

## **“The FAMILY of FELLOWSHIP”**

### **7 Stages of Spiritual growth:**

1. Babes
2. Little Children
3. Children
4. Young Men
5. Fathers
6. Elders
7. Aged Men & Women

Here's a quick review of each stage and it's characteristics we've covered so far:

#### **1. BABES - those BORN AGAIN in Jesus Christ**

- a. Salvation is a BIRTH! - **John 3:3-7, 1 Pet. 1:23**
- b. The FATHER desires to REVEAL himself to babes - **Matt. 11:25**
- c. Babes aren't ashamed to PRAISE God! - **Matt. 21:12-16** Babes need MILK to GROW - **1 Pet. 2:2-3 2**
- d. Babes are still CARNAL - **1 Cor. 3:1, 1 Cor. 3:3**
- e. Babes are UNSKILLFUL in the word - **Heb 5:13**
- f. The point is that Spiritual BABES are quite a handful - but we need to appreciate them b/c they are SPIRITUALLY BORN AGAIN!

#### **2. LITTLE CHILDREN - they have ASSURANCE of their salvation**

- a. Little children KNOW they are SAVED - **1 John 2:12-13**
- b. Little children have OVERCOME the spirit of ANTICHRIST - **1 John 4:3-4**
- c. Little children need ACTIONS that match their WORDS - **1 John 3:18, Mark 10:13-16**
- d. Little children still SIN, and need to rely on their ADVOCATE - **1 John 2:1**
- e. Little children need Christ FORMED in them - **Galatians 4:19**

#### **3. CHILDREN - WALKING as a child of God**

- a. Walking is a beautiful thing - when both of our girls began walking, we were so excited...and at the same time fearful! FULL SPEED AHEAD! Now they can get hurt WAY EASIER/MORE FREQUENT!
- b. Children begin to walk in TRUTH - **2 John 4, 3 John 1:3-4**
- c. Children begin to walk in LOVE - **Eph. 5:1-2, 2 John 5-7**
- d. Children begin to walk in LIGHT - **Eph 5:8-11**
- e. Children are vulnerable to FALSE teachers - **Eph. 4:14-15**

### **Tonight, we pick up w/ YOUNG MEN/WOMEN**

#### **4. YOUNG MEN (Women) - getting STRONG in the faith**

- a. Young men (women) are \_\_\_\_\_ because the Word of God \_\_\_\_\_ in them
  - i. **1 John 2:14**

- ii. **KEY PRINCIPLE:** The only way the WOG is going to ABIDE in \_\_\_\_\_, is that YOU have to ABIDE in \_\_\_\_\_!
  - iii. **Heb. 5:14**
- b. Young men (women) have \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ one**
- i. **1 John 2:14, 1 John 2:13**
  - ii. Wicked one = the devil -**Matt. 13:38-39**
  - iii. **KEY PRINCIPLE:** The “wicked one” operates in the realm of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
    - 1. **Matt. 13:18-19**
- c. Young men (women) should be a \_\_\_\_\_**
- i. **Titus 2:6**
  - ii. **God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ SOBERLY**
    - 1. **Romans 12:3, 1 Peter 1:13**
  - iii. **God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ SOBER**
    - 1. **Because we have an \_\_\_\_\_ - 1 Peter 5:8**
    - 2. **Because we have a \_\_\_\_\_**
      - a. **The pastor/bishop - 1 Timothy 3:2**
      - b. **The deacon - 1 Tim. 3:8-11**
- d. Young men (women) \_\_\_\_\_ good works**
- i. **Titus 2:7**
  - ii. When God commanded Moses to build the Tabernacle in the OT, he gave him a PATTERN to follow:
    - 1. **Exodus 25:9 ,Hebrews 8:5**
  - iii. That pattern for the EARTHLY TABERNACLE was the HEAVENLY
    - 1. **Heb. 9:23-24**
  - iv. The point is that spiritual YOUNG MEN should be a PATTERN of GOOD WORKS...(not just GOOD WORDS...)
    - 1. **2 Tim. 3:16-17**
  - v. **KEY QUESTION:** If everyone in this church PATTERNED their GOOD WORKS after \_\_\_\_\_, what kind of good works would be accomplished? If any...?
- e. Young men (women) have \_\_\_\_\_ doctrine**
- i. **Titus 2:7-8**
  - ii. Uncorruptness = incorruptible, sound, integrity
  - iii. Gravity = honesty
  - iv. Sincerity = purity
  - v. Sound speech - b/c doctrine is to be SPOKEN!
- f. Young men (women) have a \_\_\_\_\_ testimony amongst BELIEVERS & UNBELIEVERS**
- i. **8b...having no evil thing to say of you.**

**Next week:** Spiritual FATHERS/MOTHERS