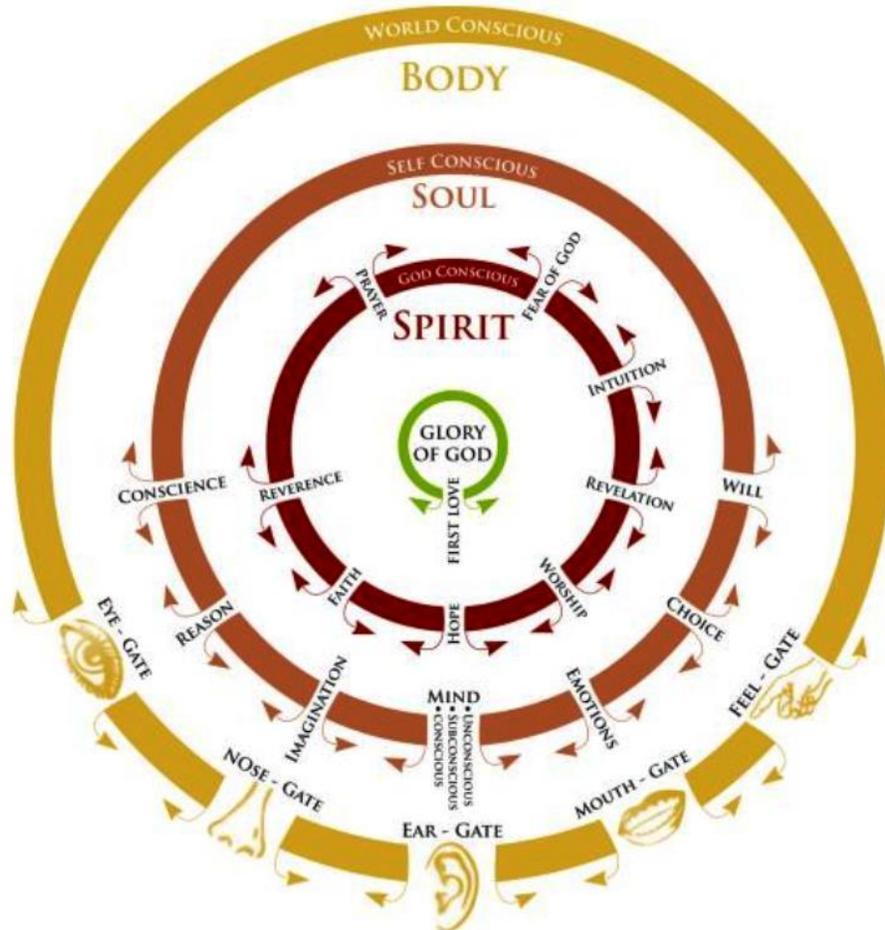


Spirit, Soul & Body

PART 1

1 Thessalonians 5:23 Man is a three-part being

Genesis 1:26-27 Let US make man in OUR image



“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water’” (John 7:38).

God has come to dwell in our innermost being. Now we want to allow Him to flow through us and out from us, transforming both ourselves and the world around us. As we open the gate of first love (Revelation 3:20), we begin to allow Him to flood into our whole being.

And that is where some find the first blockage. As we have looked at our gate of first love, some of us have seen it blocked, closed, locked, even chained. But that is a projection of our soul. Even if our own experience of first love has caused us to put up barriers to intimacy, we also have the ability to take them down again. We can clear it, unlock it, unchain it, open it. The enemy has no access here in our spirit. Jesus is knocking. Let's let Him into our lives.¹

A basic definition of SPIRIT

Spirit: The dimension of man that deals with the spiritual realm. The part of man that knows God.

1 Corinthians 2:14

Communication between God and man is spirit to spirit



¹ Mike Parsons with Jeremy Westcott "River of Living Water"

Jesus said,

“... whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life” (John 4:14).

We have that wellspring, in our life. To operate in the Kingdom of God, with the Presence of God, we need to draw living water from that well daily.

... Jesus stood and cried out, saying, **“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water’”** (John 7:37-8).

In, and out

That river is supposed to flow out from us, touching people around us with the presence and the power and the Kingdom of God.

Does it? I need to ask myself, is there a river in me that I am drawing from, and is that river flowing from me to touch other people?

If it is not touching other people, then it **is stagnating**... and a **stagnant river stinks**. My river needs to be flowing: flowing from heaven, flowing in through my spirit, flowing out from me, to minister to people and to the world around me, to demonstrate the kingdom of God.

Read Psalm 1:1-3

If we want to be prospering in our lives, succeeding to the highest degree in everything God has planned for us, we need to be drawing from the River of Life, not from our own resources.

Broken cisterns

In [Jeremiah 2:13](#) we see how God was displeased because His people had turned away from Him and were drawing on their own resources, ‘**broken cisterns that hold no water**’. Our own cisterns can hold no water, and God wants us to be flowing with the water He provides.

