

The *Heimische* Spiritual Life 2008

Steven Charles Ger
Director/Sojourner Ministries
PO Box 497972
Garland, TX 75049-7972
www.sojournerministries.com

I. Introduction/Prerequisite to living the Spiritual Life

A. Character Traits: What God wants us to diligently cultivate:

1. Virtue (2 Pet. 1:5)
2. Knowledge (2 Pet.1:5)
3. Self-control (2 Pet. 1:6; 1 Pet. 1:13)
4. Perseverance (2 Pet. 1:6)
5. Godliness (2 Pet. 1:6; Tit. 2:11)
6. Brotherly kindness (2 Pet. 1:7)
7. Love (2 Pet. 1:7)

B. Knowledge: What God wants us to know

1. Our election

- a) called and chosen by God (2 Pet. 1:3,10)
- b) Remember that we are called, beloved, reserved by God (Jd. 1)
- c) empowered by the Spirit to obey Jesus (1 Pet. 1:1-2)
- d) called to inherit a blessing (1 Pet. 3:9)
- e) We are partakers of a heavenly calling (Heb. 3:1)
- f) Called to receive the promise of eternal inheritance (Heb. 9:15)
- g) All whom the Father gives to Jesus come to him (Jn 6:37; 17:2)
- h) No one comes to Jesus unless God draws him (Jn. 6:44,65)
- i) We are appointed by God for eternal life (Acts 13:48)
- j) Confident to enter to presence of God (Heb 4:16; 10:19-22)
- k) Draw near to God with sincerity in confident faith (Heb.10:22)

2. Our eternal security

- a) We are permanently sealed with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13-14; 4:30; Jn. 14:16; 2 Cor. 1:21-22)

- b) No one will snatch God's chosen out of Jesus' or the Father's hands (Jn. 10:28-29)

- c) Jesus is our perfect High Priest (Heb. 3:1; 4:14; 7:25)

- d) Jesus is our perfect, once for all sacrifice (Heb. 10:10,14; 1 Pet. 3:18)

- e) Jesus will not cast away those whom God has given him (Jn. 6:37-39)

- f) Jesus is our Advocate (1 Jn 2:1)

- g) We have been reborn (Jn. 1:12; 2 Cor. 5:17; 1 Pet. 1:3)

- h) We have been adopted as God's children (Eph. 1:5)

- i) The New Covenant is eternal (Heb 13:20)

- j) Christ's love is inseparable (Rom. 8:1; 34-39)

k) Salvation is a non-refundable inheritance (Rom. 4:21;11:29;5:10; 1 Cor. 1:8; 5:5; Eph. 2:5-6; 8-9; Phil. 1:6; Heb 5:9; 6:19; 9:12, 15; 1 Pet. 1:3-5)

3. Our identity

a) Believing Jews and Gentiles are on equal spiritual footing before God (Acts 11:18; 15:9-11; Gal. 3:26-28)

b) We are God's firstfruits (James 1:18)

c) Remember that you are children of God (Jn. 1:12; 1 Jn. 3:1)

d) We are in spiritual union with the Messiah (Jn. 17:23,26)

e) Partakers of divine nature (2 Pet. 1; Heb 3:14)

4. God's gift to us

a) Remember God's gift of eternal life (Jn 3:15-16,36; 4:14; 5:24; 6:40,47-58; 8:51; 10:28; 20:31; Jude 21; 1 Jn. 2:25; 5:11-13,20; 1 Pet. 1:3-5, 9; Heb. 5:9-10)

b) We are saved by God's grace through Messiah's action (1 Pet. 1:3; 18-19 2 Pet. 1:2; Heb 2:17:10:10,14)

c) We have been born again (Jn. 3:3-8; 1 Pet. 1:23)

5. Our assurance

- a) Promise of bodily resurrection (Jn. 5:21,28-19; 6:39-44,54 11:25-26; Acts 24:15;1 Cor. 6:14; 15:12-52; 2 Cor. 4:14; Phil. 3:11; 1 Thess. 4:14)

- b) God liberally dispenses wisdom when asked (James 1:5)

- c) Be confident that since Messiah understands our temptations that he will aid us in overcoming them (Heb. 2:18; 4:14-16)

