

DISCOVERING SPIRITUAL GROWTH

CLASS 201

I. THE BASIS FOR THIS CLASS:

“As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 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)

II. THE FOCUS OF THIS CLASS:

We will focus on basic disciplines every Christian needs to develop in order to grow toward spiritual maturity.

III. WHAT IS “SPIRITUAL MATURITY”?

Spiritual maturity is_____.

IV. FACTS ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

1. It is not _____.
2. It is a _____.
3. It takes _____.

V. UNDERSTANDING DISCIPLESHIP

1. Maturing believers are called_____.
2. You cannot be a disciple without being _____.
3. The more disciplined you become _____.
4. The mark of a disciple is _____.

“Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.” (Luke 14:27)

5. How often are you to do this? _____

“And He was saying to *them* all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.” (Luke 9:23)

6. What is involved in "cross bearing"? _____ to give Christ first place in your life!

VI. FOUR DISCIPLINES OF A DISCIPLE

1. _____ (John 8:31-32)

2. _____ (John 15:7-8)

3. _____ (Luke 14:33)

4. _____ (John 13:34-35)

VII. TIME WITH GOD AND HIS WORD

1. How often should you spend time with God and His Word? _____

2. You should not only read God’s Word but you should _____ on God’s Word.

“But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.” (Psalms 1:2-3)

3. Meditation is _____ about a Bible verse in order to discover how you can apply its truth to your own life.

4. Why meditate on God’s Word?

a. It is the key to _____. (Romans 12:2)

b. It is the key to _____. (John 15:7)

c. It is the key to _____. (Psalm 1:2-3)

5. Ways to meditate on God's Word:

a. Say the verse _____.

b. Write the verse _____.

c. Personalize the verse by replacing the pronouns and people in the verse with _____.

d. Turn the verse into _____ and say it back to God.

e. Probe the verse by _____ if there is any:

Sin to confess?

Promise to claim?

Attitude to change?

Command to keep?

Example to follow?

Prayer to pray?

Error to avoid?

Truth to believe?

Something to thank God for?

6. Your time alone with God should be the top priority in your schedule for several reasons:

a. You were _____ to have fellowship with God. (Revelation 3:20)

b. Jesus _____ to make a relationship with God possible. (Romans 5:8)

c. Jesus spent personal time _____ with God. (Mark 1:35)

d. Every person in the Bible who effectively _____ God spent time alone with Him.

e. You cannot _____ without spending time alone with God. (Matthew 4:4)

VIII. PRAYER (Talking with God)

1. Approach prayer with the right attitude. (Matthew 6:5-8)
 - a. Be _____
 - b. Be _____
 - c. Be _____
2. Jesus gave you a model to follow in your prayers in Matthew 6:9-13.
 - a. Praise Him: Begin by _____.
 - b. Purpose: Pray for _____ to be done in your life, your family, your church, your job, your ministry, your future, your city, your nation, the world.
 - c. Provision: Ask God to _____.
 - d. Pardon: Confess your _____ to God.
 - e. People: Pray for _____.
 - f. Protection: Ask for _____.

IX. HONORING GOD WITH YOUR GIVING

In 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, God urges you to be generous in _____ in all areas of your life, including _____ at the church where you worship.

1. Why does God want you to give?
 - a. God _____ us His Son. (John 3:16)
 - b. Giving draws you _____. (Matthew 6:21)
 - c. Giving is the antidote to _____. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)
 - d. Giving strengthens _____. (Proverbs 3:5,9)

- e. Giving is an investment _____. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)
 - f. Giving blesses _____. (Proverbs 22:9)
 - g. Giving leads to _____. (Acts 20:35)
2. When and how much should you give at the church where you worship?
- a. _____
 - b. In accordance with how God has _____.
(1 Corinthians 16:2)

X. FELLOWSHIP

1. Why is fellowship so important?
- a. You _____ in God's family with other believers. (Galatians 6:10)
 - b. You need _____ to grow spiritually. (Hebrews 10:24)
 - c. You need _____ to grow spiritually. ((Hebrews 3:13)
 - d. Jesus is _____ when we fellowship together. (Matthew 18:20)
 - e. There is _____ when people pray together. (Matthew 18:19)
 - f. Fellowship is a _____ to the world. (John 17:21)
 - g. You are _____ to every other Christian. (1 Peter 4:10)

Serve one another (Galatians 5:13)

Accept one another (Romans 15:7)

Forgive one another (Colossians 3:13)

Greet one another (Romans 16:16)

Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)

Be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10)

Honor one another (Romans 12:10)

Teach one another (Romans 15:14)
Submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21)
Encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

2. How do you fellowship with others here at Central Baptist Church?

- a. Attend a _____ at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday.
- b. Attend the _____ at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday.
- c. Attend the Wednesday evening _____ (topics such as marriage or living for Christ in a secular world).
- d. Attend the monthly _____.
- e. Join a _____.
- f. Attend the quarterly _____.
- g. Attend the quarterly _____.
- h. _____ at the church.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITMENT

With God's help, I will strive to establish and strengthen the following disciplines in my life that will help me grow spiritually in the Lord Jesus Christ:

1. A daily time alone with God, reading and meditating on His Word.
2. A daily time alone with God in prayer.
3. Regularly attend a weekly Bible class at Central Baptist Church to grow in my knowledge of God, and to fellowship with God and other believers.
4. Regularly attend a weekly worship service at Central Baptist Church to worship God with other believers.
5. Regularly give of my time and money to thank and honor God and serve His family at Central Baptist Church.

Print Name

Date: _____

Signature

Adult Bible Classes

Crusaders Class

Primarily retirement age

Ambassadors Class

Primarily empty nesters/those in 40's and up

Pathfinders Class

Primarily people in their 30's & 40's

Journey Class

Primarily people in their 20's and 30's

Young Adult Class

For unmarried people 18-30 years old

Ladies Class

Ladies of all ages