

The Challenge of Forgiveness

November 22, 2009

Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness. Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is much more important, for it promises a reward in both this life and the next. (1 Timothy 4:7-8 NLT)

Godliness is _____ the lifelong process of becoming _____ more and more like Jesus Christ _____.

Five Practices Of A Godly Life

P₃ermit _____ God to mold me _____.

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will accept. When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask? Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect his will really is. (Romans 12:1-2 NLT)

P₃rotect _____ myself from ungodliness _____.

And what value was there in fighting wild beasts—those men of Ephesus—if there will be no resurrection from the dead? If there is no resurrection, "Let's feast and get drunk, for tomorrow we die!" Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character." Come to your senses and stop sinning. For to your shame I say that some of you don't even know God. (1 Corinthians 15:32-34 NLT)

P₃ursue _____ godly activities _____.

Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies. (Philippians 4:8-9 MSG)

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Plan regular times for self-evaluation.

But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23a NLT)

Spiritual Fruit

My Score

(0-10)

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-Control

P₃

Promote godly living as an example for others.

And you should follow my example, just as I follow Christ's. (1 Corinthians 11:1 NLT)

Memory Verse

As we know Jesus better, his divine power gives us everything we need for living a godly life. He has called us to receive his own glory and goodness! (2 Peter 1:3 NLT)

MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO...

- Receive God's forgiveness into my life for (please circle): the first time/reaffirmation (Admit: I'm a sinner. Accept: Jesus died for my sins. Ask: God forgive me. Allow: God to be Lord.)
- Memorize 2 Peter 1:3.
- Pray daily this week for God to make me more like Jesus.
- Serve at PFMC by _____.

*For more on the NT Challenge including daily reading schedule and the NT on audio visit:

www.pulaskifmc.com/nt-challenge.html