- d) Completely equipped for victorious spiritual life through knowledge of God (2 Pet. 1:3-4)

- e) Jesus always present with us (Matt. 28:20)

C. Relational Partnership Model of Spirituality

- 1. “God gives what he commands”

- 2. “Trust God and get going”

- 3. Scriptural Basis:
 - a) Philippians 2:12-13

b) Colossians 1:29:

D. Definitions

1. Spirituality

2. Religious/Religion:

A system of faith and worship, carried out through service to and adoration of god or gods with devotion, fidelity and conscientiousness; to strive to know and serve a supreme or superior being.

3. Spiritual Life:

The charting of our maturing response to our relationship with God who has personally and at great cost revealed himself to us, and lives in us through His Spirit.

4. Sanctification:

Sanctification is the process of being set apart and continually dedicated through God's grace to attaining the ultimate goal of holiness, which is to be purified for God's sake.

5. Three Factors in Sanctification

a) Regeneration

b) The Holy Spirit\

c) Time

II. The Twin Pillars of the Spiritual Life

A. Holiness

1. Definition

The habitual condition of purity in personhood and essence as well as in intention and behavior, for God's sake.

2. God's holiness

3. Our holiness

a) Being holy (Heb. 10:10)

b) Becoming holy (1 Thess. 5:23)

c) Pursuing holiness (1 Jn. 3:3; 1 Pet. 1:14-16; James 4:8; Heb. 12:10)

B. Grace

1. Definition

The undeserved gift from God to us that enables believers to be in covenantal relationship with Him.

2. Need for Grace

3. Means of Grace

III. Prayer

A. Definition

1. What prayer is:

Prayer is the divinely ordained means through which believers receive His blessing, have their lives aligned with His holiness and their thoughts conformed to His will, as well as the agency through which the course of human history is changed.

2. What prayer is not:

Prayer is not magic; the use of an incantation to produce the desired effect.

B. Personal excuses why not to pray

1. Too busy

2. Feel too dry

3. Don't feel the pressing need

4. Life is too painful
5. I am not good enough
6. Don't want to

C. Theological excuses why not to pray

1. If God is sovereign, how can prayer change anything?
2. Since God is sovereign, my prayers are unnecessary
3. God doesn't listen to me

D. The Solution

1. Do not leave prayer to chance opportunities. Set aside specific time for prayer.
2. Outwit daydreaming and distraction
3. Invite a partner
4. Utilize systematic prayer lists

5. Remember that prayer flows from real relationship
6. Keep at it
7. Try worship first

E. God's word commands us to pray

1. For Whom to Pray

- a) Pray for those in authority (1 Tim. 2:1)
- b) Pray for the church (Eph. 6:18; James 5:16)
- c) Pray for your persecutors (Matt. 5:44; Lk.6:28)
- d) Pray for yourselves (Matt. 5:11-13; Mk. 14:38; Lk. 11:3-4; 21:36,40,46; Acts 8:22; Acts 4:29)

2. For What to Pray

- a) Present every apprehension to God through prayer and petition with thanksgiving (Phil. 4:6-7)

- b) Pray if suffering or sick (James 5:13-15)

- c) To sanctify the ordinary through prayer (1 Tim 4:5)

- d) The sanctification of God's Name (Matt. 5:9; Lk. 11:2)

- e) The success of God's eschatological program (Matt.6:10; Lk. 11:2)

- f) Jewish salvation (Rom. 10:1)

- g) Release of prisoners (Acts 12:5)

- h) For safety (Matt. 24:20; Mk. 13:18)

- i) For forgiveness (Matt 5:12; Lk. 11:4)

- j) For our own material and physical needs (Matt 5:11; Lk.11:3)

- k) For your own spiritual needs (Matt. 5:13; Mk. 14:38; Lk. 11:4; 21:36,40,46; Acts 8:22)

