

## Homework

### Lesson 8

## Biblical Practice Achieves Lasting Change

1. **Memory Verse:** Hebrews 5:14
2. **Read Lesson 8**
3. **Answer the following questions** using scripture as your reference:
  - A. What does it mean to be mature?
  - B. What specific things can you do in your life right now to press toward this goal?
4. **Read Supplement 9; Complete Supplement 10**, and begin to practice it in your life. (Please do this prayerfully, as you will experience the power of God's Word).
5. What is the proper place for prayer and action?
6. List some reasons/purposes that God uses "tests" in our lives?
7. List some reasons/purposes that satan brings "temptations" in your life?



## BCF LESSON 8 Biblical Practice Achieves Lasting Change Calvary Chapel greg blanc

\*The theme for this lesson is: that Biblical change does not happen by accident.  
**It requires effort!** You must make the choice to respond Biblically, regardless of your feelings, in every situation.

The \_\_\_\_\_ for the Christian:

1 Peter 3:15a (NKJV) But sanctify (set apart) the Lord God in your heart, (not you as Lord)

This effort will demand you to exercise discipline! There will be a \_\_\_\_\_ for lasting change. Timothy exhorts us to train ourselves to be godly. We don't get in shape just by purchasing a membership to a gym. We don't get in spiritual shape by owning a Bible!

1 Timothy 4:7-8 (NKJV) <sup>7</sup> But reject profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise** yourself toward godliness. <sup>8</sup> For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

### THE PURPOSES OF THIS LESSON:

1. To show that Biblical practice is necessary for spiritual growth leading to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. To illustrate how trials (tests and temptations) can affect your life.
3. To present a plan to help you change Biblically.

As Christians, our desire for Biblical change will be equivalent to the depth of our love for Jesus. If the depth of your love for Jesus is little, there will be little \_\_\_\_\_ in your behavior, if your love for Jesus is great, it will be manifest in your actions. It all depends on the level of your **commitment** to the LORD and if you make conforming to His likeness a **priority**. It's all about priorities and commitment.....

? Now, let's personalize this situation. Is your brokenness and repentant heart clearly seen in your actions?????

**Examples:** Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman Luke 7:47  
 The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Jesus teaches on change) Luke 10:25-37  
 The Woman Caught In The Act Of Adultery John 8:3-5, 10-11  
**Jesus says there will be tangible and observable \_\_\_\_\_ in the life of His disciples.**

### Maturing in Christ includes:

( These are primary areas that will require constant attention)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ in your thought life Colossians 3:1-2
2. Discipline in \_\_\_\_\_ Ephesians 4:29

**Our words have the power to hurt or to \_\_\_\_\_.** Ask yourself these questions.....

? Do your words bring \_\_\_\_\_ or conflict?

? Do your words bring \_\_\_\_\_ or pain?

? Do your words bring \_\_\_\_\_ or strife?

**You control your lips.**

**3. Discipline in loving others \_\_\_\_\_**

Matthew 22:37-39

Do you esteem others as higher than yourself?

**4. Discipline in your desire to \_\_\_\_\_ God in all things**

Colossians 1:10

**THIS WEEKS MEMORY VERSE**

Hebrews 5:14 (NKJV) 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.

In the Greek (Telieos), the actual translation of the word "mature" is "full of age". It means to be grown up, an adult. It is the opposite of infancy. No longer having the characteristics of a child. It's not how long you've been on the \_\_\_\_\_, it's how far you've come.

1 Corinthians 13:11 (NKJV) When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

**God often matures His children by tests and temptations:**

**The difference between tests and temptations**

**1.** A test is an opportunity to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ-likeness by obeying God's Word.

Romans 5:3-5 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

**2.** A temptation tries to get us to \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word. The first time satan is mentioned in the bible, we find him tempting Eve to disobey God's Word.

Genesis 3:4 (NKJV) Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

In any situation, you have the opportunity to either:

Allow satan to appeal to your \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ feelings and fleshly desires or....

Allow God to use this as a test to help strengthen you as you \_\_\_\_\_ His Word.

The key to making the correct decisions in any circumstance is your communication with God. Ask before you \_\_\_\_\_ !!! Get the Lords counsel, it's never wrong. Support your decisions Biblically. Try not to be self-dependant, be God-dependant.

**Biblical Practice Achieves Lasting Change Summary:**

1. It's not your obtaining knowledge from the Bible that pleases God--- it's the application of that knowledge in your life that pleases Him.
2. It requires Effort, Discipline, and Commitment.
3. Our attitude should be "Go now and leave your life of sin."
4. Maturing in Christ includes: Discipline in your thought life, speech, loving others biblically, and living to please God.
5. God matures His children by tests and temptations.
- 6 Ask before you act!
7. A changed lifestyle is the primary indicator of a changed heart.