

# "STEP UP"



## LESSON #3:

### The 6 Levels of Spiritual Growth Pt. 2

JULY 9, 2015

*Heb. 5:12* For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

- *What is spiritual maturity?*
- **True spiritual maturity is the ability to recognize what is right and what is wrong.**

*Hebrews 5:13-14* For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. 14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

#### 1. A Babe

*1 Pet 2:2* As newborn **babes**, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.

- **A babe is one that needs to be fed and nourished.**
- Characteristics of this level:
  - a. They Resist Limitations*

*Psalms 58:3* The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

*b. They Want Their Own Way.*

*Isaiah 53:6* All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way. . .

*c. They Need Daily Nourishment.*

*1 Pet 2:2* As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.

*d. They Have Little Understanding.*

*1 Corinthians 3:1* And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

- **The main goal for a baby Christian is growth.**
- Questions to ask and reflect on for personal evaluation:
  - Do I \_\_\_\_\_ Biblical limitations?
  - Are there \_\_\_\_\_ in which I must have my own way, without regard to whether it is right or wrong?
  - Do I really \_\_\_\_\_ God's word?
  - Do I desire to \_\_\_\_\_ in my faith?

**2. A \_\_\_\_\_**

*1 Corinthians 14:20* Brethren, be not **children** in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

*1 John 2:1a* My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not

- **A child is one that needs to be trained.**

*1 Peter 1:14-15* As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: 15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation.

- Characteristics of this level:

*a. They Are \_\_\_\_\_.*

*1 Corinthians 13:11* When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

*b. They Need \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Galatians 4:1-2* Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; 2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

*Pro. 29:15* The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame

*c. They Lack The Ability To \_\_\_\_\_ Ahead.*

*Proverbs 27:12* A prudent man foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished.

d. *They Are Easily* \_\_\_\_\_.

*Eph. 4:14* That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

- **The main goal for a child is learning the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Proverbs 16:6* By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil.

- Questions to ask and reflect on for personal evaluation:
  - Do you \_\_\_\_\_ with immature actions that are visible to others?
  - Do you have a healthy \_\_\_\_\_ of God?
  - Are you seeking to be \_\_\_\_\_ in the ways of God through His word and the help of other Christians?
  - Do you make \_\_\_\_\_ without thought as to future consequences?
  - Are you easily \_\_\_\_\_ by false teaching because of your lack of knowledge of God's word?
  - Are you easily \_\_\_\_\_ by others words or actions?

### 3. A Son

*1 John 3:2-3* Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

- **The son is one who is in the \_\_\_\_\_ of his father.**
- Characteristics of this level:
  - a. *They embrace* \_\_\_\_\_.

*1 Corinthians 13:11* When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

b. They accept \_\_\_\_\_.

*Hebrews 12:6-8* For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. 7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? 8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

c. They accept the father's \_\_\_\_\_.

*Romans 8:14-15* For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. 15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

d. They are willing to \_\_\_\_\_ for relationship sake.

*2 Corinthians 6:17-18* Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

e. They are to \_\_\_\_\_ their father's words.

*Proverbs 2:1 & 5* My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee. Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God.

- **The spiritual goal is to \_\_\_\_\_ God's righteousness in his life.**

*Philippians 2:15* That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world.

- Questions to ask and reflect on for personal evaluation:
  - Are you willing to become a \_\_\_\_\_ believer?
  - Would you accept God's \_\_\_\_\_ if that is what it takes to mature you?
  - Do you seek God's \_\_\_\_\_ in your life?
  - Are you willing to \_\_\_\_\_ anything that would come between you and your Heavenly Father?
  - Is your heart truly \_\_\_\_\_ to the words of God?