

Discipleship Training Manual: Lesson 3
Three Keys to Spiritual Growth

The three keys to spiritual growth are:

1. **THE WORD OF GOD**

Mark 4:26 And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground;

Mark 4:27 And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how.

- The Kingdom of God at your born again experience is like a seed planted in you. It needs water and food to grow. The Word of God is your spiritual water and food, and it is how you grow in the spirit.

Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

- We cannot live this life successfully or go into God successfully without every word of God.
- Love this Word, adore this Word, keep this Word close to your life and read it as often as you possibly can.

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

- If you want to be a Christian who grows, becomes close to God, is a benefit to others, and understands what your purpose/call is in this life, you need the Word of God in your life.
- Where do I start?
 - Get a Bible, KJV or NKJV, hard copy or electronic copy (Ex: e-Sword)
 - A good place to start reading is in the New Testament in the Book of John

2. **THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST WITH THE EVIDENCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES**

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

Acts 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

Acts 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

- The Holy Spirit accomplished His first work, which was to change you into a new creation at the born again experience.
- The Holy Spirit wants to accomplish His second work, which is to endue you with power, make you a faithful witness, and give you the gift of speaking in tongues by filling you up with His presence.
- You can still be saved, go to Heaven, and live with the Father forever without experiencing this second work of the Holy Spirit. But this wonderful experience, this baptism (meaning “immersion”) is a gift that the Lord wants to give to His children.
- Speaking in tongues is the physical evidence of this baptism in the Holy Ghost. It is a language not known to this world, but formed by the Holy Spirit Himself.

3. **GOING TO CHURCH**

- You can attend church in a physical location, or you can attend church online.
- Spiritual growth takes place by hearing lessons and subjecting yourself to your pastor.
- A pastor should be biblically based, teaching on a continual basis, and be sound in the Word of God.

Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart.

- The early church members understood that they needed to be together and hear the Word of God on a continual basis.

Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Ephesians 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

- Good churches available online:
 - The Family Prayer Center in Immokalee, Florida
www.broncflint.org
 - The Family Prayer Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma
www.daveroberson.org
 - Grace Christian Center in Dayton, Ohio
www.jmmgrace.com