God's Process for Spiritual Growth

ACTIONS OF GOD'S PROCESSES

- 1. Put the Word of God First Place in All. Matt. 6:35 (Foundation) Prov. 4:22—Romans 4:17—Luke 6:46-49.
- 2. Understand the Real You. You must be born again Jn. 3:3-6; II Cor. 5:17; I Peter 1:23; Rom 10:9.
- 3. Meditate in (Eat) the Word of God. Ezk. 3:1-4—Joshua 1:8—Mark 4:27— Matthew 4:4. Meditating, sows the word in our heart & builds (expands) our capacity for faith and will lead us into fellowship with God due to the great light received. Be righteousness conscience- Righteousness gives us boldness to enter the Holy of Holies.
- 4. Pray in the Spirit (Exercise) after meditating, to receive a fuller, greater enlightenment. (letter verses spirit). James 5:16—tells us strength and power in the faith be-comes available here.
- Hear—Listen to what the Spirit of God is saying. Decide (make a quality decision) to receive the light.
- 6. Declare (speak) it . Heb. 5:12-14 (ampl) Romans 10:9-10—Mark 11:23.
- 7. Act (believe) on the word revealed, heard and received. Be led by this, not the fantasies of the flesh. You can only do this step IF you have meditated in the word.
- 8. ALWAYS act in Love!

DEVELOPING THE SPIRIT MAN

God began Joshua's ministry by informing him of the requirements to be successful. Joshua 1:8. He said "The Book of the Law (word) shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, THAT you may observe (understand what) to do according to all that is written in it. For THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have good success."

God told Joshua that He must meditate in His word daily. When we do this, it will automatically lead us to a prayer life (fellowshipping with God).

As you can clearly see, this instruction by God involved three of man's five senses, sight, speaking and hearing. Jesus said in John 15:7 "we are to abide in the word and let it abide in us; let it dwell in us richly. Col. 3:16.

We must take time to meditate in the word until it is built into our mental processes and our spirit man, until it literally governs our thinking. This process renews our mind (Rom. 12:2) and plants the seed of the word in our spirit man.

When we meditate in the word, it builds our capac- ity for faith. Eph. 3:16-17 gives us the secret of a rich spiritual understanding of the word, an intimate fellowship with the Father and a growing faith.

Ability and strength is given so that Christ through the word may dwell in your

recreated spirit to the end that you "being rooted and grounded in love" may be strong to grasp the "fullness (love, grace, wisdom, healing, ability) of His redemption, the reality of His righteousness and His sense of mastery over His enemies.

We are changed into His image by beholding His glory (light) in the word. We are actually made one with Him. John 17:11. This means His image is going to be reproduced in us until, after awhile, it will no longer be we that live BUT Christ living through us. Gal 4:19 "till Christ be formed in us". The word never becomes a "part of us" until we practice it in our daily lives.

You can talk it all you want but it is never real until you act on it.

Eph. 3:20 "Now unto Him its according to the power that works in us".

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

We must take time to pray, fellowship with God in the Spirit after meditating in the word, that we may receive a fuller, greater enlightenment of the word sown. This is when we receive strength and power.

I Tim. 4:7-8 declares "But reject profane and old wives' fables, and <u>exercise</u> yourself towards godliness. For bodily <u>exercise</u> profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is AND of that which is to come." This is "good success." Don't expect to feed on "gossip, TV, etc" and grow in the grace. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word: <u>what are you hearing</u>.

Jude 20 shows us what spiritual exercise is; "But you beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit." Strength and power come through exercise.

The Holy Spirit explained it to me this way. He said "Meditation on the Word causes His voice to become bolder (more prominent, stand out, more confident) AND Prayer causes His voice to become stronger (more powerful). This is when the Spirit of Might goes into effect, and gives life to the word (seed) in you and that life is the light of man Luke 8:11 tell us "the seed is the word of God". A seed is an ovule, a fertilized ripened ovule of a flowering plant, (which reproduces after its own kind), containing an embryo (life part) and is capable of germination to produce a new plant. Everything necessary to cause that seed to grow is inside the seed.

Think of yourself as a seed. As a child of God, you have everything in you necessary to become a full grown, fully mature son of God. The process that you go through however, involves more than just learning.

THERE IS MORE THAN JUST WHAT YOU SEE! You MUST pray.

There is an unseen, heavenly force that inter- acted in the beginning. Gen. 1:1-2. That is, God sent His Holy Spirit to perform (do) the work. Prov. 3:19-20; Rev. 5:6; 4:5; Isa. 11:2.

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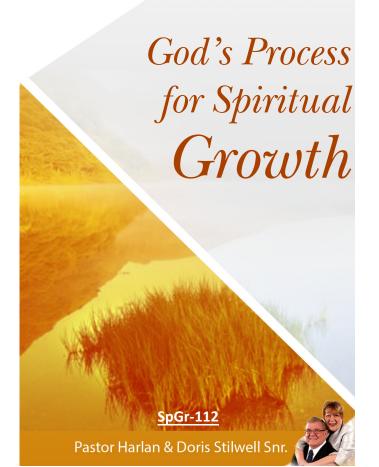
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(continued from within)

These spirits NOW and in the beginning are in action; they work in a process as a seed in the natural.

But, though you have everything in you necessary to become a full grown person, you need to be able to interact with the Spirit that created the Heavens and the earth. You see, "the Spirit gives life to the word." John 6:63 and that life is the light of man and the "effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man makes tremendous power available." James 5:16 (ampl).

You see, praise and worship waters the seed of the word in your heart, breaks up the fallow ground and causes it to germinate. THE RESULT IS GREATER REVELATION OR LIGHT and power!

Then you must act upon (do) what has been revealed to you. When your action (movement) is within a divine process, you are then being motivated (led, walking) by those spiritual forces, here in the earth.

WALKING IN GOD'S WAYS VERSES THE WORLD'S WAYS

All things God made are good. (see Gen. 1). A new creation is considered

by God to be grown up, mature, WHEN he\she just receives God's word as truth. Because you were created in His image and likeness, when you become of age, YOU then have the ability to make all things work for good.

However, you understand that Satan is the God of this world! II Cor. 4:4. Everything he does is nothing but "perversion", which is defined as "to cause a contrary action, a turning away from what is right." So when you DO NOT exercise (pray and act on) the words which God fixes (unveils) before you, YOU pervert and tilt the scale of justice and receive the wrath from the end, which is NOW.

In other words, when you don't activate God's Spirit by acting upon the revealed word of God, you activate your own spirit (do what you think instead of what God says). And when you walk according to your flesh, you walk according to what's in the world, of which Satan is the God.

But, when you walk according to God's Spirit (leading), you walk according to what's in the heavens which can cause all things to work for your good. Rom. 8:28.