

Lesson Two

The Prayer Warrior's Personal Life

The Ingredients of Spiritual Development

Foundational Scripture:

Seek GOD, all you quietly disciplined people who live by GOD's justice. Seek GOD's right ways. Seek a quiet and disciplined life. Perhaps you'll be hidden on the Day of GOD's anger.

Zephaniah 2:3 (MSG)

Who may climb the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies. They will receive the LORD's blessing and have right standing with God their savior. They alone may enter God's presence and worship the God of Israel.

Psalms 24:3-6 (NLT)

Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until that day when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NLT)

Voices from the Past:

"Prayer is the breath of life, the expression of the soul's best, holiest, and heavenliest aspirations; the symptom and token of its spiritual health, and right and happy relations with God."

—Hugh MacMillan
Bible Expositor

Ingredients of Spiritual Development

Ingredient One:

Total _____

Focus: The _____ Christian

Scripture:

Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:11 (NKJV)

“Reckon” defined:

“To _____ oneself as being...”

Scripture:

So you should consider yourselves dead to sin and able to live for the glory of God through Christ Jesus.

Romans 6:11 (NLT)

What is surrender?: “To _____ up!”

What is the great enemy to the surrendered life?

Our primary enemy: _____

Voices from the Past:

“Selfishness is the greatest curse of the human race.”

—William Ewart Gladstone

British Statesman, 19th Century British Prime Minister

Scripture:

My counsel is this: Live freely, animated and motivated by God’s Spirit. Then you won’t feed the compulsions of selfishness...

Galatians 5:16 (MSG)

Don’t be misled: No one makes a fool of God. What a person plants, he will harvest. The person who plants selfishness, ignoring the needs of others—ignoring God!—harvests a crop of weeds.

Galatians 6:7 (MSG)

How do we overcome selfishness?

The cure for selfishness is _____.

The key to dying is _____.

Scripture:

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must put aside your selfish ambition, shoulder your cross, and follow me.”

Matthew 16:24 (NLT)

The World-less Christian...

Scripture:

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15 (NKJV)

Don’t love the world’s ways. Don’t love the world’s goods. Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father.

1 John 2:15 (MSG)

Voices from the Past:

“Whatever cools my affection toward Christ is the world.”

—John Wesley

Founder of the Methodist Church

AFTERTHOUGHTS... PONDER AND PRAY

Ponder Points:

Ponder some of the areas mentioned in this lesson in which you most need God’s help in managing your life in Christ. What do you feel is a specific talent or gift God has given you that you might cultivate more to serve others? Journal your thoughts in the space that follows.

Personal Afterthoughts:

Prayer Points:

Pray about those areas that you need to better cultivate as a good steward or manager in your life. Seek to identify, in prayer, any specific area or areas in which you would like to be more disciplined.

The Ingredients of Spiritual Development (Continued)

Ingredient Three:

Total _____
Focus: The _____ Christian

Voices from the Past:

“It is as men live that they pray. It is the life that prays.”
“All lack of power to pray aright and perseveringly, all lack of power in prayer with God, points to some lack in the Christian life.”

—Andrew Murray
Author of *With Christ in the School of Prayer*

Scripture:

And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Ephesians 5:2 (NKJV)

Live a life filled with love for others, following the example of Christ...

Ephesians 5:2a (NLT)

It’s criminal to ignore a neighbor in need, but compassion for the poor—what a blessing!

Proverbs 14:21 (MSG)

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12 (NIV)

What is compassion?

From the Latin...

Com, meaning "_____ " or "_____ "

Patti, meaning "to _____ "

"Compassion" defined:

"To _____ with or _____ "

Voices from the Past:

"Compassion is not pity. Compassion is love in action."

—Oswald J. Smith

Christian Statesman, Pastor

Three Keys of Compassion

1. The key of _____

A _____ Spirit

"Intensity" defined:

"Existing in an extreme degree; the level of _____ displayed by my involvement"

Scripture:

Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him [Christ] to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem...

Luke 9:51 (NKJV)

2. The key of _____

A _____ Spirit

"Sensitivity" defined:

"To be acutely _____ of the _____ of others; the level of my _____ of the _____ and _____ of others"

Scripture:

Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous.

1 Peter 3:8 (NKJV)

3. The key of _____

A _____ Spirit

"Generosity" defined:

"The act of _____ our possessions and resources with those in _____; the level of my _____ to release myself and my _____ to bless others"

Scripture:

Freely you have received, freely give.

Matthew 10:8b (NKJV)

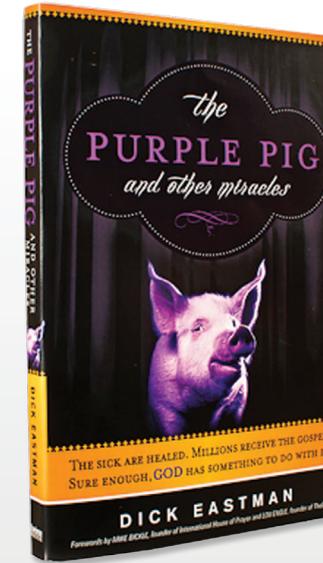


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