

**PARENTING BY THE BOOK
EMPOWERING THE HOLY SPIRIT**

1. REVIEW

A. **1 Thessalonians 5:23** (NASB) Now may **the God of peace** Himself **sanctify you entirely**; and may your **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be **preserved complete**, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

B. PAUL MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THESE PARTS ARE **REAL** AND **DISTINCT** FROM EACH OTHER:

1. **SPIRIT**

2. **SOUL**

3. **BODY**

C. **SALVATION**

1. THE **TRANSFORMATION** IN OUR **SOUL** AND OUR **BODY** IS A **PROCESS**.

a. **SANCTIFICATION**

2. THE **TRANSFORMATION** IN OUR **SPIRIT** IS **NOT A PROCESS**...

a. IT IS **INSTANTANEOUS**... AND NOW OUR **SPIRIT** IS:

1) PERFECT

2) MATURE

3) COMPLETE

3. AS WE GET OUR **SOUL** IN **AGREEMENT** WITH WHAT HAS ALREADY TRANSPIRED IN OUR **SPIRIT**, OUR **BODY** WILL BE **CHANGED** IN IT'S **BEHAVIOR PATTERNS**.

a. OUR **SPIRIT** HAS TO **FLOW** THROUGH OUR **SOUL** FOR OUR PHYSICAL (**BODY**) TO CHANGE.

1) THAT IS THE **PROCESS** OF **SANCTIFICATION**.

D. OUR **MIND** IS LIKE A **VALVE** IN OUR **SOUL** (MIND, WILL, EMOTIONS = PERSONALITY).

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1. **IF OUR MIND IS CLOSED OUR SPIRIT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RENEW OUR MIND, WILL, OR EMOTIONS = OUR SOUL.**
 - a. **WHEN OUR MIND IS CLOSED TO SPIRITUAL TRUTH THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT DOES NOT FLOW FROM OUR SPIRIT TO OUR SOUL.**
 - 1) **LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS (GODNESS), FAITHFULNESS, AND SELF-CONTROL.**
 - b. **WHEN OUR MIND IS CLOSED TO SPIRITUAL TRUTH GOD'S POWER DOES NOT FLOW FROM OUR SPIRIT TO OUR SOUL AND TO OUR BODY.**
2. **THE BOTTOM LINE: OUR MIND IS ABLE TO CONTROL HOW MUCH OR HOW LITTLE OUR SPIRIT IS ABLE TO AFFECT OUR SOUL AND OUR BODY.**
2. **AFTER SALVATION THE REST OF OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE IS RENEWING OUR MIND SO OUR SOUL AND OUR PHYSICAL BODY WILL EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**
 - A. **Romans 12:1-3a (NASB)** Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. And **do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, so that you may **prove what the will of God is**, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.
 1. **"CONFORMED" = PRESSED INTO A MOLD = PRESSURE FROM THE WORLD, SATAN, AND OUR CARNAL BODY NOT TO BE SPIRITUAL.**
 2. **James 3:14-17 (NASB)** But if you have bitter jealousy and **selfish ambition** (THE UNHOLY TRINITY... ME, MYSELF, and I) in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. **This wisdom is not that which comes down from above (GOD'S WORD), but is earthly (WORLD), natural (FLESH), demonic (DEVIL).** For where jealousy and **selfish ambition** exist, there is **disorder** and **every evil thing**. But the

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wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

3. "TRANSFORMED"

a. GREEK = METAMORPHO

b. ENGLISH = METAMORPHOSIS

c. THE **PROCESS** OF GOING FROM A **WORM** TO A **BUTTERFLY**.

B. **IF WE WANT A TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE IN OUR LIFE FROM A DEFEATED PERSON (WORM) TO THE VICTORIOUS PERSON (BUTTERFLY) THAT GOD WANTS US TO BE) WE MUST "RENEW OUR MIND".**

1. **BECAUSE OUR MIND IS THE VALVE THAT IS STOPPING/HINDERING THE FLOW OF POWER TO OUR SOUL AND BODY!**

3. HOW DO WE RENEW OUR MIND?

A. **OUR MIND IS RENEWED THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD!**

1. **BY SPENDING TIME WITH GOD IN HIS WORD.**

4. "ABIDING"

A. **James 1:25** "But one who looks intently at the perfect law (GOD'S WORD), the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does" **AND, HE WILL BRING GLORY TO GOD!!**

