

“HOW TO SAFELY LAND AFTER A SPIRITUAL HIGH”

The Purpose Driven Life, Part 7

June 7th, 2009

You have to be extra careful coming off a spiritual high place

Matthew 17:4 (NLT) “Peter blurted out, ‘Lord, this is wonderful! If you want me to, I’ll make three shrines, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’”

We want spiritual highs at any price

It’s in the highs and lows of life that we learn to become like Jesus

Revelation 2:2-5 (NAS) “I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot endure evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first...”

These Christians were suffering from what can be described as “heart-drift”

What Is “First Love” Like?

1. There is an insatiable desire to learn about the other person
2. There is a heavy investment in the relationship
3. There is an intense preoccupation of your heart

What Can Happen To That Love?

Revelation 2:4 (NAS) “...you have left your first love.”

You leave your first love as a result of a series of small choices

Steps To Maintain Or Recover Your First Love

1. R e m e m b e r
Revelation 2:5 (NAS) “Remember therefore from where you have fallen,...”
2. R e p e n t
Revelation 2:5 (NAS) “Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent...”

Repent = I recognize that where I am is not where I am supposed to be. So, I turn and move toward where I am supposed to be.

Lamentations 3:40 (TM) “Let’s take a good look at the way we’re living and reorder our lives under God.”

3. Do what you used to do

Rev. 2:5 (NAS) "Remember therefore from where you have fallen, & repent and do the deeds you did at first..."

Motion will lead to emotion

The goal is to become like Jesus

Our character is developed through our obedience & trust in Christ in everyday life

Philippians 3:16 (TM) "Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it."

Galatians 5:16,22-23 (NIV) "...Live by the Spirit...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control..."

2 Corinthians 8:11 (LB) "Having started the ball rolling so enthusiastically, you should carry this project through to completion just as gladly...Let your enthusiastic idea at the start be equaled by your realistic action now."

When You Fail, God Never Does!

- God's care will never fail
- God's love will never fail

My Next Step Today Is:

- I will continue to spend time with God daily in order to develop my relationship with Him
- I am interested in being in an "One to One Discipleship" group
- I plan to attend Class 101 on Sunday, June 14th @ 1 PM
- I want to be baptized next Sunday, June 14th @ 4 PM