List what can cause a broken cistern in our lives:

The river brings life

But *‘It will come about that every living creature which swarms in every place where the river goes, will live. And there will be very many fish, for these waters go there and the others become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes’* (Ezekiel 47:9).

Wherever we go, with that River flowing from us, we are supposed to bring life: life to those around us, life to the world, life to our community. ‘Everything will live where the river goes’. That is a description of what our lives should be, overflowing with the presence of God, the love of God, bringing the life of God’s kingdom wherever we go.

We need to be connected to heaven for that River to flow in us.

By the river on its bank, on one side and on the other, will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither and their fruit will not fail. They will bear every month because their water flows from the sanctuary, and their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing (Ezekiel 47:12).

The water flows from the sanctuary, from the presence of God. We are the sanctuary, and the presence of God is within us. Everything about our life should be fruitful, full of healing, health and wholeness, to be able to give away to others.

That is why we must:

Watch over [our] heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life (Proverbs 4:23).

HOMEWORK

Who are You?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. A Saint | 1 Corinthians 1:2 |
| 2. A Work of Art | Ephesians 2:10 |
| 3. Righteous and Holy | Romans 5:17, 1 Corinthians 3:1-17 |
| 4. Accepted | Ephesians 1:6, 2 Corinthians 5:21 |

Don't be uncomfortable with being called a saint, because that's what God calls you (1 Corinthians 1:2)

2 Corinthians 5:21: He made Him who knew no _____ to be _____ on our behalf, so that we might become the _____ of God in Him

What does God's Word call you in that verse?

1 Corinthians 3:17: "The temple of God is holy and that is

"

What is a temple or tabernacle? (Revelation 31:3)

Because the Holy Spirit of the Holy God resides in you - makes you His home – what does that say about you?

In Ephesians 4:24, the apostle Paul wrote, Put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.” God has already made you righteous and holy. Past tense. It’s done. Now, the Bible says, put on the new self – act like who you are.

God’s description of the Christian is that we’re righteous, we’re divine work of art, we’re holy, we’re one with Christ. We are one with Jesus. **Jesus is not in your life – He is your life! (Colossians 3:4).**

1 Corinthians 6:17 “The one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.”

Why is that such a good news? It’s because Jesus is not just in your life. It is better than that. He is your life. You have become one with Him.

2 Peter 6:17 “.... So that by them you may become partaker of the divine nature.”

You have the divine nature – the nature of Jesus. Jesus Christ has given you His very nature!

SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY





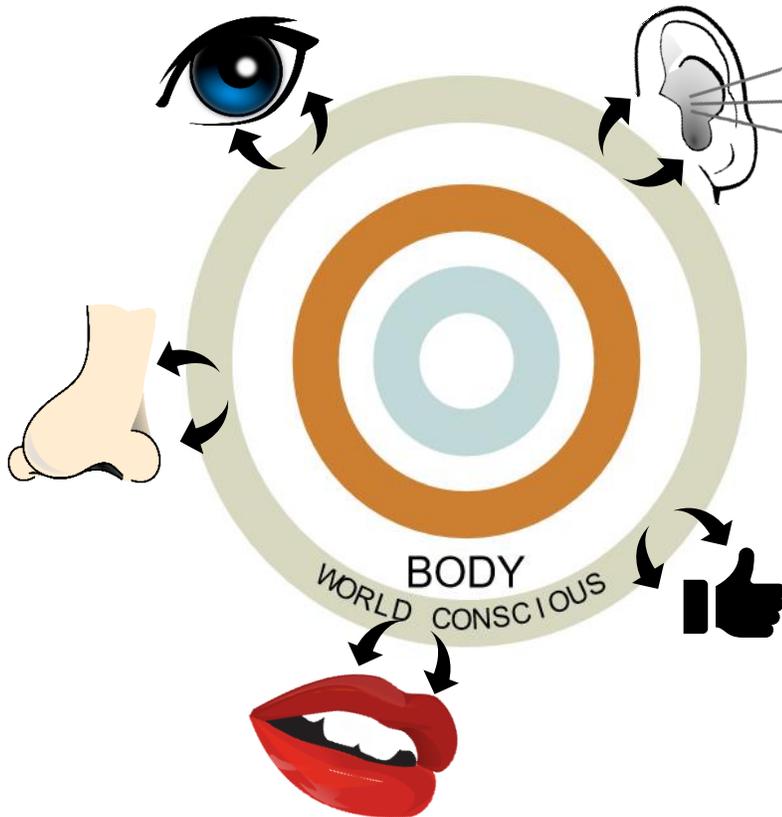
SPIRIT

- Prayer
- Reverence
- Faith
- Hope
- Worship
- Revelation
- Intuition
- Fear of God



