

Reading: I Thessalonians 5:15-24

Topic: The Growth Process
From Emotion To Stability

INTRODUCTION: Since we in this class are preparing for or are already in _____ of leadership, it is essential that we develop a growth pattern that will lead us to stability and _____ in our lives.

I. THE COMPOSITION OF HUMAN BEINGS:

A. The Body:

1. We all live in a physical body that is composed of many intricate _____ that work together to help us function in our _____ daily lives. Ps. 139:14-16
2. Our responsibility is to take care of this _____ body or temple by proper nourishment, proper rest, physical exercise, etc. in order to make this temporary house _____ as long as possible. I Cor. 6:19,20

B. The Soul:

1. Everyone has a soul, even though people have tried to _____ its existence, we are more than just a physical _____ that one day will die, but we will still live on in eternity somewhere. Lk. 12:20
2. The soul is the real _____, the person that has emotions, that has aspirations and desires, that feels love and hate, that has likes and _____ etc. Job 14:22; Ps. 42:6; Ps. 35:9

C. The Spirit:

1. The spirit is the life from _____ that keeps the body and the soul together, the breath of life that God breathed into Adam and he became a living _____. Gen. 2:7
2. The word, "spirit," in the passage that we read is translated from the original Greek as. "a current of air" or "breath" which if we _____ or stop breathing, we then _____. Gen. 7:20-22

II. RECOGNIZING STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES:

A. The Physical Body:

1. When we live our lives apart from Christ and before we are _____ again, we live after the _____ and do the works of the _____, not thinking about God or eternal things. Eph. 2:2,3
2. When we hear the Gospel and realize that we are _____ on our way to the lake of fire, we repent and turn to God, obeying the Gospel and our soul receives a new _____ in Christ. I Cor. 6:11
3. This new life in Christ is in conflict with the desires of the _____, so we have to make a decision on whether we are going to allow the _____ to dictate our behavior or let the Spirit lead us. Rom. 8:12
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B. The Soul or The Inner You:

1. There are three basic kinds of _____ - the Spirit of God, the demonic spirits, and also the human Spirit as well, and all of them can affect our lives and _____.
2. It is the will of God for us to develop and _____ our spiritual lives inwardly, allowing the new life of Christ within us to become the dominant trait of our thoughts and _____, thus not permitting the _____ and our own _____ spirit and emotions to be the controlling factor. Rom. 8:13
3. This process of _____ leads to a battle between the _____ or the carnal man, and the Spirit of God or the new life and spiritual _____. Rom. 7:21-23

III. MATURING IN ACTIONS & REACTIONS:

A. Reactions:

1. A wise elder once taught a lesson on _____, stating that it's not just our _____ that count, but also our _____ to the things that happen to us.
2. Our response to the things that others _____ and _____ will reflect just how deep our spiritual lives are and how much we reflect the life of Christ in us.
3. If our spiritual life is not _____, then our reactions will be fleshly, and instead of manifesting the _____ of the spirit, then we will manifest the works of the flesh. Gal. 5:19-25

B. Controlling Our Emotions:

1. One of the things that all of us deal with when we come to God is our _____, or in plain terms, the emotion of _____, which the Scripture refers to as the work of the flesh.
2. The Word of God has a lot to say about controlling our _____:
 - a. Anger does not produce _____. Ecc. 7:9
 - b. Anger can get us in a lot of _____. Gen. 49:5-7
 - c. Anger kept Moses from entering the Promise Land. Num. 20:7-12
 - d. Jesus had to deal with two disciples with _____ problems. Lk. 9:51-56
3. The Word of God reveals that it is _____ for us to keep our temper under control, and we can do it through the _____ of God working and living within us. Pr. 16:32, Ph. 4:13

C. Recognizing Our Condition:

1. The first step to solving a problem is to recognize that we _____ one, and if we are allowing our Spirit and _____ to control us, we need to come to grips with that fact and face it.
2. We need to _____ and ask God to help us, and to show us the root _____ of why we get upset and angry:
 - a. Is it from our _____ hurts?
 - b. Is it because of our _____?
 - c. Is my personal ambition involved and when I am not getting my own _____ do I get upset?

D. Praying For Power To Overcome:

1. The basic principle of spiritual success is to keep the spiritual _____ of our lives strong through our daily _____, reading the Word of God and being with the Body of Christ.
2. When our spiritual life is kept _____, it will overcome the carnal man, and instead of the works of the _____, we will manifest the _____ of the Spirit.

CONCLUSION: God desires for all of us to continue to _____ and mature in our spiritual lives so that we will reflect His light to the _____ and dying world around us.