

Realizing Your Spirituality

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INTRODUCTION:

- i. Conversion is a process, not a miraculous event – **Eph. 4:21-24**
 - It can be a great disappointment after obeying the gospel
 - It involves putting off, being renewed and putting on
 - God removes the sin, but we must let His Spirit, through the word, change our lives
 - Conversion involves taking us out of the world and the world out of us
- ii. Becoming a Christian through is equated to the idea of being “born again” – **John 3:3-5**
 - Babies are not born full grown
 - Growth takes time
 - Growth is expected – **2 Pet. 3:18**
 - Just as bodily growth requires food and nourishment, so does spiritual growth
- iii. The question I would like to challenge every soul in this room who believes they are a Christian is “Have I realized my spirituality or am I very much so merely a carnal man?” – **1 Cor. 3:1-2**
 - Illustrate with my own conversion experience
 - Difference between knowing and realizing – I knew it, but did not realize it
 - Until we move beyond mere knowledge and start realizing our faith, our Christianity will be superficial. We will never realize our full potential in Christ.

DISCUSSION:

I. IS MY WORSHIP WITH MY LIPS ONLY OR WITH ALL OF MY HEART AND SPIRIT?

- A. There is an attitude in worship that is offensive to God – **Matt. 15:8**
 1. Is our worship focused and intense (distracted with cares or completely absorbed)?
 2. Are our prayers deep and impassioned or hollow and empty?
 3. Does our song originate in the heart, or merely from the lips?
 4. Are we deeply moved at the weekly remembrance of His death or is it a shallow and meaningless ritual?
- B. Worship is not only to be truthful, it is to be spiritual – **1 Cor. 14:15; John 4:23-24**

II. IS MY STUDY OF THE BIBLE A BURDEN OR A JOY?

- A. God desires us to learn from Him – **Matt. 11:28-30**
 1. Do you consider yourself a disciple of Christ? – **cf. John 8:31**
 2. What is the extent of your Bible study (just within these walls, prepared for class, daily, weekly, rarely)?
 3. Do you study because you have to or do you study because you want to?
 4. How do your study habits impact others?
- B. Spirituality involves diligence with God’s word – **2 Tim. 2:15**

III. ARE MY TREASURES LAID UP ON EARTH OR IN HEAVEN?

- A. Where are the things you value most? – **Luke 12:30-34**
 1. What is it that we labor for most in this world? – **cf. Prov. 13:7**
 2. What is more important to you—rich in money or rich in good works?
 3. Do our treasures distract us from God or draw us closer to Him?
 4. Are the cares and riches of this world choking the seed in our hearts and causing us to be unfruitful?
- B. Realizing your spirituality means realizing money’s proper place in your life! – **1 Tim. 6:6-11, 17-19**

IV. DO I PRIORITIZE GOD FIRST IN MY LIFE?

- A. What place do the kingdom of God and His righteousness really take in my life? – **Matt. 6:33**
 - 1. Do I prioritize them before food, drink and clothing?
 - 2. Does God take a back seat to recreational activities?
 - 3. Does God take a back seat to worldly pursuits?
 - 4. Are we really just nothing more than closet idolaters in denial?
- B. Spiritual people leave no doubt as to who is first in their lives! – **Jas. 4:4-5**

V. DO MY ACTIONS CONFORM TO THIS WORLD OR MANIFEST A TRANSFORMED LIFE?

- A. What do others see in me by the way I live my life? – **Rom. 12:1-2**
 - 1. What kind of humor do I engage in?
 - 2. What kind of entertainment do I enjoy?
 - 3. What kind of clothes do I wear?
 - 4. What kind of people do I enjoy being around?
 - 5. What kind of places do I like to go to?
 - 6. What kind of things do I like to talk about?
- B. Are men glorifying God as a result of what they see in me? – **Matt. 5:16**

CONCLUSION:

- i. Challenge everyone with the poem “If Jesus Came to Your House”
- ii. Have you realized your spirituality? – **Rom. 8:6**