Series: Living with Integrity

Spiritual Growth and Maturity, Part I

Heavenly Father,

I pray that this flock grows in grace to God daily.

Give us spiritual strength so our hearts can grow as a mustard seed to heaven forever.

Help us understand the Bible daily and key scriptures

Help us continue to grow in Christ and Holy Spirit

Thank you for your blessings and mercy

Continue to provide us with spiritual strength while our hearts grow as a mustard seed to seed to the kingdom.

Guide us to be humble Christians and disciples

Help and guide us to keep our focus on God and the Holy Spirit.

Give us strength and tools to grow in Christ so our hearts and minds can grow as a mustard seed to heaven.

In Jesus name, Amen

"Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deficit. But speaking the truth in love, let us grow every way into him who is the head—Christ. From him the whole body, fitted and knitted together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part."-Ephesians 4:14-16.

When I read this scripture, we need to teach our children to be truthful at a young age. We need to teach our children about lying and encourage them to stop lying and let the devil control their thinking. I want to continue to grow as a Christian and disciple to God and as an ordained Bishop of this congregation Lord Jesus Christ Community Baptist Church. I am trying to be truthful today, but I beam around the bush while trying to stay truthful like I am afraid just to say no to people. We need to memorize and read Ephesians 4, so it can be locked in our minds daily to remind ourselves to be truthful. When you do not be truthful, you are not trying to provide true love to others including while being in relationships with your friends, family and spouses. You are not being honest with yourself and soul when you lie all the time and hate on other people's success. When you lie and provide untruths in your life, your soul and life is still in the darkness and lost. Turn to the person next to you and say let your heart grow as a mustard seed to heaven. Children and youth today lack the following:

- 1. wicked and sinful
- 2. Unstable thinking and have mental health issues
- 3. Listening to sin and idolatry.
- 4. Letting the world distract them and provide weak contentment to God
- 5. Lost souls that cause them to be wicked and conformed to the sinful world
- 6. Live in a abomination and become LGBTQ
- 7. Disrespectful to their elders
- 8. Live in bondage

Why should children and youth go to church?

They need to be truthful and righteous in their life and to God. They need to know how to be doers of Christ Jesus. They need to understand the devil and sin the world is evil. They need to understand the devil is a liar. They need to understand the devil can lead them to evil and unrighteousness that can lead to mental health, addictions, violence, substance abuse, anger and being a tax collector and stop living by mammon. They need to learn that the world is not their source. God and heaven is our source while on earth.

When do you feel connected with most Christians around the world?

I will tell you about myself about what makes me connected with Christians and disciples in the world. The devil is a liar. The devil is the path of unrighteousness. Lust is wrong and sinful to the devil. Lust is sinful and untruthful. Be truthful to God with whole heart. No living as a tax collector and mammon. Pray for the wicked and keep wickedness out of your inner circle forever. Trust God as your healer, provider and protector. Serve God under his covenant with workmanship, continue to educate yourself as a disciple. Preach and spread the truth and gospel. Treat your bodies as a temple to God because you need to treat your bodies as a living sacrifice to the kingdom. Trust God as the creator of human life on earth.

Muslims like to provide false teachings about God and the Bible. It is very Muslims that believe in the Bible and Quran. They like to tell people there is no heaven, but believe in hell. Muslims do not believe the meaning of Christmas and Jesus was born on Christmas in the manger. Do not believe Jesus is God. You hear the wicked twisting the words of the Bible. I need to work my preaching in the pulpit and stop being political during my sermons. I have some politics in my background with skills with advocacy and public policy.

The church Finance Ministry voted down my proposed 2025 budget because the budget includes raising admission fees for events and fundraisers for community outreach programs and church operations. The budget proposed a \$50 fee for weekly bingo fundraisers that will generate \$480,000 in revenue for the Homelessness Financial Relief Program and Community outreach programs in the Benevolence Ministry. The budget will raise prices for merchandise to cover the cost of items being manufactured and shipped from Taiwan. Increase in prices will raise revenue to \$98,000 to cover costs for church operations, community outreach and development, and programs that benefit the homeless. The budget will increase fees for raffles and other fellowship gatherings for fellowship gatherings and events to \$960,000. The budget failed with a vote 2-13. The budget could not pass and go to the Bylaws and Rules Committee for vote and consideration.

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