

Series: Renewing Our Strength

Title: How Do I Grow Spiritually?

Text: (Heb 6:1)

(2 Pet 3:18) Grace and Knowledge – No Backing Off!!!

(Phil 3:7-14)

Illus: Marking door post for kids

I. **Renew Your Mind:** Rom 12:1-2 1 Pet 2:1-2 *Illus: God did not take the direct route from Egypt to Israel-DeEgyptainize them!*

a. **Place the Thoughts of God into our Minds:**

i. (Heb 4:12) *Illus: the Word is Alive!*

ii. (Phil 4:8) *Illus: Like painting over graffiti.*

b. **Meditate:**

i. (Josh 1:8) *Illus: Like a cow chewing it's Cud!*

ii. (Ps 1:2; 1 Tim 4:13-15; Ps 143:5, Ps 119: 15,23,48,78,148)

c. **Apply:**

i. (Heb 8:10) God is talking to you!

ii. (Prov 2:1-5) What, How, & Why!

d. **Instruction is not Enough!** (Jam 1:22)

i. **Careless Hearer: 3 Kinds of Careless Hearers.**

1. **A Deceived Hearer:** (1 Cor 3:18-19, Gal 6:3)

2. **A Distracted Hearer:** (Jam 1:23-24)

3. **Do Nothing Hearer:** (Jam 1:25, Heb 2:1)

e. **Careful Hearer:** (James 1:25) Looks Intently (Lk 8:18)

i. **Listen and Apply It:** (James 1:25) *“Continueth therein”*

II. **Readiness to Admit Failure:** Assume Responsibility!

a. **Be open and honest with God:** (Ps 51:1-4 1 Jn 1:9)

III. **Repentance:** (Heb 12:1-2) *Laying aside/Stripping Away.* (1 Pet 2:1)

a. **Malice:** Wicked Ill will.

b. **Guile:** Deliberate dishonesty

c. **Hypocrisy:** Pretended Piety & Love

d. **Envy:** Resentful Discontent.

e. **Evil Speakings:** Backbiting and Lies.

f. (Col 3:8-9, Eph 4:22-25) “Put Off”

IV. **Receiving Godly Council:** (Ps 1:1, Ps 33:10-11)

a. We don't see ourselves as others do: (Pro 11:14; Pro 24:6)

b. A Loving, Honest, Friend: (Prov 27:6)

c. Don't be too proud to ask! (Ps 10:4; Prov 11:2; 13:10, 16:18)

V. **Reaching out to others in Service:**

Instruction + Involvement = Spiritual Growth (James 1:21-25)

a. We are all Created for Service. (Eph 2:10)

b. We Learn to Love and be Patient (Tit 2:14)

c. **Be habitually Living the Word of God:** (Vs 22, 25)

i. Hearing and Doing! (Rom 2:13)

d. **Christ Came to Serve:** (Matt 20:28)

e. Jesus now desires to live His life through us as if He were actually here personally. “Exchanged Life”

f. **Loving Others:** The Great Commandment

g. **Witnessing to Others:** The Great Commission

h. **Serving Others:** The Great Commitment

i. **Reflecting The Image of Christ to Others:** (Matt 5:16)

VI. **Reflect on God's working in the lives of Others:** (Ps 37:37)

a. Trials/Triumphs of other builds our faith:(Rom 15:4 1 Cor 10:11)

VII. **Responding Properly to Tests, Trials, and Suffering:**

a. **You will have tribulation! Jn 16:33** *Ye shall have ...*

b. **Christ left us an example to follow:** 1 Pet 2:21

c. **God uses to grow our faith:** (1 Pet 4:12-13)

d. **God uses to mold us into the Image of His Son:**(Rom 8:28-29)

e. **Don't Focus on the Trial!**