**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

**Topic: My Personal Spiritual Life**

**...How to GET and KEEP Spiritual Momentum**

**Speaker: Bill Vasilakis**

1. **READ YOURSELF FULL**

* **2 Timothy 3:15-17 - ...** *and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17so that the servant of God[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Timothy+3%3A15-17&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29871a)*]may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Like Timothy, we will **discover** Christ in the Word; and like Timothy we can **experience** the Christ of the Word.

* The more you **read** and **reflect** and **meditate** on the Holy Scriptures and **imbibe** God’s words, the more **revelation** you will receive about Jesus.

... Who he is ... What he has done for you ... What your new identity is in Christ.

... More of the Bible **in you** and more of Jesus **for** **you**

* **Discussion** ... So how is your Word life?
* Rate Yourself

1 5 10

Poor Average Rich

* **Discussion**  ... What works for you?

1. **PRAY YOURSELF HOT**

* **1 Thessalonians 5:17 -** *pray continually,*

Our prayer life reveals how **dependent** we are on Jesus.

Why don’t you **commence each day** with Jesus pattern prayer

* Discussion – How I do this? ... Can it work for you?

**Matthew 6:9-13** - ***9****“This, then, is how you should pray:*

*“‘Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,****10****your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.****11****Give us today our daily bread.****12****And forgive us our debts,  
    as we also have forgiven our debtors.****13****And lead us not into temptation,[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6%3A9-13&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23296a)*]  
    but deliver us from the evil one.[*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+6%3A9-13&version=NIV#fen-NIV-23296b)*]’*

* And then **continue** **throughout** **the** **day** with Paul’s formula for living with the **peaceful presence** of Jesus.

... You can practice the presence of Jesus **wherever** you are and **whatever** you are doing.

* **Philippians 4:6-7** - *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer* (**talk to Jesus**) *and petition* (**ask Jesus or Help**)*, with thanksgiving (***inject faith into your request**)*, present your requests to God* (**Ask help from Jesus**)*.****7****And the* ***peace*** *of God, which transcends all understanding, will* ***guard*** *your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*
* **Discussion –** Can you see the pattern?

Problem > Prayer > Petition > Praise > Presence > Peace > Protection

**Nehemiah** embraced the **set** **disciplined** **practice** of prayer and also moved in the **spontaneous** **mode** of prayer.

* **Discussion** – Worship, Work, Word and Warfare are all interlinked ... What do you think?
* Rate Yourself

1 5 10

Poor Average Rich

1. **ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE EMPOWERED AND LED BY THE SPIRIT**

* **Acts 2:4** - *All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+2%3A4&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26954a)*] as the Spirit enabled them.*

This **gift** to be able to speak in a special prayer language is so **precious** and so **valuable** and will **strengthen**, **grow** and **heal** your inner life.

... 1 Corinthians 14:4 ... *He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself ...*

*...* Jude 1:20 *...* *But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,*

* It’s the only **manifestation** **gift** of the Spirit that is ours **permanently**.

... The other eight gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 are **resident in the Spirit** and He gives them to us to be able to minister in **various** **contexts**.

... They **equip** us to be able to **help** people in need and to add spiritual **value and power** into their lives.

**1 Corinthians 12:7,11 (NIV / NKJV)** - *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.* (the profit of all) *... All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one* (individually)*, just as he determines* (wills)*.*

* When we exercise this ability to speak in our heavenly language it’s like a **door opens** for us to operate the other eight gifts**.**

**The Power to SPEAK ...** Tongues ... Interpretation ... Prophecy

**The Power to KNOW ...** Wisdom ... Knowledge ... Discerning between spirits

**The Power to DO** ... Faith ... Healing ... Miracles

* Let’s walk through this door on a **daily basis** so we can receive these empowering gifts to **help** people in Jesus name.
* **Discussion** – We receive them when we **hunger and thirst** for them ... (**1 Corinthians 14:1** ... *Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy*) and with **dependent** **faith** we step out and **use** **them** in Jesus name and or his glory (**Galatians 3:5** ... *So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or* ***by your believing*** *what you heard? ....* **Hebrews 11:6** ... *And without* ***faith*** *it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must* ***believe*** *that he exists and that he rewards those who* ***earnestly******seek******him****.*)
* **Discussion** – Build your personal altar for your daily use

... 30 empowering minutes a day can revolutionize your spiritual life in 2017.

... What I do?

... My big white chair and my big long walk listening to Jesus through His spoken word.

... What about you? Let’s get practical

* Rate Yourself

1 5 10

Poor Average Rich

1. **GET YOURSELF RELATIONALLY CONNECTED**

* **Hebrews 10:25 -** *not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*
* **Discussion** - There is no such thing as **individual** Christianity in the New Testament. ... It’s not a **ME** thing but always about **WE** ... Being in a **connected** **community** with fellow believers is absolutely essential to being the church of Jesus.
* The **more** **connected** we are with others of like faith the **healthier** we grow.

... **Independence** and **dependence** is unhealthy and can be **dangerous** and **destructive**.

... Whereas **interdependence** is the healthy and holy way to live as a follower of Jesus.

* **Discussion** ... Look at Jesus ... Did the perfect and sinless Son of God need his earthly **family,** his **disciples** and **friends**?
* Rate Yourself

1 5 10

Poor Average Rich

1. **THROW YOURSELF INTO SERVING**

* **1 Peter 4:10** - *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.*

You are uniquely **wired** to serve Jesus and to add **value** into people’s lives.

* So **Discover** your God given gifts and talents.

**Develop** them to the max, and

**Deploy** them for Jesus’ glory and to do good to others.

**Discussion** ... How far down the track are you in outworking your SHAPE?

... What your **S**piritual gifts are

... What your **H**eart loves doing

... What natural **A**bilities do you have

... What your **P**ersonality gravitates towards

... What life **E**xperiences have prepared you for serving

* Serving Jesus **faithfully** and bearing **good** **fruit** will makes a difference in building Jesus’ Kingdom here on earth... It gives us **personal** **fulfilment** – a sense of meaning and real **satisfaction** as we outwork our unique role in Jesus Church.

* Rate Yourself

1 5 10

Poor Average Rich

* These 5 truths to developing personal spiritual momentum will produce a dynamic Acts 2 Church.

... This is the **kind** of church Jesus wants if we are to be the **answer** for our world that is in such need.

**Acts 2:42-27 MSG** - *That day about three thousand took him at his word, were baptized and were signed up. They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers.*

***43-45****Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person’s need was met.*

***46-47****They followed a daily discipline of worship in the Temple followed by meals at home, every meal a celebration, exuberant and joyful, as they praised God. People in general liked what they saw. Every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.*