

Beginning Well: Keeping Afloat In A Sinking World

What must I do to be saved? What is “saved”?

What does God’s Word say?

Acts 16:30 & 31 - _____

Romans 10:9 - _____

Matthew 10:22 & Mark 13:13 - _____

John 10:9 - _____

Acts 2:21 - _____

Philippians 2:12 & 13 - _____

1 John 1:9 - _____

Matthew 28:18-20 (MSG)

Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: “God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I’ll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age.”

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- lit-mus test:** 1) a test for acidity or alkalinity
2) a crucial and revealing test in which there is one decisive factor

Great Commission Litmus Test:

If I placed a recently converted Christian into your care, do you know what to do to maximize the chances of this new Christian maturing in Christ? What is your strategy for taking a new believer from spiritual infancy to spiritual maturity?

Assurance – How do I know I'm saved?

- Hebrews 11:1 - _____
- Romans 10:9 & 11 - _____
- Ephesians 2:8 - _____
- Hebrews 11:6 - _____
- 1 John 1:9 - _____
- 1 Corinthians 10:13 - _____

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Freedom – How do I learn to do what I “ought”, rather than what I “want”?

- Romans 6:23 - _____
- James 1:13-15 - _____
- 1 Peter 1:14-16 - _____
- 2 Corinthians 3:18 - _____
- Romans 13:14 - _____
- 1 Thessalonians 4:4 - _____

Priorities – How does my life reflect a focus on seeking God’s Kingdom first?

- Colossians 1:13 - _____
- 2 Peter 1:11 - _____
- Matthew 6:33 - _____
- 2 Peter 2:20 - _____
- John 15:7 & 8 - _____
- 2 Timothy 1:7 - _____

Four Foundational Disciplines:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

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What about all the other disciplines?

Solitude: Refraining from interacting with other people in order to be alone with God and be found by him. (Solitude is completed by silence.)

Silence: Not speaking in a quiet place in order to quiet our minds and whole self and attend to God's presence. It's also not speaking so that we can listen to others and bless them.

Fasting: Going without food (or something else) for a period of intense prayer — the fast may be complete or partial.

Sabbath: Doing no work to rest in God's person and provision; praying and playing with God and others.

Secrecy: Not making our good deeds or qualities known in order for God or others receive attention and to find our sufficiency in God alone.

Submission: Not asserting ourselves in order to come under the authority, wisdom, and power of Jesus Christ as our Lord, King, and Master. (If you think of this as submitting to a person as unto Christ then it's a discipline of engagement.)

Worship: Praising God's greatness, goodness, and beauty in words, music, ritual, or silence.

Soul Friendship: Engaging fellow disciples of Jesus in prayerful conversation or other spiritual practices.

Personal Reflection: Paying attention to our inner self in order to grow in love for God, others, and self.

Service: Humbly serving God by overflowing with his love and compassion to others, especially those in need.

* The ideas on this Spiritual Disciplines List have been greatly influenced by Dallas Willard, especially his book, [The Spirit of the Disciplines](#).

"A Spiritual Discipline is an intentionally directed action which places us in a position to receive from God the power to do what we cannot accomplish on our own..."

The deep waters of God's life are already flowing.

We simply learn the strokes that will enable us more and more to be at home in them...

*The human body is our power-pack of mind-body-spirit -
- we discipline it in order to practice cooperation with God."*

Life with God, p. 135-137 — Richard Foster

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What do we look at next to help a believer take the next steps?

- **God's Will** - _____

- **Christ's Return** - _____

- _____

