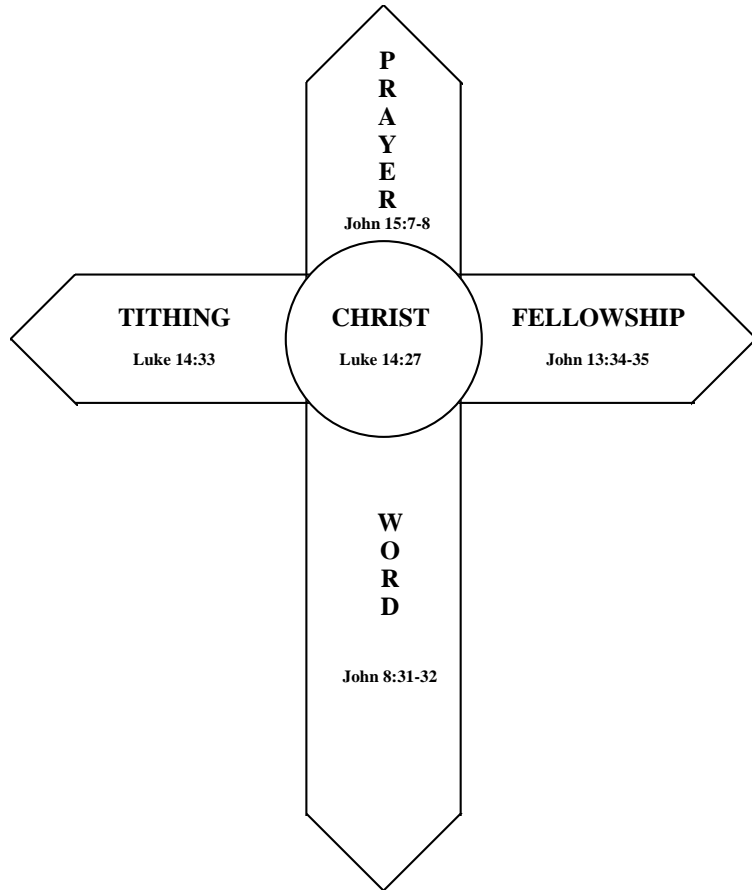


4. A DISCIPLE SPENDS TIME IN _____.

"I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34–35 (HCSB)

SIMPLY PUT: LOVE OTHERS



I WILL _____ SPIRITUAL HABITS.

SHIFTING GEARS IN THE NEW YEAR

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"Epaphras, a servant of Jesus Christ, from your group, also greets you. He always prays for you that you will grow to be spiritually mature and have everything God wants for you."
Colossians 4:12 (NCV)

MYTHS ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

- Maturity is automatic
- Maturity is _____
- By attending church
- Can attain it by yourself
- Maturity is measured by feelings

What is Spiritual Maturity?

"Then we will no longer be babies. We will not be tossed about like a ship that the waves carry one way and then another. We will not be influenced by every new teaching we hear from people who are trying to fool us. They make plans and try any kind of trick to fool people into following the wrong path. No! Speaking the truth with love, we will grow up in every way into Christ, who is the head." Ephesians 4:14–15 (NCV)

"For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him—and all along he knew who would—should become like his Son, so that his Son would be the First, with many brothers."
Romans 8:29 (LB)

SPIRITUAL MATURITY IS BEING LIKE _____.

Spiritual Shift: How to Enter Spiritual Overdrive

3 FACTS ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

1. SPIRITUAL MATURITY IS NOT _____.

"In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness."

Hebrews 5:12–13 (NIV)

GROWTH DOES NOT HAPPEN INSTANTLY.

2. SPIRITUAL MATURITY IS A _____.

"Are you immature? Learn to be mature. Are you foolish? Learn to have sense."

Proverbs 8:5 (GNB)

MEMORY VERSE: *"But continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory, now and forever! Amen."*

2 Peter 3:18 (GNB)

THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS.

3. SPIRITUAL MATURITY REQUIRES _____.

"Don't waste time arguing over foolish ideas and silly myths and legends. Spend your time and energy in the exercise of keeping spiritually fit."

1 Timothy 4:7 (LB)

"Discipline yourself for the purpose of Godliness."

1 Timothy 4:7 (NASB)

➤ **MATURE BELIEVERS ARE CALLED DISCIPLES**

➤ **I CANNOT BE A DISCIPLE WITHOUT BEING _____**

I BECOME A DISCIPLE, BY DEVELOPING DAILY "DISCIPLE-LIKE" _____.

"Do not lie to one another, for you have taken off the old self with its habits and have put on the new self. This is the new being which God, its Creator, is constantly renewing in his own image, in order to bring you to a full knowledge of himself." **Colossians 3:9–10 (GNB)**

THESE TYPES OF HABITS ARE FORMED BY:

- PRAYER
- REPETITION
- ACCOUNTABILITY

1. A DISCIPLE SPENDS TIME IN GOD'S _____.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." **John 8:31–32 (HCSB)**

SIMPLY PUT: QUIET TIME.

2. A DISCIPLE SPENDS TIME IN _____.

"If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be My disciples." **John 15:7–8 (HCSB)**

SIMPLY PUT: CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD.

3. A DISCIPLE _____.

"In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples." **Luke 14:33 (NIV)**

*The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always **put God first** in your lives.* **Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB)**

SIMPLY PUT: GIVES BACK TO GOD.