

How Do I Grow Spiritually?

Romans 8:1-4

Introduction

- “How do I grow spiritually?”
 - For a Christian, this is a wonderful question. It shows a person has a concern and a desire towards serving the Lord.
- In answering this question...
 - We will discuss what it means to be spiritually minded.
 - We will make some suggestions toward growing spiritually.

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What Does it Mean to be Spiritually Minded?

- **Being carnally minded.**
 - Being driven by the desires and concerns of the flesh.
 - We “live according to the flesh” and therefore, set our “minds on the things of the flesh.”
Rom 8:5
 - Our “*carnal mind*” is hostile towards God.
Rom 8:7

What Does it Mean to be Spiritually Minded?

- **Being carnally minded.**
 - We “cannot please God.” **Rom 8:8**
 - We are spiritually dead, completely separated from God. **Rom 8:6; cf. 5:12ff**
 - We allow sin to thrive within our lives.
 - Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. **1 John 2:15-17**
 - Evil desires, sexual immorality, coveteousness, anger, lying, etc. **Col 3:5-9**

What Does it Mean to be Spiritually Minded?

- **Being spiritually minded.**
 - Being driven by a desire to serve God.
 - We “live according to the Spirit” and therefore, set our minds on “the things of the Spirit.”
Rom 8:5
 - We have the Spirit of God. **Rom 8:9**
 - We “are not in the flesh but in the Spirit.”
Rom 8:9

What Does it Mean to be Spiritually Minded?

- **Being spiritually minded.**
 - Our *“body is dead because of sin.” Rom 8:10*
 - Our mortal bodies will have life *“through His Spirit who dwells in you.” Rom 8:11*
 - We put to death the deeds of the body.
Rom 8:13

How Do We Grow Spiritually?

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- **We shape our minds to have a...**
 - Desire to study God's word. ***2 Tim 3:16,17***
 - The Spirit has revealed the mind of God.
1 Cor 2:9-16
 - Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to teach all things to the apostles. ***John 16:7-15***
 - The more time we spend in God's Word, the more we will know how to think according to the Spirit.

How Do We Grow Spiritually?

- **We shape our minds to have a...**
 - Desire to study God's word. ***2 Tim 3:16,17***
 - Desire to pray to the Lord daily.
 - Prayer is the way we talk to our heavenly Father.
Phil 4:6
 - When we pray, the Spirit intercedes for us.
Rom 8:26-27

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- **We shape our minds to have a...**
 - Desire to study God's word. ***2 Tim 3:16,17***
 - Desire to pray to the Lord daily.
 - Desire to worship the Lord with fellow Christians.
 - The Father is seeking those who will worship Him. ***John 4:23-24***

How Do We Grow Spiritually?

- **We shape our hearts to...**
 - Love the Lord. ***Mark 12:29-31***
 - Love the Word of the Lord. ***Cf. Psa 119:97***
 - Have a zeal for serving the Lord. ***Titus 2:14***
 - Desire fellowship with the Lord. ***Cf. 1 John 1:3***

How Do We Grow Spiritually?

- **We shape our will to...**
 - Desire to do the will of God.
 - Learn from Jesus whose desire it was to do the Father's will. ***Matt 26:39; cf. John 15:9-10***

Conclusion

- When we study God's word, we have a better understanding of who to walk according to the Spirit and not according to this flesh.
- This understanding will help us to focus on the things of the Spirit and to grow our spirit in loving the Lord and serving the Lord.