

Series: Living with integrity
Spiritual Growth and Maturity, Part III

Heavenly Father,
Guide us to live by the Bible and scriptures daily.
Thank you for what you have given us in our life.
Thank you for keeping us away from temptation and idolatry.
Help us 100% to forgive others that hurt us.
Heal us
Protect us by keeping us from evil and enemies that want to hate and bring us down in whatever we do with success in our life.
In Jesus name, Amen

I want to start off saying that I had my talent and gifts to serve others by being actively involved to help the homeless and poor based on my personal finances since 2011. I even helped the homeless while I was dealing with the homeless and pursuing my higher education in Chicago without help from family that caused me to be homeless and live in the struggle. They still do that to me today. My spiritual gifts are shepherding, exhortation, teaching, knowledge, prophecy and wisdom.

“But in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity”-2 Peter 3:18

We need to apply this scripture to our lives by devotion and prayer, seek God's knowledge and wisdom, live out of God's teachings and wisdom, join a Church and find a church home, and serve others. This is how we will continue to grow in grace. We need to spend time with God daily by reading the Bible and praying daily to the throne in heaven. If you do not live by God Grace, you want to continue to live your life to the conformed and sinful world as a tax collector and mammon. It is good to learn about Jesus by going to church and surrounding yourself with spiritual people. Do not let someone conform to the world and as a tax collector. Do not let a wicked person try to tell you about the Bible that may think you know everything. Do not let the wicked tell you about the Bible.

We need to apply the principles and teachings of Jesus in our daily lives by showing love, kindness, and forgiveness to others. I need to try to forgive my family members for letting me struggle in Chicago and running me out of Chicago. They let me struggle to pursue my higher education in Chicago while living out of Pacific Garden Mission and/or Olive Branch Mission. I don't really want to forgive my family members for letting me struggle but it is the righteous and Christian thing to do. My mother let me struggle while she was my payee for my SSI income in Chicago at the time misusing funds and stealing money out of my SSI income each month. Social security office told her that my SSI income is supposed to be used on me to make sure I have stable permanent housing and my living expenses are paid. She did not do that and she was held accountable with a red flag. I may eventually forgive her and family 100% some day.

We need to join a church to be motivated and committed to our faith in God. You need to join a church to live your life the right way under God's covenant and grace as a Christian and disciple. Tell the person

next to you and say I am a disciple. After you become a member of a church, get involved in a ministry within the church to serve others and your community spiritually. You need to tell my advice and wisdom from previous sermons to recruit your twelve disciples for your inner circle to care and spend time with you, pray and fellowship with one another, try not to be a tax collector and be all about mammon and greed. Do not use others for greed just to make friends with people you know or really don't know. People need to try to help themselves spiritually and economically first by using caring more for others as a strong trait. The Bible says it is bad to conceited and selfish ambitions.

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