- l) For evangelistic opportunity (Matt. 9:38; Lk. 10:2; Col. 4:2-4; 2 Thess. 3:1)

m) For boldness in evangelism (Acts 4:29)

n) For the physical and spiritual wellbeing of the church (Lk. 22:32; Jn. 17:20-21; Rom. 1:10; 2 Cor. 9:14; 13:7-9; Eph. 1:16-18; 3:14-19; 6:19; Phil. 1:4,9; Col. 1:3,9; 4:12; 1 Thess. 1:2; 3:10; 5:25; 2 Thess. 1:11; Philem. 6)

o) For the peace of Jerusalem (Ps. 122:6)

3. When to pray (Lk. 18:1; 1 Thess. 5:17)

4. Why to pray

a) Predestination does not mitigate the need to pray (Acts 4:28-29)

b) God's omniscience does not mitigate the need to pray (Matt. 6:8)

5. How to pray

a) To God (Matt. 6:9; Lk. 11:2)

b) In the power and by means of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 6:18; Jude 20)

- c) Persistently (Lk. 18:1-8)

- d) Devotedly (Rom. 12:12; Col. 4:2)

- e) Be of sound judgment and clear mind for purpose of prayer (1 Pet. 4:7)

- f) Be careful of many words/vain repetitions (Matt. 6:7)

- g) Avoid ostentatious prayer (Matt. 6:5-6)

- h) Be reassured that even though we do not always know how to pray, or what the content of prayer should be, the Holy Spirit intercedes for us (Rom. 8:26)

- i) Spouses should pray together, at least on occasion (1 Cor. 7:5)

- j) Pray in an anger free and dissension free atmosphere (1 Tim.2:8)

- k) In private (Matt. 6:6)

- l) In public (Acts 1:24; 4:28-29; 12:12; 22:17)

m) With a spirit of forgiveness as we expect forgiveness (Mk. 11:25)

6. God's response

a) Ask and you will receive (Matt. 6:7-11)

b) God answers us when we pray according His will (Jn. 14:13-14; 15:7,16; 16:23; 1 Jn. 5:14-15)

c) God does not always answer our prayer according to our requests (2 Cor. 12:7-9)

d) Husbands must understand and honor wives or risk hindered prayer (1 Pet. 3:7)

F. Content of Prayer

1. Adoration/Praise

2. Confession

3. Petition

4. Intercession

5. Thanksgiving

IV. Discipleship

A. Definition

A disciple is one who has committed his life to the process of sanctification, for God's sake.

B. Commitment

1. Barriers to Commitment

- a) Choice
- b) Entitlement
- c) Perception of Time
- d) The Perfect Moment

2. The Spiritual Life Requires Commitment

- a) The Call to Service

b) Undivided Loyalties (Lk. 14:26)

c) Setting Priorities

d) Get Involved

e) Expose your Potential for Greatness

f) Keep the Big Picture in View

C. Love the Lord your God (Deut. 6:5; Matt.22:37; Mk. 12:30; Lk. 10:27)

1. Heart

a) Lev/Levav

b) Kardia

c) Old heart

d) New heart

2. Mind

- a) Dianoia
- b) Nous
- c) Old mind
- d) New mind

3. Soul

- a) nephesh
- b) psyche
- c) Old soul
- d) New soul

4. Strength/Will

- a) me'od
- b) ischus

c) Old Will

d) New Will

D. The Spiritual Life Requires Passion

1. Drained

2. Dried

3. Depressed

4. Disillusioned

5. Defeated

E. Discipleship and suffering

1. Trials purify faith (1 Pet. 1:6-8; 4:1-3,12-19; James 1:2-4,12)

2. Patiently endure suffering (1 Pet.2:18-25; 3:14-17)

3. All Christians take part in sufferings; it is through them that we enter the kingdom of God (Acts 14:22; 1 Thess. 3:3).

4. Great is your reward in heaven (Matt. 5:10-12; Luke 6:22-23)

5. Take courage in Jesus' victory (Jn. 16:33)

6. Our sufferings are part of the birth pangs of the messiah and are signs of his soon return (Colossians 1:24; 1 Peter 4:13).

7. Our identity as believers in the Messiah guarantees that we will experience various degrees of suffering (John 16:33; Philippians 1:29; 3:10; 2 Timothy 2:3; 1 Pet. 4:16-19).

