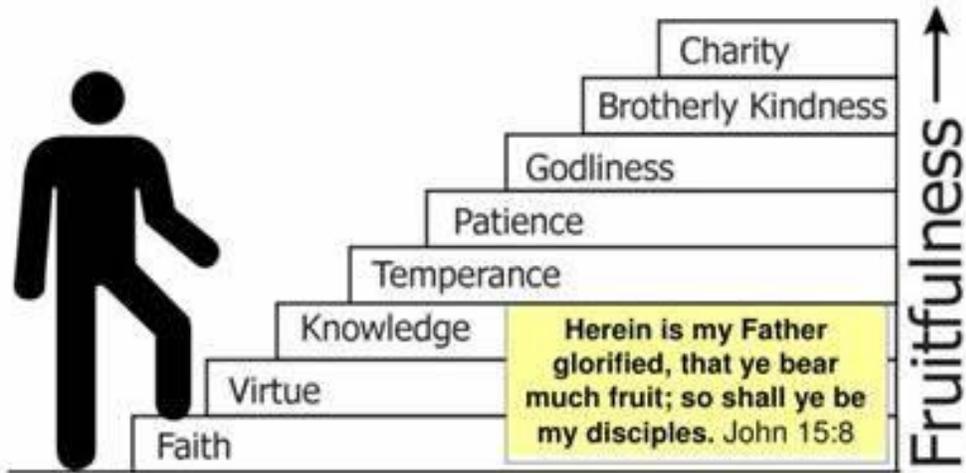


# God's Call to Spiritual Growth

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. Psalm 37:23,24



# MARCH BIBLE STUDY SERIES

# SOLID STEPS OF CHRISTIAN GROWTH

**Lesson Nine:**  
**Add To Your Faith Godliness**  
**Part I**

**Scripture Lesson:**  
**II Peter 1:5-7**

**II Peter 1:5-7 NKJV, But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance GODLINESS, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.**

**“Your life as a Christian should  
make nonbelievers question  
their disbelief in God.”**

**“Godliness” means “a proper response to the things of God, which produces obedience and righteous living.”**

**Godliness is more than just a state of mind – it is a way of life that honors God in action and attitude.**

**Godliness is living a fruitful,  
obedient Christian life.**

# **Godliness as A Two-Prong Trait:**

**1. The INSIDE-OUT attitude of always thinking of God and with God. You are spiritually minded.**

**Romans 8:6-8, For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

**Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.**

**2. The OUTSIDE-IN activity that is forever on a divine mission to be well-pleasing to God.**

**Colossian 3:17, “Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”**

# **What Does A Godly Person Look Like?**

## **A Godly Woman**

**In like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.**

**1 Timothy 2:9**

## **A Godly Man**

**There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius... a devout man (“godly”) and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.**

**Acts 10:1-2**

**Godliness is what you are  
on the outside and the  
inside.**

**II CHRONICLES 14:1-5**  
**The Life Of King Asa**

**II Chronicles 14:1-5, Abijah rested with his fathers, and they buried him in the City of David. Then Asa his son reigned in his place. In his days, the land was quiet for ten years. Asa did *what was* good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God, for he removed the altars of the foreign *gods* and the high places and broke down the *sacred* pillars and cut down the wooden images.**

**He commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to observe the law and the commandment. He also removed the high places and the incense altars from all the cities of Judah, and the kingdom was quiet under him. And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest; he had no war in those years, because the LORD had given him rest.**

**Therefore, he said to Judah, “Let us build these cities and make walls around them, and towers, gates, and bars, while the land is yet before us, because we have sought the LORD our God; we have sought Him, and He has given us rest on every side.” So, they built and prospered. And Asa had an army of three hundred thousand from Judah who carried shields and spears, and from Benjamin two hundred and eighty thousand men who carried shields and drew bows; all these were mighty men of valor.**

**1. Seek to Live a Life that  
Pleases God.**

**II Chronicles 14:1-2**

## **Three Aspect of King Asa's Godly Life:**

**1. Asa was a Man who Pleased God**

**2. Asa was a King Devoted to God.**

**3. Asa came from a Great Heritage and Exercised Godly Discipline.**

**“The world only sees what you do. God sees why you do it.**

**2. Remove any Barriers to  
Godly Living.  
II Chronicles 14:3-5**

**Before we can remove things  
around us, we must be sure that  
God is moving things around in  
us.**

**One of the keys to pursuing  
godliness is to remove the  
people, places, or things that  
would “so easily beset” us.**

**3. Guard Against Temptations  
and Spiritual Attacks**  
**II Chronicles 14:6-8**

**Worship, Prayer and Studying the  
Word always places the believer  
in the middle of Spiritual Warfare.**

**We must set guard against all temptations and attacks of the enemy by putting on the whole armor of God so that we can stand and survive whatever comes our way.**

**“Free cheese is always  
available in mouse traps.”**

**Every moment of resistance to  
temptation is a victory.**

# **Godliness In The New Testament**

**I Timothy 2:8-10**, I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting holy hands, without wrath and doubting; in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

**1 Peter 3:3-4, Do not let your adornment be *merely* outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on *fine* apparel— rather *let it be* the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.**

**The English word “adorn” translates the Greek word kosmeo from which we get our word “cosmetic.” It means, “to arrange, to put in order, make ready, to ornament.”**

**Godliness is devotion to God  
expressed in a life that is  
pleasing to Him.**

**Jesus is Our Example of  
Godliness as a Human.**

**II Peter 1:3, His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence.**

**“Let God have your life. He can do more with it than you can.”**

## **Three Observers of Godliness:**

**1. The “Fashion Police”**—the ones who oppose Christ and the Gospel, looking for an excuse not to believe.

**2. The “Shoppers”**—are those whose hearts are open to God.

**3. For Anyone Watching** – Let’s not dishonor God’s Word.

**“Your greatest message will be spoken by your life not your lips.”**

**“The most powerful testimony  
is a Godly life.”**

## **Bible Study Follow Up Chat**

- 1. What are some tangible and measurable ways you will be working to consistently walk-in godliness?**
- 2. What are some things that you know you need to remove out of your life that are preventing you from pleasing God?**
- 3. What are some weaknesses and temptations that you need to clearly identify and begin to fortify your life with the needed spiritual disciplines?**

**4. If someone followed you around a week, what would your habits and attitudes tell them about your walk with God? Are there activities that need to be cut from your routine?**

**5. The best evidence of godliness is not the monk who lives in the monastery secluded from people. It is the person who lives a godly life amid crying children, busy schedules, foul-mouthed workers, and rain-soaked days by serving other people.**

**6. Intensity for God is the heartbeat of a godly person.**

**7. “If you were ever put on trial for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?”**

**8. If your life were ever compared to an ungodly and non-believing person, what would distinguish your life from theirs?**

**9. Where do we face our biggest challenge in living a Godly life?**