

HABITS OF EFFECTIVE CHRIST FOLLOWERS

A New Look At Purpose – Part 3

October 27, 2013

I Timothy 4:7b (Phillips) *“Take the time and the trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit.”*

Timothy 4:8 (NLT) *“Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.”*

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV) *“Therefore go and make disciples... baptizing them...²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

HABITS FOR SPIRITUAL EFFECTIVENESS...

1. Getting TIME with God every day.

✓ What’s the reason? To get DIRECTION from God.

Psalms 25:4-5a (NLT) *“Show me the right path, O LORD; point out the road for me to follow. ⁵ Lead me by Your truth and teach me...”*

✓ What’s the routine? To get ALONE with God.

Luke 5:16 (NIV) *“Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.”*

AS A RESULT... you get God's HELP!

John 15:7 (GNT) *Jesus said, “If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, then you may ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it.”*

2. Giving a TITHE to God every time you get paid.

✓ What’s the reason? To draw you CLOSER to God.

Matthew 6:21 (NIV) *“Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*

Deuteronomy 14:23b (TLB) *“...The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.”*

✓ What’s the routine? To tithe every WEEK.

1 Corinthians 16:2 (TLB) *“On every Lord’s Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn...”*

AS A RESULT... tithing becomes a HABIT!

Malachi 3:10 (NIV) *“‘Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... Test Me in this,’ says the Lord Almighty, ‘and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be enough room to store it.’”*

3. Going to a SMALL GROUP regularly with other believers.

✓ What’s the reason? To build a TEAM for support.

Hebrews 10:25 (GNT) *“Let us not give up the habit of meeting together... Instead, let us encourage one another...”*

✓ What’s the routine? To meet at CHURCH and in HOMES.

Acts 5:42 (NIV) *“Day after day, in the Temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.”*

AS A RESULT... your spiritual GROWTH increases!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NLT) *“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. ¹⁰ If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble.”*

Nehemiah 9:38 (NIV) *“We are making a binding agreement, putting it in writing, and our spiritual leaders... are affixing their seals to it.”*