8. Our suffering yields perseverance, which yields character, which yields hope (Romans 5:3-5)

9. Suffering is a sign of God's favor (Philippians 1:29)

10. Bearing up under undeserved suffering yields God's favor (1 Peter 2:19-20; 3:14-17)

11. Suffering with Christ is essential if we are to be glorified with him (Rom. 8:17-18).

12. Suffering is temporal, glory is eternal (1 Peter 5:10).

13. We must lose our lives to gain them (Matt. 10:39; 16:25; Mk. 8:35; Lk. 9:24; Jn 12:25)

V. What Messiah has done for us

A. Pre-Christian status (Eph. 2:1-3; Is. 64:6; Rom 3:9-23)

1. We were dead in our sins. No relationship with God. Ongoing separation (Is. 64:6-7; Rom 3:9-23)

2. All the forces of sin were arrayed and combined to facilitate our opposition to God (Eph. 2:1-3)

a) Actively and brazenly walked according to our culture – the world.

b) We opposed God with our flesh.

c) We were hooked up to the devil's ipod; we boogied to the beat of rebellion and disobedience.

B. Our Hero (Rom. 5:6-21)

1. Messiah showed His love for the ungodly by His death (Rom. 5:6-11)

2. Death came through Adam; life comes through Messiah (Rom. 5:12-21)

C. United with Messiah (Rom. 6)

1. Sin vs. sins

Sin is the insidious power or force that produces wrongdoing, or sins. It is our inborn disposition to rebellion against God. Sins are manifestations in our actions and attitudes of the control of Sin in our lives.

2. Death to Sin (Rom. 6:1-3)
3. Identification with Messiah (Rom. 6:4-5)
4. Dead to sin and alive to God (6:6-11)
5. The revolution has begun (6:12-13)
6. From bondage to bondage (6:14-23)

D. The Obedience Conundrum (Rom. 7)

1. Believers have died to the Torah (Rom. 7:1-6)
2. The Torah leads to Death (Rom. 7:7-12)

3. Sin overcomes intention (Rom. 7:13-25)

E. Believer's Relationship to the Law

1. Legalism

My self-confident effort to secure God's acceptance or favor through obedience to a legal system as a rule of life, or someone else's attempt to confidently impose this effort upon me.

2. Mosaic Covenant and the New Covenant

- a) The new covenant foretold (Jer. 31:31-34)

- b) Jesus came to fulfill the Law through His perfect obedience (Matt. 5:17-19)

- c) Messiah is the goal and completion of the Law (Rom. 10:4)

- d) Jesus declared all foods clean (Mark 7:19)

- e) If Gentiles (the object of the illustration) are clean, food (the illustration) necessarily must be as well (Acts 10:9-32; 11:5-10)

- f) Mosaic Law called a yoke Jews cannot bear (Acts 15:9-11)

- g) We are under grace, not law (Rom. 6:14)

- h) No longer under the Law, our tutor (Gal. 3:19-4:7)

- i) We are dead in Christ, released from the Law (Rom. 7:1-6)

- j) Law of Christ provides liberty in lifestyle for the purpose of winning others (1 Cor. 9:19-21)

- k) The new covenant compared with the ministry of death (2 Cor. 3:2-11)

- l) Mosaic law has been nailed to the cross (Col. 2:14-17)

- m) Mosaic Law abolished to unite Jews and Gentiles (Eph. 2:11-16)

- n) The Mosaic Law is obsolete, old and disappearing (Heb. 8:13)

- o) The Hebrews Manifesto:
 God's new and superior revelation (1:1-2)
 discloses that with a new and superior permanent priesthood (7:11-19, 28)
 necessarily comes a new and superior permanent law (7:11-19, 28),
 which yields a new and superior permanent hope (7:18-19)
 by which to relate to God (7:25),
 who provides a new and superior permanent guarantee (7:22-24)
 of a new and superior permanent covenant (7:22; 8:6-7)
 based upon new and superior promises (8:6-7),

established through a new and superior sacrifice (9:23-28)
offered by a new and superior permanent Priest (7:11-8:6)
within a new and superior sanctuary (8:2-5; 9:11-12, 24).

