

... to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ ...

Ephesians 4:12

Store In My Heart

Malachi 3:7

"From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," says the Lord of hosts. "But you say, 'How shall we return?'"

The last of the prophets spoke shortly after the days of Haggai and Zechariah. Malachi was sent to urge restored Israel to leave their wicked ways and return to the Lord. The priests were corrupt, worship was vain, the poor and needy were oppressed, divorce was rampant, and the tithe was ignored.

Malachi instructed the people and their leaders to return to the commands of God given by Moses. He also promised blessings to those who returned. He further spoke of the coming of a messenger of God who would hold them to account for their deeds. God has promised us the same.



Seven Things That Will Help You Grow Spiritually

Grover Stevens

Live And Work to reach others each day as if you knew the world was going to come to an end next Sunday night. Think of that urgency and priority (**2Peter 3:1-12**)!

Be As Enthusiastic about the church and its services as you would be if there were overflowing crowds each time. Think of the interest, anticipation, and excitement of an overflow crowd! (**Psalms 122:1** dlh)

Count Your Blessings. Make a list of the things you are thankful to God for and thank Him for them one by one, as you pray in your closet. This will help you to be grateful (**Philippians 4:6**). It will also help you to realize your dependence upon God (**Acts 17:24-28; John 15:5**).

Make And Maintain A List Of Your Faults. In addition, pray for forgiveness and help to overcome faults as you truly strive to overcome them. This will help us see that we are really not as good as we think we are, and how very much we really need Christ our Savior. It will also help you to sympathize with the faults of others (**James 5:16; Galatians 6:1**).

Keep A Quiet Time. Set aside thirty minutes every day to spend with God in prayer, Bible study, and meditation. If you really love someone or a game, you want to spend some time with them. Just so, if you truly love God, you want to

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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For Our Information

Jimmy Gray is doing physical therapy for his new knee.

Joyce Venable had a rough week again. She is a little better.

Brenda Keisler is scheduled to see a Neurologist Nov. 18.

JoBeth Henderson has another 3 weeks of no weight on her leg.

Tonight we start in 1Samuel 29.

Wednesday at 7 pm in Ephesians 5:25.

Join us for all these studies.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

spend some time alone with Him (**Psalms 1:2; 1Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1**). First century Christians kept an "hour of prayer" (**Acts 3:1**).

Visit Someone For Christ Each Week. Visit some member you do not know very well; or a sick person; or a visitor to our services; or a weak member who needs encouragement; or someone who needs to become a Christian. (**James 1:27** dlh)

Reach Another Person. Conduct a Bible class in your home once a month and invite your relatives, friends, and neighbors to attend. The preacher or elders will assist you if you want them to (**Matthew 5:12-15; James 5:20; Daniel 12:3**).

Before we think all of these suggestions are overwhelming, or impossible to obtain, remember that there are 168 hours in a week. If you were to attend Bible study, morning worship, and evening worship on Sunday, and Bible study on Wednesday, and 30 minutes of Bible reading, prayers and meditation, six days a week, and conduct an hour-long Bible study once a month, you would be giving God less than 10 hours a week. (**Matthew 6:33** dlh)

(We often talk about the need to read and study Scripture but that is just one small part of what is needed to help us be stronger in the Lord. As with any kind of growth, our spiritual growth depends on me taking action to bring the increase. No one will grow in any useful endeavor if they just wait around for something to happen on its own.

The suggestions offered in this article by brother Stevens will certainly take effort and they are excellent additions to the reading and studying we all agree will help us. A steady diet of God's Word supplemented by focused effort to improve my own habits and attitudes is guaranteed to bring some growth. Seeking to help and teach others about the salvation we have found in Christ will not only expose more individuals to the Truth, it will also stretch our own minds and talents and this will also bring growth.

Maybe you (**I**) should start working a little harder on some or all of these things. It won't interfere with what we truly want to gain from life. Unless we just want the things of this world. DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!