1. **"ABIDING" IS WHAT WE DO TO EMPOWER THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP US OVERCOME SIN PATTERNS IN OUR LIVES... AND THEREBY GLORIFY GOD.**

a. **AND... SO THAT WE CAN HELP OUR CHILDREN OVERCOME THE SIN PATTERNS IN THEIR LIVES... AND GLORIFY GOD.**

1) **PARENTING 101: MORE IS CAUGHT THAN TAUGHT.**

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B. **John 15:1-11 (NASB)** "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, **He prunes it** (James 1:2-4) **so that it may bear more fruit**. "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. "**Abide in Me**, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it **abides in the vine**, so neither can you unless you **abide in Me**. "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who **abides in Me** and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. "If anyone does not **abide in Me**, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. "If you **abide in Me**, and **My words abide in you**, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. "Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; **abide in My love**. "If you keep My commandments, you will **abide in My love**; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and **abide in His love**. "These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

C. **ABIDING IS WHAT WE DO TO EMPOWER THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

5. **QUESTION: HOW DO WE ABIDE**

A. **NOTE: ALL RELATIONSHIPS REQUIRE TIME**

B. **BY SPENDING TIME IN GOD'S WORD**

1. **Joshua 1:8 (NASB)** "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall **meditate on it day and night**, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.
2. **Psalm 119:9-11 (NASB)** How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping *it* according to Your word. With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments. **Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.**

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3. **Matthew 4:3-4 (NASB)** And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, '**MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.**' ... HIS **WRITTEN WORD**

4. **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NASB)** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

a. **READING** GOD'S WORD IS GOOD.

b. **KNOWLEDGE** OF GOD'S WORD IS BETTER.

c. **MEMORIZING** GOD'S WORD IS IMPORTANT.

d. **UNDERSTANDING** GOD'S WORD IS CRITICAL.

1) **KNOWLEDGE** OF GOD'S WORD IS LIKE PUTTING FOOD IN YOUR MOUTH.

2) **UNDERSTANDING** GOD'S WORD IS LIKE SWALLOWING THAT FOOD SO THE BODY CAN START DIGESTING IT SO THE NUTRIENTS CAN BE RELEASED INTO OUR BODY.

5. **DISCUSS: SPENDING TIME IN GOD'S WORD**

C. **BY SPENDING TIME IN PRAYER**

1. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-19 (NASB)** Rejoice always; **pray without ceasing**; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. **Do not quench the Spirit**

a. EVIDENTLY **NOT** SPENDING TIME PRAYING **QUENCHES THE SPIRIT!**

2. **Philippians 4:6-7 (NASB)** Be anxious for nothing, but in **everything** by **prayer** and **supplication** with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God. And **the peace of God**, which surpasses all comprehension, **will** guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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3. **Matthew 6:5-15 (NASB)** "When you pray, you are **not** to be like the **hypocrites**; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners **so that they may be seen by men**. Truly I say to you, **they have their reward in full**. "But you, **when you pray**, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you. "And when you are praying, **do not use meaningless repetition** as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. "So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. "Pray, then, **in this way** (A MODEL OF HOW TO PRAY): 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name (**ADORATION/GIVING THANKS**). 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven (**CONSECRATION/TO SURRENDER[SET APART] OUR BODY, SOUL CAREER, FAMILY, FINANCES, TIME, ETC.**). 'Give us this day our daily bread (**SUPPLICATION/EXPRESSING NEEDS**). 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors (**INTERCESSION/FORGIVENESS [FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS]**). 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil (**PROTECTION**). [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]" "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **"But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions (FAILURE TO FORGIVE OTHERS BLOCKS THE PATH TO OUR OWN FORGIVENESS!!!)**.
4. **NOTE: PRAYER IS NOT ALL SUPPLICATION/PETITION**
5. **IN ORDER TO BUILD A STRONG PRAYER LIFE, WE NEED A TEMPLATE**
6. **"YOU CAN DO MORE THAN PRAY AFTER YOU HAVE PRAYED, BUT YOU CANNOT DO MORE THAN PRAY UNTIL YOU HAVE PRAYED."** (A.J. GORDON)
7. **"I HAVE SO MUCH TO DO TODAY THAT I SHALL SPEND THE FIRST THREE HOURS IN PRAYER."** (MARTIN LUTHER)
- a. **DO YOU NEED MORE TIME?... PRAY!**
8. **DISCUSS: WHAT SPENDING TIME IN PRAYER LOOKS LIKE TO YOU.**
6. **SPENDING TIME WITH GOD REQUIRES A TIME COMMITMENT AND A TEMPLATE HELPS**