

“Fully Devoted Followers”

April 25, 2021

We believe in full devotion to Christ

“Let your heart therefore be wholly devoted to the Lord our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments.” - I Kings 8:61

“We are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine. . . ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to GROW UP in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.” - Ephesians 4:14-15 (Emphasis added)

1. We must feed on _____ .

I Peter 2:2 – “Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.”

Hebrews 5:12 – “In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!”

If Sundays represent your only day of scripture intake, you are causing yourself to be malnourished and you will not grow and you will not mature as a follower of Jesus.

2. We must develop spiritual _____ .

Our habits determine who we are and where we will go in life. We form our habits and then our habits form us.

John 13:12-15, 17 (Emphasis added) – “Do you understand what I have done for you?” ¹³“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. . . ¹⁷Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you **DO** them.”

We do not receive God’s blessing for *knowing* the right things to do; we receive God’s blessing for *doing* the right things **HABITUALLY**.

I Corinthians 9:25 (NLT) – “All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize.”

3. We must _____ to grow.

Spiritual growth does not occur automatically; it comes with effort. We gain spiritual maturity only as we become intentional about it.

The question we must all ask ourselves: A year from today, what spiritual gains do you anticipate happening?

Jeremiah 29:13 – “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

II Corinthians 13:9 (LB) - “Our greatest wish and prayer is that you will become mature Christians.”