

**The Introduction To C.L.A.S.S.
CHRISTIAN LIFE AND SERVICE SEMINARS**

The Introduction

DISCOVERING SPIRITUAL MATURITY
C.L.A.S.S. 201

The L.I.F.E. Development Track
Of The
RESEDA CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 23, 2022

Dr. Dewayne Winrow
Senior Minister

WELCOME TO DISCOVERING SPIRITUAL MATURITY #201

We're glad you signed up! This class is the second of The Reseda church's four basic classes. Since these classes build on each other, you must first attend Discovering Church Membership #101 before taking this class.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLASS:

*"... that you may **become mature** Christians and may fulfill God's will for you."*
Col. 4:12b (Ph)

"We are not meant to remain as children ... but to grow up in every way into Christ..."
Eph. 4:14-15 (Ph)

THE FOCUS OF THIS CLASS:

We will focus on the **Four Basic Habits** every Christian needs to develop in order to grow to spiritual maturity. This class will ...

- Equip you with the **skills** you need to begin these habits
- Explain the **tools** you need to continue these habits.

WHAT IS "SPIRITUAL MATURITY"?

"...In the unity of common faith, and knowledge of the Son of God, we arrive at real maturity - the measure of development which is meant by 'the fullness of Christ.'"
Eph 4:13(Ph)

Spiritual Maturity is _____

*"For from the very beginning God decided that those who came to him ... **should become like his Son....**"* Rom.8:29(LB)

FACTS ABOUT SPIRITUAL MATURITY

1. IT'S NOT AUTOMATIC

"You have been Christians for a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others, but instead ... you need someone to teach you ... When a person is still living on milk, it shows he isn't very far along in the Christian life ... He's still a baby Christian!" Heb. 5:12-13 (LB)

2. IT IS A PROCESS

"Learn to be mature." Prov. 8:5 (GN)

"Continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our savior Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18 (GN)

3. IT TAKES DISCIPLINE

"Take the time and the trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit." 1Tim. 4:7b (Ph)

"Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness."(NASB)

UNDERSTANDING DISCIPLESHIP

1. Mature believers are called _____
2. I cannot be a disciple without being _____
3. The more disciplined I become _____
4. The mark of a disciple is _____

(Jesus) *"Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple."*
Luke 14:27

5. How often am I to do this? _____

(Jesus) *"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross **daily**, and follow me."*
Luke 9:23

6. What is involved in "cross bearing"? _____ to give Christ first place in my life!

FOUR HABITS OF A DISCIPLE

HOW CAN I BECOME A DISCIPLE? Develop_____

*"... You have **put off the old self** with its **HABITS**, and have put on the new self ... which God is continually renewing in his own image, to bring you to a full knowledge of himself."* Col. 3:9-10

1. WORD: The habit of TIME WITH HIM, Acts 2:42

In His Word

*"If you **continue in my Word**, then you are my disciples indeed. And you will know the*

truth and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

In His Presence

*"If you remain in me, and my words remain in you, then you will **ask for anything you wish**, and you shall have it ... in this way you become my disciples."* John 15:7-8 (GN)

2. WORSHIP: The Habit of Tithing – Giving to Him all that I possess.

*"None of you can be my disciple unless **he gives up all of his possessions**."*
Luke 14:33 (JB)

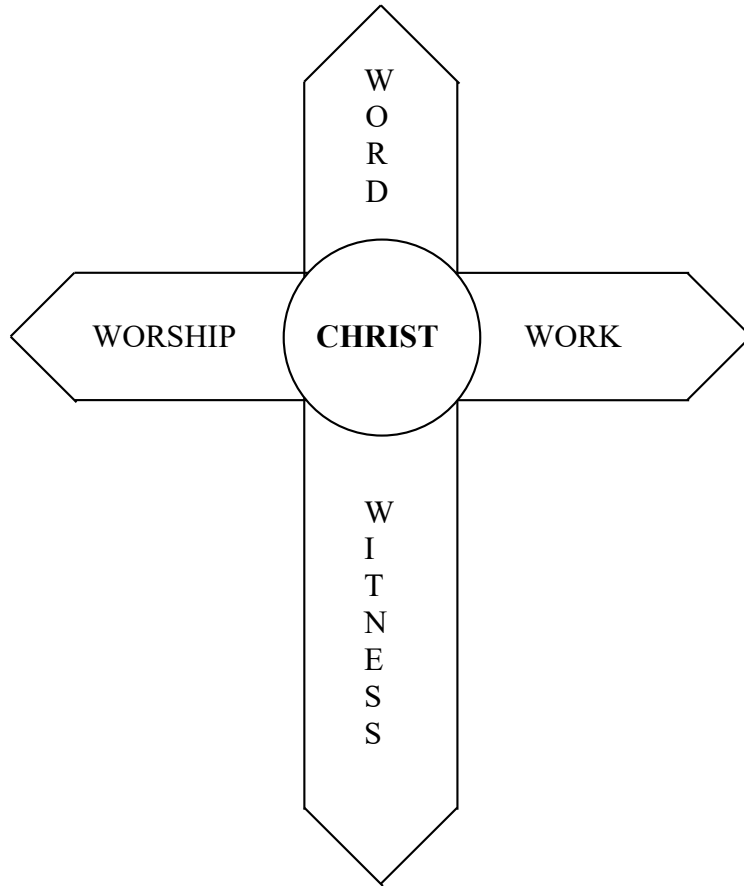
*"The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always **put God first** in your lives."*
Deut. 14:23 (LB)

3. WITNESS: The Habit of Fellowship – a team relationship with others

*"Love each other just as much as I love you. Your **strong love for each other** will prove to the world that you are my disciples."*
John 13:34-35 (LB)

4. WORK: The Habit of gifted ministry

*"Be steadfast and unmovable, always abounding **in the work of the Lord**, forasmuch as you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."*
I Corinthians 15:58



DEFINITIONS OF "HABIT": (Webster's II Dictionary)

"A continual, often unconscious inclination to do a certain activity, acquired through frequent repetition."

"An established disposition of the character."

"Sow a thought, reap an act.

Sow an act, reap a habit.

Sow a habit, reap a character.

Sow a character, reap a destiny."

"A customary practice"

OUTLINE OF CLASS 201

Session 1:

- **Introduction:** Spiritual Maturity and Habits
- How to Get A "Grasp" On Your Bible

Session 2:

- The Habit of Daily Time With God

- The Habit of Prayer: Talking to God

Session 3: The Habit of True Worship

- The Habit of Tithing
- The Habit of Giving Offerings

Session 4:

- The Habit of Fellowship
- How to Develop and Maintain Good Habits

THE GOAL OF THIS CLASS

That I will _____ to the habits necessary for spiritual maturity.

"In the past you voluntarily gave your bodies to the service of vice and ... the purposes of evil. So now give yourselves to the service of righteousness - for the purpose of becoming truly good." Rom.6:19 (Ph)