p) Break one commandment break them all (James 2:10)

q) Live as under the law of liberty (James 2:12)

r) Cannot eat Passover without circumcision (Ex. 12:43-49 vs. 1
Cor 7:18)

3. The Law of Liberty/Law of Messiah

F. Freedom and Victory (Rom. 8)

1. There is not condemnation but freedom, for believers (Rom. 8:1-2).
2. We have the divine resources to walk by the Spirit and achieve victory (Rom. 8:3-4)
3. We are God's children and His heirs (Rom. 8:14-17)
4. In the face of trial we are super conquerors through Messiah's love (Rom. 8:35-37)
5. Nothing can separate us from His love (Rom. 8:38-39)

G. I have the POWER through the Holy Spirit to

- Choose inconvenience when necessary
- Admit my failures
- Ask forgiveness
- Grant forgiveness
- Study the Bible regularly
- Pray regularly
- Work on my marriage
- Place family before career
- Say no to meaningless activity
- Risk the pain and hurt involved in raising godly kids
- Make courageous choices

- Follow our Messiah wherever He leads us
- SAY YES TO GOD AND NO TO SIN

H. Peter's "Put Asides"

1. Malice (1 Pet. 2:1)
2. Deceit (1 Pet. 2:1)
3. Hypocrisy (1 Pet. 2:1)
4. Envy (1 Pet. 2:1)
5. Slander (1 Pet. 2:1)
6. Anger (James 1:19-20)
7. Filthiness and the remains of wickedness (James 1:21)
8. Bitter jealousy (James 3:14-16)
9. Selfish ambition (James 3:14-16)

I. Let us Take Action!

1. Our actions among believers

- a) Love one another (1 Jn. 2:9-11; 3:10-18,23; 4:7-12, 20-21; 2 Jn. 5; 1 Pet. 1:22; 2:17; 3:8; 4:8; Heb. 13:1; Jn. 13:34-35; 15:12,17)
- b) Do not show favoritism among yourselves (James 2:1-9)
- c) Stop complaining about one another (James 5:9)
- d) Function as the interdependent corporate body you are (Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:13-27)
- e) Continually encourage one another (Heb 3:13)
- f) Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Heb. 10:24)
- g) Increasingly encourage one another (Heb.10:25)
- h) Utilize your spiritual gifts to edify one another (1 Pet. 4:10-11)
- i) Greet one another with a loving sign of fellowship (1 Pet. 5:14)

j) Obey and submit to your leaders so that their work will be joyful (Heb. 13:17)

k) Beware the defiling root of bitterness within the community (Heb. 12:15)

l) Exercise your liberty responsibly (1 Pet. 2:16)

m) Take care of the weaker brother (Rom.14:1-15:3; 1 Cor. 8:1-13)

n) Avoid brothers who live unruly lives (1 Thess. 5:14; 2 Thess.3:6-7,14)

2. Our actions in the world

a) Return evil with good (Matt. 5:39-42; Lk. 6:27-35; 1 Pet. 3:9;

b) Love your enemies (Matt 5:44; Lk. 6:27,35)

c) Treat others as you want to be treated (Matt. 7:12; Lk.6:31)

d) Love your neighbor (Lev. 19:18; Matt. 19:19; 22:39; Mk.

12:31; Lk. 10:27-37; Rom. 13:8-10; Gal. 5:14; James. 2:8)

- e) Conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the gospel (Phil. 1:27)
 - f) Set an example before unbelievers (1 Pet. 2:12)
 - g) Live lives that reveal God in a darkened world (Matt:5:16)
3. Bible study (1 Pet. 2:2; Psalm 1:1-3; 119:11, 103-105; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16-17)
4. Fellowship - Congregational involvement
- a) Not forsaking regular congregational assembly (Heb. 10:25)
 - b) Regularly Observe communion (1 Cor.11:23-26)

VI. Conclusion

VII. Putting it all together/Application/Responsibilities from Scripture

A. Worship

1. Commanded to worship

- a) Praise if cheerful (James 5:13)
- b) Worship is edifying to the body (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16)
- c) Continually praise God with thanksgiving (Heb. 13:15)
- d) Commanded to meet corporately (Heb 10:25)
- e) Public reading of Scripture commanded (1 Tim 4:13)

