*“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whateveryou want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.” (Gal 6:16-18)*

Fundamentally, the secret of success is our day-to-day walk with Jesus. The walk with Jesus is the object, because it’s all about a relationship with Jesus Christ.

**BAPTISM IS A RITE OF PASSAGE THAT CHANGES US**

Jesus commanded us to be baptized; He wanted us to make a public declaration of salvation. Baptism symbolizes the resurrection of your spirit as well as your public demonstration of your private commitment to God. Baptism is also a rite of passage that should have a palpable, emotional impact on you. In Biblical times, the act changed how others perceived you, and it changed you in how you perceived yourself.

**WE MUST FORGIVE OTHERS AND REPENT OF FALSE BELEIFS**

When we elect to not forgive those who have offended us, we are choosing to sit in judgement on them. To not forgive is to judge and self-seek, which will bring on “wrath, anger, trouble, and distress”. (Romans 2:8-9) Thus, it is imperative that we forgive, as we are commanded to do. Repentance applies to beliefs; Forgiveness applies to people.Repentance applies to false belief systems (idolatry); thus, we repent of wrong beliefs.

*“if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*

(Matt 6:14-15)

**DISCIPLESHIP 101-2: THE PRAYER LIFESTYLE**

**KEYS FOR LIVING A LIFESTYLE OF PRAYER**

**YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN! WE ARE THE BRIDE OF CHRIST!**

* Admit you are a sinner; you rebelled against the Father.
* You ask forgiveness for your sin & repent of your false beliefs.
* Accept that Jesus was God in the flesh. Jesus was sent by the Father to live the perfect life so as to be the perfect sacrifice.
* Accept that Jesus died on the cross in your place; Jesus paid the awful price for all sin.
* Jesus death and resurrection redeemed you. He purchased you; the “Title Deed” to you passed hands! Therefore, you commit to learn to live as a sold out servant of Jesus Christ.
  + *“You are not your own;**you were bought at a price”* (1 Cor 6:19-20)
  + *“offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness”* (Rom 6:19)
  + *”now that you have…become slaves of God”*

(Rom 6:22)

**IN RETURN:**

* You are declared as part of The Bride of Christ, You will spend eternity in Heaven with Jesus. You are judged and declared perfectly righteous.
  + *“Be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect”*

(Matt 5:48)

* Expect you’ll be tested to demonstrate your faithfulness
  + “*Those who persevere to the end [are those who are saved]”* (Matt 24:13)
  + *“…we] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.*” (Rom 5:4)
  + *“…the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.* (Pro 3:12)
  + *“God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness”* (Heb 12:10)

**WE ARE SPIRITUAL CREATURES LIVING A SPIRITUAL EXISTENCE: WE ARE ETERNAL**

The notion that we are no longer natural creatures, but now supernatural entities is a belief that we must embrace. We can no longer live as we used to. When we are saved, we become something entirely new that is spiritual, not natural! Note these passages:

*“So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”* (2 Cor 5:16-17)

*“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”* (Col 3:1-4)

*“… if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.”* (Rom 8:10-11)

*“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”* (Gal 2:20)

*“The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life".* (John 6:63)

*“The righteous will live by faith”* (Rom 1:17, Gal 3:11, Heb 10:38)

**WE ARE IN A WAR**

Like it or not, we have been put in the middle of a spiritual, world-wide battle. We are not given a choice in the matter. We tend to forget that we are fighting a spiritual war, which is a grave error.

*“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.”* (2 Cor 10:3)

*“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.**Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”* (Eph 6:10-12)

**LUKE 2: WE COMMIT TO A LIFE LONG, CONSISTENT, DAILY WALK WITH JESUS CHIRST.**

Luke 2 tells us of boy Jesus exploits in the Temple. When Jesus’ parents ask Him why He was at the Temple, Jesus says:

*“Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house? “ But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.* (Luke 2:49-52).

**gotquestions.org:** ”“walk” in the Bible is often a metaphor for practical daily living. The Christian life is a journey, and we are to walk it—we are to make consistent forward progress. The biblical norm for all believers is that they walk in the Spirit: “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit”” (https://www.gotquestions.org/Spirit-walk.html).

(continued on next page:)