



"And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;" Philippians 1:9



Pastor Anita Latin, M.Th., Facilitator

“PERSONAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH”

“Therefore, let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God,” – Hebrews 6:1 (NIV)



God is with us during our trials, circumstances, and pain. Sometimes he isn't going to answer a prayer in the way that we think he should. But he's going to be with us in it and through it, to the other side of it.

Our life shouldn't be consumed with the dread of negative possibilities, or the worry of when the next storm is going to hit, or trying to dodge the bad, uncomfortable, or less than ideal scenarios. God did not create us for that. He wants us to experience His peace in the midst of chaos, his calmness in the middle of the fires, his rest in the midst of exhaustion, his presence at the center of our isolation.

You see, it's not our trials that define us, but how we seek God and give him the glory, during the trials. It's about who we can lead to Jesus, based on our response to them. It's about the faith that we build when we release control of them.



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How important is your **Personal Spiritual Growth** to you and the life you seek to live in the Kingdom?

(1 Samuel 15:22)

[When our focus is how we are obedient to God, it's no longer about the outcome of the circumstance.]

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

[When we are trusting without wavering, we are no longer consumed with the anxiety of the unknown.]

(John 14:6)

[When we are walking in HIS truth – we won't step into a naysayers talk that gets us distracted.]

(I Thessalonians 5:18)

[When we proclaim with our voice of thanksgiving – we get the opportunity to show others how to respond to adversity with worship.]

(Matthew 5:16)

[And that's when true growth happens - when our focus is our relationship with the Almighty, and the fullness of what only he can bring when we're obediently waiting "so that the works of God might be displayed in us".]



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In our previous class we talked about:

G = Groundwork (_____)

R = Routine (_____)

O = Opposition (_____)

W = Word Study (_____)

T = Trust (_____ & the _____)

H = Help (_____ . _____)

“DO YOUR DAILY!”

(Spiritual Disciplines)

I Timothy 4:8

“Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.”

The list below is from Richard Foster’s list of Spiritual Disciplines from “*Celebration of Discipline*”.

1. The **inward** disciplines:

- Meditation
- Prayer
- Fasting
- Study



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2. The **outward** disciplines (inward realities resulting in outward lifestyles):

- Simplicity
- Solitude
- Submission
- Service

3. The **corporate** disciplines:

- Confession
- Worship
- Guidance
- Celebration

How do you plan to implement this in your life? _____

CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God, I pray that with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in me, I can guard the minutes and hours you've given me. I pray for self-discipline. And I pray that you would do more with my minutes and hours than I, alone can. In Jesus' name. Amen.