2. Sought by God -- Worship the Father in Spirit and truth (Jn.4:23-24)

3. Present you bodies a living sacrifice (Rom 12:1)

B. Spiritual Warfare

1. Satan

- a) Jesus came to destroy his works (1 Jn 3:8; 4:4)
- b) Test the spirits (1 Jn. 4:1-2)
- c) Be sober and alert to resist the devil (1 Pet. 5:8-9)
- d) Resist the devil and he will flee (James 4:7)
- e) Satan no longer has dominion over death (Heb. 2:14)

2. Sin Nature

- a) Temptation from lust, lust to sin (James 1:14-15)

3. World

- a) Under the power of Satan (1 Jn. 5:19)
- b) keep unstained from the world (James 1:27)
- c) We are not of this world which hates us (Jn. 15:18-19; 17:14-16; 1 Jn 3:13)
- d) Do not love the world 1 Jn. 2:15-17;
- e) Our faith has overcome the world 1 Jn. 5:4-5)
- f) Friendship with the world is hostility toward God (James 4:4)

C. How God wants us to be

1. Our attitude

- a) Don't judge your neighbor (Matt. 7:1-5; Lk. 6:37; James 4:11-12)
 - b) Like-mindedness (Jn. 17:21; 1 Cor 1:10; 1 Pet. 3:8)
 - c) Like a child (Matt. 18:2-5; Mk. 9:36-37; 10:15; Lk. 9:47-48; 18:17)
 - d) Keep a clear conscience (1 Pet. 3:16)
 - e) Cast anxiety on God (Matt. 6:25-34; 10:28-31; Lk. 12:22-31; 1 Pet. 5:7; Phil. 4:6-7)
 - f) Humility (Matt. 23:11; Lk. 14:8-11; 18:14; 1 Pet. 3:8; 5:5-6; James 4:6,10)
 - g) Respect everyone (1 Pet. 2:17)
 - h) Draw near to God and he will draw near to you (James 4:8)
 - i) Humbly receive the lifesaving implanted word (James 1:21-25)
 - j) Stand firm in the grace of God (1 Pet. 5:12)
 - k) Hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering (Heb. 10:23)
2. Our preparation
- a) Eagerly wait and hope for Jesus' return (Jude 21; 1 Pet. 1:13)
 - (i) Look for and hasten the day of God (2 Pet. 3:12-14)
 - (ii) Be patient in waiting for the final judgment (James 5:7)
 - (iii) Strengthen your hearts (James 5:7)
 - (iv) Jesus is preparing a dwelling for us (Jn. 14:3)
 - (v) Take hold of our hope of our inheritance (Heb. 6:18-20)
 - b) Be ever-ready to gently and respectfully explain your hope (1 Pet. 3:15)
 - c) Desire the word so that you may grow 1 Pet. 2:2
 - d) Prepare your minds for action (1 Pet. 1:13)
 - e) Renewal of mind (Rom 12:2; Eph. 4:23)
 - f) Fear God (1 Pet. 1:17; 2:17)
 - g) Receive the loving fatherly discipline of God, given to purify us (Heb 12:4-11)
 - h) Rest in Jesus (Matt. 11:28-30)
 - i) Abide in Jesus (Jn 15:4-7; 1 Jn 2:6)
 - j) Submit to God (James 4:7)
- D. What God wants us to do
1. Our communication
- a) Do not speak presumptuously
 - (i) Swearing (Matt. 5:34-37; James 5:12)
 - (ii) Planning (James 4:13-16)
 - b) Control your speech (Matt. 12:36-37; James 1:19,26; 3:1-12; Prov. 18:21)
2. Our efforts
- a) Care for orphans and widows (James 1:27)
 - b) No work, no food (2 Thess. 3:10-12)
 - c) Don't get tired of doing good (2 Thess 2:13)
 - d) Faith must be perfected by action (James 2:14-26)

