

SPIRITUAL STRATEGIES  
for  
Living For God in Our Day  
or, in fact,  
ANY DAY

These notes are prepared for presentation to the more mature class in the DVBS at Faith Bible Chapel in Raleigh, North Carolina. They are outline thoughts intended to aid the listener in following the talks of Tom Taylor. In the evening sessions questions will be welcomed at any time...we do not argue, however, and merely try to work for a common understanding. The vital theme is to realize that the Lord has given us the principles and practices that allow us to live in the joy of redemptive love and to be useful in spite of the circumstances rather than to be mastered by them. It is the hope of the writer that we will be encouraged and blessed in thinking about the direction of God.

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## A GENERAL INTRODUCTION

In beginning our studies I am calling your attention to some Introductory materials...not very complicated but helpful to me in the order of discussion I will mention four items:

1. The challenge for Christians in every age may be summarized in these concepts...they do not exhaust the subject but offer a general overview:

- to live for God...that is, to be an honest representative for Him....
- to be obedient...to the Word
- to enjoy the Lord's fellowship
- to serve others in matters both spiritual and material.

2. The strategies may be summarized as:

- Biblical instruction to order life
- principles of eternal consequence
- open (not secret) realities that define the relationship of God and His own.

3 The Key points in developing the ideals are:

- to know the will of God
- to accept His direction on the daily path

4. So, what are these strategies? We cannot grip them all but we will work with these:

- Living by faith
- Protecting yourself
- Drawing nigh to God
- Commit to good works!
- Stay healthy
- Honor His Will

# I. ITEM ONE; LIVE BY FAITH

*Hebrews 11:1-6, 2 Corinthians 5:7*

*Galatians 3:11, etc.*

A. What is Faith? Careful now.....

Faith is believing God and doing what He says while following as He leads. (You can see how the faith and works controversy centered in James is worked out in this way)

B. How is faith expressed?

1. Trusting Jesus...Galatians 2:16-21

Note the equation of belief and faith in  
Acts 16:31 and Romans 10:9-11

2. Accepting the work of God

Romans 14:23; 8:28-39

3. Enacting God's direction:

Abraham (Genesis 12), Paul

(Philippians 4:4; Acts 26:19-22)

C. Faith as a way of Life...Hebrews 11:6

1. Some Biblical and Practical examples

2. And a few suggestions for us...right now!

3. Philippians 2: The Mind of Christ

(2:15)

Thence  
Be faithful  
just

to small  
woman  
Hodges  
as  
Daniel



## II. ITEM TWO: PROTECT YOURSELF

*1 Timothy 4:12-16*

### A. Paul's Concern for the "young man"

- the difficulties
- the dangers
- the distractions

(sounds like today!)

*Col 6*

### B. The Advice: Protect yourself...And we know the Lord is our protector but there are certain parameters left to us by design and we must scrutinize these carefully.

*1 Peter 5:8*

### C. The Process 4:12 ff

- aim to be an example *12*
- attend to spiritual things *13*
- exercise your abilities *14*
- think on things that honor God *15*

*the Thimbleton Church 1 Th 1:7  
1 Cor 12:18*

*Col 3:12-15*

### D. The Result: deliverance for yourself and for those who will hear you! No small reward for following the Scripture.

*Not an excuse*

## III. ITEM THREE: DRAW NIGH TO GOD

*James 4:6-11; 1 Peter 5:6-11*

### A. Closeness to God, Biblically stressed:

1. Enoch..(Genesis 5:24)..
2. Moses (Deuteronomy 34:10\_
3. Abraham (James 2:23,, 2 Chronicles 20:7, plus)
4. Believers today (Hebrews 10) ; *2:19*

*not an excuse*

## B. The three Main steps:

## 1. Be dependent

--the Lord is my helper (Heb. 13:6)

--submit yourselves 4:1

--when I am weak...2 Cor. 12:10)

## 2.. Be diligent

--1 Corinthians 4:2

--be Committed 1 Corinthians 15:10

## 3. Be humble

--Isaiah 57:15...the dwelling place

--God resists the proud

--trust Him for promotion. 5:6

C. In a general conclusion: God does not change.  
 Draw close to Him, He will be close to you.  
 It is not so much a matter of mysticism as a  
 matter of obedience. Worship, meditation,  
 fellowship are key terms. He will never  
 leave nor forsake us...we sometimes wander  
 around somewhat.

## IV. ITEM FOUR: DO GOOD WORKS!

Galatians 6:1-10, Ephesians 2:10

Titus 2:11-15; James 1:27

A. The Role of Good works: not to save us but  
 to demonstrate.....not to gain but give

B. The Experience

(Continued)  
The 17 Resolutions

6:1-2, 10

Heb. 10:24  
the good

1. Giving help to the burdened and the brotherhood. Galatians 6 and to the needy... Ephesians 4:28

2. Honoring the Lord's program:  
Ephesians 2:10

John 10

3. Showing mercy

Rom 12:8

C. The End: Others are blessed, your character in the Lord is witnessed and a program of obedience is developed.

## V. ITEM FIVE: STAY HEALTHY!

*Proverbs 4:20-17*

A, The Case for Prescribed items....particular attention to special needs.

B. The designed advice:

Ps 119

1 Pet 1

1. Stay close to the Word of God

James 1

2. Keep your Heart

James 1

17:9

3. Speak Truth

Eph 4:15

4. Give proper attention

1:23  
John 4:23

Abel's Secret



5. Watch how you walk...and don't deviate from the path. *et 5:32*

*imminently*  
C. The Result: Many of the destructive things of life are never noticed or at least never interfere. Control of these things is part of our province.

## **VI. ITEM SIX: HONOR GOD'S WILL AND GUIDANCE.**

*Romans 12:1 ff*

A. The Point: To keep our minds properly focused is a great asset. To follow truth is the right way.

B. Particular Steps *worship*

1. Commitment: Romans 12:1

2. Thankfulness: 1 Thessalonians 5:18

3. Holiness: 1 Thessalonians 4:3

4. Yieldedness: Ephesians 5:17

*worship  
days*  
C. Conclusion:

When God's will is honored and His guidance given a leading role, we are indeed more than conquerors in any living situation..

## **VII. CONCLUSION TO OUR STUDY**

The strategies are Biblical guidelines. In following them we are able to honor the Lord in our time and day. We are able to benefit society about us even though it may not want our help. The lives of Christians belong to the Lord and they are the "salt" and the "light" spoken of by the Lord in Matthew 5 to the world around us.