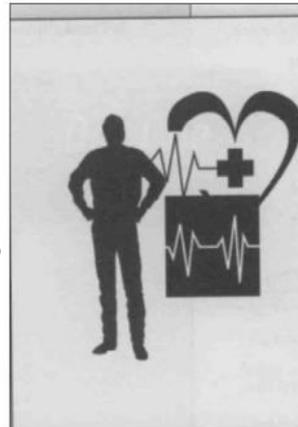
SOUL

- Will
- Emotions
- Mind
- Choice
- Imagination
- Reason
- Conscience



BODY

- Eye = Sight
- Nose = Smell
- Ear = Hearing
- Mouth = Taste
- Feel = Touch



SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

Part 2

The Inside Out

1. Thessalonians 5:23-24

May the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely: and may your spirit, soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

Too many people look at themselves as a physical being and they'll say things like I have a spirit. When someone says "I have a spirit", that usually means that he or she sees himself or herself as a physical being who possesses spirit, but actually, you are not a physical being who possesses a spirit. You are a spirit being, possessing soul and living in a physical body.

God has come to dwell in our innermost being. Now we want to allow Him to flow through us and out from us, transforming both ourselves and the world around us. As we open the gate of first love, we begin to allow Him to flood into our whole being.

Spirit: The dimension of man that deals with the spiritual realm. The part of man that knows God. Man has a body, has a soul, but he is a spirit. This is the aspect of our nature that sets us apart from the animal kingdom. The spirit is spiritually conscious. It is that spirit within us that we communicate with God.

1 Corinthians 2:14

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

The Soul: The dimension of man which deals with the mental realm.

The sensibilities and the will. The part that reasons and thinks. The soul

is made up of three parts: 1. mind, 2. will, 3. Emotions (others have included Conscience, Reason, Imagination and Choice).

Not only do we have a body, but the Bible tells us that man also possesses a soul. While the body is sense-conscious, relating to the world around us, the soul is re-conscious and socially conscious. Another word for soul is personality. Man is not a soul; he possesses a soul, but he is not a soul. Through the soul, man thinks and reasons; he decides and chooses; he feels. Now the soul is the dimension of man that deals with the mental realm, the sensibilities and the will. It is the part that reasons and thinks. The soul is what makes us different. But can we separate the soul from the spirit? It never does happen. But if we could just line up all of our spirits, all of our born-again spirits against the wall, you couldn't tell the difference from one person to another. In the realm of the spirit in our natures are identical. What makes you and I unique, what makes us different is our soul, that is - our personalities and of course our physical bodies. In the realm of the Spirit, if we were born again, we're all the same. The nature of God in me is the same as the nature of God in you. The presence of God in me means the same as the presence of God in you. I don't have a different Jesus in me than you have. We are the same in that aspect.

Note that Animals have personalities. An animal can think, feel, and choose. So, in that sense, we might say that animal has a soul, but it doesn't have a spirit. That is were you and I are different from animals.

The LAW OF GENESIS

Although Adam lost the very nature of God during the fall (Genesis 3) he still had an ability to communicate with God.

Genesis 5:21-24

Genesis 5:21-24 Enoch lived sixty-five years, and begot Methuselah. After he begot Methuselah, Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and had sons and daughters. So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. And Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

Enoch who was spiritually dead could still walk with God

Adam lost everything. His authority, anointing, power and dominion, and his five physical senses were now influenced by Satan.

Ephesians 2:1-3 by nature - what nature? - sin!

Ephesians 2:1-3 "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others."

Genesis 1:11-12 Law of Genesis

Genesis 1:11-12 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

The law of Genesis states that everything has life within itself and everything produces after its own kind. This law works the same with man.

Man didn't lose his life force, he lost the nature of God. This in turn made him mortal (death doomed his body).

The nature of Satan came into man through his flesh (five physical senses) into his soul and took hold of his spirit. It took the nature of Satan (death) 930 years to kill Adam physically.

Man was now no longer living by his spirit, but by his soul (mind, will and emotions) which was influenced by things around him. This is referred to as the "Dispensation of Conscience". Without the nature of God man quickly deteriorated.

Genesis 6:5-8 Completely controlled by the flesh

Genesis 6:5-8

Genesis 6:5-8 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

Man's nature, whether light or dark was passed down through the generations. The quality of life in the parents is passed down to their children.

2 Peter 2:5 Enoch (walked with God) - Methuselah -Lamech - Noah. The influence of Enoch was passed on to Noah

2 Peter 2:5

and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;

Man originally went from life to death, from the outside in. Now the process starts to reverse itself and go from death to life, from the inside out.

Now that I have been born again, I need to be renewed from the inside out. I need to take God's word and begin the process of sanctification.