- e) Be perfect as God is perfect (Matt. 5:48)
 - f) Remember prisoners (Heb. 13:3)
 - g) Wisely utilize your gifts and talents (Matt. 25:14-30; Lk. 12:48; 19:12-26)
 - h) Be doers of the word and not merely hearers (James 1:22)
 - i) Practice forgiveness as God forgives you (Matt. 6:14-15; 18:21-22,35; Mk. 11:25-26; Lk. 17:3-4)
 - j) Give with generosity (Mk. 12:43-44; Lk. 6:38; 21:3-4)
 - k) Do not neglect doing good and sharing (Heb. 13:16)
 - l) Walk in truth/commandments (Jn. 14:15,21; 15:10,14; 1 Jn. 1:7; 2:3-6; 5:2-3; 2 Jn 4; 3 Jn. 4,6)
 - m) Run the spiritual life race with endurance, laying aside every encumbrance and entangling sin (Heb. 11:1-3; Phil. 3:13-14)
 - n) Respect government (Matt. 22:21; Mk. 12:17; Lk. 20:25; Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:13-15, 17)
 - o) Build ourselves up in faith (Jude 20)
3. Our Marriages
 - a) Wives be submissive to husbands (1 Pet. 3:1-6)
 - b) Husbands understand and honor your wives (1 Pet. 3:7)
 - c) Honor marriage (Heb. 13:4)
 4. Our Confident confession
 - a) To one another (James 5:16)
 - b) To the Lord (1 Jn. 1:8-2:2)
 5. Our service
 - a) Show hospitality
 - (i) To strangers (Heb. 13:2)
 - (ii) Be cheerfully hospitable to one another (1 Pet. 4:9)
 - b) Serve one another (Matt. 20:26-27; 23:11; Mk. 9:35; 10:43-44; Lk. 22:26; Jn. 13:14-15)
 - c) In gratitude for our royal inheritance, reverently serve God (Heb. 12:28)
 6. Demonstrate wisdom through wise living (James 3:13-17)
 - a) Purity (Matt 5:8)
 - b) Peacefulness (Matt. 5:9; Mk. 9:50; Rom. 12:18; 2 Cor. 13:11; 1 Thess. 5:13; Heb. 12:10)
 - c) Gentleness (Matt. 5:5)
 - d) Reasonable (Matt. 7:24-27)
 - e) Merciful (Matt. 5:7 Lk. 6:36)
 - f) Fruitful (Matt. 5:6)
 - g) unwavering (Matt. 6:37)
 - h) not hypocritical (Matt. 6:1-6)
 - i) Keep yourselves in God's love (Jude 21)
 7. Be alert
 - a) Remember Bible prophecies about end times (2 Pet. 3:2)
 - b) Be alert for the return of the Lord (Matt. 24:42-44; Mk. 13:31-37; Lk. 12:35-48; Tit.2:12)

- c) Beware greed
 - (i) be content with what you have (Heb. 13:5)
 - (ii) life consists of more than possessions (Lk.12:15)
 - (iii) Store up treasure in heaven (Matt. 6:21; Lk. 12:34)
 - (iv) You can't serve God and wealth (Matt.6:24; Lk. 16:13)
 - d) It is sin to know the correct thing to do and not do it (James 4:17)
 - e) Beware false teachers and teaching (Matt. 7:15-20; Heb. 13:9; 2 Pet. 3:17-18)
 - f) Guard against idols (1 Jn. 5:21)
- E. Other Popular Models of Spirituality
1. The Jewish Model
 - a) Teshuvah (repentance)
 - b) Tefillah (prayer)
 - c) Tzedakah (charity, righteous deeds)
 - d) Scriptural Basis 1 Sam. 15:22; Hos.6:6; Mic. 6:8
 2. The "Let go and let God" Model
 - a) "Put your all on the altar"
 - b) Surrender/Passivity
 - c) "Save from guilt, save from power"
 - d) Scriptural Basis Is. 64:8; Rom. 12:1; 6:1-14
 3. The Second Blessing/Continued Work(s) of Grace Model
 - a) Post-conversion experience for victory
 - b) Spirit Baptism, Tongues, slain in the Spirit
 - c) Scriptural Basis Acts 2; 1 Cor. 12:12-13
 4. The "Feel the Burn" Model
 - a) "No pain, no gain," or "just suck it up"
 - b) Scriptural Basis Phil. 2:12; Heb. 5:9