting and spiritual if we are not spiritual people?
    - b. If you don't "enjoy" worship or "get anything out of it," look at your level of
    - c. A word of caution: *Don't equate emotionalism with spirituality.*
      - 1. Certainly, our emotions ought to be involved. We serve God from a grateful, loving heart.
      - 2. However, some have gone too far in "trying to spice things up" emotionally.
      - 3. On the way back from Camp Wiregrass, I saw a denominational church building with an advertisement for "Xtreme Worship."
  - 2. SING fervently and sincerely.
    - a. Good singing is both an *evidence of* and an *aid to* spirituality.
    - b. "Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and *spiritual songs*, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord," **Ephesians 5:19.**
    - c. "Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and *spiritual songs*," **Colossians 3:16.**
  - 3. Actively partake of the LORD'S SUPPER.
    - a. This should be *one of the most spiritual activities of your week.*
    - b. For some, it is anything but a spiritual experience – they are thinking about things at home, sports, things of the world, family, friends, etc.
    - c. Let us meditate on what the DBR means to us.
  - 4. Celebrate and be thankful for all God has done for you.
  - 5. Fully PARTICIPATE in the worship service. "I didn't get anything out of it."

- F. Think about spiritual things.
  - 1. “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.” *Proverbs 23:7*.
  - 2. “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good
- G. Associate with spiritual people.
  - 1. It is easier to be good with good people, easier to be spiritual with spiritual people.
  - 2. Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.” 1 Corinthians 15:33.

### III. DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

- A. It does not matter how much knowledge you have, unless you put it into practice.
- B. When you know what to do to gain spirituality, do something about it.
- C. If your spiritual life is not where it should be, it is time to **RE-FOCUS**.

### CONCLUSION:

- A. Make a *commitment today* to work on *developing* your spiritual life.
- B. Do the things we have talked about today *for one year*, and see if next year at this time you don't feel better about your life.

idea from an article by Gary L. Hutchins

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