Total Man - Total Salvation

Because man is a three part being, salvation is a three step process that includes: Justification, Sanctification & Glorification.

Part 1 - Justification

Justification means to regard as just or innocent, to be made righteous, to be declared not guilty. Justification deals with our spirit

Because Jesus took our sin upon Himself and did away with it, there is nothing to stand between us and God. ***You have the nature of God within yourself. The middle wall of separation has been broken down. Ephesians 2:14 (For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation), see also Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45***

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

2 Corinthians 5:17-19 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

When we accept the sacrifice of Jesus we become born of God through and by the Holy Spirit. Christian mankind again has the nature of God in his spirit.

Part 2 - Sanctification

The next step in our salvation is the sanctification of our souls.

1 Peter 1:14-16 To sanctify means to make holy.

1 Peter 1:14-16 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”

Philippians 2:12-13

Philippians 2:12-13 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

The whole key to our Christian walk is our obedience to God's Word and will in our lives. Paul tells us we are to *'work out'* this great salvation that has been given to us as a free gift. You do not *'work for'* your salvation, it has already been provided for you through the sacrifice of Jesus.

We have salvation in our spirits but we have to do something with it (work out not work for) so it will affect the salvation of our souls

The words *'work out'* are a translation of a Greek word which means to carry out to the goal, or to carry to its ultimate conclusion

1 Peter 1:8-9 What is the goal of our faith in Jesus?

1 Peter 1:8-9 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end (goal) of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

The salvation of our soul (mind, will, emotions). *The goal of our faith in Jesus is the salvation of our souls. (Notice Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”)*

1 Peter 2:2-3 We should grow in our salvation

1 Peter 2:2-3 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

Spiritual growth is measured in the area of your soul, not your spirit.

Spiritual growth is measured in the area of your soul or in how much has your character become like Jesus.

GROWING UP

James 1:21-22

James 1:21-22 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Your spirit is already like him but through studying and being a doer of the Word of God, your soul will become like Jesus.

2Thessalonians 2:13

2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth,

The process of sanctification (making us holy as He is holy) is carried out by the Holy Spirit and is a continuous process throughout our entire lives. Sanctification is the working "out" of the salvation of our souls. The beauty of God here is that we all have different characters which are refined by the love and nature of God through the Holy Spirit.

Growing Up

Ephesians 4:8,11-15 Mature - Grow up

Ephesians 4:8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

Ephesians 4:11-15 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

1 Peter 1:9 Goal of our faith **James 1:21**

1 Peter 1:9 receiving the end(goal) of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

James 1:21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

1 Peter 2:2 Milk to grow - Babies

1 Peter 2:2-3 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

1 Corinthians 3:1 Babies are carnal. (*A person that is carnal is a person that is controlled by the flesh*)

1 Corinthians 3:1-4

1 Corinthians 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?

- Babies can't handle much
- is it really too strong or are you still a baby? *The message is too long, it is too short, they cannot handle anything.*
- Babies expect someone else to do everything for them - *you do it* ' is their favorite phrase
- The least little thing makes them cry
- Babies are fussy - let you know about anything
- Babies are picky - only want to do what they feel like doing at the moment

Hebrews 5:11-14

Hebrews 5:11-14 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

- A child's interests and priorities are different (selfish and petty)

Youth

- **Acts 20:7-12** Preoccupied - not paying attention

Matthew 19:16-22

Matthew 19:16-22

Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?”

So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”

He said to Him, “Which ones?”

Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?”

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

- Think they are more advanced than they are. Don't recognize what is truly valuable. Don't value what God values
- **Luke 15:11-13** **Impatient**

Luke 15:11-13 Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living.

1 Timothy 5:11-13 Gossip **Genesis 9:20-25**

1 Timothy 5:11-15 But refuse the younger widows; for when they have begun to grow wanton against Christ, they desire to marry, having condemnation because they have cast off their first faith. And besides they learn to be idle, wandering about

from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not. Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully. For some have already turned aside after Satan.

Genesis 9:20-27 And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard. Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.

So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him. Then he said:

“Cursed be Canaan; A servant of servants He shall be to his brethren.”

And he said: “Blessed be the Lord, The God of Shem, And may Canaan be his servant. May God enlarge Japheth, And may he dwell in the tents of Shem;

Peter 5:5 Problems with submission

1 Peter 5:5-7 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud,

But gives grace to the humble.”

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

1 Timothy 3:6 Problems with pride - overestimate their own abilities

1 Timothy 3:6 not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil

Maturity

1 John 2:6 Be like Him

1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

Luke 6:40 NEB - will reach his teachers level

Luke 6:40 A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

Eph. 4:15 The foundation of spiritual development

Ephesians 4:15-16 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

1 Peter 2:22

1 Peter 2:22 “Who committed no sin,
Nor was deceit found in His mouth”;