

## **Bible Study**

## Wednesday, February 15, 2023

## THE ESSENTIALS OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The primary purpose of our 21 days of Church Wide fasting and praying was called so that all of us as Believers would draw closer to God. The three enemies of every Believer – the world, the flesh, and the devil has proven through the years that they will do all they can to prevent us from reaching our full potential as Believers. Fasting and praying will help us to <u>return</u> back to God, however <u>Spiritual Growth</u> will help us to <u>stay</u> connected to God. That will be the focus of this new Bible Study series.

## I. Conversion - The Foundation of Spiritual Growth 1. Because of Adam and Eve's decision, we were born with a sinful nature. Romans 5:12 2. Because of that sinful nature, none of us are righteous. Romans 3:10 II. The Necessity of Conversion 1. The new birth is critical if conversion is to happen. John 3:1-7 2. All of us were born in sin. Psalm 51:5 3. Our attempts to do good are like filthy rags in God's sight. Isaiah 64:6 4. Our flesh cannot please God. Romans 8:8 **III.** The Character of Conversion 1. God gives us <u>His</u> nature at conversion. 1<sup>st</sup> John 3:9 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17 2. Every true Christian is brand new on the inside. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:1-2 Our new nature needs to be nurtured. IV. The Completeness of Conversion 1. Conversion does not happen without a struggle. Romans 7:15-17

2. The Holy Spirit on the inside produces spiritual victory on the outside. *Galatians 5:16* 

Brothers and Sisters, spiritual growth does not primarily depend on what is happening around you, but on what is happening inside of you. Spiritual growth is the process of expanding and releasing what is on the inside so that it becomes visible on the outside!