

May 24, 2015

## THE GROWTH CHOICE

### Life's Healing Choices: The Beatitudes - Part 7

**The Growth Choice:** I reserve a daily time with God for Bible reading, self-examination, and prayer in order to know God and His will for my life and to gain the power to follow his will.

**2 Peter 3:18 (TEV)** Continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

#### HOW TO CONTINUE GROWING

**1. I NEED TO SET AND KEEP A \_\_\_\_\_ TIME WITH GOD.**

**1 John 2:28 (NLT)** And now, dear children, continue to live in fellowship with Christ...

**2 I MUST FILL MY \_\_\_\_\_ WITH SCRIPTURE.**

**James 1:25 (NCV)** The truly happy people are those who carefully study God's perfect law that makes people free, and they continue to study it. They do not forget what they hear, but they obey what God's teaching says.

**John 8:31-32(KJV)** If you continue in my Word, then you are my disciples indeed; And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

**3. I MUST FOCUS ON MY \_\_\_\_\_, NOT MY HURTS/HABITS/HANG-UPS.**

**Philippians 3:12 (NCV)** I do not mean that I am already as God wants me to be. I have not yet reached that goal, but I continue trying to reach it and to make it mine. Christ wants me to do that, which is the reason he made me his.

**Philippians 3:13-14 (NLT)** No, I'm still not all I should be, but I am focusing all my energies on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I strain to reach the end of the race and receive the prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us up to heaven.

**4. I FACE AND FORSAKE MY \_\_\_\_\_ QUICKLY!**

**Lamentations 3:40 (NIV)** Let us examine our ways and test them, and return to the Lord."

**Psalms 103:3-4** "He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. He keeps me from the grave and blesses me with love and mercy."

**5. I HAVE TO \_\_\_\_\_ TEMPTATION BUT I DON'T HAVE TO \_\_\_\_\_ IT.**

**1 Corinthians 16:13 (NCV)** Be alert. Continue strong in the faith. Have courage, and be strong.

**1 Corinthians 15:33 (TEV)** Do not be fooled. Bad companions ruin good character.

**6. I MUST FORM AN ONGOING \_\_\_\_\_ .**

**2 Corinthians 1:10 (GW)** ... We are confident that God will continue to rescue us, since you are also joining to help us when you pray for us.

**Hebrews 10:25 (GW)** We should not stop gathering together with other believers, as some of you are doing. Instead, we must continue to encourage each other...

**7. I MUST FOLLOW CHRIST TO THE \_\_\_\_\_ !**

**Philippians 1:6 (NLT)** I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again.

**Galatians 6:9** "Don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time!"

**Homework:** set a goal today... write it out on your outline if you have a goal in mind... ask God to show you one if you don't have one. Share it with your small group.

**I must choose to keep \_\_\_\_\_ !**